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County's jobless rate stays at 3.7 percent for December

BY COURTNEY HUGHETT
Martin County Journal Publisher

Martin County's unemployment rate when unchanged from November to December, standing at 3.7 percent. The county had the 30th lowest jobless rate of the 92 Indiana counties for December, tied with seven other counties.

In December, the county had 5,041 residents in the workforce with 184 of them without jobs. In November, there were 5,156 residents able to work and 192 of them were unemployed.

In December of 2015, Martin County's jobless rate was 4.1 percent with 4,963 residents in the workforce and 202 of them unemployed.

Dubois County's unemployment rate also stayed unchanged from November to December, holding at 2.8 percent. Once again, the county held the top spot in the state for the lowest jobless rate.

In December, the county had 23,076 residents in the workforce with 654 of them unemployed. In November, the county had 23,343 residents in the workforce with 665 of them without jobs. In December of 2015, Dubois County's jobless rate was 3.3 percent with 22,365 residents in the workforce and 737 of them without jobs.

Daviess County's unemployment rate fell just slightly from November to December, from 3.3 percent to 3.2 percent. The county had the ninth lowest jobless rate of the 92 Indiana counties for December, tied with four other counties.

In December, the county had 15,623 residents in the workforce and 504 of them were unemployed. In November, there were 15,936 residents able to work and 520 of them without jobs. In December of 2015, Daviess County's unemployment rate was 3.8 percent with 15,697 residents in the workforce with 601 of them unemployed.

Orange County's unemployment rate rose just a bit to 4.5 percent in December, up from 4.4 percent the month before. The county was in 20th place for

the highest jobless rate in the state for December, tied with five other counties.

In December, the county had 8,806 residents in the workforce with 394 of them unemployed. In November, the county had 8,781 residents in the workforce with 382 of them jobless. In December of 2015, Orange County's unemployment rate was 5.5 percent with 8,845 residents in the workforce and 489 of them unemployed.

Lawrence County's unemployment rate also rose slightly to 5.2 percent in December, up from 5 percent the month before. The county had the 11th highest jobless rate in the state for December.

In December, the county had 20,443 residents in the workforce with 1,066 of them unemployed. In November, there were 20,659 residents in the workforce with 1,024 of them unemployed. In December of 2015, Lawrence County's jobless rate was 6.4 percent with 20,313 residents able to work and 1,308 of them unemployed.

The top ten spots in the state for the lowest jobless rate for December went to Dubois at 2.8 percent, Hamilton and Bartholomew at 2.9 percent, LaGrange and Boone at 3 percent, Hendricks, Elkhart and Adams at 3.1 percent; and Johnson, Jackson, Decatur, Daviess, and Brown at 3.2 percent.

The top ten spots in the state for the highest jobless rate for December went to Lake and Vermillion at 5.9 percent, Crawford and Greene at 5.8 percent, LaPorte and Newton at 5.6 percent, Blackford and Fayette at 5.4 percent, and Starke and Sullivan at 5.3 percent.

Indiana's unemployment rate decreased by two-tenths of a percent to 4.0 percent in December, which marks its lowest point since 2001. The unemployment rate is a U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) indicator that reflects the number of unemployed people as a percentage of the labor force. Indiana's total labor force stands at over 3.3 million and the state's 64.3 percent labor (See 'RATE' continued on page 2)



K9 demonstration

-Photo provided

On February 11, Martin County Deputy Tyler Reed, along with his K9 partner Virka, (shown above) and Shoals Officer Todd Eckert, along with his K9 partner Shani, will put on a demonstration during the Martin County Safe Community Campaign event to be held at the community building on the fairgrounds. The K9 demonstration will begin at 1 p.m.

NSWC Crane Commanding Officer named Laboratory Director of the Year

Naval Surface Warfare Center, Crane Division Commanding Officer Capt. JT Elder was named the Laboratory Director of the Year by the Federal Laboratory Consortium (FLC) on Friday, January 20.

Each year since 1999, the FLC National Advisory Council has honored Laboratory Directors who have made outstanding contributions to support technology transfer (T2) activities in their organizations and the communities they serve. Capt. Elder earned this year's award because of his unwavering support of NSWC Crane's T2 efforts.

Capt. Elder is the just the third winner of the award from any Naval Surface Warfare Center, and the first since NSWC Crane's Duane Embree won it in 2013. Capt. Elder will receive his award on April 26 at the Omni San Antonio Hotel.

"I am both honored and humbled to win such a prestigious award, but this is a recognition of all the work done at Crane, not work done by me alone," Capt. Elder said. "T2 is and will continue to be an important part of what we're doing here at NSWC Crane. Not only does T2 allow our current and former employees the opportunity to use intellectual property they're familiar with to build commercial products, but it also has a significant impact on the regional economy. I look forward to continuing to work with those in our T2 office as we strive to reach our goals."

Since assuming command in June



CAPT. JT ELDER

2014, Capt. Elder has helped elevate NSWC Crane's T2 program to an unprecedented level in terms of numbers of signed T2 agreements, strategic partnerships with state organizations, universities, and industry, and the size and quality of the lab's intellectual property (IP) portfolio. NSWC Crane currently has 152 signed T2 Agreements and 514 items in its IP portfolio.

"Capt. Elder has expanded and elevated the efforts started by his predecessors to work with the Office of Research and Technology Applications (ORTA) and transform Crane's T2 function into one of the lab's showcase areas of achievement," said Brooke Pyne, NSWC (See 'CRANE' continued on page 2)



"Wild Things"

-Photo provided

Kid's Self Defense will again be featured at the Martin County Safe Community Campaign Event on February 11 at the fairgrounds. The class, which is called "Wild Things", will teach kids techniques for staying safe and avoiding danger. The presentation will begin at 10:30 a.m. and be open to all kids 12 and under.

CRANE

(Continued from page one)

Crane's T2 director.

Capt. Elder's commitment to technology transfer is especially significant and noteworthy given the drastic reduction in the overhead budget for the T2 and patent program. During the fiscal year 2016, the T2 lab saw a 33 percent decrease in the number of people paid to support T2.

Instead of allowing the budget constraints to stunt the growth of the program, Capt. Elder did everything in his power to encourage more people to get involved with T2 at Crane.

"Capt. Elder continued to champion on the T2 program and has fostered a culture of innovation and collaboration within the lab," Pyne said. "Capt. Elder was able to meet the fiscal and organizational challenges through focused staff selections that provided a balanced team for the program. He promotes T2 whenever he speaks with an actual or potential industry partner, and he makes sure that the organizations understand the benefits of cooperative research and development agreements (CRADAs), as well as patents and patent licensing agreements (PLAs)."

Under Capt. Elder's leadership, NSWC Crane's IP portfolio has increased by over 40 percent, and Crane's CRADAs and PLAs have hit record numbers. In addition, the processing time for T2 agreements, which used to take multiple months, has been cut to just weeks.

Capt. Elder has helped the T2 program sustain such exceptional growth in a few key ways.

First, Capt. Elder combined the budgets for the patent prosecution and the ORTA, allowing for a central and strategic place for IP and T2 investment decisions to be made.

Next, Capt. Elder helped transfer a former NSWC Crane professional to the Indiana Office of Defense Development via the Intergovernmental Personnel Act (IPA), which maximized resources and provided additional exposure and opportunities for partnerships with regional and state organizations. Through the IPA, an external investment of \$1.1 million was made for T2 activities.

Capt. Elder also motivated the workforce to participate in the T2 program by overhauling the NSWC Crane Invention Incentive and Recognition Program. Capt. Elder communicated the importance of IP and T2 for the lab, which led to a renewed interest by scientists, engineers and leadership to participate in T2. The Incentive and Recognition Program includes a monetary award as well as an annual awards ceremony where Capt. Elder and the lab's Technical Director recognize innovators.

Finally, Capt. Elder has helped NSWC Crane's T2 program thrive by promoting the benefits of partnering with Crane during industry interchange meetings as well as visits from prospective partners in industry, academia and

state and local government. Capt. Elder has hosted visitors from Air Force Research Lab Rome as well as leadership from both NSWC Corona and Port Hueneme to share the lab's T2 philosophy and best practices.

Perhaps Capt. Elder's most significant contribution to NSWC Crane's T2 growth is his commitment to a successful relationship between the lab and Purdue University. During his tenure, Capt. Elder has arranged multiple Technical Data Exchange meetings between scientists and engineers at both Purdue and Crane to align strategic research and development topics. Purdue's Office of Technology Commercialization (OTC) developed over 100 marketing sheets for NSWC Crane patents.

RATE

(Continued from page one)

force participation rate remains above the national rate of 62.7 percent.

Indiana's Labor Force increased 28,419 with a 45,330 increase in employment and a 16,911 decrease in unemployment during 2016. This combination of employment growth and decreasing unemployment led to Indiana's unemployment rate falling from 4.6 percent to 4.0 percent over the course of the year.

"Indiana has experienced workforce growth in nearly all measurable areas during 2016; however, we still have work to do to reach our work-

"Capt. Elder's understanding of how such partners can provide mutual benefit to the organizations – as well as the state and region – has led to a number of new initiatives surrounding the relationship with Purdue," Pyne said. "This relationship is the perfect example of the impact Capt. Elder's leadership has had on NSWC Crane's T2 program."

NSWC Crane is a naval laboratory and a field activity of Naval Sea Systems Command (NAVSEA) with focus areas in Expeditionary Warfare, Strategic Missions and Electronic Warfare. The warfare center is responsible for multi-domain, multi-spectral, full life cycle support of technologies and systems enhancing capability to today's warfighter.

force potential as a state," said Steven J. Braun, Commissioner of the Indiana Department of Workforce Development (DWD). "Moving forward, it is essential for Indiana to develop and expand programs that equip Hoosiers with the skills necessary to fill the thousands of open positions available today and the one million jobs projected to be available over the next decade."

Commissioner Braun also noted private sector employment has grown by almost 23,000 over the year. He added that initial unemployment insurance claims remain at the lowest point in three decades.

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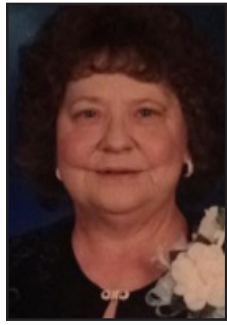
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SANDRA LENTS

Sandra Sue Lents passed away at 8:56 a.m., Monday, January 30, 2017, at Memorial Hospital and Health Care Center in Jasper. A resident of Huntingburg, she was 73.



She was born August 16, 1943, in Loogootee; daughter of John Lewis and Pauline (Birch) Lents. She formerly worked at Druther's Restaurant; was an animal lover, especially of cats; enjoyed going out with family and friends; and loved spending time with her granddaughter, Haley.

She is survived by her son and daughter-in-law, Jason (Amy) Lents of

Huntingburg; sister, Edna May (Donald) Hembree of Loogootee; brother, Paul Lents of Jasper; and granddaughter, Haley Lents.

She was preceded in death by her parents and one brother, James Lewis Lents.

Funeral services will be held at 7 p.m., E.S.T., this evening, Wednesday, February 1, at the Nass & Son Funeral Home in Huntingburg with Reverend Fr. Ryan Hilderbrand officiating. Burial will take place at St. John Catholic Church Cemetery in Loogootee at 10 a.m., Thursday morning, with Reverend Fr. Kenneth Walker officiating at the committal service.

Friends may call for visitation at the Nass & Son Funeral Home in Huntingburg from 3-7 p.m., on Wednesday. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions can be made

to the Dubois County Humane Society. Condolences may be shared online at www.nassandson.com.

RICHARD LANDERS

Richard Duane Landers passed away Sunday, January 29, 2017, at Memorial Hospital and Health Care Center, in Jasper. A resident of Shoals, he was 85.

He was born in Portland, Indiana, on November 8, 1931; son of the late Russell and Anna Zoe (Grider) Landers. He married Clara Louise Cooke and she preceded him in death on December 14, 2009.

He retired from U.S. Gypsum after over 36 years of dedication. He graduated from Paoli High School with the Class of 1950. In 1952, he joined the United States Army and served his country during the Korean War until being honorably discharged in 1954.

He was a member of the Shoals American Legion, Hanson McFee Post 61, and the Fraternal Order of Eagles No. 2442, both in Shoals.

Survivors include two daughters, Lois Marie Payne and Patricia Landers, both of Shoals; two sisters, Iris Walker, of Paoli, and Martha Combs, of Knoxville, Tennessee; three grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

He was also preceded in death by one brother, Douglas Landers; one son, Timothy Landers; one great-grandson, Rolen Wilson; and one son-in-law, Charles Junior Payne.

A funeral service was conducted by Brother Randy Stevens, today, Wednesday, February 1, at 1 p.m. at the Brosmer-Kemple Chapel, in French Lick. Burial will follow in the Moores Ridge Cemetery. Brosmer-Kemple Chapel was in charge of arrangements.

Toyota plans multi-million-dollar investment, new jobs in Indiana

Last Tuesday, Governor Eric Holcomb joined executives of Toyota Motor Manufacturing of Indiana (TMMI), which is one of only four Toyota automotive assembly facilities in the United States, as the company announced plans to invest \$600 million in its Princeton operations, creating up to 400 new jobs by the end of 2019.

"Indiana is home to the highest concentration of manufacturing jobs in the nation, and Hoosiers are building the

products that power our world every day," said Governor Holcomb. "For the past 20 years, Toyota has been providing good jobs and helping train tomorrow's workforce. I am proud that Toyota remains committed to Indiana, and I am confident that Indiana's pro-growth business climate and skilled Hoosier workforce will attract and retain more businesses to stay, invest, and grow in our state."

TMMI, which celebrated its 20th

anniversary last year, is the only location where the Highlander, Sequoia and Sienna are manufactured. The company will invest \$600 million to meet the strong and growing demand for the Highlander midsize SUV and to modernize TMMI's entire 4 million-square-foot plant. The investment will be used for retooling, new equipment and advanced technologies to make the plant more competitive. The project, which is scheduled to begin in 2019 with hiring beginning in late 2018, will increase its production of the Toyota Highlander by 40,000 vehicles annually.

TMMI employs more than 5,000 Hoosiers in Gibson County and supports approximately 80 suppliers across Indiana. According to Toyota's economic impact calculations, TMMI's presence in Indiana has led to the creation of 24,058 Hoosier jobs over the last 20 years. The company plans to begin hiring for new positions in late 2018 to support the increased production.

"The Highlander has been a great vehicle for our plant, and we are excited to deliver even more of them to our loyal customers," said Millie Marshall, president of TMMI. "This is a true testament to our team members and their dedication to producing quality vehicles."

Last week's news comes on the heels of Governor Holcomb's meeting with senior Toyota Motor North America (TMNA) and TMMI executives in Washington, D.C. last week to discuss the company's operations and continued growth in Indiana. This expansion is part of Toyota's localization strategy to build vehicles where they are sold. During the 2017 North American International Auto Show in early January, Jim Lentz, chief executive officer

of TMNA, announced that the company would invest \$10 billion in the U.S. over the next five years to make the company's existing plants even more competitive.

Since breaking ground in 1996, the Japan-based company has invested \$4.3 billion into its Princeton operations. Last year, the Indiana plant produced more than 400,000 units of the Toyota Highlander, Highlander Hybrid, Sienna and Sequoia – the highest in its 20-year history. This is the company's fourth significant expansion in recent years. TMMI consolidated all Highlander production to Indiana in 2012, added production of the Highlander Hybrid model in 2013, and announced plans to increase production of the Highlander by 30,000 vehicles per year in 2014. Since 2012, the company has created nearly 1,000 new jobs in Gibson County, meeting or surpassing all job creation commitments made to the state.

The Indiana Economic Development Corporation will offer TMMI training grants from the Skills Enhancement Fund to reimburse up to 50 percent of the company's eligible workforce training costs over a two-year period. These incentives are performance-based, meaning the company must provide workforce training to its employees in order to claim incentives.

TMMI is one of more than 260 Japanese business establishments in Indiana that together employ more than 53,000 Hoosiers. Among all U.S. states, Indiana has the largest amount of Japanese investment per capita and is the only U.S. state that is home to three Japanese automotive original equipment manufacturer (OEM) companies.

CLASSIFIED ADS

HELP WANTED

Laborer Position Available

The City of Loogootee Public Works Department is accepting applications for one full-time position. The opening is for a laborer's position within the Public Works Department. Requirements are, but not limited to: candidate must be a team player, willing to train in all areas, work outside in all seasons of weather year-round, lift and move heavy objects without difficulty, compute simple math problems, and have good communication skills. Candidate must know how to work with and around power tools, heavy equipment, and machinery in a safe manner. Candidates must have a high school diploma or equivalent and possess a valid Indiana driver's license, C.D.L. preferred but not required. Any accepted applicant must be able to pass a pre-employment drug screen and alcohol test and random testing thereafter. Advancement is possible with proper training and completion of State certification examinations. No experience necessary. Applications are available at the Loogootee Municipal Building, 401 J.F.K. Avenue, Loogootee IN 47553 or by calling 812-295-2497. Deadline for applications is FEBRUARY 13, 2017.

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Martin County Sheriff's Department log

MONDAY, JANUARY 23

9:05 a.m. - Jail Officer Emmick took one inmate back to the Rockville Correctional Facility.

10:00 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Ambulance transported the subject to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

1:04 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance east of Shoals. Shoals Fire and Martin County Ambulance responded. The subject was transported to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

4:58 p.m. - Received a report of an accident east of Shoals on SR 150. Shoals Fire and Sheriff Roush responded.

6:56 p.m. - Received a report of a car-deer accident north of Loogootee on US 231. ISP Trooper Weir responded.

7:56 p.m. - Received a report of a car-deer accident east of Shoals. Deputy Reed responded.

11:13 p.m. - Received a report of a reckless driver on US 50, east of Loogootee. Loogootee Officer Baker responded.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 24

3:20 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance north of Shoals. Martin County Ambulance and Williams Fire responded. The subject was transported to Daviess Community Hospital.

6:10 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. Loogootee Chief Rayhill and Martin County Ambulance responded. The subject was transported to Daviess Community Hospital.

9:00 a.m. - Captain Dant took two inmates to court.

1:30 p.m. - Captain Dant took three inmates to court.

2:20 a.m. - Received a request for medical equipment help in Shoals. Shoals Fire responded.

4:44 p.m. - Received a request for a welfare check east of Shoals. Captain Dant responded and everything was okay.

5:45 p.m. - Reserve Deputy Commander Gammon, Reserve Deputy Graves, and Town Marshal Eckert assisted Duke Energy with traffic control on US 50, west of Shoals due to the power outage.

8:24 p.m. - Deputy Reed assisted a motorist near Shoals.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 25

9:26 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance near Loogootee. Loogootee Fire and Martin County Ambulance responded. The subject was transported to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

10:00 a.m. - Captain Dant took one inmate to court.

1:05 p.m. - Captain Dant took one inmate to court.

1:30 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance near Loogootee. Martin County Ambulance responded but did not transport.

2:19 p.m. - Captain Dant took three inmates to court.

3:12 p.m. - Received a dog complaint in Loogootee. Loogootee Chief Rayhill responded.

4:06 p.m. - Major Burkhardt performed a vehicle identification check near Shoals.

5:36 p.m. - Received a report of a break-in in Crane Major Burkhardt responded.

6:13 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Ambulance transported the

subject to Daviess Community Hospital.

7:20 p.m. - Received a request for a welfare check near Shoals. Major Burkhardt responded and everything was okay.

9:25 p.m. - Received a report of a suspicious subject in Loogootee. Deputy Shinn, Town Marshal Eckert, and Loogootee Sergeant Norris responded.

11:51 p.m. - Received a report of threats in Loogootee. Sergeant Norris responded.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 26

7:20 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Ambulance and Loogootee Fire responded. No one was transported.

10:00 a.m. - Captain Dant took three inmates to court.

10:45 a.m. - Received a report of an injured animal north of Shoals. ICO Mann responded.

12:57 p.m. - Captain Dant took three inmates to court.

1:45 p.m. - Major Burkhardt took three inmates to court.

4:44 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance near Shoals. Martin County Ambulance and Shoals Fire responded.

7:20 p.m. - Received a report of a domestic situation near Shoals. Major Burkhardt responded.

7:26 p.m. - Major Burkhardt assisted a motorist south of Loogootee.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 27

1:28 a.m. - Received a report of a domestic situation near Shoals. Town Marshal Eckert, Deputy Shinn, and Loogootee Sergeant Norris responded.

8:28 a.m. - Jail Commander Abel took one inmate to the doctor.

11:40 a.m. - Jail Commander Abel took one inmate to the Tippecanoe County Jail.

12:25 p.m. - Received a dog complaint in Loogootee. Loogootee Officer Baker responded.

1:20 p.m. - Major Burkhardt took one inmate to court.

1:20 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Shoals. Shoals Fire and Martin County Ambulance responded. The subject was transported to Daviess Community Hospital.

5:40 p.m. - Received an alarm call in Loogootee. Loogootee Officer Baker responded and all was okay.

11:10 p.m. - Received a report of a theft in Loogootee. Loogootee Sergeant Norris responded.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 28

6:05 a.m. - Received a report of theft in Loogootee. Loogootee Officer Dant responded.

7:07 a.m. - Received a report of a domestic situation near Shoals. Sergeant Keller and Loogootee Officer Dant responded.

7:24 a.m. - Received a report of a suspicious person in Loogootee. Loogootee Officer Dant responded.

9:00 a.m. - Received a report of a house fire near Shoals. Shoals Fire, Martin County Civil Defense, Martin County Ambulance, and Lawrence County Fire responded.

11:24 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Shoals. Martin County Ambulance responded but did not transport.

4:30 p.m. - Received a request for a welfare check east of Loogootee. Loogootee Officer Baker responded and all was okay.

6:40 p.m. - Received a report of a

reckless driver in Shoals. Town Marshal Eckert responded.

6:54 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance east of Shoals. Shoals Fire and Martin County Ambulance responded. The subject was transported to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

ARRESTS

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 25

3:52 p.m. - Lester Brummett, 45, of Loogootee, was arrested by Major Burkhardt on a warrant and is being held without bond.

10:08 p.m. - Steven Davidson, 29, of Loogootee, was arrested by Deputy Shinn and charged with public intoxication and is being held without bond.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 27

10:47 a.m. - Jeremi Jones, 34, of Loogootee, was arrested by Deputy Shinn and Reserve Officer Harmon and charged with invasion of privacy and is being held on a \$20,000 10% bond. Assisting with the arrest were Town Marshal Eckert and Loogootee Sergeant Norris.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 28

5:18 p.m. - Dakota Conrad, 22, of Winslow, was arrested by ISP Trooper Beaver on a warrant and is being held without bond.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 29

1:39 a.m. - Trista Strange, 26, of Loogootee, was arrested by Deputy Shinn and charged with operating while intoxicated and is being held on a \$20,000 10% bond. Assisting with the arrest were Deputy Reed and K9 Officer Yirka.

Martin County real estate transfers

Michael J. Guy, of Martin County, Indiana to **John E. Day**, of Dubois County, Indiana, Lot Number 33 in Roger's Addition to the City of Loogootee, Indiana.

Dan McCarty and Jean McCarty, of Martin County, Indiana to **Duane Michael Hiatt and Nancy May Hiatt**, of Hamilton County, Indiana, the southeast quarter of the northeast quarter of Section 3, Township 4 North, Range 3 West, containing 40 acres, more or less. Also, all that part of the southwest quarter of the northeast quarter of Section 3, Township 4 North, Range 3 West that lies east and south of the public road leading from Harrisonville to Silversville, containing 10 acres, more or less. Also, a part of the northeast quarter of the southeast quarter and a part of the northwest quarter of the southeast quarter of Section 3, Township 4 North, Range 3 West, containing 7 acres, more or less.

Cody Alexander Greene and Amber Elizabeth Greene, of Martin County, Indiana to **Ryan Lengacher**, of Martin County, Indiana, a parcel of land in the town, now City of Loogootee, Indiana.

Michael L. Bays and Nicole D. Bays, of Martin County, Indiana to **Bruce Fithian and Julie Fithian**, of Martin County, Indiana, Lot Number 12 in the First North Addition in the City of Loogootee, Indiana. Also, Lot Number 13 in the First North Addition to the Town, now City of Loogootee, Indiana.

Michael J. McAtee to **Jason E. Weidenbenner and Lois D. Weidenbenner**, a part of the southeast quarter of the southwest quarter of Section 12, Township 2 North, Range 5 West, Per-

7:03 p.m. - Received a report of a reckless driver south of Loogootee. Deputy Reed, Loogootee Officer Baker, and ISP Trooper Beaver responded. Everything was okay.

7:35 p.m. - Received a report of an accident south of Loogootee. Deputy Reed, ISP Trooper Beaver, LPD Officer Baker, and Martin County Ambulance responded. No one was transported.

7:40 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. Dubois County Ambulance responded and transported the subject to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

11:53 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance near Shoals. Shoals Fire and Martin County Ambulance responded. The subject was transported to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 29

12:19 p.m. - Received a report of a domestic situation near Shoals. Sergeant Keller and Loogootee Officer McBeth responded.

4:35 p.m. - Received a report of an accident east of Shoals on Hwy 150. Shoals Fire and ISP Trooper Beaver responded.

4:35 p.m. - Received a request for lift assistance west of Shoals. Shoals Fire responded.

7:05 p.m. - Received report of two car-deer accidents south of Loogootee on US 231. Deputy Reed responded.

7:56 p.m. - Received a report of an accident east of Shoals on Hwy 150. Deputy Reed, Shoals Fire, and Martin County Ambulance responded. No one was transported.

ry Township, Martin County, Indiana, containing 2 acres, more or less.

Absalom F. Williams, of Monroe County, Indiana to **Kevin L. Bruno and Susan A. Bruno**, of Marion County, Indiana, a part of the northwest quarter of Section 25, Township 4 North, Range 3 West, Mitcheltree Township, Martin County, Indiana, containing 40.824 acres, more or less.

Randall Yoder a/k/a Randell Yoder, of Martin County, Indiana to **Randell Yoder and Wanda Yoder**, of Martin County, Indiana, Lot Number 12 in Block "E" in the Loogootee Land Company's Addition to the City of Loogootee, Indiana. Also, Lot Number 11 in Block "E" in the Loogootee Land Company's Addition to the City of Loogootee, Indiana.

Janice R. Ramsey, of Henry County, Georgia to **Tory C. Stinson**, of Lawrence County, Indiana, part of the east one-half of the southeast quarter of Section 15, Township 4 North, Range 3 West, containing 2.32 acres, more or less.

Melissa Dawn Carrico, of Martin County, Indiana to **Michael C. Poole**, of Martin County, Indiana, a part of Section 24, Township 3 North, Range 5 West, containing 0.25 acre, more or less.

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Loogootee Police log

MONDAY, JANUARY 23

5:56 a.m. - County advised their officer was involved with an officer involved shooting.

8:30 a.m. - Caller reported a student had stolen some items at the elementary school. Chief Rayhill filed charges on a male juvenile.

12:30 a.m. - Caller reported two suspicious persons on Poplar Street.

12:35 p.m. - First responders were requested for lifting assistance.

10:22 p.m. - Caller requested an officer in regards to a mental health issue.

11:13 p.m. - Received a report of a possible intoxicated driver westbound on Hwy 50.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 24

6:10 a.m. - Officer and the ambulance service were dispatched for a female with some mental health issues.

10:30 a.m. - Caller requested an officer for a security check at a residence.

2:30 p.m. - Caller reported a front door open at a residence on North Line Street.

4:51 p.m. - Caller reported a reckless driver on Hwy 50.

5:52 p.m. - Caller reported a suspicious vehicle on US 231.

8:32 p.m. - Caller reported property damage on Bloomfield Road.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 25

3:12 p.m. - Received a report of a loose dog on West Washington Street. The humane society picked the dog up.

9:45 p.m. - Caller reported a phone scam.

9:50 p.m. - Caller reported a possible intoxicated person in Marathon.

11:24 p.m. - Received a report of a 911 hang-up on Doyle Avenue.

11:51 p.m. - Female reported receiving threats.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 26

12:02 a.m. - Caller reported harassment.

7:20 a.m. - First responders were requested on Lincoln Avenue for a medical call.

12:45 p.m. - Caller requested an offi-

cer contact a resident reference a stolen vehicle.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 27

1:28 p.m. - Caller reported a violation of a protective order.

11:40 a.m. - Caller reported phone harassment.

12:25 p.m. - Caller reported a dog complaint.

2:53 p.m. - Caller reported a possible battery.

5:41 p.m. - Officer Baker responded to a business alarm.

9:21 p.m. - Caller reported possible drug activity.

9:45 p.m. - Sgt. Norris assisted the county with a traffic stop.

11:10 p.m. - Caller reported a theft of medication.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 28

6:05 a.m. - Female reported a theft of medication.

7:07 a.m. - Officer Dant assisted the county with a domestic dispute on Mill Road.

7:24 a.m. - Caller reported a suspicious person on Poplar Street.

4:25 p.m. - Caller requested a welfare check on a female.

4:44 p.m. - Caller requested a welfare check on a male on Hwy 50.

4:57 p.m. - Officer Baker assisted the county with a traffic stop.

7:03 p.m. - Received a report of a reckless driver on US 231. Driver checked out okay.

7:26 p.m. - Male requested a vehicle identification check.

7:34 p.m. - First responders were requested on US 231 for a vehicle accident.

9:09 p.m. - Caller reported suspicious vehicle in the St. John's Cemetery. Persons checked out okay.

10:12 p.m. - Caller requested a welfare check on two children.

10:20 p.m. - Officer Baker assisted the county on a traffic stop.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 29

1:21 a.m. - Officer Baker assisted a motorist.

1:50 a.m. - Officer Baker assisted the county with a traffic stop.

8:39 a.m. - Caller reported a dog complaint.

12:08 p.m. - Caller reported her two-month-old German Shepard missing.

12:19 p.m. - Officer McBeth assisted the county with a domestic dispute.

5:00 p.m. - Captain Hennette responded to a domestic dispute.

10:15 p.m. - Officer Baker responded to a dispute on East Broadway Street.

COURT NEWS

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

CRIMINAL CONVICTIONS AND SENTENCING

January 12

J. Paul Keller, convicted of possession of marijuana, a Class B Misdemeanor and operating a vehicle with a schedule I or II controlled substance or its metabolite in the body, a Class C Misdemeanor. Sentenced to serve 180 days with 178 days suspended and credit for 1 actual day previously served plus 1 good time credit day. Defendant received 9 months of probation.

January 17

Dylan T. Beyers, convicted of possession of methamphetamine, a Class 5 Felony. Sentenced to serve 2 years with the Indiana Department of Corrections with 0 days suspended and credit for 236 actual days previously served plus 79 Class B credit days.

Kaitlynn A. Powers, convicted of theft, a Class 6 Felony. Sentenced to serve 365 days with 353 days suspended and credit for 6 actual days previously served plus 6 good time credit days. Defendant received 11 months of probation.

January 23

Jeremy J. Gauwitz, convicted of operating a vehicle while intoxicated endangering a person, a Class A Misdemeanor. Sentenced to serve 365 days with 343 days suspended and credit for 11 actual days previously served plus 11 Class A credit days. Defendant received 11 months of probation.

Zachary R. Woolsey, convicted of possession of marijuana, a Class B Misdemeanor and convicted of operating a vehicle with a schedule I or II controlled substance or its metabolite in the body, a Class C Misdemeanor. Sentenced to serve 196 days (180 days on possession of marijuana and 16 days on operating a vehicle with a schedule I or II controlled substance or its metabolite in the body) with 164 days suspended and credit for 8 actual days previously served plus 8 Class A credit days. Defendant received 5 months of probation.

CRIMINAL CHARGES DISMISSED

January 12

J. Paul Keller, maintaining a common nuisance – controlled substance, a Class 6 Felony, dismissed; operating a vehicle while intoxicated, a Class C Misdemeanor, dismissed; possession of paraphernalia, a Class C Misdemeanor, dismissed.

January 17

Dylan T. Beyers, dealing in methamphetamine, a Class 3 Felony, dismissed; maintaining a common nuisance, a Class 6 Felony, dismissed;

possession of paraphernalia, a Class C Misdemeanor, dismissed.

January 23

Jeremy J. Gauwitz, maintaining a common nuisance – controlled substances, a Class 6 Felony, dismissed; operating a vehicle with a schedule I or II controlled substance or its metabolite in the body, a Class C Misdemeanor, dismissed; possession of marijuana, a Class B Misdemeanor, dismissed.

Zachary R. Woolsey, maintaining a common nuisance – controlled substances, a Class 6 Felony, dismissed; operating a vehicle without ever receiving a license, a Class C Misdemeanor, dismissed.

CIVIL COURT

New Suits Filed

January 18

Centurion Federal Credit Union vs. Adrienne Johnson and Markie Johnson, civil collection.

Crane Federal Credit Union vs. David L. Winger and Brittany R. Winger, civil collection.

Monica A. Robbins vs. Daniel J. Jackson, domestic relations no children.

January 19

White River Cooperative vs. Barry K. Chastain, civil collection.

January 23

Samantha Steward vs. Daniel Steward, domestic relations no children.

CIVIL COURT JUDGMENTS

January 6

Judgment in favor of the plaintiff First Financial Bank and against the defendant Chester E. Hembree, Sr. in the amount of \$4,682.64.

January 26

Judgment in favor of the plaintiff Midland Funding, LLC and against the defendant Veronica Bourassa in the amount of \$1,172.78.

Judgment in favor of the plaintiff Discover Bank and against the defendant Robert White in the amount of \$11,281.40.

SMALL CLAIMS COURT

New Suits Filed

January 18

Crane Credit Union vs. Daniel J. Jackson, complaint.

Crane Credit Union vs. Charles St. Clair, complaint.

Crane Credit Union vs. Roy W. Atkinson and Cori E. Atkinson, complaint.

SMALL CLAIMS JUDGMENTS

January 24

Judgment in favor of the plaintiff Isha E. Wright-Ryan and against the defendant Erin K. Hawkins in the amount of \$3,760.33.

Judgment in favor of the plaintiff White River Cooperative, Inc. and against the defendant Autumn B. Johnson in the amount of \$1,412.79.

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More Neat Stuff

By Ann Ackerman



Thanks to my friend, Judy Treffinger, who sent me the following quiz, your brain might get a little exercise. Don't cheat. The answers are at the end of the article.

QUIZ FOR MY VERY BRIGHT FRIENDS

This is a quiz for people who know everything. I found out in a hurry that I didn't. These are not trick questions. They are straight questions with straight answers.

1. Name the one sport in which neither the spectators nor the participants know the score or the leader until the contest ends.
2. What famous North American landmark is constantly moving backward?
3. Of all vegetables, only two can live to produce on their own for several growing seasons. All other vegetables must be replanted every year. What are the only two perennial vegetables?
4. What fruit has its seeds on the

outside?

5. In many liquor stores, you can buy pear brandy, with a real pear inside the bottle. The pear is whole and ripe, and the bottle is genuine; it hasn't been cut in any way. How did the pear get inside the bottle?

6. Only three words in standard English begin with the letters 'dw' and they are all common words. Name two of them.

7. There are 14 punctuation marks in English grammar. Can you name at least half of them?

8. Name the only vegetable or fruit that is never sold frozen, canned, processed, cooked, or in any other form except fresh.

9. Name 6 or more things that you can wear on your feet beginning with the letter 'S'.

ANATOMY OF A BASSET HOUND:

- Hair: Sheds once a year for 365 days
- Ears: Selective hearing device
- Tongue: Used to provide endless amounts of kisses
- Bum: Methane gas production unit
- Nose: Used to smell treats up to 10 miles away
- Mouth: Primarily used for slobbering, drooling, and snoring
- Heart: Made of pure gold
- Ears: Used to fly away in windy conditions

RANDOM THOUGHTS:

1. The hardest thing about learning to ride a horse is the ground.
2. If you are the baby of the family, feel honored. It means your parents finally made the perfect child so they stopped at you. (Writer's note: the same could be said if you're the only girl in the family. Just sayin')
3. I love being over 50. I learn something every day – and forget 5 others.
4. I have no inner child. I have an inner old person who wants everyone to be quiet.

ANSWERS TO QUIZ:

1. Boxing
2. Niagara Falls ... The rim is worn down about two and a half feet each year because of the millions of gallons of water that rush over it every minute.
3. Asparagus and rhubarb.
4. Strawberry.
5. It grew inside the bottle. The bottles are placed over pear buds when they are small, and are wired in place on the tree. The bottle is left in place for the entire growing season. When the pears are ripe, they are snipped off at the stems.
6. Dwarf, dwell and dwindle
7. Period, comma, colon, semicolon, dash, hyphen, apostrophe, question mark, exclamation point, quotation mark, brackets, parenthesis, braces, and ellipses.
8. Lettuce
9. Shoes, socks, sandals, sneakers, slippers, skis, skates, snowshoes, stockings, stilts.

Make someone smile today!

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

County council executive meeting

The Martin County Council will meet in executive session on Monday, February 6 at 5:30 p.m. in the commissioners' meeting room of the courthouse. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss personnel records classified as confidential by state and federal statutes as authorized by I.C. 5-14-1.5-5.1(b)(7). The meeting is closed to the public.

SOAR tutor training

Martin County SOAR will have new tutor training on Monday, February 6 from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. The second class will be on Wednesday, February 8, at the same times. Anyone interested in working with SOAR as a tutor can contact 812-709-1618 or email martincountysoar@hotmail.com.

City council executive meeting

The Loogootee City Council will meet in executive session on Wednesday February 8 at 1 p.m. in the council meeting room of the municipal building, 401 JFK Avenue, Loogootee. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss potential litigation and is pursuant to I.C. 5-14-1.5-6.1(b)(2). The meeting is closed to the public.

Online survey needs your input

Share your opinions about local housing needs through the Martin County Housing survey (available online at: <https://purdue.qualtrics.com/SouthernIndianaHousingDemandSurvey>). Don't miss your chance to be heard! If you have already recently answered housing-related questions via a phone survey, please do not answer the same questions using this web-based link (in order to avoid duplication). All responses are voluntary and anonymous. The deadline for providing feedback is February 15, 2017. The information you provide will guide decision-makers as they explore ways to expand local housing options.

Sunday nights of revival

New Beginnings Community Church and Maranatha Tabernacle Church are holding 14 continuous Sunday nights of revival starting January 8 through April 9, 2017. The "Code Blue" (start your heart with God) revival meetings begin at 6 p.m. (EST) each Sunday night and meet at Maranatha Tabernacle Church, 13111 Hwy 231 N., Loogootee. Special revival speakers and worship bands will participate each month. For additional information, contact Pastor Ernie at 812-709-0258 or Pastor Duane at 812-295-4349.

Attention Senior Citizens

The Loogootee Senior Citizen Center, located in the Annex building attached to JFK Gym on JFK Avenue in Loogootee provides activities for seniors every Monday and Thursday from 8 a.m. to noon. For \$5 a year, seniors can participate in Euchre tournaments, games, puzzles, etc., with other local seniors. Anyone interested is welcome to stop by, there are no age or residency requirements to participate.

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!

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 5:30 p.m. Members of the humane society are invited to attend.

Solid waste board

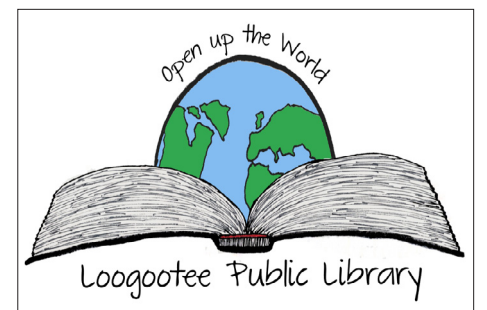
The Martin County Solid Waste Board holds their monthly meetings on the third Wednesday of each month at 6 p.m. at the recycling center located at 500 Industrial Park Drive in Loogootee. The meetings are open to the public and anyone is invited to attend.

Tourism meetings

The MCCC Tourism Committee meets on the third Wednesday of each month at 7 p.m. at Loughmiller Machine, 12851 E 150 N, Loogootee. 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

Each year, I am required to complete an Indiana Libraries Annual Report with data generated from the Evergreen Indiana database that the Indiana State Library provides to me and other data I record in-house. I have been sharing the total monthly usage but this is the total programs the library provides annually.

2010 – total programs: 20; program attendance: 494

2016 – total programs: 145; program attendance: 5,593

New Books:

Mystery: "Rather Be the Devil" by Ian Rankin, "Right Behind You" by Lisa Gardner, and "Drowning Tides" by Karen Harper.

Inspirational Fiction: "Always Close to Home" by Jerry Eicher, "Home at Last" by Deborah Raney, and "Raging Storm" by Vannetta Chapman.

NEW DVDs: "PBS: Dropout Nation", "PBS: The Anonymous People", "PBS: Serving Life", and "PBS: Poor Kids".

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.



Please mark your calendars for Saturday, February 11 for our Valentine's Day Specials!

We will be decorated for a special evening along with some special dishes prepared by Chef Buck.

Make your plans to celebrate your Valentine with us!

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Making A Difference

MARTIN COUNTY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

By Curt Johnson
MCCF Executive Director



Last week I discussed things you need to consider when developing your charitable giving plan. So, once you've given good thought to the details of your plan, what's next?

-- ADVISORS CAN HELP --

Professional advisors can be invaluable guides in helping you plan and execute your charitable giving. When they are fully apprised of your values, interests and intentions, advisors can give detailed information on your giving options and how these options will work in your specific financial situation. They can also project how each option will affect your tax savings and legacy planning.

-- TYPES OF ADVISORS --

The type of advisor and expertise you most need may depend, in part, on the kinds of giving options you'd like to examine in depth. Most importantly is the level of trust and care you receive as a client.

When planning charitable giving, people most often work with one or more of the following types of professional advisors:

- Attorney
- Accountant
- Estate Planner
- Financial Planner
- Stock Broker
- Insurance Broker
- Philanthropy Consultant (may be part of the above, but focuses solely on helping with charitable giving)
- Planned Giving Officer (works for the nonprofits who would accept your donation and can provide good infor-

mation for your advisors).

-- SELECTING --

Because advisors have different expertise and services, you may get a variety of opinions about your next steps. You need to find the right match of skills and personality to meet your needs. Talk to your friends, family and others to learn about the advisor's experience in helping others make determinations about their values and giving style. You can also interview potential advisors about their expertise in the areas you are considering.

-- ADVISOR TRAITS --

While you are considering who your advisor(s) will be, keep in mind that donors such as yourself are typically most satisfied with their advisors when the advisor:

- Discusses philanthropy with them in detail, asks questions, and listens.
- Makes philanthropy a discussion about life goals, rather than about estate planning and mortality.
- Keeps the giving plan simple and/or limits discussions of complex giving vehicles to the top few options.
- Treats the plan as a vehicle for giving rather than as a financial product they are selling.
- Is a giver themselves.
- Knows when to look for additional help rather than trying to be an expert on all aspects of giving and family dynamics.

-- IT'S YOUR CHOICE --

Since charitable giving plans deal with personal and sometimes sensitive issues, it is important that you work with an advisor with whom you feel absolutely comfortable. When it comes to narrowing the field, trust your instincts.

-- MORE INFORMATION --

For more information about the MCCF endowment funds and how we can help you develop your charitable giving plan, please contact the Executive Director, Curt Johnson, at 812-295-1022 or mccf@cfpartner.org.

You are also welcome to visit our website at www.cfpartner.org/mccf.htm, follow us on Twitter at www.twitter.com/MartinCountyCF, and "like" the MCCF Facebook page at www.facebook.com/mcccommunityfoundation.

ANIMAL SHELTER Pet of the Week



Gabriella is a female tiger stripe cat, around 2 years old, very sweet and is fine with other cats. She is spayed and up to date on shots. Adoption fee is \$40. The animal shelter is open Monday and Wednesday 5-7 p.m. and Saturday 11 a.m.-2 p.m. The shelter is located at 507 N. Oak Street in Loogootee.

Tri Kappa holds monthly meeting

On Tuesday, January 24, a Delta Tau Chapter meeting was held at the Loogootee United Methodist Church. Hostesses were Tiffany Lingenfelter, Shawna Walton, Melissa Courter and Karen Slaven. President Barb McFeaters opened the meeting. Audrey Robinson called the roll call in the absence of Renee Street.

The December 13th minutes were sent in an email. They were approved with no corrections.

The following correspondence was read by Brittany Lyons: A letter from Province III Officer Autumn Baughman thanking the group for their recent chapter review and the wonderful hospitality; a thank you card from Superintendent Chip Mehaffey for the donation to the emergency backpack project at the Loogootee Schools; and a Christmas card from the Martin County Community Foundation.

The treasurer's report was given by Dena Lyon. Audrey Robinson reported on the local scholarship available on the high school websites and the state scholarship deadline coming up February 1. Dena Lyon reported that she delivered Christmas to ResCare residents.

Members brought goodies for the college care packages and the emergency personnel appreciation baskets. College care packages will be mailed the second week of February and the emergency personnel baskets will be hand delivered.

A social event is being planned for Tri Kappa's on March 14. They will

be going to eat supper and then to see the Passion at Antioch in Washington.

Audrey Robinson sent around a sign-up sheet for Top Ten Dinner. The Top 10 Dinner will be held March 19, 2017 from 4-6 p.m. at the Loogootee United Methodist Church.

Ashley Graber is working on Tri Kappa Week. The celebrated week is February 19-25th.

Judy Kluesner sent a report that there are still a few English Walnuts and pecan pieces.

Nancy Whitman still has birthday calendars. Thank you to Nancy Whitman, Pam Loughmiller and their committee for the work it takes for this project. This project, along with Judy Kluesner's nut sales, are Tri Kappa's top two fundraisers that enable them to support so many programs in their budget each year.

Karen Slaven is the new Director of SOAR. She gave a report on SOAR. SOAR helps Martin County adults ages 24-64. They provide one-on-one tutoring. They provide books to many organizations and the elementary students in Martin County. They help adults get their GED and get their National Accreditation to Work. SOAR funding comes from organizations like Tri Kappa. There is no federal funding.

Hostesses were thanked for the desserts and decorations. The next meeting is Tuesday, February 28, 2017 at the Loogootee United Methodist Church at 7 p.m.

The meeting was adjourned.

Radius Indiana begins 2017 outreach in Chicago

A team from Radius Indiana met with site selectors and business advisers in Chicago this month to share the advantages of doing business in the Radius region.

This is the first visit in a series of economic development trips that Radius has planned for 2017, and continues on the successful outreach program the organization began in 2016. Ensuring that decision makers know about the area's offerings is a primary focus for Radius Indiana, the regional partnership representing Crawford, Daviess, Dubois, Greene, Lawrence, Martin, Orange, and Washington counties.

Mayor Joe Wellman, of Washington, and Ron Arnold, executive director of the Daviess County Economic Development Corporation, joined Radius Indiana President and CEO Jeff Quyle during the trip. The group met with commercial and industrial realtors, and accounting firms to discuss potential opportunities in the Radius region.

"We are continually working to create as many connections as possible with those on the front lines looking for sites," said Arnold. "Our region is well positioned in terms of infrastructure and available sites to be a top contender for companies looking to expand or relocate in Indiana."

During their visit, the Radius team shared a review of projects that occurred in the region in 2016. Also, part of the group's discussions were available sites in the region, incentives for businesses in a variety of industry sectors, and the \$42 million Southwest Central Indiana Initiative, and the regional focus on workforce training and development.

"Networking and building relationships with businesses is very important to having successful development in our region," Mayor Wellman said.

Washington recently became the home to M&C Tech, the first Japanese manufacturer to locate a facility in the Radius region.

Radius Indiana will partner with additional Local Economic Development Organizations from the region's respective counties for future visits in Indiana and other states across the country.

Shoals Little League registration

Shoals Little League sign-ups will be February 11, February 18, and February 25 at The River Church from 9 a.m.-11 a.m. Sign-up fees are \$35 for the first child and \$20 for each additional child. Teams will be picked at the beginning of March and your child's coach will contact you about practice.

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The 2017 All America Selections have been announced and three winners in the edibles category have been receiving a lot of attention. Like all selections, these crops have been tested by a panel of professionals in various locations across North America. To be awarded the prestigious AAS label, a plant must prove to have extraordinary traits and perform well in a wide variety of climates.

One of the AAS edibles selections could have also been in the ornamental category. Okra Candle Fire F1 is a beautiful as it is tasty. While there have been red okra varieties for many years, most have been more of a burgundy color. Candle Fire is truly bright red. The fruits also lack the spines usually associated with okra, resulting in actual round sections when sliced. The flowers, which are a hibiscus relative, are attractive and the plants look great in the back of a mixed border or as the center of an island bed. The trials gave very high marks for taste, texture, tenderness, productivity and disease resistance. Even if you are not a fan of okra as a vegetable, this might be a good plant to try for its ornamental value. The pods hold a red color as they dry and look great in dried bouquets. The seeds may be ground and used as a caffeine-free coffee substitute.

Container gardening has become popular in recent years. People who live in apartments but still want to

grow at least some of their own food have been trying to grow fruits, vegetables and herbs in containers on roofs and balconies. Plant breeders have paid attention and many plants have been developed specifically for being grown in containers. Squash Winter Honeybaby F1 is such a plant. The vines for this squash grow to only two to three feet long, making it a good selection for container growing or for use in small gardens. The butternut-style squashes got good remarks for taste and the tough skin was praised for long storage and good protection from insect damage.

Another compact plant receiving accolades is the Watermelon Mini Love F1. Despite vines of only three to four feet long, Mini Love routinely set up to six fruits per plant. The melons are of the traditional ice-box variety and are thin-skinned with sweet red flesh. Mini Love received excellent ratings for flavor and production. The shorter vines are perfect for growing on a small trellis in a pot or in a small garden.

Besides these selections which received national good ratings, there were several other winners of regional awards. The full reports are available on the All America Selections web site. I warn you to give yourself a couple of hours to explore the site. Besides notes on the various trials, the site includes recipes using the selected fruits, vegetables and herbs.

USDA reports sizzling numbers for 2016 Indiana popcorn crop

The Indiana popcorn harvest exploded in 2016, with yields up by nearly 30 percent compared with 2015.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture reports that total production was up 45 percent from 2015 to a record 4.46 million hundredweight of popcorn, or nearly 500 million pounds. The total crop value was \$71.4 million, compared to \$50.7 million in 2015.

Wet conditions in the spring and summer raised fears that the ear-

ly-season damage of 2015 would be repeated, but the weather was warmer and drier than normal at the end of the growing season, creating perfect conditions for the record-setting crop.

“Our most recent record-setting year was 2014, but the 2016 production numbers and acres planted and harvested are quite a bit higher than that year, with the yield being identical,” said Greg Matli, state statistician for the Indiana field office of the USDA’s National Agricultural Statistics Service. “The moisture conditions ended up sustaining the crop through the entire growing season.” The current data series is from 1992 to date.

Producers planted 94,000 acres in 2016, 9,000 more than the previous year, and harvested 93,000 acres, an increase of 10,000 acres. Price per hundredweight was lower in 2016 at \$16 per hundredweight, compared to \$16.50 in 2015 and \$18.90 in 2014.

The full USDA report is available at www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics_by_State/Indiana/Publications/Current_News_Release/2017/nr1704in.pdf

Spring Mill SP hosts wet felting workshop

Learn the art of wet felting and meet new people during a workshop at Spring Mill State Park, February 15.

Participants will use the technique to take wool and water and create a bag that can be used as a clutch, cosmetic bag or a multipurpose bag.

The workshop runs from 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at Spring Mill Inn. All supplies are provided. Participants should bring a towel to transport their damp bag home.

The workshop includes a buffet lunch at the inn’s Millstone dining room.

Only 12 spots are available, and pre-registration is required by February 14 by calling (812) 849-4508. The cost is \$32 per person.

For more information, email springmillstatepark@dnr.IN.gov

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



Migration

-Photo by Bill Whorrall, www.billwhorrallart.com

Photographer Bill Whorrall captured thousands of starlings, grackles and red wings migrating back to their home in preparation of spring. Migrating birds can cover thousands of miles in their annual travels, often traveling the same course year after year with little deviation.

4-H NEWS

By Stacy Brown
Martin County Purdue
Extension Educator

Club Meetings
 Shooting Sports—Shooting Sports is becoming its own club. Please join us for meetings every 2nd and 4th of the month at 6 p.m. at the Martin County Community Building starting January 9.

Horse and Pony--
 Monday, February 6, 6:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m. at Martin County Learning Center
 Monday, March 13, 6:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m. at Martin County Learning Center
 Monday, April 3, 6:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m. at Martin County Community Building
Junior Leaders Pampered Chef Fundraiser

The Martin County 4-H Junior Leaders are raising funds to go on an overnight trip. The first of their fundraisers this year is through Pampered Chef. The club will receive 15 percent of all sales. Their goal is to sell \$5,000 in products. They will be hosting a Pampered Chef party on Sunday, February 12 at 4 p.m. at the fairgrounds. The public is welcome! We will be making recipes from the 4-H Foods project manuals. If you would like to order online, please visit <https://pamperedchef.com/go/jrleaders>.

Camps, Conferences, & Trips
 Recently application of interest forms for state camps, conferences, and trips were sent to all 4-H families. If you are thinking of attending any of these events, please fill out the form and send it back to the Extension Office. More information will be sent to you as it becomes available.

Become a Volunteer

Volunteers for 4-H have the unique opportunity to grow true leaders in our community. Volunteering can be as active as leading a 4-H club or just helping out at fair time. Volunteers learn educational programs to take out to community youth. If you are interested in becoming a volunteer, please call the Purdue Extension Martin County office at (812) 295-2412.

Opportunities to Help 4-H Grow in Martin County

Almost everyone in Martin County has either been involved in 4-H or knows someone who has been a part of this great youth organization. Over the years, 4-H has helped to develop life skills, teach responsibility, offer opportunities, award scholarships, and much more to Martin County youth. The program has been growing true leaders since its inception and many 4-Hers have gone on to become actual leaders of the community. As 4-H continues to grow in the 21st Century, the cost of maintaining the space needed for programming also grows. Now is your chance to give back to an organization that has given so much to the young people in the area. The Martin County 4-H Council has launched a fundraising campaign for the upcoming year. Businesses that donate will have their names listed on a plaque in the Community Building. Donations of \$5,000+ will receive a platinum status, \$1,000-\$4,999 will receive a gold status, \$500-\$999 will receive a silver status, and donations of \$100-\$499 will receive a bronze status. Individuals may donate as well and any donation is appreciated. We also have a 4-H recipe book containing all the recipes submitted to the 2016 fair. They are \$5 and available at the Purdue Extension-Martin County office. All donations will go toward maintaining the fairgrounds and buildings so future 4-Hers and the community can continue to benefit from programming. To donate please contact the Purdue Extension Office at 812-295-2412.

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