

***This information is to the best of our knowledge. Please submit edits/more information to DunlapDCDC@gmail.com. We are looking for facts only currently (business names, owners, dates, and photos.)*

122 Iowa Ave

Current Business: Wendt's Pots and Posies (1979)

Previous Businesses:

Dunlap Theater

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1867 – Dunlap was platted





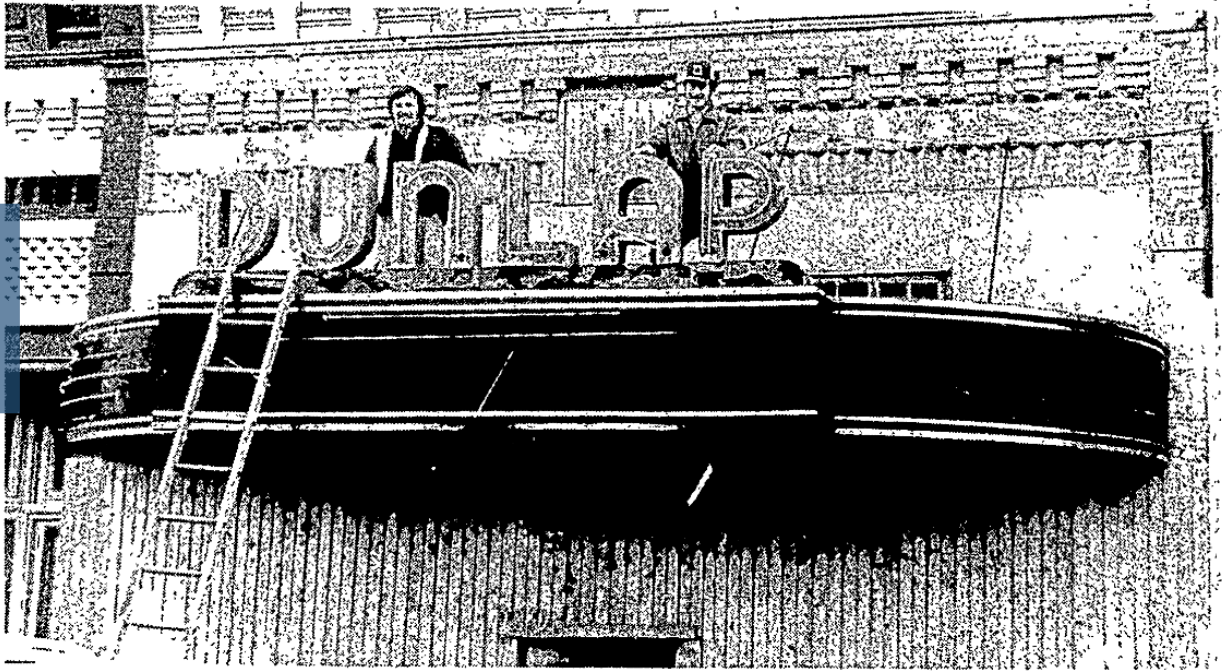


WAR IS OVER - Nov - 11 - 1918



Main St. Duval, Ind.

March 8, 1979 – Dunlap Reporter



STEVEN WENDT and Ed Wendt are pictured above working on the old theater building in Dunlap. This photo was taken Thursday, March 1, before the sign and the building extension were taken down. Their wives, Barbara Wendt and [Bev Wendt](#) will be opening

a flower shop in this location as soon as remodeling is completed, hopefully by April 1. Barbara Wendt and [Bev Wendt](#) are the daughters of Ervin Morrison of Honey Creek. Mr. Morrison has purchased the building for the shop.
—Reporter photo

April 5, 1979 – Dunlap Reporter



WENDT'S POTS 'N POISES opened Monday, April 2 in the [old theater](#) building in Dunlap. The new owners (pictured above) are Barbara and Beverly Wendt. The building recently was completely remodeled

—Reporter photo and designed to give the shop ample room. For more details about their hours, etc. consult the advertisement in this issue of the Reporter

**Wendt's
Pots 'n' Posies**

122 Iowa Ave. — Dunlap, Iowa

**Is the New Collection Agency for
General Telephone Bills**

August 11, 1983

Dunlap's Award-Winning Florist To Feature Balloons

(This is the 14th in a series of articles on Dunlap businesses. Wendt's Pots 'n' Posies was featured on the Shop-at-Home page last week.)

BY DORIS BINGHAM

Balloons as an enhancement to bouquets is a fad that's sweeping the country and Bev Wendt of Wendt's Pots 'n' Posies is planning to join the new trend.

She said she will be handling them as a part of arrangements and as separates.

Balloons, filled with helium she said, were a popular item at a convention she attended recently in Salina, Kans., where she won two awards including a first for dish garden and a second for bridal bouquet.

The balloons are popular for parties for all ages and for congratulatory and hospital bouquets.

Bev said she first got interested in flowers and floral arrangements when she was attending Missouri Valley High School. When her sister got married, she saw the hand-made wood fiber flowers which were used and she thought they didn't look so hard to make. So she started "messing around with it."

The word got around and soon she was asked to make flowers for weddings in the family. Her first wedding was that of a cousin who is now her sister-in-law.

Later she responded to an

ad by Dean Brockhoff for help at the flower shop he had in connection with Dunlap Hardware on Sixth Street. She worked there two years. When Dean decided to sell his flower business, she decided the time was right to go into a business herself. She had often thought she wanted a craft shop some day and the idea of a flower shop seemed close.

She and her sister Barbara, married to her husband's brother, went into the business together to start.

There was some disbelief, she said, when they decided to buy the old theater building four years ago. It had been used for several years by Moore Bros. as a ware house but many of the old theater accoutrements were still in place. There was the popcorn station and the old projection room. There were candlelit projectors and even pieces of film. The marquee was still in place and there was old-fashioned wanscotting on the walls.

It was one month from the time of purchase until they moved in with Fouts Construction doing the renovations.

Barbara dropped out of the project after the first couple of years but Bev has continued to expand her services and take further training. She attended a basic course in arranging at Cliff Mann Floral School in Denver two years ago and wants eventually to take an

advanced course. She attends design sessions at the annual conferences.

At the conference this year, one of the speakers was a floral designer who had worked at the White House. "Everyone is helpful at the conferences," she said. "No one is afraid to give away trade secrets."

Last year she won a second for her bridal bouquet. The dish garden which won a first place this year is a variety of plants in a miniature garden which are arranged to tell a story.

In addition to the balloons, other new trends emphasized at the conference included hand-wrapped silks made in China and the natural look. "Sticks are used and more earthy things in the arrangements."

Bev is carrying the hand-wrapped silk which is more expensive but prettier than the conventional silk artificial flowers.

Supplementary to her floral items and arrangements, Bev also handles phone bills and garbage bills, collects cleaning for pick-up, and offers wedding invitation selections.

She carried macrame items for a time and taught macrame classes. "But that was kind of a fad and isn't as popular any more," she said. She also considered handling ceramics as a hobby item as it is one of her own hobbies. But the things

one makes can't compete with the mass produced items which she carries.

In her spare time at home she likes to sew and crochet and the family, which includes her husband Ed, who works at Farmland, Eric 6 and Michelle 3, likes to go camping. She also likes to water ski and she and Ed took a vacation for a couple of weeks one year on a motorcycle trip to Florida.

One advantage of running her own business is the opportunity to take care of the children part of the time while she works. Although she hasn't kept Eric at the store all the time, Michelle has grown up with store.

"She knows the flowers and the routine. She's been here almost every day since she was born."

The biggest asset for Dunlap right now, she said, is finally the demolition of the old Miller building which was next door to Wendt's and has created problems since the fire that destroyed it in September of 1980.

"The community is starting to stick together better," she said. "I hear it in the way people talk. They want to keep more shopping in Dunlap. I hear them say, 'I do all that right here.'"

"The Booster Club is doing well now too," she added. "They've raised a lot of money with the bingo games for the new fire house."



Bev Wendt with her "shop assistant," Michelle. In front of them is the dish garden which won first place at the recent floral convention in Salina, Kansas.

the recent hotel convention in Salina, Kansas.

