

Martin County JOURNAL

Year Two, Issue One

Wednesday, January 5, 2011

10 Pages

Commissioners hold final meeting for 2010

The Martin County Commissioners met Tuesday, December 28 in the final meeting of the year. Commissioner John Winger was unable to attend.

Chris Walls, 39 Degrees North, presented information on the users of Martin County's eGIS system. There were 6,370 visits to the county's website from all over the State of Indiana in 2010.

He updated the commissioners on new capabilities coming in 2011.

Teresa Harder and Gene Sherfick updated the commissioners on the fees that will be assessed effective January 1, 2011, for Rule 5 plans. The fees will help offset costs of the on-site District Technician and administrative duties of the District Coordinator. The new technician is Terry Kinser and works for Martin County one day a week and three days a week for Orange County.

Jim Bruner representing the 4-H Council presented the leases for the Soil and Water Conservation District office and the extension office. The lease cost will remain the same except for a \$5 a month janitorial fee per office.

The lease will also be a three-year lease instead of a one-year lease. The commissioners approved the request.

Resolution 2010-20 for the county holiday schedule was approved.

Resolution 2010-21 for the commissioners meeting dates and claim voucher dates was approved with one exception. The meeting scheduled for Tuesday, July 12, 2011, was changed to Wednesday, July 13, 2011, due to the 4-H fair auction that will be that night.

Highway Superintendent Jim Williams gave his two-week work schedule.

During the icy weather the last couple of weeks, his department used approximately

235 tons of stone, 50 tons of salt, and 200 tons of bottom ash on the roads costing around \$7,000.

His department put in many extra hours

Martin County Highway Department inclement weather information, policy

The purpose of this policy is to communicate the goals and priorities of the Martin County Highway Department during inclement weather. This does not provide any special protection to any individual or group of individuals. This policy may be affected in total or in part, as a result of acts of God, weather conditions, equipment breakdowns, shortage of personnel, or any other unforeseen, uncontrollable or unanticipated event.

Snow plowing is considered emergency work because of the potential hazard to the motoring public. This emergency service is one of many services provided by the Martin County Highway Department on the 377 miles of Martin County roads. It is the goal of this department to maintain open roadways throughout Martin County during winter weather. The roads are divided into three priorities: (1) Heavily traveled black-top roads, (2) Gravel roads, (3) active Bus turn-arounds. Also, when emergency services or schools call and report slippery roads or intersections, they are placed as (1) on the priority list.

It is NOT the goal to clear the roads to bare pavement, but to keep all roads clear enough that vehicles can travel with caution. During the night hours, the Sheriff's

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keeping our roads safer for the Martin County residents. Commissioner Gregory complimented Williams on a job well done during the inclement weather. Williams has a snow policy that was written in 2000. It will be revised and rewritten.

Commissioner president Paul George wanted to thank the workers who came in from their personal time and vacations to help with the roads.

Research has proven that County Road 45 has not been vacated and is an unimproved county road.

Extension Educator Stevens told that 4-H enrollment is now open and will remain open until May 1st. Interested persons may either stop by his office for an enrollment form or get it on line. 4-H is for students in 3rd to 12th grades and the Future 4-H is for kindergarten through 2nd grade.

The following appointments were approved:

County Health Board - Judith A. Walker and Dr. Benoni W. Asdell

SIDC - Dan Gregory for one year
PTABOA - Gene Sherfick with Maxine Huebner as alternate for one year

Westgate Authority - Floyd Lonnie Hawkins for three years.

It was decided to sign the contract with Daviess Community Hospital Wellness program.

The commissioners voted to retain Jim Williams as the Highway Superintendent for another year and retain David Lett as the Commissioners' Attorney.

President George acknowledged and thanked outgoing elected officials for their work well done and wish them well in their new endeavors. They were Sheriff Tony Dant, Judge R. Joe Howell, and Councilman Larry Shaw.

Chamber prepares for annual dinner

The Martin County Chamber of Commerce has scheduled their annual dinner for Monday, January 31 at 6 p.m. at the Martin County Community Building at the fairground.

The special speaker will be Captain Chuck LaSota from Crane Base and special music will be provided by teenage violin virtuoso Brian Allen of Bedford. The public is invited to attend.

Tickets are \$12 in advance and \$15 at the door. For tickets in advance, please mail name(s) and contact information along with payment to MCCC PO Box 257 Loogootee, IN 47553 before the January 24 deadline. Tickets are on sale at the county auditor's office, the chamber office, and through numerous chamber members.

The chamber is asking for nominations for Citizen of the Year. The Citizen of the Year nominee should be someone who has served and/or promoted Martin County in a way which has made our county a better place to live.

Nominations should include your name and contact number as well as the nominee's name, contact number and thorough explanation for the nomination. Mail to: Martin County Chamber of Commerce PO Box 257 Loogootee, IN 47553.

In honor of last year's Citizen of the Year, this award has been renamed the Gene Shaw Citizen of the Year Award.

The deadline for submission is Monday, January 24.



Shoals School Board postpones decision on hiring math teacher

The Shoals School Board postponed their decision to hire a new math teacher at their meeting last Wednesday, December 29. A special meeting will be held Monday, January 10, at 5 p.m. to discuss it further.

In other personnel matters, the board approved Angela Sango as an instructional assistant to be used in the third grade classrooms for the remainder of the 2010-11 school year.

Eric Cooper and Jeff Cooper were approved to serve as volunteers with the elementary girls' basketball programs during the 2010-11 school year.

The board approved a one-year contract extension for the current administrators: David Springer, high school principal; Chris Stevens, assistant high school principal; Brian Smith, athletic director; and Carolyn Eubank, elementary principal.

The board approved the 7th and 8th grade girls' basketball teams to take a trip to Terre Haute to attend a college basketball game on Saturday, January 8 and a retroactive request for the girls' basketball teams to take a trip to Bedford for a pizza party on December 12, 2010.

Board member Christy Farhar was not present at the meeting.



Sworn in

Last Thursday, December 30th, newly-elected and re-elected officials were sworn in at the Martin County Courthouse. Oaths of office were done by Clerk Julie Fithian. Shown above in the front row, from left to right, are Norma Baker, Center Township Advisory Board; Exzelia Montgomery, Halbert Township Trustee; Larry Downs, Center Township Advisory Board; Janet "Sue" Hembree, Rutherford Township Trustee; and Lynne Ellis, Circuit Court Judge. In the back row, from left to right, are Mike Steiner, Prosecutor; Julie Fithian, Clerk; Randy Winger, County Council District 1; John Stoll, County Council District 3; Travis Montgomery, Halbert Township Advisory Board; Keith Gibson, County Council District 2; Rob Street, Sheriff; and Noel Harty, Perry Township Trustee.

-Photo by Nancy Steiner

Information sought on fatal shooting of peregrine falcon

DNR Law Enforcement seeks information on the fatal shooting of a peregrine falcon that was found injured in Floyd County near the I-64 bridge in New Albany on December 22 of last year.

The bird, which was found to be a captive-bred injured female, was brought to the Hardy Lake Raptor Rehabilitation Center that night by Indiana Conservation Officer Gary Pennington. The center's personnel took the falcon to a local veterinarian, whose X-ray determined the bird had been shot. The falcon died December 31.

According to John Castrale, the DNR's non-game bird biologist, the falcon, which he banded and released in Evansville in 1994, had not been reported since 1995.

The bird was named Phoenix, and may have been nesting in the New Albany/Louisville area where pairs breed on tall buildings and under bridges. Most pere-

grine falcons are banded as nestlings and later identification can be made if individuals can be approached. The biologist said the bird was relatively old for the species. The oldest he's aware of in the Midwest lived to age 19.

Peregrine falcons were removed from the federal endangered species list in 1999 but remain a state endangered species in Indiana.

Anyone with information about this shooting should call 1-800-TIP-IDNR (847-4367) or go online to TIP.IN.gov.

Lt. Mark Farmer, public information officer for DNR Law Enforcement, said combined federal and state penalties for a conviction could result in a fine of \$15,000, six months incarceration and loss of equipment.

Information about the Midwest peregrines (including a searchable database) can be found at <http://www.midwestperegrine.org/>.

Noel Harty announces candidacy for Loogootee Mayor in 2011

Noel D. Harty has recently announced his candidacy for Mayor of City of Loogootee in the 2011 primary.

Noel has lived in Martin County all of his life. Since August of 2002, he has resided in the City of Loogootee, and has come to know many people who proudly call this home. He said, "I have learned that the people who live here are hard working citizens with high moral values who love God, family and their community. I want to be your Mayor so, as a team, we can continue to keep Loogootee a safe, clean, and healthy environment in which to raise and nurture our families and values."

Noel's parents are the late George Harty and Deirdree and Kenny Sanders. His sister, Dawn Rubenstein, resides in East Petersburg, Pennsylvania with her two children Josh (16) and Katia (13). After his mother's marriage to Kenny Sanders in 2004, the family grew adding Kenny's three sons, Junior (wife Lora and children, Megan, Aubrey, and Trenton), Scott (wife Rhonda and children, Katlyn and Justin), and Curtis.

In Noel's junior year of high school, he enrolled at the North Lawrence Career Center for Business and Office Occupations. He learned managerial and organizational skills as well as improving his computer skills. He was encouraged to run for District President of the Indiana Business Professionals of America, and with the support and encouragement of Jesse Day, his teacher, he was fortunate to win the election. This was a turning point in his life as he realized that he was not only a good follower, but could also be a good leader. It was also during that time that he realized he wanted to serve his community and be of assistance to its citizens.

Noel's education includes: High school graduate - Shoals Junior-Senior High School Class of 1997, North Lawrence Career Center 1995-1997, Missouri Auctioneers School, St. Joseph Missouri 1997; Real Estate Certification Program 1997-1998, Serve Safe Food Service Program April 1999, Vincennes University Jasper Center 2002, School Bus Safety Training March 2009, Licensed Real Estate Salesperson, Licensed Auctioneer, and Licensed School Bus Driver.

His memberships include St. John Catholic Church, Martin County Democrat Party, Knights of Columbus 3rd and 4th Degree, Daviess Martin County Right to Life, Martin County Humane Society sponsor, Four Rivers Board, Red Door Board, Loogootee Optimist Club, Kids First Council, Loogootee Lion Backers, Member of the Evansville Board Of Realtors, Indiana Alumni for Business Professionals of



NOEL HARTY

America, past member of the Shoals and Loogootee Lions Clubs, National Rifle Association, past member of the Indiana Auctioneers Association, and past member of the Indiana Townships Association.

Noel's employment history includes: Stoll's Lakeview Restaurant, night manager Sept 1999 - May 2009; Century 21 Clements Realty, sales associate November 03 - present; Perry Township Trustee January 07 - present, school bus driver, Loogootee Community Schools August 09 - present; Akles Auction Service, auctioneer 1998 - Present.

His volunteer activities include: St. John Catholic Church - Parish Council Chairman, Master of Ceremonies, Seventh and Eighth Grade Catechism Teacher, Sacristan, Eucharistic Minister, Chaperone for Various Activities. Benefit auctions - V.U.J.C., St. John Catholic Church, Shoals Methodist Church, Martin County Humane Society, Bateman School, Relay for Life, and Loogootee SummerFest, Loogootee Skateboard Park and various individuals. Optimist - Basketball, Master of Ceremonies Tea Party, mentor for a foster child in a group home, chaperone for teen activities.

Noel said, "I would like to take this opportunity to ask for your vote on May 3rd, and as a team, we can keep Loogootee a friendly, safe, and pleasant place to call home."

HIGHWAY

(Continued from page one)

Department will telephone the highway department dispatch when roads are in need of clearing. There are only (10) employees, they will work 12-hour shifts and only for daylight hours when possible. Martin County uses stone, ash, sand, and salt as an abrasive on hills, bridges, approaches, and intersections.

DNR to recommend new deer rules to NRC

The Indiana Department of Natural Resources has unveiled a new package of recommended changes to deer hunting rules that will be presented to the Natural Resources Commission at its January 11 meeting at Fort Harrison State Park in Indianapolis.

The recommendations were developed after the NRC withdrew its preliminary approval of an earlier plan because overwhelming public comment opposed shortening some segments of the deer hunting seasons. DNR Division of Fish and Wildlife staff biologists believe the proposed multiple shorter seasons in the earlier plan, some for antlerless deer only, would have contributed to the goal of reducing deer numbers by placing greater emphasis on hunting of antlerless deer.

"The new proposal has the same objective - to focus deer herd reduction in a strategically-targeted manner to more adequately balance ecological, recreational and economic needs of the citizens of Indiana," said Mark Reiter, director of the DNR Division of Fish and Wildlife. "Our responsibility is to manage wildlife for all Hoosiers. Some pointed to the previous proposal as an effort to manage the herd for trophy animals or increase license revenue. That was not the case."

The new recommendations maintain the focus but leave the firearms and muzzle-loader seasons at their traditional 16-day lengths and drop a proposed two-day October season.

"This new proposal was created by staff within the DNR, using historic data gathered for deer management in Indiana, feedback from comments received during the initial proposal, and data from surrounding states," said Mitch Marcus, wildlife section chief for the Division of Fish and Wildlife. "We can't emphasize enough that the goal is to reduce deer numbers in a strategic manner; not everywhere, but certainly in areas of the state where it's needed to address the balance we're trying to achieve."

Three key points of the new recommendation are carryovers from the previous proposal:

- Adding a special antlerless only firearms season from December 26 through the first Sunday in January of the following year in counties with a bonus antlerless quota of four or more deer;

- Extending the urban zone season through January 31 of the following year;

- Requiring hunters hunting in an urban zone during the urban zone season to take at least one antlerless deer before taking an antlered deer.

New components include:

- Changing the current split archery season to a single season from October 1 through the first Sunday in January;

- Allowing a crossbow to be used by any hunter during the archery season and establishes a special crossbow license;

- Adding two new licenses (a crossbow license for use in the archery season, and an urban zone license) and offering a license bundle at a reduced price that would allow one antlered deer and two antlerless deer to be taken during the special youth, archery, firearms, muzzleloader and special antlerless seasons combined.

The full text of the recommended rules package can be found in the January meeting agenda on the NRC website (www.in.gov/nrc/2350.htm). Additional information from the DNR and Wildlife web pages at www.in.gov/dnr/fishwild/ (click on the "Rule/Regulation Changes" link in the left column).

"The Division of Fish and Wildlife recognizes that modifying regulations is only part of a larger effort that must be addressed," said Gary Langell, private lands program manager for the Division of Fish and Wildlife. "Simply changing regulations will not achieve our objective."

"Although we continue to depend on deer

hunters to help us manage our deer herd, we also believe that landowners will need to be more actively involved in providing hunter access and encouraging more intensive antlerless harvest on their properties. Likewise, urban communities will need to recognize the importance of balanced, regulated deer management."

If the NRC grants preliminary adoption at its January 11 meeting, it would be only the fifth step in a 34-step checklist that can take as much as a year to complete.

A vote for preliminary adoption would be followed by a public comment period overseen by the NRC Division of Hearings. The recommended rule changes and a convenient online comment link would be posted at (www.in.gov/nrc/2377.htm). The NRC also would accept written comments mailed to Division of Hearings, Indiana Government Center North, 100 North Senate Avenue, Room N501 Indianapolis, IN, 46204-2200.

State law sets a minimum period for receiving public comments, and the period may be extended by the NRC hearing officer assigned to the topic. The hearing officer also presides over at least one public hearing and prepares a report for the NRC to use in its consideration of final adoption of the proposed rule changes.

Martin County resident awarded scholarship



TONY HOLT

Tony Holt was recently awarded a \$2,500 scholarship by Bedford Regional Medical Center. At this time, Holt is pursuing a Bachelor's Degree in Nursing at the University of Southern Indiana. He is currently employed at Bedford Regional Medical Center as the Education, Training and Resource Nurse. Holt also volunteers with both the Shoals and Loogootee Fire Departments. In 2002, Holt received his Associates in Nursing from Vincennes University.

Tony is married to Amy (Howell) Holt and has four children, Bailey, Kaedon, and Lauren Holt and Maddy Gaines. The family resides in Shoals.

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Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted. -Matthew 5:4

CAROLYN S. CRANEY

Carolyn S. Craney died at 8:38 a.m. Wednesday, December 29, 2010 at Daviess Community Hospital. A resident of Loogootee, she was 53. She was born October 17, 1957, in Daviess County; the daughter of Lawrence E. and Mary Margaret (Stuckey) Bridgewater. She married George G. Craney on December 19, 1984 and he survives.

She had previously worked at Swift Processing in Jasper.

She is also survived by one daughter, Brittany Nicole Craney of Loogootee; father and stepmother, Lawrence E. and Pearl (Carrico Beckett) Bridgewater of Loogootee; one sister, Debbie Poehlein of Loogootee; one brother, Danny Bridgewater of Loogootee; two stepsisters, Cathy Harris and Kimberly Beckett, both of Loogootee; and aunt and uncle, Robert and Judy Stuckey of Loogootee; one niece, Shelby Bridgewater of Loogootee; and two nephews, C.J. Poehlein and Teddy Bridgewater, both of Loogootee.

She is preceded in death by her mother, Mary Margaret Bridgewater; one niece, Melinda K. Poehlein; and two stepbrothers, Herb and Alan Beckett.

The funeral was held Monday, January 3 at Brocksmith Funeral Home in Loogootee. Burial was in Goodwill Cemetery in Loogootee.

Online condolences may be made at www.brocksmithfuneralhomes.com.

RUTH MITCHELL

Ruth Esther Mitchell passed away at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, December 8, 2010 at Memorial Hospital and Healthcare Center in Jasper. A resident of Shoals, she was 85.

She was born on October 24, 1925 in Bedford, Indiana; the daughter of Leander Puckett and Pearl (Dorman) Puckett. She married Robert D. Mitchell on September 21, 1944 in Indianapolis and he preceded her in death on October 18, 1981.

She was a homemaker, and formerly worked at Walls and Walls Insurance Agency and at Crane N.A.D. Ruth graduated with the Bedford High School Class of 1943. She was a member of the Dover Hill Christian Union, and former member of the Jug Rox Grandmothers' Club, Shoals Senior Citizens, and the Bedford Moving On Club.

She is survived by two daughters, Elizabeth K. Gibelyou of Springville and Phyllis M. Witt of Shoals; one son, David D. Mitchell of Shoals; five grandchildren, Douglas Bridges, Robert Witt, Timothy Witt, Tammy Reas, and Vickie Mitchell;

nine great grandchildren, and four great-great grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents, husband, one son, Philip L. Mitchell; and three brothers Wayne, Wilbur, and Paul.

The funeral was held Friday, December 31 at Queen-Lee Funeral Home. Burial was in Mount Union Cemetery.

Condolences may be made to the family at www.queenlee.com.

THELMA CHAPIN

Thelma Alice Chapin passed away peacefully Christmas Day 2010. A resident of Indianapolis, she was 86.

She was born February 23, 1924, in Alfordsville; the daughter of the late George and Mary (Arvin) Cox.

She will be lovingly remember by her son, Gregory; and husband, Alfred. She is survived by her sisters, Doris Cox, Freeda Smith, Rotha Hudson, Jane Brown and Sharon Cole. Services were held Thursday, December 30 at Harry W. Moore Funeral Care. She will be laid to rest at Union Chapel Cemetery at a later date.

Family and friends may sign her online guestbook at www.harrywmoore.com.

NANCY GERKIN

Nancy Elizabeth Gerkin went to be with her Lord and Savior on December 31, 2010 at 2:15 a.m. at the Martin County Nursing and Rehabilitation Center. A resident of Loogootee, she was 99.

She was born on March 4, 1911 in Vincennes; the daughter of William and Rosetta (Reid) Bruner. She married Harry Gerkin on October 1, 1938, and he preceded her in death in 1986. She was a homemaker, and a member of the Loogootee United Methodist Church. She was formerly a member of Hindostan United Methodist and the Hindoston Homemakers Club.

She is survived by one daughter, Marjorie Pielemeier of Loogootee; niece, Wahneta Felton of Loogootee; two nephews, Bob Bruner of Shoals and William Bruner of Michigan; several great nieces and nephews, several step-grandchildren, great and great-great grandchildren.

She is preceded in death by her parents, husband Harry, and four step-sons, Charles W., Leonard, Harry Lee, and Roy Allen "Flick" Gerkin.

Visitation will be Thursday, January 6 from 10 a.m. until the hour of service at 1 p.m. at the Loogootee United Methodist Church with Pastor Greg Davis officiating. Burial will be in Spring Hill Cemetery in Shoals.

Condolences may be made to the family at www.queenlee.com.

TONY TAYLOR

Tony Louis Taylor passed away December 31, 2010 at his home. A resident of Loogootee, he was 55.

He was born on January 14, 1955; the son of Hubert and Margie (Ashburn) Taylor. He was a truck driver, and of the Christian faith.

He is survived by one daughter, Megan Taylor of Texas; one son Tony Louis "Luke" Taylor Jr. of Florida; four sisters, Judy (Harvey) Shannon of Sunbright, Tennessee; Sharon Hembree of Shoals; Debra Kearby (Ronnie) of Loogootee, and Michelle Carrico of Odon; one brother, Gary (Barbara) Taylor of Glendale, Arizona; several nieces, nephews, and cousins.

He was preceded in death by his parents. Graveside rites were conducted on Monday, January 3 at Spring Hill Cemetery in Shoals.

Condolences may be made to the family at www.queenlee.com.

JESSIE GOLDSBERRY

Jessie Goldsberry passed away at 6:30 p.m. on Friday, December 31, 2010 at the Loogootee Nursing Center. A resident of Shoals, she was 87.

She was born May 31, 1923 in Martin County; the daughter of Ceasar and Mary (Keedy) Baker. She married Robert L. (Bob) Goldsberry on December 21, 1946 and he preceded her in death on August 17, 2003.

Jessie was a graduate of Trinity Springs High School. She was retired from NAD Crane after 15 years and was also employed by Shoals Community School Corporation as a teachers' aide for 15 years. She was a member of the Trinity Springs Christian Church.

She is survived by one son, James R. and Phyllis Goldsberry of Shoals; granddaughters, Michelle Goldsberry of Mitchell and Tracey Goldsberry Woosley of Boonville; four great grandchildren, Jessica and Kyle Courtright and Lezlie and Damion Hart; many nephews and nieces plus a wealth of close friends in Shoals and the surrounding area.

She was also preceded in death by her parents, seven brothers, and three sisters.

A funeral service was held Tuesday, January 4 at Queen-Lee Funeral Home in Shoals. Burial followed in Spring Hill Cemetery.

Condolences may be made to the family online at www.queenlee.com.

MARGARET "ELIZABETH" BROWN

Margaret "Elizabeth" Brown died at 6:30 p.m. Monday, January 3, 2011 at Martin County Health Care and Rehab Center. A resident of Loogootee, she was 92.

She was born January 15, 1918, in Shoals; the daughter of Leroy and Marie (Sides) Brown. She retired from Agricul-

tural Stabilization and Conservation Service in Shoals. She attended St. John Catholic Church in Loogootee and was a graduate of Shoals High School. She was an avid lover of cats and enjoyed taking care of hungry and abandoned cats.

She is survived by one cousin, Donna and husband John Littlejohn of Mooresville; four second cousins, Patrick R. and wife Becky Johnson, J. Michael and Paul Johnson, all of Martinsville, Dawn M. and husband Tom Horock of Mooresville, and Lisa and husband Tim Statzer of Indianapolis; and two caregivers, Delores Benge of Shoals and Cindy Cunningham of Loogootee.

She is preceded in death by her parents and one cousin, Carl F. Connell.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 10 a.m. Friday, January 7 at St. John Catholic Church in Loogootee. Burial will be in St. John Catholic Cemetery. Visitation is from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. Thursday at Brocksmith Funeral Home.

Online condolences may be made at www.brocksmithfuneralhomes.com.

Calendar of Events

Chamber meeting

The Martin County Chamber of Commerce will meet Wednesday, January 12 at noon at Pizza Junction in Loogootee. Items on the agenda include: voting on nominations for board members and officers for 2011 and pulling together details for the annual dinner scheduled for January 31

Walking for fitness at LUMC

Walking for fitness is held each Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday at the Loogootee United Methodist Church in the Family Center. The program will follow school weather closings. If there is a school delay, or during the week before Christmas, there will not be organized walking. You may still come and walk individually without music. Starting January 5, there will be devotion discussions every Wednesday at 8:30. All ages are invited, and it is free. Call Sandy Haseman at 295-9822 with any questions.

Humane society meetings

The Martin County Humane Society meets on the third Tuesday of the month at Loogootee Municipal Building, at 7 p.m. To become a member, contact Martin County Humane Society, P. O. Box 537, Shoals, Indiana 47581, call Don at 296-0952.

Recovery support group

The Overcomers Recovery Support Group meets every Tuesday night at 6 p.m. at the Martin County Community Learning Center.



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Sandwich menu always available; Friday & Saturday dinner menu available after 4 p.m.

Martin County Sheriff's Department log

Monday, December 27

10:12 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. The subject was transported to Daviess Community Hospital.

12:26 p.m. - Received a report of illegal dumping.

2:00 p.m. - A property owner reported vehicle tearing up his fields, located on Wood School Road, between Bussing Lane and Love Cemetery Road. The subject requested extra patrol.

4:07 p.m. - Received a report of a water outage on Arvin Lane.

5:16 p.m. - Received a report of a speeding vehicle in Loogootee.

Unknown time - A request was received for extra patrol in the Shoals ball park area for an unknown odor.

9:30 p.m. - Received a report of a possible impaired driver on U.S. 231, just north of Whitfield.

Tuesday, December 28

12:15 a.m. - Received a report of an intoxicated subject causing problems at a residence.

1:50 p.m. - Received a report of a reckless driver on U.S. 50 west of Shoals.

2:06 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Shoals. The subject was transported to Bloomington Hospital of Orange County.

4:10 p.m. - A female caller requested assistance retrieving personal property.

4:51 p.m. - Received a call from a male subject about lost or stolen property.

7:40 p.m. - Received a request for lift assistance in Shoals.

7:44 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. The subject was transported to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

8:19 p.m. - Received a complaint of gunshots fired near a residence on Graded Road.

8:20 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance on U.S. 50, west of Loogootee. The subject was transported to Daviess Community Hospital.

9:40 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance on Peggy Hollow Road. The subject was transported to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

11:59 p.m. - Received a report of a battery with injuries on Beard Road. The victim was transported to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

Wednesday, December 29

2:06 a.m. - Officer checked on a vehicle

stranded west of Max Warrens Curve.

9:22 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance at Martin County Healthcare and Rehab. The subject was transported to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

1:40 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance at Martin County Healthcare. The patient was transported to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

2:41 p.m. - Received a report of a break in at a residence on Anderson Road.

4:23 p.m. - Received a report of a disturbance at the Loogootee Public Library.

7:30 p.m. - Received a report of a stranded motorist on U.S. 50, west of the State Forest.

9:01 p.m. - Received a 911 call from a female requesting to be transferred to Loogootee Police Department.

10:06 p.m. - Received a report of a residential alarm in the Bramble area.

Thursday, December 30

3:03 a.m. - A male caller advised that another driver had almost hit his vehicle on U.S. 50, just east of the fairgrounds and he went into a ditch to avoid the collision. He advised that it was off of the roadway and that his son would pull the vehicle out of the ditch after daylight.

5:06 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Farlan. Daviess County was contacted.

9:04 a.m. - Received a call from a subject about a personal property dispute.

9:12 a.m. - Received a report of a vehicle swerving in and out of traffic behind a slow moving, wide load vehicle on U.S. 231, south of Loogootee.

10:30 a.m. - Received a report of a stolen no trespassing sign.

10:40 a.m. - Received a report of a semi stuck and blocking the eastbound lane on U.S. 50, near Willow Valley.

11:58 a.m. - Received a report of an aggressive dog in Crane Village.

2:53 p.m. - A male caller reported being threatened.

5:12 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Crane. The subject was transported to Bloomington Hospital.

5:25 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance on Lumpkin Road. The subject ended up traveling by personal vehicle.

6:10 p.m. - Received a report of a personal injury accident in Greene County. Greene County was contacted.

8:12 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance on Brooks Bridge Road. No transport was necessary.

Friday, December 31

3:36 a.m. - Received a call from Daviess Community Hospital reporting a battery that occurred in Martin County.

8:07 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee.

9:25 a.m. - Received a report of a tree on the roadway on Peggy Hollow Road.

9:35 a.m. - A male caller advised he found individuals driving four wheelers on his property and requested an officer to respond to his residence to speak with the subjects.

10:40 a.m. - A male caller advised he was having problems with his son, but the son had left the residence and he did not need an officer at the time.

11:10 a.m. - Received a report of a break in on Williams Road.

3:45 p.m. - Received a report of a reckless driver in Shoals.

3:51 p.m. - Received a report of a possible impaired driver on U.S. 231 near Loogootee. Loogootee Police Department was notified.

5:18 p.m. - Received a report of a vehicle stuck in a field near Woodschool Road.

5:43 p.m. - A female caller reported a gas tank in the roadway on Love Cemetery Road.

6:07 p.m. - Received a report of a possible impaired driver on U.S. 231, south of Loogootee.

6:58 p.m. - Received a report of damage done to County Line Road west of Loogootee.

9:31 p.m. - Received a report of a possible impaired driver on Highway 58 in Daviess County. Daviess County Sheriff's Department was notified.

10:46 p.m. - Report of a possible impaired driver on U.S. 231, north of Loogootee.

Saturday, January 1

12:47 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. The subject was transported to Daviess Community Hospital.

1:13 a.m. - Received a report of a possible impaired driver on U.S. 50, eastbound from Cannelburg.

1:55 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. The subject was transported to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

2:05 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Crane Village. No transport was necessary.

2:55 a.m. - Received a report of a domestic disturbance in Crane Village.

3:20 a.m. - Received a request for a welfare check on a subject that had not returned from Orange County when expected to.

5:40 a.m. - Received a report of a possible impaired driver on U.S. 50, eastbound from the 4-H fairgrounds.

10:00 a.m. - A female caller requested assistance from an officer for a personal property dispute.

12:08 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Shoals. The subject was transported to Daviess Community Hospital.

3:29 p.m. - Received a report of a possible fight in Loogootee.

3:59 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. The subject was transported to Daviess Community Hospital.

5:08 p.m. - Received a call about a domestic dispute in Shoals.

5:39 p.m. - Received a report of kittens dumped out of a vehicle on S.R. 550.

6:05 p.m. - Received a call about a possible

runaway.

Sunday, January 2

7:20 a.m. - Received a request for lift assistance in Lost River Township.

11:05 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Crane. The subject was transported to Daviess County Hospital.

12:29 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. The subject was transported to Jasper Memorial.

3:00 p.m. - Received a report of mailbox vandalism.

4:40 p.m. - Received a report of reckless driving.

5:03 p.m. - Received a report of a dog bite.

5:45 p.m. - Received a report of a domestic dispute.

7:00 p.m. - Received a report of domestic battery.

8:08 p.m. - Received a report of reckless driving on U.S. 231, south of Loogootee.

8:11 p.m. - Received a commercial burglar alarm in Loogootee.

9:30 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Shoals. The subject was transported to Jasper Memorial.

Monday, January 3

7:27 a.m. - Received a report of a deer accident on U.S. 231, between West Boggs and Bramble.

12:08 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Lawrence County. Lawrence County was contacted.

12:27 p.m. - Received a call about a possible stolen license plate.

1:00 p.m. - Received a commercial burglar alarm in Shoals.

1:30 p.m. - Received a call about a controlled burn on U.S. 50.

1:51 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Shoals. No transport was necessary.

2:55 p.m. - Received a request for a vehicle check

3:36 p.m. - Received a medical alarm in Loogootee. An ambulance was dispatched and the subject was transported to Daviess Community Hospital.

3:45 p.m. - Received a report of a car off the roadway on U.S. 150 near the Orange County line.

4:02 p.m. - Received a call from a parent about problems with a teenage child.

4:45 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. The subject was transported to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

5:08 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. The subject was transported to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

5:55 p.m. - Received a report of a house fire on Weisbach Road.

8:19 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance at Loogootee Nursing Center. The patient was transported to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

8:37 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. The subject was transported to Vincennes Good Samaritan Hospital.

9:18 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Shoals. The subject was transported to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

9:43 p.m. - Received a report of a deer accident of S.R. 450.

Tuesday, January 4

4:02 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. The subject was transported to Daviess Community Hospital.

Accident reports

Friday, December 31

5:30 p.m. - Nelson Inman, 59, of Loogootee, was westbound on U.S. 50, just west of Scenic Hill Road when a deer ran into the roadway. Inman attempted to miss the deer but was unsuccessful. Inman's vehicle struck the deer causing damage to the left front fender, headlight, grill, and front bumper of his 2007 Lincoln. The investigating officer was Deputy Keith Keller.

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Loogootee Police log

Monday, December 27

10:12 a.m. - First responders requested on Brady Street for an infant with an accidental head injury.

5:14 p.m. - Caller reported a reckless vehicle on U.S. 231.

8:12 p.m. - Caller reported his brother had damaged his vehicle. Sgt. Norris responded.

Tuesday, December 28

9:44 a.m. - First responders requested on U.S. 231 North for a semi accident.

11:39 a.m. - Caller reported a fight on Southeast First Street. Chief Rayhill responded and spoke with the parties involved.

12:48 p.m. - Michael Kane, of Loogootee, reported that his garage had been broken into and items were reported missing. Chief Rayhill responded.

4:30 p.m. - Caller reported that a dog had bitten her. The dog owner was located. Sgt. Hennette responded.

5:38 p.m. - Loogootee Fire was dispatched to Lot 14 Shady Estates to check on a dryer that was on fire.

8:27 p.m. - First responders were requested on Highway 50 for lifting assistance.

Wednesday, December 29

7:56 a.m. - First responders requested on 75N for lifting assistance.

10:02 a.m. - Caller reported a dog complaint in Shady Estates. Chief Rayhill spoke with the dog owner.

6:50 p.m. - Caller reported a domestic dispute on North Line Street. Sgt. Hennette responded.

Thursday, December 30

3:35 a.m. - Caller reported a vehicle on the side of the road east of Loogootee. Martin County Sheriff's Department was notified.

6:18 p.m. - A female on North Line Street

requested to speak with an officer about a stolen dog. Sgt. Hennette spoke with the female.

Friday, December 31

1:30 p.m. - Caller reported her carbon dioxide detector going off. Loogootee Fire responded.

Saturday, January 1

1:15 a.m. - Martin County Sheriff's Department reported a possible intoxicated driver. The vehicle was located and ISP arrested the driver.

1:57 a.m. - First responders requested at Country Place Apartment for a person who had stopped breathing.

2:02 a.m. - Caller reported a possible intoxicated driver on St. Mary's Road.

Sunday, January 2

12:31 p.m. - First responders requested on Doyle Avenue for a male who had passed out.

1:06 p.m. - Martin County Sheriff's Department reported an alarm activated at the Loogootee High School. Capt. Akles checked the area.

4:59 p.m. - Female requested to speak with an officer about an issue with her landlord.

6:52 p.m. - Female requested to speak with an officer about a renter.

7:14 p.m. - Martin County Sheriff's Department reported an alarm activated at a local business. Sgt. Hennette checked the location.

8:16 p.m. - Martin County Sheriff's Department requested an officer pick up a female juvenile from a Daviess County unit.

9:03 p.m. - DCSD reported a possible intoxicated driver traveling toward Loogootee. Sgt. Hennette was advised.

Six counties to share \$1 million in federal drug court grant funding

The courts in Delaware, Marion, Monroe, Spencer, Vanderburgh, and Vigo Counties will share more than one million dollars from a Bureau of Justice Assistance Drug Court Discretionary Grant, which was awarded to the Indiana Supreme Court Division of State Court Administration. All of the money will go towards increasing the number of adult offenders who have access to drug courts and enhancing drug court services. Chief Justice Randall T. Shepard announced details of the grant last week and said, "This significant grant award recognizes the good work our Indiana courts are doing. The drug courts in these six Indiana counties are to be congratulated for having the vision to work together for the benefit of each community. The Supreme Court is proud to support their efforts to turn around the lives of non-violent drug offenders."

Each county already has a drug court. The grant money will help the courts increase graduation rates and lower recidivism. The grant money will go towards expanding treatment services, providing enhanced training to drug court team members, improving transitional housing and vocational opportunities for offenders and enhancing monitoring and case management services.

Indiana is one of only four states this year to receive one million dollars from the Bureau of Justice Assistance federal grant program. The grant award was the result of successful collaboration among the six drug courts, the Indiana Judicial Center's Problem Solving Administrator, and the Division of State Court Administration. Jane Seigel, the Executive Director of the Indiana Judicial Center, said the counties worked with the Judicial Center's Problem-Solving Court Administrator to develop the joint proposal. "This was a competitive process, so we are extremely pleased to be the recipient of the grant money. It will enable our drug courts to collaborate and vastly improve the services they provide."

Indiana has 31 drug courts. The courts divert non-violent, substance abusing offenders from jail or prison into treatment by offering access to long-term, comprehensive services while under the strict supervision of the drug

court judge. The drug courts continually monitor the progress of substance abusing and dependent offenders for 12-36 months and provide resources such as counseling and case management to break the cycle of criminal behavior, incarceration and drug use.

The Executive Director of the Indiana Supreme Court Division of State Court Administration, Lilia Judson, said the drug courts are a cost effective model because they reduce recidivism. "We are committed to doing what is fair for the offenders and the community. We must also be mindful of the tax dollars at work in our courts, which is why we are proud to promote proven programming such as drug courts."

Studies show drug courts are successful in significantly reducing crime and recidivism. The Indiana Drug Court Evaluation completed by NPC Research in 2007 found that the five adult drug courts studied had graduation rates above the national average and reduced recidivism up to 50 percent. The study also found after investment costs are repaid (from the cost savings due to lower recidivism), savings continue to accrue every year, resulting in a continuously growing return on taxpayer investment. Over time, the drug courts studied can produce a return up to \$5.37 for every \$1.00 invested in Indiana drug courts. In the five drug courts studied, the combined savings totaled more than \$7 million over the two year study period. The National Association of Drug Court Professionals (NADCP) reports 75 percent of drug court graduates remain arrest-free for at least two years after leaving the program.

The capacity of local drug courts is frequently limited by budget constraints as most drug courts are funded in part by user fees and state or local grant funds. The user fees do not fully support the local drug courts or provide enough funding for enhancement initiatives. The federal grant will allow the six drug courts to implement programs that the drug courts would otherwise not be able to consider. As part of the grant requirement, the local counties will pay 25 percent of the total budgeted amount of the enhancements. The drug courts will have access to the grant money through September 2013.

Martin County court news

Persons listed on criminals charges are innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

CRIMINAL COURT

New charges filed

November 29

Benjamin J. Coy, theft, a Class D Felony.
Robert M. Hellums, possession of marijuana, a Class A Misdemeanor.

December 15

Loren G. Qualkenbush, operating a vehicle with a blood alcohol content of .15 or more, a Class A Misdemeanor.

Brien F. Lagle, operating a vehicle with a blood alcohol content of .15 or more, a Class A Misdemeanor.

Justin A. Winninger, reckless driving, a Class B Misdemeanor.

Justin A. Mills, operating a vehicle as a habitual traffic violation, a Class D Felony.

December 20

Matthew S. Taylor, invasion of privacy, a Class A Misdemeanor.

December 25

Brandon A. Crowder, battery resulting in bodily injury, a Class A Misdemeanor; criminal trespass, a Class A Misdemeanor.

CRIMINAL CHARGES

DISMISSED

Corey-Brendan McCormick, intimidation, a Class D Felony, dismissed; refusal to identify self, a Class C Misdemeanor, dismissed.

CIVIL COURT

New Suits Filed

December 23

Sara Chandler vs. Chad Chandler, petition for dissolution of marriage.

CIVIL COURT DISMISSED

November 29

Timothy and Cynthia Sorrells vs. John Chattin, civil tort, dismissed.

December 15

James Mundy Jr. vs. Regina Mundy, petition for dissolution of marriage, dismissed.

Mary J. Quick vs. Ronald Quick, petition for dissolution of marriage, dismissed.

December 21

State of Indiana vs. Levi Smoot, civil tort, dismissed.

December 22

Carolyn Deason vs. Daniel Deason, petition for dissolution of marriage, dismissed.

Adella Sexton vs. Stacey Mills, petition for dissolution of marriage, dismissed.

Tammy Russell vs. Randall Fuhrman, petition for dissolution of marriage, dismissed.

Jeffrey Lawson vs. Victoria Lawson, petition for dissolution of marriage, dismissed.

Joe Zins vs. Sharon Zins, petition for dissolution of marriage, dismissed.

Steven Tolbert vs. Claire Tolbert, petition for dissolution of marriage, dismissed.

SMALL CLAIMS COURT

New Suit Filed

December 28

Family Dental Care vs. Jerry Allbright, complaint.

Family Dental Care vs. Terri Horn, complaint.

SMALL CLAIMS JUDGMENTS

December 22

Jesse and Sarah Daniels to Hoosier Accounts Service in the amount of \$3,143.52.

SMALL CLAIMS DISMISSED

December 22

Crane Federal Credit Union vs. Benjamin and Tonya Morrow, complaint, dismissed.

Crane Federal Credit Union vs. Lisa Baker, complaint, dismissed.

Credit Bureau Collection Service vs. Auna Beasley, complaint, dismissed.

Crane Federal Credit Union vs. Shely Tolbert-Bennett, complaint, dismissed.

Crane Federal Credit Union vs. Holly Bullard, complaint, dismissed.

Crane Federal Credit Union vs. Craig Cain, complaint, dismissed.

Crane Federal Credit Union vs. Ryan Chambers, complaint, dismissed.

Crane Federal Credit Union vs. Carla Coble, complaint, dismissed.

Crane Federal Credit Union vs. Christina Coffin, complaint, dismissed.

Crane Federal Credit Union vs. Tamara Crail, complaint, dismissed.

Indiana Farm Bureau Insurance vs. Jessica Hembree et al, complaint, dismissed.

LL Receivables Company vs. Holly Devore, complaint, dismissed.

Crane Federal Credit Union vs. April Emmons, complaint, dismissed.

King Communications vs. Phillip Ervin, complaint, dismissed.

Waldo Harshaw vs. Shelly Cleek Williams, complaint, dismissed.

Crane Federal Credit Union vs. Carl Jackson, complaint, dismissed.

Crane Federal Credit Union vs. Heather Johnson, complaint, dismissed.

Crane Federal Credit Union vs. Michelle Kellums, complaint, dismissed.

Crane Federal Credit Union vs. Charles and Robin Maddox, complaint, dismissed.

Crane Federal Credit Union vs. Brooke Mulvey, complaint, dismissed.

Crane Federal Credit Union vs. Justin Nunn, complaint, dismissed.

Crane Federal Credit Union vs. Leonard Payne, complaint, dismissed.

Crane Federal Credit Union vs. Karen and Nick Sarris, complaint, dismissed.

Crane Federal Credit Union vs. Polly and Robert Shields, complaint, dismissed.

Crane Federal Credit Union vs. Jeffrey Sims, complaint, dismissed.

Crane Federal Credit Union vs. Eric Smith, complaint, dismissed.

Crane Federal Credit Union vs. Brandon Terry, complaint, dismissed.

Crane Federal Credit Union vs. Hope Van Fossan, complaint, dismissed.

Crane Federal Credit Union vs. Michelle Wiles, complaint, dismissed.

TRAFFIC TICKETS PAID

December 23 - December 28

William Corn, Scottsburg, speeding 68 in a 55, \$119.

Paul Rogier, Sullivan, speeding 60 in a 45; alteration by local authority; school, \$119.

Gary Smith, Lawrenceburg, speeding 68 in a 50, \$124.

Is getting fit or losing weight on your New Year's Resolutions list?

JOIN ME FOR TURBO KICK AND ZUMBA!!

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Classes start back up on January 4th at the

Loogootee Methodist Church Gym

Tuesday: Turbo Kick 4:30 p.m. Zumba 5:45 p.m.

Thursday: Zumba 6:00 p.m.

Contact: Jayme Thompson for any questions.

296-0649, jajeffers20@hotmail.com,

or www.beachbodycoach.com/jkthompson20



Man arrested for aiding forgery and deception

On February 25, 2010 a criminal investigation was initiated after Indiana State Police Troopers received information that local people and businesses were being led to believe that troopers from the Jasper Post were soliciting money to send local children to the annual State Police Camps.

The investigation determined that a solicitation company operating as JMR and Associates would call and claim to be troopers from the local post asking for money. The money would allegedly be used to help send local, under privileged kids to the annual camps. If the person or business that was called would agree to "pledge" or "donate" the caller would advise that a trooper would be sent to pick up the money.

On February 26, 2010, employees of BR Associates, located on the north side of Jasper, contacted the Jasper Post after they had been told a trooper was coming to collect solicitations. After receiving the call, troopers responded to BR Associates and were able to intercept one of the representatives from JMR. Through the subsequent investigation detectives were able to establish enough probable cause for the Dubois Circuit Court to issue arrest warrants. The warrants were for the owner of JMR and Associates, John Matthew Ross, 41, of Georgetown. It was determined that although JMR and Associates was contracted by a legitimate organization they were practicing deceptive behavior to solicit money. The warrants were for one count of Aiding Forgery a Class C Felony and 17 counts of Aiding Deception, Class A Misdemeanors.

Ross was arrested in Louisville, Kentucky on December 29, 2010 and yesterday was transported to the Dubois County Security Center. He has a \$10,000 cash only bond.

"This arrest would not have been possible if it weren't for the employees of BR Associates and other local businesses acting on their hunch that something was not right,"



JOHN MATTHEW ROSS

said First Sergeant Rob Priest. Priest went on to say, "It is unfortunate that people used the relationship that the troopers from the Jasper Post have with their communities to try to solicit money deceptively."

The Indiana State Police has helped sponsor youth camps since 1970. The camps are currently run by the Indiana Troopers Youth Services. For more information on the summer youth camps please go to www.trooper.org or call 260-624-2926.

Jail booking

Tuesday, December 28

2:30 a.m. - Ashley Schutte, 18, of Loogootee, was arrested and charged with operating while intoxicated and possession of marijuana.

Saturday, January 1

1:59 a.m. - Robert Taylor, 43, of Loogootee, was arrested and charged with operating while intoxicated, habitual traffic violator for life, and false informing.

Sunday, January 2

8:10 p.m. - Tanner Bough, 32, of Bloomfield, was arrested and charged with battery.



My Point of VIEW

By Courtney Hughett Owner, Martin County Journal

Sometimes it tortures me to have to report bad news.

I have been in the journalism field for 13 years now. I remember my first hate phone call 13 years ago when I wrote my very first story at the *Brown County Democrat* about a township trustee who had passed away. My general manager at the time chose the headline, which I will never forget, "Trustee's death leaves office a mess". Needless to say his family was none too happy about that and I experienced my very first irate reader. Since my general manager wrote the headline she fielded most of the phone calls but that didn't stop the letters to the editor about me. And ALL letters to the editor ran in *The Democrat* as long as they didn't defame anyone. I also go by this policy with letters in the Journal - if you have an opinion, even if it's about me, then it runs - as long as it is tactful and not just attacking character.

Since that time I have had countless people who were angry with me but I can honestly say that never have I questioned my

morals or my honesty in writing stories - I write what happens and what is said, plain and simple. Sure, what I report may not satisfy those who see the world through rose-colored glasses but I feel if I don't put out the news than there is no point doing this. And I know the saying "headlines sell papers" but I don't charge for *The Journal* so that is irrelevant in my situation.

In my opinion, I was trained by the best two people in journalism in Indiana, my former general manager of the BCD, Mary Wayt, who is now a newspaper publisher in North Carolina, and the late Greg Temple, former owner and publisher of *The Democrat*. *The Democrat* was recognized as one of the best weekly newspapers in Indiana and in the nation and I was so lucky to have learned everything I could from Mary and Greg 13 years ago. I still email Mary every now and again when I have a question.

I do try to balance out the bad news with good things too, focusing on former and current Martin Countians. I will, however, never stop reporting it all, good or bad.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Our huge all-powerful federal government

To the editor of the *Martin County Journal*:

Our federal government has grown far beyond the limits placed upon it by the founding fathers through the Constitution of the United States. Limitations on the power of the government are to be accomplished by two mechanisms. One (horizontal) is the "Separation of Powers", which divides federal functions among three separate branches: the Executive, the Legislative, and the Judicial. The second mechanism (vertical) is the "Enumeration of Powers" under which those powers not specifically assigned to the federal government are to be retained by the states or by the people (see the 10th Amendment of the Constitution). The founders clearly intended that most of the powers and the responsibilities of "government" would reside with "the States respectively, or to the people".

The U.S. Constitution contemplates a narrow role for the federal government. It does not say anything about the control of our schools, the production and distribution of energy, the goals and means of manufacturing and farm production, the ownership of land, or of health care. Those encroachments are being accomplished by Congressional legislation passed nearly in secret or by Presidential Executive Orders which put into place mechanisms of control governed, in some cases, by unelected "czars". This emerging kingdom of intrusive regulation that is unresponsive to the will of the people is constitutionally illegal and a danger to freedom.

Why, then, is it happening? It is to concentrate POWER and CONTROL in the hands of a few. Who is perpetuating this power grab? The political leaders of both parties. What is the method? The method is essentially bribery. It works this way: when the federal government begins to establish itself as the final arbiter over all things, then its functionaries, both elected and unelected, in all branches enjoy a lucrative advantage. Lobbyists representing big companies, unions and others come to the political leaders of both parties seeking special considerations that will further their specific interests. Money in the form of campaign and other donations is offered to our so-called political representatives in exchange for special legislation. The result of this collusion is an intoxicating cocktail of favors, waivers, and riches for the parties involved. The ones left out of the scheme are normally WE, the people. We, too find ourselves having to go to the federal government for anything and everything- either to get their permission or to get our tax

money back (with strings attached) to do what we used to do with local tax funds controlled by our local and state leaders. We, however, have no lobbyists! We are forgotten in a process that leaves us impoverished and growingly more dependent on the federal government for our most basic needs. It is the pathway to serfdom.

That is NOT what the founding fathers had in mind for us. Surely, the first step in restoring proper government lies in reading and understanding the Constitution and becoming familiar with what it says. When we understand what the federal government can and cannot do, then we can be watchful. We can oppose corruption and encourage and support righteous representatives. Let us all press our representatives in all branches of the federal government to remember and honor the oath they swore to defend and protect the Constitution of the United States.

God bless you and God bless America.

Dennis Jones
Shoals

~THANKS A LOT~

'To all of these people who showed an interest we are sincerely grateful'

To the editor of the *Martin County Journal*:

The St. Vincent De Paul Community Garden Committee would like to thank the following individuals and businesses for their offers of assistance and/or generous donations of time, materials, and man-power:

Cutting Edge Lawn Mowing Service, Home Depot (Jasper), Jeremy Osborne, Rick Able, Community Service Crew, Martin County Recycling Center, Rosie Bauernfiend, Loogootee IGA, Auna Beasley, Tia Trambaugh, BriLee Tharp, Shelby Hodges, Korman and Ryan, Deanne, Randy and Tanner, Jonathan and Miriam Wagler, Park Garden, Delbert and Virginia Wagler, Tom Michaels, Mike Hopkins, Paul Wade, Jessy Servi, Chris Skees, Joe Melton, Ruth Taylor, David Johnson, Angela Chastain, Earl Mills, Mr. Lankford, Mr. Murray, West Boggs Park, Greenwell Hardware, Bill Feagans, and Ann Hedrick.

In addition to those mentioned, much more assistance and many more supplies were given by anonymous donors. To all of these people who showed an interest in the garden, we are sincerely grateful. Because of your generosity we were able to distribute fresh produce for four months at the St. Vincent De Paul Food Pantry.

Thank You, Dan Gregory, Sarah Spalding, Mary Kay Colvin, Julie MacKinnon and Jonathan Stevens



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AG: Best practices sought to thwart foreclosure violations

As the 50-state investigation continues into improper "robo-signing" foreclosure practices, Indiana Attorney General Greg Zoeller Monday filed a petition asking the Indiana Supreme Court to impose new procedures to ensure that borrowers' legal rights are fully protected and mortgage lenders follow the law.

"When some mortgage lenders try to foreclose on distressed homeowners by filing foreclosure documents that are unverified, unauthenticated or riddled with errors, it not only violates the rights of the homeowners but it is also a fraud upon the court," Zoeller said. "In Indiana, we are not going to wait for federal government action; we will forge ahead to craft our own solution."

A foreclosure-prevention task force established by the Indiana Supreme Court developed a list of guidelines to provide assurances to lenders, servicers, courts, and borrowers that state and federal laws are being followed for the protection of homeowners.

The Indiana Supreme Court's task force included the Attorney General's Office, judges, Supreme Court staff, legal services attorneys, and private-practice attorneys for mortgage lenders. Zoeller's office Monday filed in the Supreme Court a petition — called "Mortgage Foreclosure Best Practices" — that included all the task force proposed guidelines and added some wording to strengthen them.

The Supreme Court is likely to take the proposals under advisement and decide at a later date whether to adopt them as requirements that lenders and services would have to follow.

The proposed best practices developed by the task force would do the following:

- Require a mortgage lender seeking to foreclose to produce the original signed mortgage note when asked by the court - or other legal proof if the original cannot be located — and the chain of title proving that the lender has the right to enforce the note.

- Require that the court send a notice to the borrower of their legal right to a settlement conference with the lender; and require that the judge not take final action until the settlement-conference report has been filed with the court.

- Prohibit the mortgage lender from asking the borrower to waive his or her legal right to a settlement conference.

- Allow courts to impose monetary sanctions on lenders who fail to comply with the Best Practices. The petition notes that judges in Allen and St. Joseph counties have ordered sanctions of between \$150 to \$2,500 for similar violations.

Because of concerns that some distressed borrowers have not been given the full opportunity to pursue "loss mitigation" - alternatives to foreclosure, such as loan modification or a short sale - the Attorney General's petition includes additional wording to strengthen the task force proposals. It would require the mortgage lender to show, by verified affidavit, that the lender complied with federal requirements concerning borrowers' legal rights during foreclosure, including providing borrowers with reasons for a denial of modification or other loss mitigation. And it would prohibit a court from ordering a home foreclosed if the borrower is being evaluated for a loan modification under the federal Home Affordable Modification Pro-

gram or similar programs.

If adopted by the Supreme Court, Zoeller's petition also would make the task force proposals requirements rather than recommendations.

"By some estimates, a sizeable percentage of homeowners facing foreclosure are not represented by attorneys, so no one is looking out for the borrower's interests except the court. We must ensure the process is fair," Zoeller said.

"These proposed best practices would provide much-needed transparency to the foreclosure process, encourage appropriate investigation and disclosure by the servicer and lead to better enforcement of existing federal rules," Zoeller added. "I hope the Supreme Court will adopt the recommendations and implement them in Indiana's courts."

Zoeller said he applauded the Indiana Supreme Court for its leadership on the problem and the members of the task force for their willingness to take the initiative in Indiana rather than waiting for federal action.

On October 13, Zoeller announced that Indiana and the other 49 states had launched an investigation into fraudulent and illegal practices in the mortgage-servicing industry. The multi-state investigation was sparked by admissions by some mortgage lenders' employees that they signed foreclosure documents without reading or understanding them, and allowed those documents to be filed court without authenticating them. The practice is known as "robo-signing," and the result of the lack of due diligence has been numerous mistakes and even complaints that potentially erroneous foreclosure actions were filed against homeowners, some of whom were not delinquent on their mortgage payments. The 50-state investigation, led by Iowa, is ongoing.

On November 16, Zoeller organized and led a civil justice summit at the University of Notre Dame on the legal, economic and social impact of mortgage foreclosures in Indiana and efforts by all three branches of state government to stop mortgage fraud and assist borrowers in avoiding foreclosure.

Zoeller warns homeowners not to use illegal for-profit "foreclosure rescue" consultants when nonprofit organizations offers foreclosure-prevention advice for free. Contact the Indiana Foreclosure Prevention Network (IFPN) toll-free at 1(877)GET-HOPE or www.877gethope.org for advice at no charge.

The Messmer Report

By District 63 State Rep.
Mark Messmer



In two weeks I will be returning to the Statehouse for the beginning of the 2011 legislative session. Beginning in January the House of Representatives will have a few key priorities in an effort to strengthen Indiana. We will be working to create a balanced budget without increasing taxes, promote job creation, and expand education opportunities.

We have all had to tighten our belts a little, including the state, due to this recession. But a recent revenue forecast was released by the state saying that Indiana can continue to lead the nation out of this recession and make a steady recovery. We will have to make further reductions in the upcoming budget, but there are reasons to be optimistic.

Creating an economic climate that attracts new companies to Indiana and focusing on small businesses and entrepreneurship are key to promoting job creation in Indiana. We want to keep Hoosiers that are employed, employed as well as help foster job creation within our state. The state unemployment showed a slight drop over the last few months. We still have a long way to go.

There have been many ideas and changes put forth by the Indiana Department of Education about changing the state of education. Right now, they are all suggestions and open for discussion. We want to find ways to reward quality teachers, and to keep dollars in the classroom for the students. I will be sure to keep you updated on the process over the course of session.

The 117th Indiana General Assembly is going to put forth some very exciting legislation. I am looking forward to representing you for a second session and have several bills this session I will be introducing.

One of my bills will be to give local units of government more tools in attracting new jobs and supporting existing companies that grow jobs by allowing rebates of county option income taxes (COIT) and economic development income taxes (EDIT); as well as being more competitive in the use of property tax abatements for new jobs growth.

Another bill would prohibit employees of a political subdivision from serving on an elected board that approves their own salary and benefits. I will be introducing a bill that would require public projects to have construction specifications written that mandate

competitive bidding on equipment and supplies that are used.

There is a charity gaming bill that I will re-file this session to help make it easier for charity bingos to get workers for their events. And I will also introduce some pro-life legislation that would prohibit public funding of abortions in any state health insurance exchanges.

My role as Vice Chairman in the Commerce, Small Business and Economic Development Committee, and as a member in the Family, Children and Human Affairs, the Financial institutions, and the Public Policy Committees will allow me to take a closer look at issues affecting all Hoosiers.

Martin County Commissioners 2011 Meeting Schedule

Each meeting will begin at 6 p.m. at the Martin County Courthouse, 129 Main Street, Shoals unless noted.

Tuesday, January 11, 2011
(organizational meeting)

Tuesday, January 25, 2011

Tuesday, February 8, 2011

Tuesday, February 22, 2011

Tuesday, March 8, 2011

Tuesday, March 22, 2011

Tuesday, April 5, 2011

Tuesday, April 19, 2011

Tuesday, May 3, 2011

Tuesday, May 17, 2011

Tuesday, May 31, 2011

Tuesday, June 14, 2011

Tuesday, June 28, 2011

Wednesday, July 13, 2011

Tuesday, July 26, 2011

Tuesday, August 9, 2011

Tuesday, August 23, 2011

Tuesday, September 6, 2011

Tuesday, September 20, 2011

Tuesday, October 4, 2011

Tuesday, October 18, 2011

Tuesday, November 1, 2011

Tuesday, November 15, 2011

Tuesday, November 29, 2011

Tuesday, December 13, 2011

Tuesday, December 27, 2011

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New Beginnings Church

WEEKLY MESSAGE

BY SHIRLEY CANELL
Pastor's wife

1 Chronicles 25:9-10 Renew the Heart
This is a new year 2011. It is so important that we start this year with a new sense of seeking God and renewing our hearts for God. God wants us to know Him like we have never known Him before. We need a refreshing, a renewal like they had in the days of the great revivals. A desire to be His people in a way that will drive us to be bold and to live our lives as if this is the last year that we have.

Take down the walls that have built up and get your heart right to walk in His presence in a refreshed way. Cleanse your life of sin and have a love like God has for you. If that means taking risks to go beyond what you have done in the past that's what you need to do. Step out of your comfort zone and be the people of God that He wants you to be. Get to know our God better, pray more, serve; do all with a clean heart and a willing mind. Stand up, be able to say God if that's what you want me to do I will do it. With the filling of God's Holy Spirit and with the boldness He will give you, all things are possible.

Psalms 51:10-13, "Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me. Do not cast me away from Your presence and do not take Your Holy Spirit

from me. Restore to me the joy of Your salvation and sustain me with a willing spirit. Then I will teach transgressors Your ways, and sinners will be converted to You."

In 1 Chronicles 28:9-10 David is very old and gives his last address to the people and then to his son Solomon. It is a great word for us as we begin the New Year. "As for you, my son Solomon, know the God of your father and serve Him with a whole heart and a willing mind, for the Lord searches all hearts and understands every intent of the thoughts. If you seek Him, He will let you find Him, but if you forsake Him, He will reject you forever. Consider now, for the Lord has chosen you to build a house for the sanctuary, be courageous and act."

Get to know God. Recognize what Jesus did and remember the miracles He has done. To know Him you must have had a life changing experience. Where you love the Lord with all your heart, all your soul, all your mind and all your strength. We know God not by anything we can do but by the Spirit coming in and doing His work in our hearts when we believe in the saving work of Jesus Christ. To know God is not a head knowledge but a heart knowledge.

Serve Him with a clean heart and a whole heart. It is difficult because many times God isn't the center of our lives. Our hearts are divided on the things of the world and the things of God. David told Solomon serve

God with a whole undivided, clean heart. Proverbs 4:23-27, "Watch over your heart with all diligence, for from it flow the springs of life. Put away from you a deceitful mouth and put devious speech far from you. Let your eyes look directly ahead and let your gaze be fixed straight in front of you. Watch the path of your feet and all your ways will be established. Do not turn to the right nor to the left; turn your foot from evil."

When you seek the Lord you will find Him. When you seek the Lord He will give you the water of life. We need more of God in our thoughts, actions, church, family, and marriages. If our hearts are going to be set on Jesus this year, we must know the God we believe in. Too many of us are lead away by false teachings. Serve God with your whole heart for God will search your heart to see where you are.

Matthew 7:7, "Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you."

We had a great trip to Michigan over Christmas. Got to see grandson Nathan, hard to believe he is only going to be two. DeAnna and Cecorra had a good time playing in the snow and they got to try ice skating. It's always good to get back home and relax for a couple of days before returning to work.

Our Sunday service begins with praise

and worship at 10 a.m. We would love to have you join us. If you have any questions about the church or your walk with Jesus Christ, call Pastor Ernie at 709-0258. Praise God.

Humane Society PET OF THE WEEK



The Martin County Humane Society has this very nice lab mix. He is six months old and very friendly. If you are interested in adopting him, call Sandy at 812-295-3388.

The society is looking to build an animal shelter in Martin County this year, if you would like to make a donation for this shelter, you can send it to: Martin County Humane Society P.O. Box 537 Shoals, IN 47553. All donations are tax deductible.

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Shoals Varsity Boys lose close match to the Lions

The Shoals Jug Rox Varsity Boys' Basketball team was defeated in a hard-fought battle against in-county rivals the Loogootee Lions last Friday, December 30. The final score was Loogootee 57, Shoals 50

and the teams met in Loogootee at Jack Butcher Arena.

In the first quarter Loogootee trailed by four points, 11-15 with Bateman shooting 2-2 from three-point range and the team shooting 4-5 in field goals.

In the second quarter the Lions came back outscoring the Rox by 10 point putting the halftime score at 27-21 in favor of Loogootee.

The two teams had even play in the second half with Loogootee only scoring one point more than Shoals in the third and fourth quarters.

The Lions finished shooting 7 for 22 from two-point range and 6-8 from three-point range. Loogootee shot 79 percent from the charity stripe.

Shoals ended shooting 14-27 from field goal range and 5-17 from three-point range. Their free-throw percentage was 63 percent only taking 11 foul shots.

Shoals' Garrett Bateman finished with a game-high 30 points including all five three pointers made in the match. Seth McCrary had nine points, Tyler Price finished with four, Darek Turpin had three points and Mike Shartzter and Dylan Erwin both had a bucket a piece.

For Loogootee, Bryant Ackerman led in scoring with 18 points followed by Ben Hogan with 10, John Bough with nine, Clinton Burch with six, Conner Wittmer and Kirk Lengacher with five each, and Matt Mathies with four points.

Last Wednesday, Shoals soundly defeated Medora by a score of 53 to 27.

The teams were evenly matched in the first half with Shoals only outscoring Medora by six points. Shoals put up 22 field goal attempts in the first half only making 8 and finished the first half 0-2 in three pointers.

Shoals came into the second half ready to play only allowing Medora 13 points to their 33. Medora scored zero points in the fourth quarter.

Overall the Jug Rox ended shooting 50 percent from two-point range and 0-5 from three-point range. The Rox made 24 free throw attempts and hit 13.

Medora finished only hitting 5 of 20 field goal attempts and 3 of 12 three-point attempts. The team had a 57 percent free-throw percentage.

Garrett Bateman led in scoring with 20 followed by Darek Turpin with 11, Seth McCrary and Mike Shartzter both with six apiece, Tyler Price and Jondavide Hopkins with four each, and Cole Kimmel with a bucket.

Only three players for Medora had any points on the board. R. Armstrong finished with a team-high 14. D. McSoley had eight and B. Cockerham finished with five points.

Medora had 12 turnovers and Shoals finished with five.

Loogootee Sixth Grade defeats Springs Valley

The Loogootee 6th Grade Boys' Basketball team traveled to Springs Valley Tuesday night, January 4 and came home with a win. The final score was Loogootee 28, Springs Valley 26.

Scoring for the Lions was led by Landon Bell with 10 followed by Tye Collins with eight, Blake Ziegler and Jake Nonte with four each, and Cole Gillick with two.

Bell also led in assists and steals with four each and rebounds with five. Jordan Clark, Tokala Richardson, and Clayton Thomas all finished with two rebounds apiece.

The team will travel to Bloomfield tomorrow night. Fifth grade will start at 6 p.m.



LOOGOOTEE ELEMENTARY WEST Breakfast

Thursday, January 6

Cereal, egg, toast

Friday, January 7

Sausage biscuit, egg, juice

Monday, January 10

Pancakes, sausage, applesauce

Tuesday, January 11

Breakfast pizza, sausage, fruit

Wednesday, January 12

Biscuit and gravy, sausage, fruit

Lunch

Thursday, January 6

Spaghetti, salad, breadstick, applesauce

Friday, January 7

Hot dogs, baked beans, apple

Monday, January 10

BBQ rib sandwich, cooked carrots, mixed fruit

Tuesday, January 11

Ravioli, corn, peaches, bread, cookie

Wednesday, January 12

Chicken nuggets, green beans, bread, pineapple

LOOGOOTEE INTERMEDIATE AND JUNIOR/SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL

Lunch

Thursday, January 6

Chicken noodle soup or pizza, cheese and crackers, peanut butter and jelly, fruit, salad plate, milk

Friday, January 7

Chef or pizza, pretzels and cheese, mixed vegetables, fruit, cottage cheese, salad plate, milk

Monday, January 10

Hot dogs or corn dogs or pizza, baked beans, cottage cheese, French fries, fruit, salad plate, milk

Tuesday, January 11

Popcorn chicken or pizza, tossed salad, carrots, fruit, salad plate, milk

Wednesday, January 12

Turkey Manhattans or pizza, mashed potatoes, green beans, fruit, salad plate, milk

SHOALS SCHOOLS Breakfast

Thursday, January 6

Cereal, muffins, juice, milk

Friday, January 7

Sausage gravy, biscuit, juice, milk

Monday, January 10

Cereal, toast, juice, milk

Tuesday, January 11

Pancake with syrup, sausage, juice, milk

Wednesday, January 12

Cereal, muffins, string cheese, milk

Lunch

Thursday, January 6

Pepperoni pizza, green beans, creamy slaw, milk; choice 4-12: corn dog

Friday, January 7

Hot dog sandwich, tater tots, baked beans, milk

Monday, January 10

Hamburger, spicy fries, fruit, cookies, milk

Tuesday, January 11

Chicken tenders, mashed potatoes, broccoli, roll, milk; choice 4-12: cheese pizza

Wednesday, January 12

Chili soup with crackers, applesauce, garlic bread, milk; choice 4-12: sausage pizza and corn

Learning center classes, programs

The coordinator of the learning center would like to wish everyone a Happy New Year! If you would like to request a course or sign up for a current class, please feel free to contact the learning center during office hours. They also have computers available for those taking classes and offer test proctoring services. The center is also a great place to host meetings for businesses and organizations. The center thanks everyone for your continued support of education in our community!

Résumé writing and career planning
Need help with your résumé? Darlene Ridgway with Bramble Consulting will offer Résumé Assistance-Level One on January 18 and again on January 27. The class is from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. and cost is \$25. This is a basic course designed for an applicant needing help with the application process for government civilian and/or government contractor positions, specifically for NSWC Crane. Contact Kathy at the learning center at 812-295-2674 to register.

Sign language class
An exciting, beautiful way to communicate, Intro to Sign Language by instructor Karen Mattingly will be offered at the center on Mondays, February 7 through February 28, 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Cost is \$65 and includes textbook. Call today to sign up! The deadline to sign up and provide payment is January 28.

SAT prep class

An SAT preparation workshop for college-bound high school students will be offered at the learning center by Karen Whorrall. This class will assist preparing students in securing competitively high scores for placement. The class will be held on Wednesdays, January 5 through January 26 from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. Cost is \$25. Seats are limited! For registration or further information, contact Kathy at 812-295-2674.

Overcomers' group
Indiana Drug Education and Awareness Solutions are conducting an ongoing Overcomers' Recovery Support Group at the center. Meetings are held every Tuesday evening from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., and newcomers are invited. There is no cost for participation. For further information, contact Jason Underhill at 812-653-1908.

Adult literacy and education
Do you know someone who could use some help with his or her reading skills? Anyone interested is encouraged to contact SOAR! at 812-709-1618 for further information.

For GED-Adult Basic Education, call Vicki Conrad at 812-936-2881 or 812-606-2056.

Contact Kathy Kerr, Coordinator, 812-295-2674 or email kkerr8@ivytech.edu

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Line ads 10 words or less are free. 11-40 words is \$4 per week, 41-80 words is \$8 per week, and 81-120 words is \$12 per week.

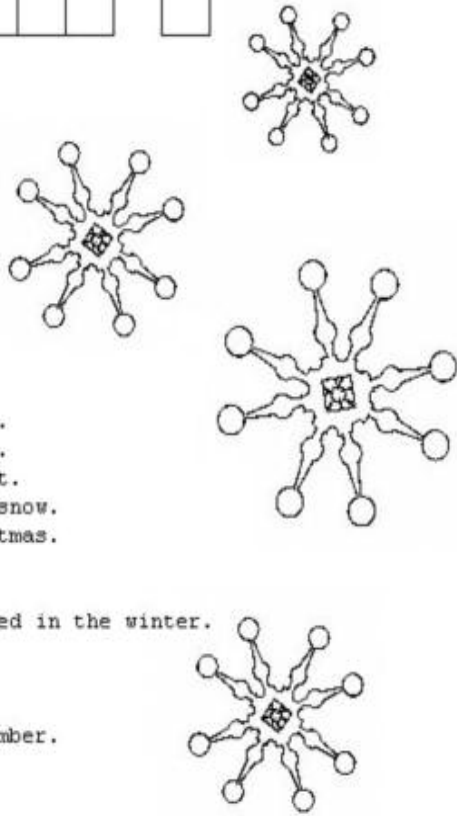
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 - 5. Used to decorate a Christmas tree.
 - 7. It's a season for giving _____.
 - 10. Holiday celebrated on January 1st.
 - 12. Strap them on and go downhill on snow.
 - 13. I'm dreaming of a _____ Christmas.
- Down**
- 2. Winter sport on frozen water.
 - 3. African-American holiday celebrated in the winter.
 - 4. Famous Snowman
 - 6. Flakes that fall from the sky.
 - 8. The month following January.
 - 9. Jewish holiday celebrated in December.
 - 11. Santa's Helpers



6. John Quincy Adams 1825-1829

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