

Martin County JOURNAL

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Nine pages

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Safe Community

-Top photos by Bill Whorrall, bottom photo by Courtney Hughett
The first-ever Safe Community Event was held this past Saturday morning at the fairgrounds. Local law enforcement officials and organizations gathered to interact with the public and provide information on law enforcement services. Shown in the top photo are Sheriff's Dept. Deputy Damon Baker with K9 Asher and Sgt. Andy Burkhardt. In the photo above right, Sheriff Travis Roush presents an award to Indiana Conservation Officer Eric Doane for community dedication to the residents of Martin County. Around \$3,000 dollars and 9,000 food items were raised at the event as the entry fee was a donation to the county's food banks. Shown below are volunteers sorting the food donations.



Current Primary Election candidate filings

The 2016 Primary Election will be held May 3, 2016. The filing period for candidates ends February 5, 2016 at noon. For information, contact the clerk's office at 812-247-3651. The following are current Martin County filings:

Martin County Auditor
January L. Roush (D)
Martin County Circuit Court Judge
Lynne E. Ellis (R)
Martin County Council-at-Large (3 open positions)
Warren D. Albright (R)
Martin Co. Commissioner District 1
No filings to date
Martin Co. Commissioner District 3
No filings to date

Martin County Coroner
Tina Franklin (D)
Martin County Recorder
Rhonda Sanders (R)
Martin County Surveyor
Nathan D. Hoffman (R)
Martin County Treasurer
Lori Carrico (R)
Julie Fithian (D)
Republican State Convention Delegate
Warren D. Albright
Gerald D. Montgomery
Republican Precinct Committeemen
South Halbert - Gerald D. Montgomery

Shoals School Board holds first meeting of the year

The Shoals School Board met last Thursday, January 14.

As part of the reorganization, the board voted Lorna Troutman to serve as president, Jim Bruner to serve as vice president and Eva Neeley to serve as secretary.

The board voted to keep meeting dates as the second Thursday of each month with regular sessions starting at 6 p.m. and executive sessions at 5 p.m.

The board kept their pay at \$109 per regular meeting and \$60 for special and executive meeting.

The board voted to re-appoint the following treasurers: Lisa Elliott, Corporation Treasurer; Andrea Qualkenbush, Deputy Corporation Treasurer; Deborah Howell, Jr. Sr. High ECA Treasurer; and Angie Sango, Elementary ECA Treasurer.

The board voted to appoint Superintendent Roush to Vocational and Special Education Board.

The board approved the following fundraisers:

-Homecoming dance sponsored by

the Pep-Club on January 15, 2016

-Coaches vs Cancer Basketball Game January 30, 2016

-“Half-Court Shot” sponsored by Bo-Mac's at home ball games through February of 2016

-Dance clinic for elementary girls on January 30, 2016

The board approved the following facility usage requests:

-Martin County SOAR to hold adult literacy tutoring on Monday evenings

-Martin County Sheriff's Dept. K-9 training

The Post Prom Committee to use the cafeteria for tuxedo rentals for prom on February 25, 2016 from 3-5 p.m. The Post Prom Committee to meet in the high school gym and library on April 22, 23, and 24, 2016.

The board approved Scott Fishback as instructor for driver's education classes to be held during summer of 2016.

The board voted to approve changing the schedule for preschool to start at 8:30 a.m. and end at 11 a.m.

(See 'SHOALS' cont. on page 2)

State of Indiana response to Avian Flu in Dubois County

DEVELOPING SITUATION

Indiana Board of Animal Health (BOAH) and U.S. Department of Agriculture teams have visited 900-plus residences in a 10-kilometer radius “control area” around the original site to identify small, “backyard” flocks of birds for precautionary monitoring and testing. To date, 27 such flocks have been identified. These efforts will continue.

Indiana State Veterinarian Bret D. Marsh, DVM, today announced the addition of an extra 10-kilometer “surveillance zone,” beyond the 10-km control area. This is an added precaution to ensure the region is influenza-free. (“Kilometers” are used rather than “miles” because of international standardization protocols for such situations.)

There are 155,000 egg-laying chickens (“layers”) that are NOT infected, but are being depopulated and disposed of via landfill because the facility is considered a “dangerous contact” to an infected turkey flock. The laying facility is located very close to an infected barn, putting the birds at high risk of contracting the disease. These chickens do not have influenza. This brings the total number of birds affected to 401,163.

Depopulation efforts continue, although hampered by the extreme cold temperatures, which cause water sources to freeze. Currently, depopulation

has been completed at six of the 10 turkey flocks. Work continues on the remaining four, as well as the newly added layer facility. Euthanized turkeys are being composted in the buildings in which they were housed. The composting process takes about 30 days, after which time, the remaining material can be used agriculturally because it will not contain the virus.

Control area flock tests continue to come back with NEGATIVE results, meaning no virus was detected. In the last 24 hours, 221 tests have been submitted.

The Indiana State Department of Health is working with the Dubois County Health Department to monitor the health of workers who have had contact with infected birds to ensure they are healthy and verify that the H7N8 virus has not transmitted to people.

Mental health services are being provided in Jasper to those who have been affected by the HPAI event. Services are open to anyone and everyone, not just site workers. Daily group sessions are held at the command post during lunch hour, and at the staging area during dinner hour. Services will be provided as long as needed. A mental health treatment hotline, provided by Southern Hills Counseling Center in Jasper, is available by calling: 812-482-3020. If (See 'AVIAN FLU' cont. on page 2)

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AVIAN FLU

(Continued from page one)

the call is made after hours, the caller needs to press 0.

United States Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) has confirmed the pathogenicity of eight of the nine H7N8 avian influenza detections announced on January 16. Eight flocks have been confirmed as low pathogenic avian influenza, with additional testing ongoing for the ninth.

There were no new positive tests overnight, but aggressive testing continues inside the 10-km control area. In the last 24 hours, commercial farms have yielded an additional 100 negative tests for avian influenza. State and federal teams have visited 503 residences in the control area to identify any small flocks for testing. Tests are pending on 17 small flocks.

Confirmed cases of Avian Flu have been found in Dubois County. State, local and federal agencies are working together on containment and depopulation operations.

An estimated 119,500 birds have been humanely euthanized on four premises, with another six premises containing approximately 121,400 birds currently underway. The control area is primarily in Dubois County, and has expanded to include parts of Crawford, Daviess, Martin and Orange counties. All infected sites are in Dubois County.

STATE RESPONSE

A Unified Incident Command Post (UCP) has been established in Jasper. The post is staffed by a state Incident Management Team, along with federal and local partners.

State Agencies supporting activities in the UCP: The Indiana State Board of Animal Health, Indiana State Depart-

ment of Agriculture, Indiana Department of Homeland Security, Indiana Department of Natural Resources, Indiana State Department of Health, Indiana Department of Environmental Management, Indiana Department of Correction, Indiana State Police and mental health services teams from the Family and Social Services Administration.

Other organizations supporting activities in the UCP: United States Department of Agriculture, Indiana University, Dubois County Emergency Management Agency and Dubois County Health Department.

State Emergency Operations Center: Under the leadership of the Indiana Department of Homeland Security (IDHS), the Indiana Emergency Operations Center (EOC) has been activated at Level III and will remain activated 24 hours a day to monitor conditions and provide resource support to local county emergency agencies.

SHOALS

(Continued from page one)

A first reading of changes to head maintenance/custodian manager job description was held. The second reading and approval of the job description is scheduled for the next meeting.

Approval for salary exempt pay status for Wayne Underwood in position of head maintenance/custodian manager was tabled until approval of updated job description at the next meeting.

The board approved the changes to the non-certified staff handbook.

The board approved Steven McCracken and Rita Miller to serve as substitute teachers.

The board approved the following coaching recommendations: Dennis Dahlen, varsity/JV girls' track head

State Agencies supporting activities in the EOC: State Board of Animal Health, Indiana Department of Homeland Security, Indiana State Department of Health, Indiana Department of Transportation, Indiana Department of Environmental Management, Indiana State Police, Indiana Department of Natural Resources and Indiana Department of Correction.

FEDERAL RESPONSE

The United States Department of Agriculture has approximately 50 representatives, along with private contractors, in Dubois County assisting with state and local efforts. A National Incident Management Team will be arriving in Indiana this weekend to help coordinate efforts.

PUBLIC ADVISORIES

Avian influenza does not present a food safety risk; poultry and eggs are safe to eat. Officials are not aware of any public health significance with this

virus. Human infection from an H7 virus is uncommon, but can cause some conjunctivitis and/or upper respiratory tract symptoms. Human health agencies will be monitoring workers and others in contact with birds to monitor for illness.

Backyard poultry owners are encouraged to be aware of the signs of avian influenza and report illness and/or death to the USDA Healthy Birds Hotline: 866-536-7593. Callers will be routed to a state or federal veterinarian in Indiana for a case assessment. Dead birds should be double-bagged and refrigerated for possible testing.

Signs include: sudden death without clinical signs; lack of energy or appetite; decreased egg production; soft-shelled or misshapen eggs; swelling or purple discoloration of head, eyelids, comb, hocks; nasal discharge; coughing; sneezing; lack of coordination; and diarrhea. A great resource for backyard bird health information is online at: www.healthybirds.aphis.usda.gov.

Situation updates and status reports about ongoing avian influenza activities, along with critical disease-related information, will be posted online at: www.in.gov/boah/2390.htm. Users may subscribe to email updates on a link at that page.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

What do you want?

To the editor of the *Martin County Journal*,

Kriss Ann Hall, a constitutional attorney, author, and educator recently said, in addressing the lawlessness of the Federal Government, "Congress cannot pass laws to alter the Constitution outside article 5 Amendment process. Article 6, section 2 clause 2 says that no law made by Congress contrary to the Constitution is valid. Alexander Hamilton said the same thing in Federalist 33, no law contrary, no law outside the Constitution is a valid law at all.

James Madison, the father of the Constitution, tells us in 1789 as he is arguing before the ratification of the Constitution, the Supreme Court of the United States is not above the States, the Supreme Court of the United States cannot make law, the Supreme Court of the United States is not the ultimate arbitrator of the Constitution. James Madison so very clearly explains that the ultimate arbitrators of the Constitution are the States themselves. They are the creator of the contract, they are the drafters of the contract, they are the people, the ones who actually ratified the contract creating the Federal Government. The States are the creators of the Federal Government, they are the controllers of the Federal Government."

She asked, "Do you want a Constitutional Republic, where the people control the government, and where the States are independent and sovereign, or do you want a totalitarian oligarchy where a federal government decides what power it can have and how it can use that power with a pen and a phone or a law? Do we want an unlimited Federal Government?"

In presidential candidate Dr. Ben Carson, we have a wise man who comprehends the ramifications of the lawless abandonment of our constitutional blueprint for governance. He, along with Congressman Marlin Stutzman and Dr. Richard Moss, who are seeking Federal offices, are intent on restoring a Constitutional Republic by returning to "the rule of law." Fed up with the failures of the status quo, they will lead the effort to restore the limited government principles and values embedded in the Constitution which had worked so well previously.

Michael Lewinski
Dubois, Indiana

coach; Time Howell, varsity/JV boys' track head coach; Wes White, varsity softball head coach; and Tim Sorrells, varsity baseball head coach

Approval of the 2016-17 school calendar was tabled until next meeting.

The board approved advertising the specifications for the upcoming roofing replacement project.

The board approved the Senior Career Information Class to visit the University of Southern Indiana on January 20, 2016 and the second grade students to take a field trip to Marengo Cave on April 8, 2016.

Austin Malone, Elementary Principal, reported on the following:

-Attendance push continues to be a priority but they are seeing more absences due to cold and flu season.

-ISTEP and IREAD3 review of last year's scores and what is expected on the upcoming test

-BETA Club is having a book drive during January with all books going to Shoals kids

-Thank you to the bus drivers and Shoals road crews as well as Mrs. Roush for making tough decisions and keeping students safe.

Lucas Calhoun, Jr. Sr. High School Principal, reported on the following:

-Student Successes! Pep Band scored a 1st place at the Orleans Pep Band Invitation. The band has won three out of the last four years including back-to-back titles. Congratulations band members!

-High School Robotics Team participated in their first ever competition and learned a lot

-They will have a student representative at the Evansville Regional Scripps National Spelling Bee in February.

-First Semester Honor Roll included 139 students out of our total 258 student body (54 percent overall)

-Mr. Bill Johnson achieved a great success with this www.donorschoose.org lot being funded

-Teacher observations/feedback conversations have been ongoing

-Special thanks to all those who have donated books thus far to the book literacy drive.

Superintendent Roush spoke on the following:

-Student count is up seven students from the September count day

-Thank you to Ed Farhar and James Sexton for their help with installation of desks

The meeting was adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

The next meeting of the board is scheduled on February 11, 2016 at 6 p.m.

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Obituaries

MIKE AXSOM

Michael Lee Axsom was called home to the Father on January 17, 2016. A resident of Bloomington, he was 63.

He was born March 17, 1952; son of Leston David Axsom and Helen Evelyn Axsom.

He graduated Bloomington High School in 1970, and Ivy Tech in Terre Haute in 1971. He was currently employed as Superintendent of Daviess/Martin Joint County Park and Recreation Department (West Boggs Park) where he has served for the past 21 1/2 years. He was also a member of the Daviess County Sheriff's Department.

His love of the outdoors and conservation/resource management guided him through an amazing array of career paths. Beginning with a position with the Indiana Department of Natural Resources, Mike served as Assistant State Fire Coordinator, and was a member of the IDNR Hot Shots. During his years as the Assistant State Fire Coordinator he also served as Arson Investigator for the Eastern Fire Department in Solsberry. He was the CEO for the Wyoming Outfitters Association and he served as the editor/publisher of the Wyoming Outdoorsman Magazine.

With all of these careers, his main focus was always centered around God, family and country. He loved the outdoors and spent as much time there as he possibly could, which lead him to also take an interest in teaching young people the love of the outdoors. He founded the C.O.O.L. (Corps of Outdoor Leadership) program and was a member of the Indiana Hunters Education Program.

With such a great and diverse man, this is only the highlights of his contribution to his community, family and country.

He is survived by his childhood sweetheart and spouse of 43 years, Susan Jane (Honeycutt) Axsom; sons, Travis Lee Axsom (married to Misty Dawn Wade Axsom) and Todd Michael Axsom; grandchildren, Christopher Travis Michael Axsom, Cheyenne Lynn Axsom, Jada Susan Elaine Axsom, Raven Jayne Axiom; great grandson, Kyson Tony Michael Axsom; brothers, Leston Jr. Axsom and Steve Axsom; sister, Patricia Ann (Axsom) Butler, as well as multiple generations of cousins, nieces and nephews.

He is preceded in death by his parents, Leston David Axsom (pastor emeritus) and Helen Evelyn Axsom.

Funeral services will be held Friday, January 22 at 11 a.m. at Allen Funeral Home and Crematory 4155 South Old State Road 37, Bloomington. Reverend Ron Hawkins will preside. He will be

laid to rest in the Solsberry Cemetery.

Visitation will be held Thursday January 21 from 4 p.m. until 8 p.m. at the funeral home as well as from 10 a.m. Friday until the time of the service at 11 a.m.

Online condolences, memories and photos of Mike may be shared with the family at www.allenfuneralhome.org.

SARAH WAGGNER

Sarah Margaret (Margie) Wagner passed away at 10:20 a.m. Friday, January 15, 2016 at Loogootee Nursing Center. A resident of Loogootee, she was 88.

She was born March 4, 1927 in Loogootee; daughter of the late Emmett (Mike) and Marie (Kidwell) Cissell.

She married Robert (Bob) Wagner August 16, 1947 and he preceded her in death on June 15, 2001.

She fondly loved life and her family very much. She was a fantastic cook; we all loved going to Mom's for many memorable Sunday dinners. She was a 1945 graduate of St. John Catholic High School. She was an avid supporter of the Loogootee Lions and the St. Louis Cardinals.

Margie had different jobs in her life, but she loved being editor for The Loogootee Tribune the most. She last worked there in 2002. Margie was a member of St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church, Loogootee Women's Club and Loogootee Red Hats. She was a past member of The Daughters of Isabella.

She is survived by her children, Pamela Wagner of Loogootee, Barbara Jan Wagner of Odon, R. Scott Wagner of Loogootee and Kim (Mike) Fouty of Terre Haute; grandchildren, Nathan (Amy) Robert Wagner, Sara Wagner and boyfriend, Jeremy Lemon, and Will Fouty; great-grandchildren, Isabelle Wagner, Isaac Wagner, Koen Wagner, Madison Wagner and Emsley Wagner; sister, Mary Bernita Riley of Loogootee; many nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents; husband; two siblings, Rita Shipman and Robert Cissell.

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated by Very Rev. J. Kenneth Walker at 11 a.m. this morning, Wednesday, January 20 at St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church. Burial followed in the church cemetery.

Blake Funeral Home in Loogootee was in charge of arrangements.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Martin County Right to Life.

Condolences may be made online at blakefuneralhomes.com.

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Martin County Sheriff's Department log

MONDAY, JANUARY 11

1:47 a.m. - Received an alarm call in Loogootee. Loogootee Sergeant Norris responded and all was okay.

7:24 a.m. - Received a report of a slide off in Loogootee. Loogootee Chief Rayhill responded.

2:11 p.m. - Received report of a slide off in Loogootee. Loogootee Chief Rayhill responded.

4:13 p.m. - Received a report of a fire in Shoals. The Shoals Fire Department responded.

4:54 p.m. - Received a report of a semi stuck east of Shoals. Chief Deputy Greene and the Martin County Highway Department responded.

5:26 p.m. - Received a request for lift assistance in Loogootee. Martin County Ambulance responded.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 12

7:12 a.m. - Received a report of a hit and run east of Shoals. Sheriff Roush, Captain Dant, Corporal Baker, and ISP Trooper Lents responded.

8:12 a.m. - Received a report of an accident near Loogootee. Loogootee Chief Rayhill responded.

8:14 a.m. - Received a report of a slide off north of Shoals. Captain Dant responded.

9:45 a.m. - Captain Dant took four inmates to court.

9:55 a.m. - Sheriff Roush assisted the department of child services with a welfare check.

11:20 a.m. - Captain Dant took four inmates to court.

12:35 p.m. - Received a report of an accident in Loogootee. Loogootee Captain Hennette responded.

1:15 p.m. - Captain Dant assisted a motorist east of Shoals. He was assisted by ISP Trooper Lents.

1:26 p.m. - Received a report of an accident in Loogootee. Loogootee Captain Hennette responded.

4:10 p.m. - Received a report of a domestic situation south of Loogootee. All on duty Martin County deputies, ISP Trooper Beaver, ICO Mann, and Martin County Ambulance responded.

4:35 p.m. - Received a report of an accident near Shoals. Captain Dant responded.

5:07 p.m. - Received a report of vandalism near Shoals. Chief Deputy Greene responded.

5:49 p.m. - Received a report of a reckless driver in Loogootee. Loogootee Captain Hennette responded.

6:54 p.m. - Received a report of a car-deer accident on US 150, east of Shoals. Chief Deputy Greene worked the accident.

10:53 p.m. - Sergeant Keller on station with two individuals from Daviess County jail for court.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 13

5:43 a.m. - Received a report of a theft near Loogootee. Sergeant Keller responded.

6:17 a.m. - ICO Mann assisted a motorist south of Loogootee.

9:55 a.m. - Captain Dant took one inmate to court.

10:03 a.m. - Received a request for officer assistance and an ambulance south of Loogootee. Loogootee Chief Rayhill, ISP Trooper Qualkenbush, and the Martin County Ambulance responded. The subject was transported to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

10:20 a.m. - Received a report of an accident south of Loogootee on Alfordsville Road. ISP Trooper Lents

responded.

12:44 p.m. - Received a report of a car-deer accident on Hwy 150, east of Shoals. Major Burkhardt responded.

1:00 p.m. - Captain Dant took one inmate to court.

2:25 p.m. - Captain Dant took two inmates to the Daviess County Jail.

3:16 p.m. - Major Burkhardt assisted a motorist in Shoals.

6:03 p.m. - Received a report of property damage on US 50, west of Shoals. Major Burkhardt responded.

8:53 p.m. - Received a report of a broken down vehicle east of Shoals. Major Burkhardt and ISP officer Sexton responded.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 14

2:41 p.m. - Received a report of a domestic situation in Crane. Sergeant Keller and Loogootee Officer Nolan responded.

7:25 a.m. - Received a report of an accident in Loogootee. Loogootee Chief Rayhill and the Martin County Ambulance responded. No one was transported.

7:45 a.m. - Received a report of a domestic situation in Loogootee. Loogootee Chief Rayhill responded.

8:00 a.m. - Jail Officer Floyd took one inmate to the doctor.

9:30 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance south of Loogootee. Martin County Ambulance responded but did not transport.

10:30 a.m. - Chief Deputy Greene took three inmates to court.

11:00 a.m. - Sheriff Roush took one inmate to court.

11:45 a.m. - Corporal Baker assisted a motorist near Shoals.

11:46 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. The Loogootee Fire Department and Martin County Ambulance responded. The subject was transported to Daviess Community Hospital.

12:09 p.m. - Received a report of a dog bite in Shoals. Major Burkhardt worked the case.

1:00 p.m. - Major Burkhardt took two inmates to court.

2:25 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Ambulance transported the subject to Daviess Community Hospital.

2:30 p.m. - Sheriff Roush took two inmates to court.

2:45 p.m. - Received a report of a reckless driver on US 50 headed into Loogootee. Loogootee Captain Hennette responded.

5:22 p.m. - Major Burkhardt assisted a motorist near Shoals.

6:16 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance north of Loogootee. Martin County Ambulance transported the subject to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

7:25 p.m. - Received a report of a reckless driver in Shoals. Shoals Town Marshal Eckert and Corporal Burkhardt responded.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 15

12:06 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. The Loogootee Fire Department and Martin County Ambulance responded. The subject was transported to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

9:06 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Ambulance transported the subject to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

9:30 a.m. - Chief Deputy Greene

took two inmates to court.

11:00 a.m. - Received a report of an active domestic situation in Loogootee. Loogootee Captain Akles, Chief Deputy Greene, and ISP Trooper Lents were dispatched.

11:29 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Ambulance transported the subject to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

4:42 p.m. - Received a report of a possible carbon monoxide leak in Loogootee. The Loogootee Fire Department was dispatched.

8:58 p.m. - Received a report of a tree on a line east of Shoals. The Shoals Fire Department, Major Burkhardt, and REMC were dispatched.

9:20 p.m. - Shoals Town Marshal Eckert assisted a motorist near Shoals.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 16

1:36 a.m. - Received a report of an accident in Loogootee. Loogootee Officer Todd responded.

9:30 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance near Shoals. Shoals Fire Department and Martin County Ambulance responded. The subject was transported to IU Health.

10:54 a.m. - Received a report of a reckless semi near Loogootee. Chief Deputy Greene and Loogootee Captain Akles responded.

1:12 p.m. - Received a report of a domestic situation in Loogootee. Loogootee Captain Akles responded.

10:28 p.m. - Received a report of a car-deer accident on US 231, south of Loogootee. Deputy Salmon responded.

9:44 p.m. - Deputy Salmon transported one inmate to Daviess Community Hospital.

9:57 p.m. - Received a report of a reckless semi coming in to Loogootee on US 50. Loogootee Police Depart-

ment responded.

11:10 p.m. - Received a report of a car-deer accident near Loogootee. Deputy Salmon responded.

11:35 p.m. - Received a report of a domestic near Loogootee. Sheriff Roush and Loogootee Sergeant Norris responded.

11:47 p.m. - Received a report of a domestic in Loogootee. Sheriff Roush, Loogootee Sergeant Norris, and Martin County Ambulance responded.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 17

7:10 a.m. - Deputy Salmon on station with one inmate from Daviess Community Hospital.

9:36 a.m. - Received an alarm call in Loogootee. Loogootee Captain Akles responded and all was okay.

11:53 a.m. - Received a report of a reckless driver on US 231, south of Loogootee. Chief Deputy Greene responded.

1:46 p.m. - Received a report of a reckless driver near Loogootee. Loogootee Captain Akles responded.

2:05 p.m. - Received a report of an accident south of Loogootee on US 231. Chief Deputy Greene and the Haysville Fire Department responded.

7:55 p.m. - Received a report of a domestic situation in Loogootee. Loogootee Captain Akles, Deputy Salmon, and ISP Trooper Beaver responded.

10:12 p.m. - Received a report of a domestic situation in Loogootee. Deputy Salmon and Loogootee Sergeant Norris responded. The subject fled on foot.

10:38 p.m. - Received a report of vandalism in Loogootee. Deputy Salmon responded.

ARRESTS

TUESDAY, JANUARY 12

2:08 p.m. - Logan Kelsey was arrested by Chief Deputy Greene on a Dubois County Writ of Attachment.

5:18 p.m. - Jesse Martinez, 40, of Loogootee, was arrested by ISP Trooper Beaver for battery and strangulation. He is being held on a \$50,000 bond.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 13

9:38 p.m. - Jessica Hopper, 34, of Salem, was arrested by ISP Officer Sexton for operating a vehicle while intoxicated. She is being held without bond.

Thursday, January 14

7:51 p.m. - Carl Wiscaver Jr., 34, of Shoals, was arrested by ISP Trooper Sexton for operating a vehicle while intoxicated, driving while suspended prior, and leaving the scene. He is being held without bond.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 15

11:35 a.m. - Andrew Qualkenbush, 18, of Shoals, was arrested by ISP Trooper Lents and charged with criminal mischief, minor in consumption, and minor in possession of alcohol. He has no bond. Assisting in the arrest was Chief Deputy Greene.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 17

12:54 a.m. - William Lucas II, 23, of Loogootee, was arrested by Sheriff Roush and charged with battery. He is being held on a \$25,000 10% bond.

1:05 a.m. - William Lucas, 50, of Loogootee, was arrested by Sheriff Roush for battery and is being held without bond.

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Loogootee Police Department activity

MONDAY, JANUARY 11

1:47 a.m. - Sgt. Norris responded to a business alarm.

7:25 a.m. - Caller stated a vehicle was near a ditch on Bloomfield Road. Vehicle could not make it up the hill due to ice.

11:20 a.m. - Chief Rayhill assisted on a funeral detail.

2:00 p.m. - Caller reported a slide off on Park Street.

2:50 p.m. - Caller reported an abandoned vehicle in the high school parking lot.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 12

12:40 p.m. - Caller reported his vehicle slide on ice and struck a street sign.

5:49 p.m. - Caller reported a speeding vehicle on Park Street.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 13

10:00 a.m. - Caller reported a domestic dispute on US 231.

5:01 p.m. - Caller reported a reckless vehicle on Hwy. 50.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 14

8:00 a.m. - Caller reported a domestic dispute on JFK Avenue.

11:10 a.m. - Captain Hennette assisted with a funeral procession.

2:20 p.m. - Caller reported a speeding vehicle on Hwy 50. Officers were unable to locate.

6:14 p.m. - First responders were requested on US 231 for a medical call.

6:32 p.m. - Caller reported his vehicle had broke down near the little league field.

State fire investigators assisted 88 counties in 2015

Investigators with the Indiana Department of Homeland Security (IDHS) and the State Fire Marshal assisted local fire departments in 88 counties with 549 investigations during 2015.

"Our investigators work around the clock responding to the needs of local fire departments across Indiana," said State Fire Marshal Jim Greeson. "Their efforts supplement the work of local responders and communities to strengthen public safety in our state."

IDHS assists with fire investigations upon request from local departments, and offers additional expertise and staffing.

"The State Fire Marshal investigators are a tremendous resource for local fire departments, especially for volunteer departments who don't have investigators on staff," said Jim Roberts, chief of the Greenfield Fire Department and president of the Indiana Fire Chiefs Association. "Their ability to quickly respond to any fire department in need has been of tremendous help to us in Greenfield and to departments throughout the state."

6:35 p.m. - Caller reported a possible scam.

7:16 p.m. - Caller reported a noise complaint in Shaded Estates.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 15

11:00 a.m. - Caller reported a domestic dispute in Redwing Trailer Court.

4:42 p.m. - Loogootee Fire was paged out to a possible carbon monoxide leak at a residence on North Line Street.

5:23 p.m. - Officer Todd assisted child protective services.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 16

1:36 a.m. - Caller reported property damage.

10:54 a.m. - Received a call of a reckless driver on US 231.

1:12 p.m. - Caller reported a domestic dispute on N. Oak Street.

5:28 p.m. - Caller reported a speeding vehicle on US 231.

5:57 p.m. - Caller reported an ATV in Shaded Estates.

9:58 p.m. - Caller reported a possible intoxicated driver on Hwy 50. Officers were unable to locate.

11:35 p.m. - Sgt. Norris assisted the Martin County Sheriff's Department with a domestic on US 231.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 17

9:36 a.m. - Captain Akles responded to a business alarm.

1:46 p.m. - Caller reported a reckless vehicle on Hwy 50.

7:55 p.m. - Caller reported a domestic dispute on Sycamore Street.

Quick facts about IDHS-investigated fire cases in 2015:

Investigations peaked in December 2015 with 57 that month.

In the typically colder months of January, February, October, November and December of 2015, IDHS averaged about 52 investigations per month (averaged about 41 investigations in other months for 2015).

The initial estimated damage total in IDHS-investigated cases was at least \$44 million.

In at least 34 percent of cases, there was no evidence of a working smoke alarm on the premises.

IDHS encourages all Hoosiers to properly install and maintain smoke alarms throughout all levels of their homes, develop and rehearse fire escape plans, practice cooking safety, and to exercise caution when using alternative heating sources and any other potential fire sources, such as candles. For more information on fire safety and other safety topics, visit GetPrepared.in.gov.

The Indiana State Fire Marshal oversees the IDHS Division of Fire and Building Safety.

COURT NEWS

CRIMINAL COURT Charges Dismissed January 5

Jill M. Lake, maintaining a common nuisance, a Class 6 Felony, dismissed; possession of marijuana, a Class B Misdemeanor, dismissed.

January 7

Jason A. Hudson, battery resulting in bodily injury, a Class A Misdemeanor, dismissed.

CIVIL COURT JUDGMENTS January 14

Judgment in favor of the plaintiff Discover Bank and against the defendant Ginger R. Nichols in the amount of \$20,118.14.

SMALL CLAIMS COURT New Suits Filed January 8

Hoosier Accounts Service vs. Christine Scott, complaint.

Hoosier Accounts Service vs. Lori Daniel, complaint.

Hoosier Accounts Service vs. Eric J. Bradley, complaint.

Hoosier Accounts Service vs. William A. Purdue, complaint.

Hoosier Accounts Service vs. Michael A. Tompkins, complaint.

Hoosier Accounts Service vs. Jennifer D. Qualkenbush, complaint.

Hoosier Accounts Service vs. Pamela S. Davis, complaint.

Hoosier Accounts Service vs. Melissa Kniep, complaint.

Hoosier Accounts Service vs. Travis J. Howell, complaint.

Hoosier Accounts Service vs. Larry D. Holt, complaint.

Hoosier Accounts Service vs. Linda Hotz, complaint.

Hoosier Accounts Service vs. Lee T. Mayo, complaint.

Hoosier Accounts Service vs. William S. Qualkenbush, complaint.

Hoosier Accounts Service vs. Charles R. Chrisman, complaint.

Hoosier Accounts Service vs. Britany R. Hert, complaint.

January 11

White River Co-Op vs. Ryan and Karen Bergman, complaint.

White River Co-Op vs. Rick Sergeant, complaint.

White River Co-Op vs. Michael Spurgeon, complaint.

White River Co-Op vs. Brian Wagler, complaint.

White River Co-Op vs. Corey Roach, complaint.

Accident reports

TUESDAY, JANUARY 12

8:30 a.m. - Katherine A. Burns, of French Lick, was westbound on Hwy 50. At this time, due to icy roads, Burns lost control and stuck a fence owned by Graber Logging. Chief Rayhill investigated.

1:30 p.m. - James C. Johnson, of Loogootee, was eastbound on Hwy 50 operating a 2001 Chevy. At this time, Johnson pulled into the path of a 2009 Mack semi operated by Wesley Hall, of Jonesville, Virginia. Captain Hennette investigated.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 14

7:24 a.m. - Donald Manlove, of Salem, was operating a 2007 Peterbilt on Broadway Street. Manlove went to turn onto SW 2nd Street from the inside lane. Chase M. Salmon, of Shoals, was operating a 2003 Dodge and was passing in the outer lane. At this time, Manlove turned into the Salmon vehicle. Chief Rayhill investigated.

Real estate transfers

Ernest L. Mattingly to Ralph E. Stiles, Jr., the portion of the northwest quarter of the southeast quarter of Section 18, Township 3 North, Range 3 West, containing 0.70 acres, more or less.

David R. Springer, of Martin County, Indiana to Derek D. Holt, of Martin County, Indiana, a part of the southwest quarter of the southwest quarter of Section 18, Township 3 North, Range 3 West, containing 0.72 acres, more or less.

Jerry W. Crane and Victor W. Neideffer, Jr., of Lawrence County, Indiana to Robert P. Boyd, of Martin County, Indiana, a portion of the southwest fractional quarter of Section 14, Township 4 North, Range 3 West, Mitcheltree Township, Martin County, Indiana, containing 3.181 acres, more or less, except a section containing 2.213 acres, more or less.

Richard L. Hawkins and Linda J. Hawkins, of Martin County, Indiana to Gary L. Gibson and Joy L. Gibson, of Martin County, Indiana, a part of the north half of Section 5, Township 2 North, Range 4 West, lying in Center Township, Martin County, Indiana, containing 25.15 acres, more or less.

Carl A. Jordan, of Martin County, Indiana to Frank L. Fields and Pamela S. Fields, of Hendricks County, Indiana, the west half of the southeast quarter of the northeast quarter of Section 36, Township 3 North, Range 4 West.

Bruce M. Poindexter and Lillian M. Poindexter, of Martin County, Indiana to Michael E. Clifton, of Martin County, Indiana, Lots 206 and 207 in the original plat of the town of West Shoals, now annexed to the Town of Shoals, Martin County, Indiana.

Sandra Sue Hunt, of Martin County, Indiana to William V. McAtee and Jolene D. McAtee, of Martin County, Indiana, part of Lot #86 in the City of Loogootee, Indiana.

LPD year-end report 2015

The following is 2015 activity for the Loogootee Police Department.

Calls for service-2,258

Handgun permits filed-38

Mileage driven-44,652

Golf cart registrations-54

Cases worked-291

Traffic/Ordinance citations-95

Criminal arrests-90

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More Neat Stuff



By Ann Ackerman



WHY SHARKS CIRCLE YOU BEFORE ATTACKING

Two great white sharks swimming in the ocean spied survivors of a sunken ship. "Follow me son," the father shark said to the son shark and they swam to the mass of people.

"First, we swim around them a few times with just the tip of our fins showing." And they did.

"Well done, son! Now we swim around them a few times with all of our fins showing." And they did.

"Now we eat everybody." And they did.

When they were both gorged, the son asked, "Dad, why didn't we just eat them all at first? Why did we swim around and around them?"

His wise father replied, "Because they taste better if you scare the poop out of them first!"

No need to thank me. I just try to learn something new every day.

DINNER IN THE FIFTIES

Pasta had not been invented. It was macaroni or spaghetti.

Curry was a surname.

A take-away was a mathematical problem.

Pizza? Sounds like a leaning tower somewhere.

Bananas and oranges only appeared at Christmas time.

All chips were plain.

Rice was a milk pudding, and never, ever part of our dinner.

A Big Mac was what we wore when it was raining.

Brown bread was something only poor people ate.

Oil was for lubricating, fat was for cooking.

Tea was made in a teapot using tea leaves and never green.

Cubed sugar was regarded as posh.

Chickens didn't have fingers in those days.

None of us had ever heard of yogurt.

Healthy food consisted of anything edible.

Cooking outside was called camping.

Seaweed was not a recognized food.

'Kebab' was not even a word, never

mind a food.

Sugar enjoyed a good press in those days, and was regarded as being white gold.

Prunes were medicinal.

Surprisingly muesli was readily available. It was called cattle feed.

Pineapples came in chunks in a tin; we had only ever seen a picture of a real one.

Water came out of the tap. If someone had suggested bottling it and charging more than gasoline for it they would have become a laughing stock.

The one thing that we never ever had on/at our table in the fifties...was elbows, hats and cell phones!

THOUGHTS ABOUT DIETING

1. There are some days where I forget to eat the entire day, and there are the other days where I have first breakfast, second breakfast, elevenses, luncheon, third breakfast, tea, dinner, soupsies, supper, night lunch, midnight snack, and one in the morning snack.

2. I don't want to brag but my diet has enabled me to fit in my flip flops from last summer.

3. According to my weight to height ratio, I should be 9 feet 4 inches tall. So, my weight is OK, it's my height that's the problem.

4. Apparently you have to eat healthy more than once to stay in shape. This is cruel and unfair.

5. There should be a calorie refund for things that didn't taste as good as you expected.

6. Just saw three people jogging outside and it inspired me to get up and close the blinds.

7. Did you know? Chocolate makes your clothes shrink.

8. It amazes me how much exercise and extra fries sound alike.

9. My eating habits range from supermodel yoga enthusiast to hungry unsupervised child in a candy store.

10. I've got salad for dinner. Actually a fruit salad. Well, mostly grapes . . . OK, all grapes. Fermented grapes. Wine. I've got wine for dinner.

Make someone smile today!



LHS 1995 Classmates

-Photos by Josh Hughett

Classmates from the Loogootee High School Class of 1995 met up last Saturday for an impromptu reunion in a few locations around the city. Shown above are the classmates able to meet at Biggin's Pizza. In the front row, from left to right, are Jamie (David) Browder, Shawna (Lingenfelter) Walton, Amy (Swartzentruber) Waggner, Mandy (Boyd) Bartley, Kerri (Arthur) Hancock, and Kim (Bradley) Kaiser. In the back, from left to right, are Paula (Strange) Montgomery, Kenny Braun, Jonna (Walker) Gerkin, Kerry (Frye) Sims, Courtney (Everman) Hughett, Randee Lankford, Rusty Reeves, Audrey (Burch) Whitney, Autumn (Trambaugh) Aiman, Richie Strawn, Jon Cropp, Scott Swartzentruber, Darrin Graber, Pat Bruner, and Tim Lukomski. Below are some of the same classmates along with others who attended a gathering later Saturday night at Bradley's Bar & Grill. In the front row, from left to right, are Heather Fox and Amy Waggner. In the middle row are Andy Carrico, Jason Wagoner, Jon Cropp, Audrey Whitney, Jeff Bledsoe, and Darren Lannan. In the back row are Pat Bruner, Courtney Hughett, Erin (Bowling) Like, Shawna Walton, Kerry Sims, Autumn Aiman, Mandy Bartley, Kerri Hancock, Jamie Browder, and Paula Montgomery.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Loogootee Council special meeting

The Loogootee City Council will hold a special meeting Wednesday, January 20 at 5 p.m. to discuss the possibility of a downtown project. The meeting is open to the public.

Loogootee School Board meeting

The Loogootee School Board will meet Thursday, January 21 at 5 p.m. in the high school library. Some items on the agenda include an overview of school finances, technology and academics; acceptance of a grant and donation to the high school library, and athletic resignations and appointments. The meeting is open to the public.

Summers retiring

A retirement reception will be held on Friday, January 22 for Kay Summers, Deputy Clerk-Treasurer for the City of Loogootee. It will be held at City Hall in the council room from 2-4 p.m. The public is invited.

Free lunch for kids

New Beginnings Community Church will be offering a free lunch to all school-age children every Saturday from noon to 1 p.m. at the fellowship hall of the church, located at 200 West Main Street next to the post office. For more info, call 812-709-2525.

SOAR Tutoring

Need Skills? SOAR tutors can

help! Free and confidential. Call or text Beverly at 812-709-1618 to learn more. Located in the Martin County Community Learning Center Improve Your Skills, Improve Your Life!

Solid waste board

The Martin County Solid Waste Board holds their monthly meetings on the third Wednesday of each month at 6 p.m. at the recycling center located at 500 Industrial Park Drive in Loogootee. The meetings are open to the public and anyone is invited to attend.

Humane society meetings

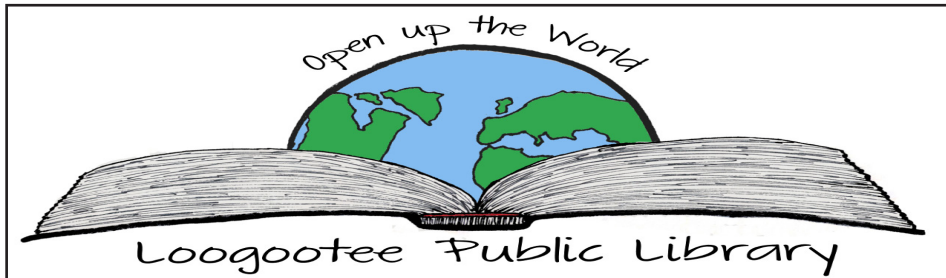
The Martin County Humane Society meets on the third Friday of the month at the animal shelter at 507 N Oak Street in Loogootee, at 7 p.m. Members of the humane society are invited to attend.

Tourism meetings

The MCCC Tourism Committee meets on the third Wednesday of each month at 7 p.m. in the basement of the Shoals Public Library. The public is invited to attend.

Soil and Water meetings

The Martin County SWCD meets the third Monday of the month at the SWCD office located at Martin County Learning Center. Office hours are 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. weekdays except Thursdays when it is closed. Visit www.martinswcd.com or call at 295-3149.



BY DARLA WAGLER
Librarian, Loogootee Public Library

During the winter months, the library operates with the Loogootee School system. If the school is closed, Loogootee Public Library will close. Also, if warranted, the library may close early or operate on reduced hours. Efforts will be made to notify the local radio station, Martin County Journal, WWBL, WAMW and post on our Facebook page.

New Books:

Mystery Fiction: "NYPD Red 4" by James Patterson, "Scandalous Behavior" by Stuart Woods, "Even Dogs in The Wild" by Ian Rankin, "The Bitter

Season" by Tami Hoag,

Fiction:

Inspirational Fiction: "Thin Ice" by Irene Hannon, "Risen" by Angela Hunt, and "Mermaid Moon" by Colleen Coble.

DVDs: "Love Finds You in Charm", "Intern", and "The Walking Dead: Season Four".

The library hours are Monday and Tuesday 10-7, Wednesday closed, Thursday and Friday 10-5 and Saturday 9-1. The phone number is 812-295-3713 or check out the website www.loogootee.lib.in.us or like us on Facebook. The library has free Wi-Fi service available for patrons.

Indiana corn production lower than USDA projection

BY DARRIN PACK
Purdue University News Service

The extent of the crop damage caused by last summer's severe weather became clearer with a new U.S. Department of Agriculture report showing that Indiana's corn production fell to its lowest level in three years.

The state's soybeans fared better, recovering enough from the early-season flooding to produce a stronger crop.

According to the USDA's Crop Production 2015 Summary released Tuesday (January 12), Indiana corn farmers produced 867.4 million bushels of corn last year on a yield of 150 bushels per acre, compared with 2014's record 1.08 billion bushels on 188 per acre.

It was the smallest corn crop in the state since farmers harvested 596.9 million bushels on 99 per acre during the 2012 drought year.

"The final USDA information apparently indicated either more Indiana corn acres were affected by last year's severe weather or the magnitude of the yield reduction was higher than estimated," said [Bob Nielsen](#), [Purdue Extension](#) corn specialist.

In its previous crop report, issued Nov. 10, the USDA projected Indiana corn production to be 848.6 million bushels on 156 per acre. Over the past three years, the crop has averaged 904.5 million bushels on 155 per acre.

Analysts said the losses in the corn crop were due primarily to the state's uneven weather.

Indiana had torrential rains last spring, causing severe flooding and killing or damaging many newly planted crops. The rains continued into June and July, which became the wettest two months on record. August and Septem-



This cornfield in Fountain County in July was a familiar sight in Indiana, which had frequent rains since planting in the spring. The yellowish plants in the foreground, their development hindered by continual flooding, are in contrast to healthier, dark green plants in the background. (Purdue Agricultural Communication photo/Keith Robinson)

ber were unusually dry, with drought-like conditions in some areas stressing underdeveloped root systems.

Despite damage from the weather, Indiana's corn crop turned out better than what some analysts had feared last spring.

Crop conditions varied significantly throughout the state. While corn losses were highest in the northern part of the state, where the worst of the flooding occurred, southern counties reported normal or even above-normal harvests.

Indiana's 2015 soybean production was 275 million bushels on 50 bushels per acre, compared with last year's record of 307.4 million bushels on 56 per acre. In November, the USDA projected a state soybean harvest of 284.5 million bushels on 51 per acre.

Over the past three years, the Indiana's soybean crop has averaged 266.6 million bushels on 50 bushels per acre.

Spring Mill SP to host corn husk doll, needle felting workshops

Learn how to make corn husk dolls and other decorative items from corn husks during a workshop at Spring Mill State Park on February 16.

The workshop runs from 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at Spring Mill Inn and includes a buffet lunch at the inn's Millstone dining room. All supplies are provided.

Fifteen spots are available. Advance registration is required by February 12 by calling (812) 849-4508. The cost is \$35 per person.

Also, learn how to needle felt at a Spring Mill State Park workshop on February 18.

During this workshop, participants

can learn the technique and use it to create decorative items for their home.

The workshop runs from 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at Spring Mill Inn and includes a buffet lunch at the inn's Millstone dining room. All supplies are provided.

Twenty spots are available. Advance registration is required by February 15 by calling (812) 849-4508. The cost is \$40 per person.

For more information, email spring-millstatepark@dnr.IN.gov

Spring Mill State Park (stateparks.IN.gov/2968.htm) is at 3333 State Road 60 East, Mitchell, 47446.



Winter dining - Photo by Bill Whorrall, www.billwhorrallart.com

Small birds need to find enough food to get through the day and also build up adequate fat reserves for the coming night -- all in the course of the limited daylight hours. Despite the freezing temps, the birds above found a jackpot of bird seed to help them out.

Pork conference addresses animal health, nutrition

BY DARRIN PACK
Purdue University News Service

Pork producers will get the latest information on animal health, nutrition and other vital topics at the Southern Indiana Pork Conference.

The conference, sponsored by Purdue Extension and Indiana Pork, will be 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. February 5 at the Schnitzelbank Restaurant, 393 Third Avenue, Jasper.

"The goal is to bring together pork producers, academics, veterinarians and others in the pork industry to talk about key industry issues," said Kenneth Eck, Extension educator in Dubois County and a conference organizer.

Topics and presenters:

* "Health Concerns for Southern Indiana." John Baker, Warrick Veterinary Clinic.

* "Feeding Betaine to Reduce Heat Stress in Sows and Boars." Allan Schinckel, Extension breeding and genetics specialist.

* "State Regulatory and Legislative Issues and How They'll Affect You."

Indiana Hunter Education Class in Huntingburg

An Indiana Hunter Education Course is slated for Friday, February 19 and Saturday, February 20 at the Huntingburg Conservation Club House. Classes will run from 5:45 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. on Friday and from 7:45 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Saturday. Participants must attend both days to complete the course. All Indiana residents are invited to complete this FREE course. All instruction will be by Indiana conservation officers and certified Indiana volunteer hunter education instructors.

Certification is required for anyone born after December 31, 1986, who wishes to purchase an Indiana hunting license. The course will cover ethics, safety, laws, survival and safe handling practices for archery, black powder and firearms. Lunch and snacks will be provided for participants and attending family members. Meals provided will include a snack

John Trenary, executive director, and Ben Wicker, director of producer outreach, Indiana Pork.

* "Pork Quality - How Does Animal Handling Affect It?" Stacy Zuelly, Extension meat science specialist.

* "Can We Overuse Synthetic Amino Acids in Wean-to-Finish Operations?" Brian Richert, Extension swine specialist.

* "Pork Quality Assurance Plus (PQA+) Certification." Eck.

Producers need to attend only the PQA+ session for certification. Producers planning to attend the PQA+ session should contact the Dubois County Extension office at 812-482-1782 to make reservations.

Indiana Pork will provide lunch. The conference is free, but registration is required by January 29. To sign up, go to www.indianapork.com/ and click on the pork conference banner.

For more information on the conference, go to www.extension.purdue.edu/dubois or contact the Dubois County Extension office at 812-482-1782, duboissecs@purdue.edu.

on Friday along with lunch and dinner Saturday. The cost is \$15 for the first family member and \$10 for every member after that to cover the cost of food. Parent's participation is encouraged! A parent or guardian must attend with children under 12 years of age. To sign up, visit www.passitonindiana.com. Pre-registration is required.

Contact: Dick Lange 812-309-4043 E-mail: dlange@fullnet.com Mail: Dick Lange, 365 W 925 S, Ferdinand, IN 47532-9500

Reservations must be paid by February 15. Limited to first 90 paid applicants. Make checks payable to: Dick Lange. This course is being sponsored by the Huntingburg Conservation Club.

Patoka Lake (stateparks.IN.gov/2953.htm) is at 3084 N. Dillard Road, Birdseye, IN 47513.

Loogootee Scouts Pack 444 and Troop 484

ALL-YOU-CAN-EAT
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Loogootee (812) 295-2312	Shoals (812) 247-3321	Jasper (812) 634-2222	Washington (812) 254-2540
Sullivan (812) 268-5252	Martinsville (765) 342-6623		
Jasonville (812) 665-3969	Bicknell (812) 735-3545		

Indiana tax season opens

On Tuesday, the Indiana Department of Revenue and the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) opened the 2016 individual income tax filing season and began processing individual income tax returns. Tax season will close April 18, 2016.

Electronic Filing

The department encourages taxpayers to electronically file their tax returns. Advantages to filing electronically include:

Faster refunds – e-filed returns are processed in 14 days, while a paper return can take up to 12 weeks to process.

Increased security – Fewer people see your information when you file electronically.

More accurate – e-filed returns have a two percent error rate compared to a 20 percent error rate for paper-filed returns.

Free filing options – Nearly two million Indiana taxpayers qualify to file their federal and state income taxes online for free using Indiana freefile (INfreefile). Taxpayers can visit www.freefile.dor.in.gov to see if they qualify and get started.

Identity Protection Program

The department once again will implement the Identity Protection Program. Since its inception in 2014, the Identity Protection Program has stopped more than \$100 million in fraudulent tax refund attempts. More information about preventing identity theft is available at www.in.gov/dor/4794.htm.

Contact the Department

Taxpayers with individual income questions may call 317-232-2240. Phone lines are open weekdays from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., except for holidays. This phone line also supports Spanish speaking taxpayers.

The department has 12 district offices across the state where taxpayers can ask individual income tax questions, pay tax bills and submit paper tax returns. Appointments are not necessary. The department cannot prepare individual income tax returns. District office contact information is available at www.in.gov/dor/3390.htm.

Taxpayers also can submit general questions through the department's Facebook or Twitter pages. Taxpayers should never send personal information, such as a Social Security number, through social media.

Interactive map lets Hoosiers track road and bridge projects

The Indiana Department of Transportation announced that the agency launched an online, interactive tool that allows Hoosier taxpayers to find quickly what road and bridge projects are planned where they live and all across Indiana with just a couple clicks of a mouse.

INDOT's interactive investment map provides a summary of the State's investment in road, bridge, and trail projects, including projects on interstates and other INDOT-maintained roadways as well as City, Town and County projects funded by INDOT at www.in.gov/indot/div/investment.

"This online, interactive investment map gives Hoosiers an opportunity to follow INDOT's continuous work on roads and bridges throughout Indiana," said Governor Mike Pence. "Over the next 5 years, my administration proposes to invest an estimated \$4.6 billion on projects aimed at modernizing our transportation network for the future,

and I am thrilled that Hoosiers can follow along as we move forward. I encourage all Hoosiers to follow INDOT's progress through the investment map as we preserve and enhance Indiana's reputation as the Crossroads of America."

By clicking on one of Indiana's 92 counties, taxpayers can see a summary of county-specific investment and a project list for the county. Information on each project is integrated into the online tool, including the route affected, anticipated date contractor bids will be opened, cost, and the type of work being completed. Links to Google Maps will allow drivers to pinpoint the area where construction is expected to occur on a given roadway.

The financial summaries and project information on the INDOT investment map provide a rolling 18-month outlook. The data is updated on a monthly basis by INDOT staff and the financial data, anticipated projects and estimated bid dates are subject to change.

Arts Commission announces deadline near for Individual Artist Program grant applications

The Indiana Arts Commission (IAC) announced today that Hoosier artists in selected disciplines have until February 5, 2016 to submit applications for Individual Artist Program (IAP) grants.

Artists should be aware that application for IAP grants will only be available through the online grant system, and artists are encouraged to read through the program guidelines completely before they begin the application process. Guidelines for the program can be found at www.in.gov/arts/individualartistprogram.htm. The online grant application system can be found at <http://indiana.cgweb.org>.

Artists in the field of crafts, design, media arts, photography, and visual arts and folk arts related to these traditional disciplines are encouraged to apply for projects related to these eligible disciplines. Artists with disabilities are also encouraged to apply either through the discipline directly or through the access

category.

Individual artists living and working in Indiana may request up to \$2,000 from the IAP program, which requires no matching funds. The grants are intended to assist artists with specific project-related costs that will help them further their career.

Applicants must be 18 years of age, must be an Indiana resident for at least one year prior to the date of the application, and plan to remain in the state during the full grant project period. Artists may not be enrolled in a degree-granting program. All projects must be completed between July 1, 2016 and June 30, 2017.

For more information about the Individual Artist Program, contact Sarah Fronczek at 317-232-1274 or email sfronczek@iac.in.gov.

The Indiana Arts Commission is dedicated to the vision of the arts everywhere, every day, for everyone in Indiana.

Proposed \$1.83 billion plan would raise Duke Energy rates over next 7 years

If you would like to comment on Duke Energy's proposed infrastructure improvement plan, with corresponding rate increases, here's your chance. The Indiana Office of Utility Consumer Counselor (OUCC) is inviting written consumer comments through February 11, 2016 on the utility's proposed \$1.83 billion plan for electric transmission and distribution system improvements.

Duke Energy has filed its plan with the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission (IURC) under a 2013 Indiana law.

The law allows an investor-owned electric or natural gas utility to seek IURC approval of a seven-year infrastructure improvement plan. The IURC must rule on the request within 210 days.

If the plan is approved, the utility may then adjust rates every six months, subject to OUCC review and IURC approval, to recover project costs as they are incurred. The OUCC and IURC review periods are limited to 60 and 90 days, respectively.

The rate adjustments – under a Transmission, Distribution, and Storage System Improvement Charge (TDSIC) mechanism – may not exceed two percent of the utility's total retail revenues.

Recovery of 20 percent of the costs must be deferred until the utility's next base rate case, which must be filed before the end of the seven-year period.

Duke Energy's testimony and exhibits state that:

The proposed projects would be built from 2016 through 2023.

Projects would include the installation of advanced metering infrastructure throughout Duke Energy's Indiana service territory. Other projects include replacements and improvements of substations, circuit breakers, transformers, poles, and lines.

If the seven-year plan is approved by the IURC, Duke Energy's first TDSIC rate increase of about 0.58 percent would take effect in 2017.

Estimated TDSIC rate increases from 2018 through 2023 would vary each year, ranging between 0.69 percent and 1.35 percent annually.

The estimated average annual percentage increase over the seven-year term is about 0.93 percent.

The OUCC – the state agency representing consumer interests in cases before the IURC – is reviewing the utility's plan and anticipates filing testimony on February 18, 2016. A number of additional parties – including Wabash Valley Power Association, Inc., the Citizens Action Coalition of Indiana, and several industrial customers (Steel Dynamics, Inc., Nucor Steel, Eli Lilly & Company, General Motors, LLC, Marathon Petroleum Company LP, Sony DADC Americas, and Tate & Lyle Ingredients Americas, Inc.) – have intervened

and are also expected to file testimony on February 18.

Under the law's timing requirements, the IURC must issue an order on the plan by early July 2016.

This latest filing is the second infrastructure plan Duke Energy has requested under the 2013 law. The IURC rejected Duke Energy's initial proposed \$1.87 billion infrastructure plan on various grounds in May 2015.

The new tracker rate increases requested in this case are in addition to Duke Energy's current Indiana base rates, which were approved in 2004, and in addition to various other trackers through which Duke Energy currently adjusts its rates subject to OUCC review and IURC approval. All Indiana investor-owned electric utilities use trackers, with Duke Energy using them to recover costs for generating fuel, environmental compliance, its integrated gasification combined cycle (IGCC) generation plant at Edwardsport, regional transmission, energy efficiency programs, critical infrastructure protection (cyber security), and other costs.

Consumers who wish to submit written comments for the case record may do so via the OUCC's Website at www.in.gov/oucc/2361.htm, or by mail, email or fax:

Mail: Consumer Services Staff, Indiana Office of Utility Consumer Counselor, 115 W. Washington St., Suite 1500 South, Indianapolis, IN 46204

Email: uccinfo@oucc.IN.gov

Fax: (317) 232-5923

The OUCC needs to receive all written consumer comments no later than February 11, 2016 so that it can: 1) Consider them in preparing its testimony and 2) File them with the Commission to be included in the case's formal evidentiary record. Comments should include the consumer's name, mailing address, and a reference to "IURC Cause No. 44720."

Consumers with questions about submitting written comments can contact the OUCC's consumer services staff toll-free at 1-888-441-2494.

An IURC hearing will be scheduled for a future date yet to be determined.

(IURC Cause No. 44720)

The Indiana Office of Utility Consumer Counselor (OUCC) represents Indiana consumer interests before state and federal bodies that regulate utilities.

As a state agency, the OUCC's mission is to represent all Indiana consumers to ensure quality, reliable utility services at the most reasonable prices possible through dedicated advocacy, consumer education, and creative problem solving.

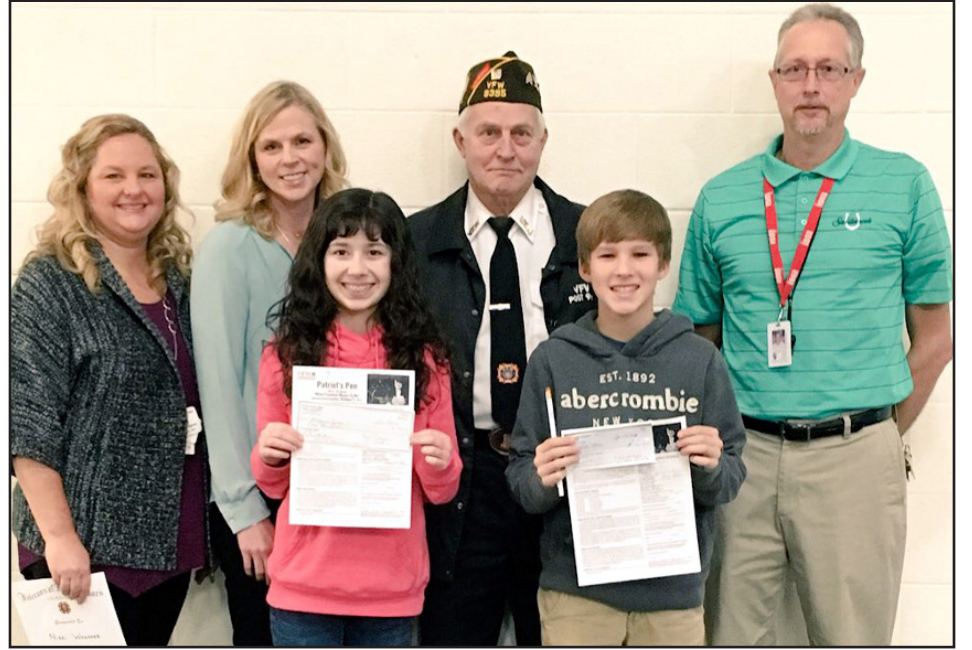
Visit us at www.IN.gov/OUCC, www.twitter.com/IndianaOUCC, or www.facebook.com/IndianaOUCC.



Clash of the Cans

-Photo provided

Students at Loogootee Middle School responded to a call to help their neighbors by collecting food and needed items for local food pantries. Working in conjunction with the Martin County Safe Communities event, students in the 5th through 8th grades collected almost 600 pieces of food in just two school days! The high school decided to help out, hosting their own can wars, and collected another 1,000 food items. All items were given to the Martin County Safe Communities event, which collected nearly 9,000 pieces of food and will stock the three food banks in Martin County. Loogootee Middle School 6th graders collected the most canned goods and were rewarded with a donut party. Law enforcement officers from the Martin County Sheriff's Department and the City of Loogootee were on hand to congratulate the 6th grade on a job well done. Shown above is the Loogootee Middle School 6th grade with City of Loogootee Chief of Police Kelly Rayhill, Tony Dant and Josh Greene, both with the Martin County Sheriff's Department, and Sheriff Travis Roush.



Essay winners

-Photo provided

The Loogootee chapter of the Veterans of Foreign Wars sponsored the Patriots Pen Essay Contest for the 6th grade students at Loogootee Middle School. Sixth grade students from around the state participate in this annual essay writing contest. The essay contest encourages students to study America's history, along with their own experiences in modern American society. Then, communicate what they have learned by writing a 300- to 400-word essay expressing their views based on a patriotic theme chosen by the VFW Commander-in-Chief. The topic of this year's essay was "What Freedom Means to Me". From all of the applicants at Loogootee Middle School, a winner and runner up are chosen. This year's runner up was Luke Nonte, son of Bobbi Sue and George Nonte. The winner was Mikenna Jones, daughter of Kristi and Mike Jones. Mikenna was additionally recognized as the third runner up in the district competition as well. Mikenna will be recognized at the VFW District reception in February.



Recycling continues

-Photo provided

Loogootee Elementary students are still busy collecting plastic bottle lids. The lids are being collected to promote recycling, through creating benches for the classrooms. The classroom benches take 100 pounds of lids and \$55. Mrs. Megan Jones's 4th grade class was the first recipient of a classroom bench. The money for their bench was donated by Tri-Kappa. Loogootee Elementary Instructional Assistant Joni Parker was once again responsible for transporting the plastic lids to Evansville and returning with the bench. Mrs. Jones's class would like to extend a big "Thank You!" to the ladies of Tri-Kappa and Joni Parker. The goal of this project will be to eventually have a recycled bench in each classroom. The Loogootee School-Community council members are currently collecting caps or they can be dropped off at the school.

Purdue College of Health and Human Sciences, IU School of Medicine team up for high school summer camp

By Amy Patterson Neubert

Purdue and Indiana universities are partnering for a new summer camp for high school seniors and juniors interested in health care related majors and careers.

"Health care is one of the fastest growing industries in the United States, and students will be able to explore majors and health care opportunities they may not be aware of," said Christine Ladisch, dean of the College of Health and Human Sciences. CAMP, Clinical Applications for future Medical Professionals, is July 25-27 at Purdue and will allow students to experience health sciences and medical school projects such as heart dissections, medical simulations and exercise assessments. Cost is \$200, which includes lodging and food. More information and registration is available online. The camp will be offered by Purdue's College of

Health and Human Sciences in partnership with the Indiana University School of Medicine - West Lafayette, which is housed in Purdue's Lyle-Porter Hall.

The camp will introduce high school students to a variety of undergraduate majors that can prepare students for medical or professional school. Those majors include nutrition and dietetics, public health, athletic training, medical laboratory sciences, psychological sciences and health sciences preprofessional. The camp also will highlight how these health care professions work together.

"One example of interprofessional health care would be a team comprised of a dietitian, exercise physiologist, nurse, speech-language pathologist, medical laboratory scientist and physician working to diagnose, treat and rehabilitate a patient with a traumatic brain injury,"

said John Gipson, recruitment coordinator for the College of Health and Human Sciences. "Another example would be a team of physicians, nurses and public health professionals working together to treat a patient with an illness, and to prevent any communicable diseases from spreading."

"CAMP is the latest new partnership that develops a culture of cooperation in promoting the patient-centered combination of excellent clinical skills and compassionate interpersonal care that we all hope to find in our future health care providers," said Dr. Regina K. Kreisle, interim associate dean of the IU School of Medicine and interim director of the IU School of Medicine-West Lafayette.

Supplies for students are being provided by the North Central Indiana Area Health Education Center.

Financial aid meeting for Shoals seniors and parents

Shoals High School seniors who plan to attend college or vocational/technical school upon graduation, will want to attend the Financial Aid Information Meeting, along with their parents, on Monday, January 25. The meeting will be held in the high school library and begins at 6:30 p.m. The purpose of the meeting is to provide students and their parents with information concerning the state and federal student financial aid programs for which they may apply. Mr. Mike McClure, a financial aid administrator at Vincennes University, will be conducting the meeting. He will be assisted by Larry Sherfick, guidance counselor for Shoals Junior-Senior High School.

It is extremely important that graduating seniors fill out a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). It is from this form that a student's eligibility to receive grants, loans, and student aid is determined. The Indiana deadline for the FAFSA to be received by the processor is March 10, 2016. The purpose of this meeting is to provide information and answer questions concerning the application process and the FAFSA form.

This year all students are expected to complete the FAFSA online. The website to preview the FAFSA is www.fafsa.ed.gov. The U.S. Department of Education has changed the security protocol and is requiring that all students and a parent set up a new username and password. The FSA ID will provide greater security and replaces the PIN ID previously used when filing the FAFSA. Go to www.fafsa.gov, click on the FSA ID tab to create a new ID. The FSA ID will allow you to sign your FAFSA electronically and to correct your processed FAFSA information online.

Parents are encouraged to contact Larry Sherfick, school counselor, at 247-2090, extension 203, for further information about this important meeting.