



# The Culver Citizen



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CITIZEN FILE PHOTOS -- LAYOUT/JEFF KENNEY

## In Brief

### Reinhold benefit event Saturday

A hog roast benefit for Culver resident Rob Reinhold (battling ALS) and his family will take place this Saturday, Jan. 14, from 2 to 6 p.m. at Mystic Hills golf club. \$20 ticket includes dinner, music (from Chad Van Herk and Reunion Station), one drink, and entry into raffle. There is also a silent auction. Tickets are available at Culver Coffee Company, Michelle's Headquarters, and Brockey Insurance. Make checks payable to "Wesley United Methodist/Reinhold Benefit."

### Max Players board meeting Sunday

The Maxinkuckee Players board will be meeting Jan. 15 at 1:30 p.m. at Grace United Church of Christ in Culver. The general meeting will follow at 2 p.m. All are encouraged to attend.

### Community meal at Grace Sunday

Grace United Church of Christ will hold its monthly community meal on Sunday, Jan. 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.

### Local entities to battle it out at Jan. 17

Employees of Culver Emergency Services, the Culver-Union Township Library, and the Culver Elementary School will be involved in a battle of wits at the Coffeehouse Trivia Night, January 17, from 7 to 9 p.m. at the Culver Coffee Company. The event is a fundraiser for the Rotary Quiz Bowl State Championship, which will be at Ancilla College March 3. Sponsors interested in supporting additional teams for the Trivia night are welcome to call Phil Blessman at 574-842-7052 or email him at RotaryQuizBowl@yahoo.com.

### Council, plan commission change dates

Culver's town council will meet Tues., Jan. 17 instead of the regular date of Jan. 10. Appointments to various boards will take place the 17th, instead of the 10th as reported in last week's edition of The Citizen.

See Briefs page 8

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

## (More than just the) faces at the window...

Looking back over recent decades of Culver's town clerk position (see stories below): UPPER LEFT: Retiring deputy clerk Kay Davis during the 1990s with then-clerk treasurer, the late Don Slyh. LOWER LEFT: Deputy clerk during the late 1970s Mary Wieringa at the "old" window of Culver's town hall on Washington Street, before early 1980s renovations altered its configuration. CENTER: During her Dec. 30 open house, Kay Davis, right, found herself in a State Exchange Bank mini-reunion. Pictured are former SE employees (from left) husband Larry Davis, Marshall County auditor Penny Lukenbill, Edna Mae Craft (who has worked for several years assisting in the clerk's office in Culver), and Kay Davis. LOWER RIGHT: Davis, standing at right, two years into her tenure, alongside new clerk Bobetta (then Washburn) Ruhnnow (left) and outgoing clerk Marizetta Kenney, late 1983.

### Retired deputy Davis' unique perspective encompasses 30 years of town government

By Jeff Kenney  
Citizen editor

When Kay Davis exited Culver's town hall the last workday of 2011, the door closed on 30 years of her service to the town of Culver as its deputy clerk, through five clerk treasurers and countless changes, major and minor, in the day-to-day operations which keep the town running. She also represents the only consistent witness to the inner world of town operations in a gradually changing Culver over three decades.

Davis, an Argos High School graduate, worked at the State Exchange Bank immediately out of high school, from 1964 to 1970, until daughter Angie was born, after which she continued to fill in part time.

Her first experience working for the town was as a driver -- and later full-time EMT -- for Culver's then-new EMS service. Clerk treasurer at the time Marizetta Kenney asked Davis to fill the deputy clerk position in 1981, as former deputy Mary Wieringa left to become a full-time dispatcher for the Culver police department (the clerk treasurer may appoint whom he or she wishes to be deputy). Davis was sworn in in October, 1981.

Davis, recalls Kenney, was "efficient and friendly, and we worked together on so many aspects of the job, to get it done. She was hired because she was available and willing to do the job, and had the skills to be very good at it. I was never sorry; she helped in

so many ways. Davis says billing in those pre-computer days was extremely time-consuming.

"She took to the ...pre-computer mechanical billing machine," recalls Kenney of Davis, "and even helped me organize how I went about my work.

"She was cheerful and good to the public (and a very loyal employee," she adds. "I cannot imagine how I could have managed without her."

After 12 years' service, Kenney's tenure gave way to that of Bobbie Washburn (now Ruhnnow), who Davis recalls first brought computers into the office.

"Before computers," Davis explains, "we had to make little cards and stamp them every time anybody had a change of address. You had to make these little plates to create a name and address stamp, and then you had to post them using an old Burroughs posting machine

"It took one week to post them, and one whole day to post penalties. Now... the bills run themselves in five minutes. It takes about 30 seconds to post the penalties, so that's how far it came. We weren't that speedy yet, though, when Bobbie first came."

(See the accompanying article for details on Ruhnnow's tenure).

After 12 years as clerk, Ruhnnow didn't run again, and Don Slyh replaced her for four years.

"These are both Democrats and Republicans I've been working for," Davis

See Davis page 2

### Two past clerks recall the laughter and frustration of the job

*Editor's note: I asked the first two Culver clerk treasurers under whom Kay Davis served, to reflect not only on her tenure, but their own memories of the ever-changing position, as well as memorable aspects, incidents, people, and the like from their years of service. What follows are their responses (Kenney's comments on Kay Davis herself are incorporated into the feature on Davis, on this page).*

**Bobbie Washburn Ruhnnow**

Kay and I worked together from November of 1983 to December of 1996. When I was elected Clerk-Treasurer in 1983, we had a great transitional period in November when Marizetta Kenney showed me the basics I needed to know to begin my tenure.

I was too new to be too overcome when I found out I only had \$19,000 in the General Fund to last for the first six months of 1984. The General Fund covers all salaries for police, fire, EMS, clerk and at that time, the park superintendent. For awhile, the park was part of the General Fund until later actions by the town board moved it to its proper independent funding. The reason for the money shortfall was due to the previous town board's action of paying off the mortgage on the town hall to SEFCO (The State Exchange Finance Company). This was while SEFCO was undergoing their money problems and had filed for bankruptcy and the board wanted to show good faith in supporting the finance company. Fortunately, the Motor Vehicle Fund and the Sewer and Water Operating funds were in the black so we "borrowed" money from them to fund necessary services until our tax checks begin to arrive.

Water and sewer bills

See Ruhnnow page 3

**By Marizetta Kenney**

I was hired in, I think, May of 1972 because the then clerk-treasurer and the town board had a disagreement. She was perfectly willing to come help me with what the job entailed, but the week she was to do that, her house burned to the ground and she had more pressing things than my need for advice. I always appreciated what she did have time to tell me. Her assistant stayed on for a few weeks, but she became seriously ill and I needed an assistant. That's when Mary Wieringa was hired.

Mary Wieringa (now Guyse) began as an assistant clerk-treasurer when we were in the old town hall at the fire department. She stayed on in that position for a couple of years after we moved to the new building and she was a wonderful partner to work with. She was extremely interested in the police work. We had been dispatching for the police department for a few years, and she liked acting as secretary for the department, and they liked her skills at the job.

The transition from the fire station to the new town hall, which was the old Culver Citizen building (now the town hall, but no longer new) was done using the street crew's trucks and I seem to remember it being

See Kenney page 4

## BodyVox is Tuesday's Huffington Concert offering

Culver Academies' Huffington Concert Series continues Tuesday, Jan. 17 at 7:30 p.m. at Eppley Auditorium with BodyVox, described on their website, BodyVox.com, as "a freewheeling, multi-media, boundary-bending movement troupe" whose performances combine "striking imagery and (and) humor, wit and whimsy to create refined dancing that knows no boundaries."

The Portland, Oregon-based dance troupe, created in 1997, has earned critical and popular acclaim since its debut, touring nationally and internationally and more recently having added award-winning films (including "Modern Daydreams," which won the prestigious American Choreography Award for Outstanding Achievement in Short film in 2002) to its accomplishments.

As with past events, the school's Crisp art gallery, located east of the auditorium, will be open to the public for two hours prior to the start of the concert.

Tickets to the performance may be purchased at the Steinbrenner Performing Arts Center box office, located in the foyer of the main entry facing Academy Road, through Friday, from 1 to 4 p.m., or at the Eppley Auditorium box office, located in the lobby, one hour prior to the performance. Questions may be directed to Marsha Coven at covenm@culver.org, or 574-842-7058. Tickets are \$20 (orchestra/mezzanine) and \$15 (senior or student), and \$15 for balcony seats (\$10 for seniors or students). All ticket sales are final, and the box office accepts cash, check, MasterCard, Visa and American Express.



BodyVox will appear onstage in Culver Tuesday.

## Culver area robbery leads to suspects' hospitalization

An alleged robbery attempt near Culver led to the suspect, 32 year old Anthony Fields of Culver, hospitalized.

Marshall County's dispatch center received a call around 3:30 p.m. Jan. 3, of a theft in progress in the 14,000 block of 14th Road. The occupant first blocked

the suspect's vehicle in the driveway, called police, and then called relatives, who pursued Fields on foot through the nearby woods into an adjacent field, where a confrontation and fight ensued.

Marshall County and Culver police officers found Fields detained by

the alleged robbery victim's family members. Plymouth EMS transported Fields to the Saint Joseph Regional Medical Center in Plymouth.

The Marshall County Prosecutor's Office is pursuing an investigation.

Provided by AM1050.

## Culver entities' efforts help furry friends



### Annual Cafe Max drive once again a success

Culver's Cafe Max raised \$368.89 and collected a number of supplies during its annual drive for animals at the Marshall County Humane Society.

Customers and employees together made the gifts – collected through December – possible, says Cafe owner Susie Mahler, whose niece Chloe Salyer is pictured here with Maggie, a dog at the Humane Society in need of adoption.

The Humane Society may be reached at 574-936-8300 or through its website at [mchsshelter.org](http://mchsshelter.org).

PHOTO PROVIDED

PHOTO PROVIDED

### CBGC lends a paw

Pictured is "Buddy," the pet of Culver Boys & Girls Club member William Baldwin, a fourth grader at Culver Elementary School.



CBGC's Torch Club group, says Cory Monnier, Unit Supervisor at the Club, recently held a fundraiser for the Marshall County Humane Society during which members held a "Cutest Pet" competition.

Members brought in pictures of their pets, votes were taken for the "cutest pet" by making donations. Members and pets raised \$100 for the Humane Society, and top money raiser Buddy was named the Club's "Cutest Pet."

### Davis from page 1

notes, emphasizing the degree to which party affiliation didn't affect working relationships and functionality of the office.

Chandra Mevis followed with a six-year term, departing two years into her second term (the clerk-treasurer, an elected official, serves for four years at a time). She was followed by Casey Howard, appointed by Culver's Democratic party in Mevis' stead. Howard, after completing the last two years of Mevis' term, was elected for four years of her own, in 2007, a term she just completed as Davis retired.

"Under Casey," Davis explains, "the computers really became more and more prominent. We implemented credit card payments. Casey made many good changes for the town."

The increasing role of computers, Davis says, was -- not surprisingly -- the most dramatic change in the job in her three decades' service.

"One of the silliest things that happened to me was when we first went on the computers," she recalls with a smile. "The man who taught us...lived in Chicago. I was so nervous and I...went in that morning and the computer screen was black, so I called (him) in Chicago on his cell."

Eventually, the computer assistant drove to Culver from Chicago, only to find someone had turned down the brightness levels on the computer screen, an easy fix to Davis' dilemma.

"That was my most embarrassing moment! All the way from Chicago to turn that knob. But he was very good about it."

The deputy clerk and clerk, Davis notes, are the only two who can sign checks, and the deputy works in the clerk's absence. Davis' job was also working with utilities, handling billing for the street and water-sewer departments. She set up hearings for the Board of Zoning Appeals and Plan Commission as well.

Clerks and deputy clerks, Davis says, "checked and balanced each other all the time, which is why I feel the deputy clerk is really needed."

The clerk's office is open 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. each weekday, and a human presence is critical in part because of emergency phone calls such as water leaks in homes.

"You need to get a hold of somebody right now," she says.

Davis recalls various changes to the town hall building, from her and Kenney making curtains for the windows to keep excessive cold and heat down, to the major renovation during Ruhnow's tenure which replaced an entryway on the southwest side of the building with storage, and the reconfiguration of the main entryway.

The town hall staff also handled dispatch for the EMS from 8 to 4 daily, with EMS-directed volunteers taking the remaining hours in their own homes.

"That went all the way up to Don Slyh's time when 911 came in," Davis recalls.

Davis, of course, has seen a plethora of town councils come and go through the years.

"The one they have right now is a good council," she says. "I think (outgoing councilman) Ralph Winters was a good person for the town; he really knew the town and the water-sewer systems -- that was an asset."

The town manager position also came into existence under Davis' watch, and she says she's seen four come and go.

"In leaving, the thing I'm going to miss most is Casey," Davis adds. "I think she was a great clerk treasurer. She's very, very knowledgeable, and her accounting degree was a great asset to her."

She's also shared many of her years with Wayne Bean as police chief.

"He's done an excellent job," she notes. "And his deputies are very well trained."

In fact, Davis is part of a group of town employees with lengthy tenures ranging from 16 to 28 years, including Bean, utilities manager Bob Porter, wastewater manager Joe Sheppard, and park superintendent Kelly Young.

"It's a great asset for the town to have employees stick around that way -- you don't often have that."

Looking back over the years, Davis says changes in the town of Culver have mostly been to the good.

"We've worked on the infrastructure a lot. There are some grants they're working on now that will improve it more."

"We've set up a tree commission, the economic development committee, we've got a very active plan commission and BZA that keep the town going down the right track, and a good building commissioner that makes things go well in town. When I started, the EMS was pretty new, and what an asset that's been to the town. The fire department has always got the top-notch equipment, and a dive team -- everything a small town could want. The street department is terrific and Joe's done a good job at the sewer plant. Kelly's done a good job with the park -- there are so many things the town has. It's a beautiful little town, but it swells to a big town with the lake and the Academy in summer."

She notes those individual communities combine in a unique way in Culver, as opposed to many small towns, which are essentially simply the town's culture alone.

"You have so much more with the Academy and lake, so many opportunities -- so many restaurants, a movie theater. These are things most towns our size wouldn't think of having."

Now that she's retired, says Davis, she and husband Larry (also retired) will soon depart on a cruise, and she "can hardly wait" to be able to have her three grandkids around when she wants to.

"We will sit back and enjoy life a little bit," she adds.

Davis says the town of Culver has been "a wonderful place to work" and a job she never dreaded going to each day.

"I can't imagine how the town hall is going to manage without her now," says Kenney of Davis, "I will miss seeing her."

Davis' feeling is mutual. She adds, "I'll miss all the people that come in (to the town hall), and the stories they tell."

## Early Deadline EXTENDED until January 16th

# Get Your Team Ready For Best Loser 2012

**Registration Deadline is January 9th**  
**Contest Runs January 16-March 21**

**Contest Regulations:**

- Each team consists of 2 participants with a \$40 entry fee
- 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 pregnant

**Contest Rules:**

- The \$40 team entry fee must be paid on Monday, January 16th at weigh-in time
- 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 three designated weigh-in periods
- Teams will be disqualified if all weigh-ins are not completed
- We will only release the team's total percentage of weight lost, not individual or team weights or body fat %

**Contest Incentives:**

- \$1,000 Cash Prize will be awarded to the team losing the greatest percentage of total weight
- A free 30-minute massage at Serenity Spa will be given to the top individual who loses the most body fat %
- Winners will be announced on Saturday, April 7th

## Best Loser 2012 Register TODAY!

**Team Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Participants Names (2):** \_\_\_\_\_

**Contact Number:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Paid \$40:**  Cash  Check  Credit Card/Type: \_\_\_\_\_

2855 Miller Drive, Suite 101, Plymouth, IN 46563 • 574-936-2333 • [www.fitnessforum.biz](http://www.fitnessforum.biz)

## Union Twp. advisory board meets, with Overmyer newest member

Staff Report

CULVER - The Union Township Advisory board and trustees welcomed new board member Mike Overmyer, at their organizational meeting held last Tuesday. Overmyer was sworn in by Jerry Greeson, trustee, and is replacing William Githens, who is a recently elected Culver town council member.

The first order of business was the reorganization of the Advisory Board. Bobetta Ruhnow will remain president, with Overmyer serving as vice-president and Connie VanHorn serving as secretary. The board also reorganized as a Board of Finance with Overmyer as chairman.

Greeson advised that one of the goals for 2012 was to upgrade the out of date government software and to review and document policy guidelines for the trustee and clerk's positions. He also presented a comparison study of salaries of area township trustees and boards. Union Township paid the trustee \$12,250 for 2011 with a two percent increase scheduled for 2012.

Board member salaries will go from \$900 to \$950 for 2012. These salaries fall about in the middle of comparable townships with Center and German trustees getting \$18,000 for 2012 and the board members being compensated at \$1,200 and \$1,000 respectively. The lowest paid trustee is listed as Tippecanoe's officer at \$4,500 with board members receiving \$380 and the clerk receiving \$1,200.

The annual report of the township is being prepared but Greeson noted that Union had contributed \$95,841 to emergency services and \$17,000 to the Culver Union Township Park. The township contributed \$7,500 toward new radios for the EMS plus an additional donation toward the new EMS addition at the Culver town hall.

The annual donation of the Culver Educational Foundation was discussed. In 2007, CEF increased their annual donation to the Culver Union Township Fire Department and EMS to \$25,000 from the previous \$15,000 donation. At that time, they indicated this would be the donation for the years 2007 through 2009 when at that time, the donation would increase to \$30,000. The board acknowledged this contribution is a large part of the equipment budget for both emergency services. Greeson will coordinate with the Culver town council and clerk to determine if this contribution will continue for 2012.

The next meeting will be held to authorize the publication and approval of the annual report. The meetings are open to the public who are encouraged to attend. The date and time will be published.

## REAL Meals menu

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

**Thurs. Jan. 12:** Pork loin, broccoli, black eyed peas, bread and margarine, cherry ambrosia, and milk.

**Fri. Jan. 13:** Cream of broccoli soup, chicken salad pasta, crackers, fruit cup, dessert, and milk.

**Mon. Jan. 16:** Beef Strips with peppers, rice, wax beans, bread, peaches, dessert, and milk.

**Tuess. Jan. 17:** Hamburger steak with onions, creamed corn, spinach, apricots, bread and margarine, and milk.

**Weds. Jan. 18:** Spaghetti with meat sauce, tossed salad, dressing, garlic bread, green beans, pineapple, and milk.

**Thurs., Jan. 19:** Chicken and sausage jambalaya, rice, breaded okra, sliced pears, bread and margarine, birthday cake, and milk.

**Fri. Jan. 20:** Split pea with turkey ham soup, carrots, crackers, hot peaches, and milk.

## Home from war? Heydt has support group

By Carol Anders  
Correspondent

PLYMOUTH — Although Curtis Heydt -- familiar to many in Culver for his years at Culver Academies -- spent some 33 years serving in the United States Army as a chaplain and pastor, he believes his work is not done. Beginning this month, Heydt will meet with local veterans in a support group setting at the LifePlex in Plymouth.

"It's a chance to reach out to other people who are hurting," he said.

His own military service included serving in Korea and Iraq along with a number of assignments at bases including Fort Bragg, N.C; Fort Hood; Texas and Fort Campbell, Ky.

During his time in Iraq, he provided chaplain coverage for the largest Combat Air Force Theater Hospital in the country where he ministered to a multi-national medical staff and provided pastoral care to wounded or dying American and allied armed forces, and Iraqi men, women and children. In response to the 911 attacks, Heydt coordinated chaplaincy support for the Army Special Opera-

tions Command with continued religious support for all on-going special operations actions in the Global War on Terrorism.

After his retirement from the Army in 2007, he relocated to the Plymouth area to accept a position with Culver Academies. He is not new to Indiana, however, having graduated from Ball State University in 1971.

Heydt said, "The group is not intended to provide therapy, but to offer understanding care and support for those veterans who are suffering with memories."

In his invitation to fellow veterans, he said, "You have served your nation, and returned home. If memories are painful or difficult come to our group at LifePlex and find the support of sharing with other veterans who can offer an understanding heart."

The meetings scheduled for the second Tuesday of each month from 6:30- 7:30 p.m. are open to anyone who has been deployed in the defense of our country.

For more information on the "Home From War" support group, contact Heydt at 574-540-2125.

## Culverites encouraged to donate blood, enter to win gift card

The Red Cross is asking blood donation Tuesday, Jan. 17, from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. at Culver High School in the Middle School Gymnasium, located at 701 School St. in Culver. Come to donate through Jan. 31 and be entered into a region-wide drawing for a \$1,000 Visa gift card.

## Ruhnow from page 1

were printed on an old NCR machine which Kay and only Kay knew how to operate. Meter readers went door to door in rain, snow and gloom of night to make their appointed rounds and mark the readings in the meter book. Kay then translated these into billings. Rates were a lot cheaper then and I think sewer was approximately \$12.50 as a basic charge per 2,000 gallons of water. The sewer plant was just going into renovations under Bob Breyfogle with a new system designed by Notre Dame for treatment.

There was little automation in the office with the exception of the billing machine. Finally, the computer age arrived and our first system was basic and used primarily for payroll and bill payment. Our first computer monitor and program cost \$5,000 and was set up by a friend of Rod Martindale, board member. Tom was a great help in easing us into the new set-up. He was a former medic helicopter pilot who served in Viet Nam and had just began his involvement in computer technology. We were willing, if somewhat slow, learners but soon began to see the benefits the computer offered. We also had assistance from Ed Behnke, local computer expert.

Kay and I also had to dispatch both EMS and Police. Although the Police Department had a clerk, all dispatch was made through the

clerk's office so it was necessary that the office be staffed five days a week. At night, we turned the police dispatch to Marshall County and there were dispatchers for EMS who were dedicated volunteers. Eventually, the law dictated that we had to have specific training to dispatch the police so I went to the Indiana Law Enforcement Academy for a week to train. Our part time clerk, Jackie Crull, also had to take the training to become certified.

I worked with a great group of people through my twelve years. Donovan Overmyer was head of the street and water department, Bob Breyfogle ran the sewer plant, and Lance Overmyer was our Fire Chief when I first began. Heads of the departments changed as did town board (and subsequently, town council) members changed, but I found all were devoted to doing the best job for Culver.

From time to time, street department employees found ways to liven the day to day routine. At one point, I got a call from part time employee, Ryan Tusing, who had his vehicle misplaced. Ultimately, the vehicle was found to have been carefully placed in a street department dumpster. No harm to the vehicle, just a challenge.

Kay was a great deputy clerk and I was fortunate to have her to work with for 12 years. I'm sure the town citizens will miss her smiling face and cheerful attitude as well as her dedication to serving the public well.

## New Citizen email address

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

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

**ONE DAY ONLY!**

**Friday, January 13th**

**FRIDAY THE 13TH IS YOUR LUCKY DAY**

**Circulation Subscription Special**

**Buy a 1 year subscription of the Culver Citizen & get one month FREE for only...**

**\$20**

**Stay in touch with your community news, sports & events**

Call or stop in our office on Friday, January 13, 2012  
214 N. Michigan St., Plymouth or  
936-3101 or 1-800-933-0356  
\*Must be prepaid Offer only valid January 13, 2012

## Kenney from page 1

early February, 1976. It had so much room in it. I'm not sure anyone ever gave credit to the then police department, but they were the ones who remodeled the interior of the building and determined where rooms would go.

There was a window in the south wall, from which we could see the grain elevator on Jefferson Street because of its height. This was before the Culver Cove was built. One day, I looked out that window at the grain elevator and saw a tongue of flame reach out from the highest part of the elevator. I believe it took it 10 minutes to burn to the ground. For week, maybe months, afterward, the charred and then soaking corn decayed, and the stench was incredible.

At the time I began as clerk-treasurer, we only had three town board members; it was some years before the board expanded to included two more members. Each board member picked an area of town departments to supervise. The town board members mostly had jobs, and so were not always available to call in case a town citizen came in with a complaint or question I couldn't handle. The departments were very much the same as now, except the EMS was not started until 1978.

Mary Wieringa and I worked together in the 1978 blizzard. We both realized, the day the blizzard hit, that we were going to need to be at the town hall long hours, because Marshall County had its hands full. I believe we each walked to the office through a couple feet of snow. She lived closer to the town hall than I did, and I don't know how long it took her to get there, but I walked six blocks, and it took me 45 minutes to get there!

We stayed till around 11 that night, having taken over the police dispatch from Marshall County at 6 a.m. instead of 8 a.m., and stayed hours past the usual change of dispatch at 4 p.m.

The street crew did a fantastic job of clearing the snow, with the help of no less than three contractors; the town board had watched weather reports and hired in the contractors ahead of the storm, knowing they would be needed. So efficient were they, that you could drive anywhere in town, but when you got to the edge of town, there was nowhere to go. The state and county crews had not been able to clear so much so fast, with the best will and the best help they could get. Too much snow and wind, and too much open country.

We had snowmobilers volunteer to help bring essentials to outlying places, or bring people in who were stranded and in precarious health. One woman was nine months pregnant and asked to be brought to the Academy infirmary where she would at least be safe if that baby came during the aftermath of the storm. One man called in and asked the snowmobilers to bring him some oxygen as he was running low - and a pack of cigarettes, as he was out! He was told that they would bring the oxygen....

The street crew was always responsible for water lines, sewer lines, and street maintenance. For some years, Everett Easterday of Easterday Construction was contracted to run the water plant and Sue (Mrs. Wayne) Mattox ran the sewer plant. The town had received a grant for the sewer plant before I came into office, but had very little funding for maintaining the sewer lines. Parts of town had sewer lines buried 22 feet deep, other parts maybe five feet. The lines were mostly concrete, jointed every five feet. The sewer gases would eventually wear away the top of the concrete sewer pipes, creating a hole that eventually surfaced. The two most frightening sewer repair jobs I remember were the time Don Stubbs was getting ready to excavate and discovered a hole deep enough to bury his backhoe, easily. Fortunately, he checked before he started and backed his rig away from the now open hole. The other was when the street crew was trying to repair a line just south of what is now the middle school, and the excavation caved in, burying one of the men. By this time, we had radios for each crew member and the backhoe driver called in the alert before getting down to start digging. I think the man who was buried had thrown his arm up in front of his face, creating a tiny air pocket. Following that incident, the sewer department purchased a steel safety box for just such excavations.

One of the more entertaining tasks I took on when I became clerk-treasurer was to organize the town records, because the previous clerk had had the street crew bring their sand truck over and move a lot of old town records out of the basement of the fire station and into the basement of the street garage. Well, they moved them, all right - and dumped them willy-nilly, all over the floor of the basement of the street garage. Nothing was left in the office but current files.

We had to refer to previous minutes of meetings so many times, and check old claim-vouchers for something, or search for deeds and rights-of-way, that I finally asked the board for permission to have all of the records brought back so I could sort them and put them in labeled "bank boxes," as we called them, and there might be room for

them in the one end of the meeting room. It took me the better part of two years to finish the job, but when I got done, we had minute books from the 1800's forward, in order.

It was an exciting and amusing job, never dull, never the same from day to day, but with constants that never changed. The police asked us to dispatch for them, since their office was a cubbyhole off of our office. So we learned to use a police radio and learned to use some of their lingo.

One of the things they did was to spell over the radio, using words to clarify letters they were spelling, such as "A - Adam, B - Boy, C - Charlie" and so forth. Well, one day when I was dispatching, I had to spell a license last name for them and couldn't think of the word they used for the letter "U," so in desperation I used the last name of a local family, and said, "U - Uytterbrouck!"

Mary, my assistant, doubled over laughing and there was a pause before the officer replied. Then he just said, incredulously, "U - Uytterbrouck?" I answered, "Affirmative."

"Clear," he said, but you could hear the grin in his voice. When he and his sidekick came in the office, they said, practically in chorus, "Would you mind spelling that word again?"

I don't think I will ever live that down; when Mary and I talk which is about once a year, she still laughs and says, "U - Uytterbrouck! Ha-ha-ha-ha!" Now I recall that it should have been "U - Union." We found a lot to laugh about in those days.

One time, the town marshal left his radio at the restaurant and luckily his deputy was with him so they could hear when a restaurant patron picked up the radio and said, "(So and so), come in, please, you left your radio at Cafe Max!"

One was the time an elderly reserve officer was on a high speed chase through the middle of town when he came to the traffic light that we then had at the intersection of Main and Jefferson. When the light changed, the speeder raced right on through it on the red, but the officer dutifully stopped for the red light - with his own red light and siren going. We chuckled over that for years.

Another was when the town board passed an ordinance forbidding parking on one side of College Avenue, because it was pretty narrow. But it happened to be across the street from the Catholic Church, and the priest of the time was livid. He wrote letters to the newspaper, had his congregation praying for the town to change its mind. He was given notice by the board that by a certain date, if anyone was parked on that side of the street, they were going to get ticketed. The day came, and sure enough, there were still cars parked on the south side of College Avenue. So a reserve officer was sent to ticket the cars.

The officer said later, "So, I was just finishing putting 'em on the cars when the church let out and here come the priest, yelling and shaking his fists in the air, those funny robes of his flappin' in the wind. He chewed me out good, and finally, when I could get a word in edgeways I started to say, 'Well, gee, Rabbi—' and he pitched a fit!"

The chief was laughing. "Did you have to call him Rabbi?"

"Well," said the officer, his eyes round and innocent, "I didn't know what to call him - I wasn't going to call him 'Father' because he wasn't my father!"

I don't think the priest ever got over it. We had some good times.

## Name that Culver citizen'

Our Mystery Citizen last week sparked several correct identifications from readers. She was Lora Pinder, who besides running the uber-popular restaurant bearing the family name, with husband Ed, for decades, has been a familiar face in numerous activities here, from Lions Club, to Wesley United Methodist Church. Among readers reaping free parking in downtown Culver for their sharp eyed, correct "guesses," are Lynn Crist, Barb Neidlinger, Marizetta Kenney, Cyn-



thia Bonine Goss, Barbara Winters, Joe Baughn, Cindy Riestler, Judy Patton, and Kay Tusing.

This week's Mystery Citizen has kept busy with an in-demand

local business for several years, though he's also been involved in some local civic organizations and a recent community initiative.

Guesses may be emailed to culvercitizen@gmail.com or call the editor at 574-216-0075.

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

**BENEFIT FOR  
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Saturday, January 14th  
2 p.m.-6 p.m.  
Mystic Hills Golf Course  
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## Sports briefs

### Boys basketball

#### Culver takes 1st NSC loss

Culver fell behind 31-22 at the half but fought back fiercely with a flurry of points in the final two minutes, falling short 61-58 in its first Northern State Conference loss to New Prairie at home Saturday.

The Cavaliers were led by Trent Elliott's 20 points and 17 points from Allen Biggers in the loss, which drops the team to 6-3 overall with a 2-1 conference mark.

The Cougars had four players in double figures as Zach Rehlander and Jasen Webb each put up 12, and Austin Ginter and Matt Winter each finished with 11 points.

NEW PRAIRIE 61, CULVER 58

At Culver

Score by quarters

New Prairie: 14 31 44 61

Culver: 11 22 40 58

NEW PRAIRIE (61): Kyle Brammer 3 2-3 8, Cory Dylan 0 0-0 0, Austin Ginter 4 2-2 11, C.J. Kowalski 1 0-0 2, Mitch Mrozinski 1 1-1 3, Zach Rehlander 2 8-11 12, Noah Shail 0 0-0 0, Tyler Szydal 1 0-0 2, Jasen Webb 2 8-8 12, Matt Winter 4 3-8 11; Totals: 18 24-34 61.

CULVER (58): Kyle Vlach 0 0-0 0, Jordan Sanders 0 0-0 0, Collin Stevens 2 3-4 8, Allen Biggers 7 3-3 17, Trent Elliott 9 0-0 20, Johnny Anderson 0 0-0 0, Jacoda Anderson 6 1-3 13, Tucker Schultz 0 0-0 0, Micah Budzinski 0 0-2 0; Totals: 24 7-12 58.

3-point goals: New Prairie 1 (Ginter) Culver 3 (Elliott 2, Stevens); Turnovers: New Prairie 16, Culver 16; Rebounds: New Prairie 22, Culver 25; Steals: New Prairie 4, Culver 8; Assists: New Prairie 5, Culver 7; Fouls (fouled out): New Prairie 15 (none), Culver 24 (Biggers, Ja. Anderson)

Records: New Prairie 6-4 (1-1 NSC), Culver 6-3 (2-1 NSC)



LEFT: New Prairie players (from left) Jasen Webb and Austin Ginter aim to stop Culver's Collin Stevens (right), as he prepares to shoot a layup on a breakaway after stealing the ball. Culver's Trent Elliott is approaching in the background.

RIGHT: Culver's Allen Biggers drives to the basket past New Prairie's Zachary Rehlander (center) and Austin Ginter.

Sam Emerick scored a game-high 25 points to lead New Prairie to a 51-44 Northern State Conference girls basketball win over visiting Culver Community Friday.

Kayla Shaffer led the Cavs with 19 points, followed by Mickella Hardy with 11 points.

NEW PRAIRIE 51,

CULVER 44

At New Carlisle

Score by quarters

Culver: 7 26 37 44

New Prairie: 16 29 38 51

Schultz 1 0-0 3, Donna Zehner 1 2-3 4, Mickella Hardy 5 1-4 11, Kayla Shaffer 7 3-4 19. TOTALS: 16 7-13 44.

NEW PRAIRIE (51): Lexi Buford 1 0-0 2, Courtney Spencer 0 0-0 0, Sam Emerick 8 7-9 25, Madison Cody 2 0-0 4, Katie Buford 2 2-2 7, Olivia Kuczanski 0 0-0 0, Kelsey Prestin 2 3-6 7, Mackenzie Behm-Staveley 2 0-0 6. TOTALS: 17 12-17 51.

3-point goals: Culver 5 (Overmyer 2, Shaffer 2, Schultz), New Prairie 5 (Emerick 2, Behm-Staveley 2, K. Buford); Fouls (fouled out): Culver 16 (none), Triton 17 (none); Records: Culver 6-7 (1-3 NSC), New Prairie 5-8 (1-2 NSC).

### Girls basketball

#### Cavs come up short

Culver Elementary School has released its A-B honor roll for grading period two.

**First grade:** Kevin Ray Bailey, Elizabeth M Bell-Howard, Elizabeth D Binion, Baleigh Grace Binkley, Lilly Ann Bradley, Jason A Cadle, Alejandra Eleana Chantea, Payton Edward Robert Chumley, Kylee Marie Cole, Tessa Marie Conroy, Connor Michael Craig, Addison Maybre Crippen, Ava Claire Czerniak, Chloe Lauren Danti, Alix Rayleigh Dunn, Cabot Severns Ellert, Harmonnee Angel Nevaeh Ewald, Owen Edward Falk, Trenton Wayne Fritter, Alison Nicole Grothaus, Kaylee Maxine-Kay Hamilton, Mason Thomas Herbert, Alisa Jo Hinds, Gabriella Starr Hopkins, Collin Pierce Hunnicutt, James Joseph Johnson, Jiovanni Jurado, Kaitlyn Joann Kanschat, Ethan Paul Keller, Kali Brynne Kidd, Abigail Grace Kisel, a Lily Rayne Kozubik, Merissa MaeRayann Lowry, Ashton E. Macedonio, Ashton Michael Xavier McCarthy, Abigail Mia Nufer, Lucile Jean Overmyer, Addison Elizabeth Pohl, Joseph Thomas Rehka, Benton Sayavongsing, Ches Michael Schrimsher, Shane Owen Shuman, Kaitlyn Anne Stacy, Jelena Stefanic, Abigail Nicole Sullivan, Hailey Olivia Thamm, Linda Sue Thamm, Rylan Ronald Voter.

**Second grade:** Marquez Donovan Anderson, Mackenzie Michelle Banks, Savannah Marie Barnes, Nico Mary-Madeline Barton, Chyanne Rose Beaver, Virgil Eyvind Binion, Bryce Allen Campbell, Zoey Louise Coble, Mason M Cormican, Kennedy Rose Creviston, Matthew Paul Davis, Sydney Sue Denham, Austin Lee Dilts, Tucker Ryan Fisher, Alexandria Thor Forest, Kordelia Fulton, Anna Katherine Gregorash, Sophia Luna Heath, Emily Heim, Savannah Grace Hisson, Alexxa Ann Howard, Shaelyn Alexis Keen, Mary Katherine Kelley, Paige Lilliann Lancaster, Samuel Lawrence Luttrell, Alyson Paige Martin, Dylan James McKee, Rebecca L Minix, William Thomas Nicholson, Kierra McKenzie Parker, Kathleen Rose Perkins, Jordan Mary Porter, Elizabeth Ann Pugh, Alina Emily Rehka, Cole Austin Rieckhoff, Gavin Matthew Salyer, Kaydin Jovee Sayavongsing, Adrian Owen Schouten, Natalie Mechelle Stevens, Hunter J Taylor, Haley Morgan Wieringa, Cody Daniel Winkler, McKenzie Melissa Sue Wireman, Spring Ye, Timothy Oliver Young, Alex James Zehner.

**Third grade:** Makenzie Faith Argiris Blake, Wayne Baugh, Ashley L Burkett, Mia Patricia Conroy, Austin J Cooper, Ethan Michael Coyle, Anthony J Czerniak, Da-

mian R Dunn, Francis K Ellert, Olivia A Gilley, Joshua P Havron, Kelsey M Heise, Katie M Hoffman, Abigail RayAnne Johnson, Morgan J Keller, Kaleigh M Kephart, Ethan D Lima, Sarah Grace Lowry, Kenna Nichole Manns, Ethan Wayne Moore, Jessica Renee Pietsch, Lillian E Proskey, Wyatt M Ringer, Tyler D Rogers, Madison A Shedrow, Reagan D Sheets, Darren C Shock, Kendal S Stebbins, Shane M Stevens, Chyna Dawn Thomas, Tyler James Coday.

**Fourth grade:** Isabelle J Ahlenius, Kenzie Lynn Binkley, Ashley N Black, Anna R Blocker, Zachary Michael Busse, Aysia R Conley, Trista Rae Fritter, Rainbow Ann Hines, Kagnie J Hoffman, Austin David Jones, Oliver Ryan Lampton-Adkins, Hunter A Manns, Noah Riley Parsons, Dana T Rodgers, Carter C Stevens, Alexandra R Temme, Owen R Valiquet, Donavan M Ziaja.

**Fifth grade:** Kennedy Lynn Ash, Justin L Bennett, Brandon Ray England, Lillian Elizabeth Gregorash, Kath-

erine A Heim, Allison Rene Jones, Gabrielle Jade Kegley, Alyssa S Kinyanjui, Nora H Kline, Sarah T Luttrell, Jenna M Moise, Sarah E Morrison, Austin B Otteman, Maranda J Otteman, Kaitlyn K Rennek-

er, Hunter Mn Ringer, Tihana

See CES page 8

## Culver Elementary honor roll

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## Library news

## Lifelong love of horses inspires new 'Crazy for Horses' group at Culver library

Join Margaret Carter as she kicks off the first gathering of her new "Crazy for Horses" book discussion group at the Culver-Union Township Public Library. The movie, *Seabiscuit: An American Legend*, will be shown at noon Tuesday, January 24th followed by a brief discussion of Laura Hillenbrand's book, *Seabiscuit*, upon which the film is based. Margaret who was born in Lafayette, Indiana, while her father was working on his PhD at Purdue, fondly remembers visiting the family farm outside of Rochester.

At the age of four Margaret first visited the Rochester Carnegie Public Library; there she not only devoured all the books in the horse section of the children's room, but was always amazed by how tall the steps were to the library entrance. She also recalls being put backwards on a neighbor's paint horse by her parents, but says that didn't discourage her from becoming a librarian and a horse owner. At the family farm, Margaret discovered her great-grandmother's side saddle, a source of endless fascination to her.

Some 40 years later, she went on to become a founding member of the Hoosier Ladies Aside – a group of approximately twenty women who perform sidesaddle demonstrations at living history events and Civil War reenactments. Margaret participates in the Trail of Courage and the Redbud Rendezvous at the Fulton County Historical Society where she serves as a board member. After living in California most of her adult life, Margaret is back in Indiana running the family farm, rescuing horses and working with the Technical Services team at the Culver library as a cataloger. In her spare time, you might find her designing and sewing period costumes or keeping the water pipes in her 145-year-old farm house from freezing. So if you're a member of the "horsey set" or just a history buff, bring a bag lunch and meet Margaret Carter as she shares her love of horses with our new book discussion

## Briefs from page 1

zen. Culver's plan commission will meet Weds., Jan. 18, rescheduled from the original Jan. 17 date. Both meetings take place at 6:30 p.m. at the town hall.

## PBS "Catholicism" series screened

Father Robert Barron's "Catholicism" (PBS) DVD series will be screened Wednesday evenings through March 14, from 7:15 to 9 p.m. (location to be announced). Join us for 10 weeks of great conversation, food, friendship -- and a fascinating look at our Catholic faith in a relaxed environment. 7:15 p.m. will be arrival and helping yourself to some food and drink; 7:30 to 8:20 "Catholicism" DVD session of the week; 8:20 to 8:45 p.m. Conversation and departure. Participants should feel free to bring a friend or two. RSVP not necessary but helpful: St. Mary of the Lake Church office 842-3667 or stmarys@culcom.net.

## Alzheimer's support group

group, Crazy for Horses.

The Culver-Union Township Public Library is located at 107 N. Main Street in Culver. You may reserve a copy of *Seabiscuit* by calling 574-842-2941. All library events are free and open to the public

## New round of free computer classes at CUTPL

Culver-Union Township Public Library will begin a new session of free computer classes January 23. Classes will be held Monday evenings at 6 p.m. and Friday mornings at 10 a.m., and will last two hours. Sessions for January-February include

Computers for Beginners Part I (January 23 and 27); Computers for Beginners Part II (January 30 and Feb. 3); Internet for Beginners (Feb. 6 and 10); Email for Beginners (Feb. 13 and 17).

These are hands-on classes and the library will provide computers. If you have your own laptop computer, feel free to bring it to the classes. For more information, call the Culver Library at 574-842-2941, visit our website at [www.culver.lib.in.us](http://www.culver.lib.in.us) or e-mail [abaker@culver.lib.in.us](mailto:abaker@culver.lib.in.us). The library's street address is 107 N. Main St.

## Newest tech up for discussion at Thursday Tech Time

Thursday Tech Time will be held Jan. 19 at 6 p.m., and will focus on new technology for 2012. See new technology innovations coming up this year New devices, software, and everything in between! Thursday Tech Time will discuss everything from laptops to tablets, smartphones and more.

Thursday Tech Time is an open discussion group for

An Alzheimer's support group meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 17 at 6:30 p.m. at the Life Care Center of Rochester, 827 W. 13th St., Rochester. This is a community support group for those who either have or has had a loved one suffering from Alzheimer's or Dementia. The group is open to the public and is free of charge. This meeting is held the third Tuesday of the month at the same time and location. Please contact Terri or Amber at 574-223-4331 to RSVP or for additional information.

## Early Culver religion display at Museum

The Center for Culver History, located in the lower level of the Culver Public Library, downtown Culver, has a new display outlining some unique facets of Culver's early religious movements. Topics addressed include the effects of Jesuit and Protestant missionaries on the religious heritage of the local Pottawatomie, and the popular education and revivalism of the Chautauqua Assemblies of the turn of the century. The display also features photographs, documents, and artifacts from Culver's churches, past and present.

The exhibit joins a recently-added one on Culver High School's yearbooks. The museum is open from Tuesday to Friday, noon to 6 p.m., and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

## Vonnegut fund grant cycle coming



CITIZEN PHOTO /JEFF KENNEY

TOP PHOTO: Coleen Watwood (of the 'puter Pit Stop in Culver), left, has donated eight one-hour computer repair sessions to CUTPL's adult winter reading program as prizes for readers, and here presents them to Cindy Good of the library. BOTTOM PHOTO: Elizabeth Funston (manager of Culver Express), right, and cashier Cassandra Patrick, center, present \$25 gas cards and free drink cards to Good towards the program.

anyone interested in computers and technology. Come and talk, share, listen and ask questions! Sessions are held from 6 to 7:30 p.m. on the third Thursday of each month. Each session may have a speaker and topic or may simply be an open discussion. All sessions are free and open to the public.

## Club Fair at CUTPL

Welcome club organizers and members! Culver-Union Township Public Library will host a Club Fair Saturday, February 4, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. All groups, clubs and organizations are invited to promote their organization. This is a great way to present your group to the community and potentially gain new members! Come for the whole time or just a few hours. Contact Cindy Good in Adult Services at 574-842-2941 or [cgood@culver.lib.in.us](mailto:cgood@culver.lib.in.us).

## 'Cabin Fever' at CUTPL

Culver-Union Township Public Library's winter reading program, "Cabin Fever," runs through Jan. 18. It's focused on winter themes and activities. Prizes and other programs are being developed. For more information contact Cindy Good in Adult Services at 574-842-2941 or [cgood@culver.lib.in.us](mailto:cgood@culver.lib.in.us).

## CES from page 5

Stefanic, Christian J Zakh.

**Sixth grade:** Maija Lynn Santistevan Cole, Pierce H Ellert, Jasmynne D. Fowler, Collin Kenneth Knowlton, Dylan C Lewandowski, Payton M Lowry, Benjamin B Myers, Dylan Pitera, Sydney G Pritz, Reilly K Reinhold, Cody J Rieckhoff, RT Roberts, Jake S Rodgers, Cody R Russell, Dillon R. Salyer, Raymie L Shoop, Landon I Tibbett, Hayley Alexis Wilkinson.

## up

The Marshall County Community Foundation announces it is now accepting applications for the first General Endowment and Ralph C. Vonnegut, Jr. Fund grant cycle of 2012. Organizations desiring to apply for a grant should visit the website at [www.marshallcountycf.org](http://www.marshallcountycf.org) for an application. The website application must be used by all applicants and signatures of designated officials requested on the form are required.

Grant applications are due by 4:30 p.m., February 1, 2012. Applications will be reviewed by the Grants Committee of the Community Foundation and final decisions will be made by the Board of Directors during their March Meeting. 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

## Adult basketball at MES gym

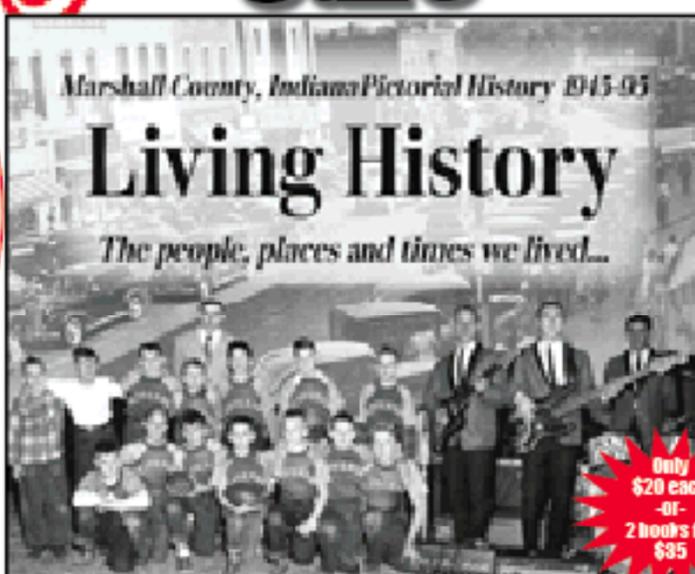
The Culver adult winter basketball program will start once again Sunday, November 27, from 1 to 3 p.m. EST, at the Culver Middle School gym.

It will continue at the same time every Sunday until March 18, the last session.

The cost is the same as always: \$2 per Sunday, or \$15 for the entire season, which includes 15 sessions.

As always, please, please bring your good sportsmanship, and do not bring your children. Questions should be directed to Ken VanDePutte at 574-274-9942.

# Clearance Sale



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