



Serenity

-Photo by Bill Whorrall, www.billwhorrall.com

Things have slowed way down in Martin County this week as the first measurable snowfall this winter cancelled schools and made travel difficult. Another round of snow came through Tuesday night adding a few more inches to the ground. This weekend temperatures are supposed to reach close to 40 degrees with rain on Saturday.

Cost of technology upgrades tops school board meeting

BY COURTNEY HUGHETT
Martin County Journal Publisher

The discussion of technology topped the Loogootee School Board meeting Tuesday night, February 17. Somewhat affecting the outcome of that discussion however was a request by Kevin Sutton with Hoosier Uplands regarding the sale of the former Elementary East building. Sutton said that Hoosier Uplands needed to extend the closing on the building from March to September 30. The school agreed to sell the building months ago for \$110,000 so Hoosier Uplands could turn the former school into 20 senior citizen apartments. Sutton said that they will not know about a large portion of the possible funding until the end of this month and then about more of the funding until July. It was discussed that the extension would cost the school an estimated \$3,000 for continued maintenance on the building until the end of September. After discussion, the board voted to extend the contract and absorb the additional cost to maintain the building.

On the discussion of technology, Technology/Curriculum Director Mike Tippery said the plan is for the school to move to one-to-one, meaning every student would have their own device. He said the estimated cost for this is \$300,000 for all grades, kindergarten through 12th and if just 7th-12th went this route, it would be \$175,000. He said they were expecting to use the money from the sale of Elementary East to put toward technology but with the uncertainty on when that money will come in, they would have to discuss it further. He added that they can possibly get \$85,000 to \$90,000 from the common school fund loan in June and there is also rainy day money that can be used. Tippery said there is money in his technology budget to pay for the teacher aspect of the implementation.

The board discussed whether the school and staff are ready for such a change. Tippery said that the staff is cautiously optimistic about implementing the one-to-one but it is a general consensus that there are not enough computers to do what the teach-

ers want to do. He said that everyone understands that this will not be something that happens quickly and that textbooks will continue to be used also for the next few years as they ease into the change. He said that they are not allowed to charge parents rental fees for computers and textbooks, so that will also be taken into consideration.

Tippery said they expect to have an additional \$12,000 to \$15,000 a year in internet costs and that \$435 a month is received from the state to offset that with discussion on the federal government also kicking in some funds to pay for schools' connectivity and the state's monthly funding may increase.

Discussion also ensued on insuring each device which Tippery said has been discussed. He said there are a few options with that including offering parents the ability to purchase insurance for their students or

charging parents for damage done to devices.

Tippery said that if they want to implement something for the next school year, they must move within the next month. The board gave verbal consent for the administration to go ahead with the technology plan if the financial aspect can be worked out. They are unsure whether it will be able to be worked out for the next school year or the one following.

During patron input, Loogootee Mayor Noel Harty told the board that he spoke with three ministers who provide prayer to the players prior to boys' varsity basketball games at other school and they would be interested in offering prayer at the Loogootee Varsity games. The board briefly discussed it deciding to wait and see if they receive any public outcry against it. Superintendent Joan Keller said that in an area (See 'TECHNOLOGY' cont. on page 2)

Howard to "Bring Your Ancestors to Life"

Author Carolyn Howard announces her new 20-minute presentation entitled "Bring Your Ancestors to Life." The presentation will help you know your ancestors for the people they were, instead of just cold facts and meaningless numbers. The presentation is perfect for libraries, church groups and historical society gatherings and is free of charge.

The 20-minute presentation will be held

Senior Night at Shoals High School tomorrow

Please join Shoals High School as they honor their senior athletes, band and chorus members. Senior Night activities will be held Friday, February 20 at 7 p.m. at the Shoals High School Gymnasium before the varsity boys' basketball game.

Tuesday, February 24, at 7 p.m. at the Loogootee Public Library. Anyone that plans to attend must pre-register at the library.

Carolyn Howard is an 1800s biographical fiction novelist with three novels to date. Her latest offering, Liza, Ever Always was released in January, 2015. As an 1800s biographical fiction novelist, Ms. Howard is knowledgeable in genealogy as well as in 1800s history and lifestyle. She will be available after the presentations for questions and to offer guidance to those who are doing their family trees.

Carolyn Howard is currently booking her presentation for the year 2015. Please feel free to contact her for further information or to book her for your event. For more info on Howard, look for Carolyn Howard on facebook or visit <http://authorhoward.blogspot.com/>.

Commissioners hold short bi-weekly meeting

Meeting minutes provided by Martin County Auditor January Roush

The Martin County Commissioners met Tuesday, February 17. Commissioner Kevin Boyd was unable to attend.

County Attorney J. David Lett recommended the board appoint Bruce Fithian to the Lost River Advisory Board. All the proper steps were followed and no other names were submitted. Commissioner Gregory made a motion to appoint Bruce Fithian to the Lost River Advisory Board for a four-year term retro-active January 1, 2015 thru December 31, 2018. President George made the second.

Judge Lynne Ellis informed the board of the court's need for a CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocate) /GAL (Guardian Ad Litem) representative. Both represent the best interest of the child(ren) who are involved in a legal action. She is required to appoint a CASA/GAL to every juvenile case. Daviess County will no longer be able to handle Martin County cases due to the in-

crease of cases. Judge Ellis is considering a contract for the CASA/GAL attorney versus a director that will need office space and be an employee of the county. She will be submitting a proposal to the council in March.

Sheriff Travis Roush submitted a healthcare service agreement with Quality Correctional Care. QCC has provided medical care of the inmates for the past four years. Commissioner Gregory made a motion to approve the healthcare service agreement with Quality Correctional Care for four years at \$50,000 per year. President George made the second.

There are currently 56 inmates in the security center. Sheriff Roush thanked the commissioners for their assistance in receiving the two new trucks.

Highway Superintendent Leo Padgett was unable to attend the commissioners' meetings due to his assistance in snow removal.

Monty Wolf, EMA/civil defense, updated the commissioners on recent happenings. (See 'COMMISSIONERS' cont. on page 2)



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TECHNOLOGY

(Continued from page one)

like ours, you rarely have anyone who would object to such a thing.

Dr. Keller told the board that they have struggled, like other schools, getting substitute teachers. She suggested raising substitute teachers' pay as follows: high school diploma \$51 to \$55; associate's degree \$56 to \$60; bachelor's degree \$61 to \$65; teacher's license \$71 to \$75; and retired Loogootee teachers to stay at \$81. This will start March 1. They will look at it and assess it this summer to see if it needs to be raised more.

The board approved Erin Bateman as junior high track coach, Brian Whitney as varsity golf coach, Tyler Walton as assistant golf coach, and Lonnie Hawkins as volunteer for golf.

The board approved the high school band to go to Orlando next Spring Break, March 27-April 1, 2016.

Superintendent Joan Keller updated the board on possible changes to school funding. She said the bill currently in the House would increase ADM funds from \$4,889 per student to \$4,984 starting July 1. It would increase that even more to \$5,135 starting next year.

She said the bad news is the complexity index \$845,130 based on free and reduced

lunch count will be changing. She said the school received \$845,130 this year and that next year the funding will only include students who receive free lunch, not reduced. She said this could cost the school an estimated \$250,000-\$300,000 decrease.

She noted they are also planning to change kindergarten students to count as full students as opposed to just have a student as has been done in the past.

The funding for special education students is also planned to change with students labeled severe receiving an additional \$350 in funding and those labeled moderate receiving an additional \$35 each.

Students receiving honors diplomas will stay at \$1,000 unless the student is on free or reduced lunch and those students will increase to \$1,400.

She said in the end, she expects the school to lose some money.

Keller also noted that performance grant money will stay at \$30 million statewide but they plan to change guidelines on how it was distributed to each school. She said she is still unsure on what changes will be made to that.

At the end of the meeting Tippery recognized the custodial staff for doing such a good job dealing with the snow in the parking lot.

COMMISSIONERS

(Continued from page one)

Andy Ringwald, EMA/civil defense, stated the county is back to the lowest level of travel status, a travel advisory.

Clerk Gerald Montgomery submitted an amendment to the professional consulting services agreement with Maximus Consulting Services, Inc. for approval. Commissioner Gregory made a motion to table the approval until Clerk Montgomery can be present at the meeting. President George made the second.

The department of local government and finance was in the assessor and auditor's offices Tuesday doing phase III testing. Phase III testing is the evaluation of the property tax software. All counties must be in com-

pliance by July 1, 2015 per 50IAC 26.

Commissioner Gregory made a motion to approve Julie Fithian as the temporary courthouse custodian starting March 5, 2015 for 2-3 hours per day until no longer needed. President George made the second.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned 6:27 p.m. The next commissioners' meeting will be Tuesday, March 3 at 6 p.m.

Animal Shelter featured pet



Buddy is a 2-3 year old chow/collie mix. Very sweet, well behaved, gets along with other dogs and loves kids. He is neutered and up to date on all of his shots. Adoption fee is \$60. If interested in adopting, stop by the animal shelter at 507 N. Oak Street in Loogootee. There are several dogs and cats to choose from! Shelter hours are Wednesday from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. and Saturday 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. or by appt.

AG Zoeller: "Tax season is also scam season"

Scammers aiming to defraud consumers during tax season are out in full force, said Indiana Attorney General Greg Zoeller.

In one of the most common phone scams the Attorney General's Office has seen in recent months, criminals call consumers claiming to be with the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) and demand immediate payment of past-due taxes. Scammers might threaten arrest and jail time if the payment is not received immediately, and usually request that the money be paid back through the purchase of pre-paid cards.

The Attorney General's Office has received nearly 200 complaints about this scam in January and February so far, and more than 1,100 complaints were received in 2014. One consumer who filed a complaint with the AG's Office says the caller threatened to take her home, her driver's license and have her arrested unless she paid \$3,900. Another consumer was told tax evasion charges had been filed against him at the local courthouse.

Consumers who receive a call like this should hang up immediately. The IRS will never initiate contact over the phone. They will always reach out first through official correspondence by mail. Additionally, the IRS will never ask for credit card, debit card or prepaid card information over the phone.

"Tax season is also scam season," Zoeller said. "Criminals prey off of complicated tax processes and use fear tactics to victimize well-intentioned taxpayers. While many people may dislike the IRS, they won't call you and threaten to send you to jail. Educating consumers about these scams and how to avoid them is critical because once money is paid to a scammer, it is almost impossible to recover."

If you think you've been targeted by the IRS scam, call the IRS at 1-800-829-1040 to confirm the call you received was fraudulent. You should also report the scam to the Indiana Attorney General's Office by filing a complaint online at www.IndianaConsumer.com or by calling 1-888-834-9969.

Zoeller said another serious threat during tax season is tax identity theft, in which a criminal uses a legitimate taxpayer's per-

sonal information to file a tax return. This can happen if a criminal obtains access to information like your Social Security Number, which could also be done through IRS impersonation.

A common tactic is for criminals to send out scam emails that claim to be from the IRS and request personal or financial information. Do not respond to unsolicited emails like this. Instead, forward the message to the IRS at phishing@irs.gov.

Tax-related identity theft was the most common form of identity theft reported to the Federal Trade Commission in 2014. Additionally, the Indiana Attorney General's Office received 353 complaints about tax ID theft in 2014, and 11 complaints in recent months.

Zoeller said the best protection to avoid these tax-related scams is to file your taxes as early as possible to get ahead of criminals.

For more tips on preventing identity theft, visit www.IndianaConsumer.com/idtheft and for tips on avoiding telephone scams, visit www.in.gov/attorneygeneral/2539.htm.

Consumers who are targeted in any of these tax-related or other scams can file a complaint with the Attorney General's Office by visiting www.IndianaConsumer.com or calling 1-800-382-5516.

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<p>Pregnancy Massage <i>Pregnancy Massage is a great way to cope with the special struggles that often accompany pregnancy. We do pregnancy massage for second- and third-trimester expectant mothers, and special care is taken for the comfort and safety of your growing baby.</i></p>	<p>\$50</p>
<p>Geriatric Massage <i>Geriatric Massage includes using a variety of gentle, low-pressure techniques that promote relaxation, improved circulation, and relief from the aches and pains that come with advancing age. Geriatric Massage sessions are shorter (only 30 minutes) and are perfect for your loved ones who may be confined to nursing homes or struggle with frailness and limited mobility.</i></p>	<p>\$30</p>
<p>Hospice Massage <i>Thinking about end-of-life care isn't the most pleasant topic, but massage therapy can greatly improve comfort and quality of life for you or your loved one. Talk to your hospice provider, and tell them you would like your hospice care to include massage therapy from Bowling Massage.</i></p>	

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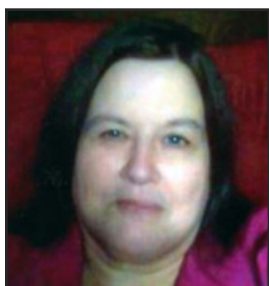
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OBITUARIES

Wednesday, February 18, 2015 ~ Martin County Journal

NORMA FOX

Norma Rose (Kaiser) Fox, formerly of Loogootee, passed away Saturday, February 14, 2015 at the Good Samaritan Hospital in Vincennes. A resident of Washington, she was 56.



She was born October 24, 1958 in Washington; daughter of the late John T. and Jessie (Hamilton) Kaiser. She married Kenneth David "Swampy" Fox and he preceded her in death in 1996.

She is survived by son, Matthew David Fox and wife, Kayla, of Bicknell; two daughters, Jessica Nicole Godoy of Bloomfield and Melissa Renee Kaiser of Petersburg; twelve grandchildren; sisters, Anna Laura (Charles) Fields, Alice Mattingly, and Connie J. (Charles) Ash, all of Loogootee; and Naomi C. (Robert) Summers of Greenwood; one brother, Thomas E. Kaiser (Mary) of Glendale; numerous nieces and nephews, and a special friend, Kevin Bate-man.

She is preceded in death by her husband, parents, one sister, Mary Lundy; brother Ronald Kaiser, and brother-in-law Joe Mattingly.

She was a graduate of North Daviess High School and attended beauty college.

Visitation will be from 11 a.m. until the hour of service at 2 p.m. at the Lee Funeral Home in Loogootee on Thursday, February 19. Burial will be in Goodwill Cemetery.

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

MICHEAL DIVINE

Micheal Harvey "Mike" Divine passed away February 17, 2015 at his home with



MIKE DIVINE

He married Sandra Neideffer on June 11, 1966.

He graduated from Montgomery High School in 1965. He retired from Navsea at Crane as a heavy motor vehicle operator in September of 2008, and was a lifelong farmer raising cattle.

He was a past member of the Shoals Lions Club serving as president in 1993, was a member of Board of Directors of the REMC, nominating committee member for RTC, 4-H board member, and Shoals Community School Board Member.

He dearly loved his family and friends and taking care of his Angus crossbred cattle.

He is survived by wife, Sandra Divine of Shoals; son, Jason Divine of Chicago, Illinois; daughter, Jennifer and husband, Phil Hopkins, of Moyock, North Carolina; grandchildren, Haley and Luke Hopkins of Moyock, North Carolina; sister, Sharon Kidwell of Indianapolis; nephew, Darren and wife, Leanne Kidwell, of Indianapolis; great niece, Abby Kidwell, and great-nephews, Caleb and Hunter Kidwell of Indianapolis and Rob Venditti of Chicago, Illinois.

Visitation will be from 4-8 p.m. Friday, February 20 at the Queen-Lee Funeral Home in Shoals, and the service will be Saturday at 11 a.m. at the funeral home. Burial will follow in South Martin Cemetery in Rutherford Township.

his wife, son, daughter, and sister by his side. A resident of Shoals, he was 67.

He was born on February 27, 1947 in Washington; son of Harvey and Helen (Decker) Di-

Preferred memorials are to the South Martin Cemetery Association. Envelopes will be available at the funeral home.

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

LEVI GRABER

Levi Dean Graber passed away on Friday, February 13, 2015 at his home. A resident



of Montgomery, he was 48.

He was born December 26, 1966 in Daviess County; son of Henry R. Graber and the late Catherine (Graber) Graber

He attended Trinity Gospel Tabernacle Church. He enjoyed wood working and gunsmithing.

He is survived by his wife, Karen (Wagler) Graber; children, Brittany Graber of Evansville, Brooklyn Graber of Montgomery, Dawson Graber of Montgomery and Breanna Graber of Montgomery; grandchildren, Bryleigh Perry and Mason Rasico; brothers, Donnie (Joyce) Graber of Montgomery and Wilmer D. (Christine) Graber of Montgomery; step-siblings, Marilyn (Levi) Knepp of Montgomery, Sharon (Richard) Allen of Texas, Vernon (Renée) Wagler of Washington, Loretta (Rueben) Jess of Illinois, Dorcas (Norman) Swartztruber of Loogootee, Verlin (Lisa) Wagler of Montgomery, Leota (Marvin) Wagler of Montgomery, Juanita (Lyle) Otto of Illinois and Emanuel (Renée) Wagler of Odon; parents, Henry R. (Lydia) Graber.

He was preceded in death by his mother, Catherine Graber; grandparents, Joseph R. and Lydia Graber and Levi and Alice Graber

Funeral services were celebrated by Pastor Gaylon Sommers and Pastor Nathan Stevens on Tuesday, February 17 at First Mennonite Church in Montgomery. Burial followed in the church cemetery.

In lieu of flowers contributions may be made to Multiple Sclerosis - Indiana Chapter, 300 DePauw Blvd, Suite 1040, Indianapolis, IN 46268.

Condolence may be made online at brocksmithblakefuneralhomes.com.

BARBARA SEXTON

Barbara Sexton passed away Friday, January 30, 2015 at Daviess County Community Hospital. A resident of Burns City, she was 77.

She was born August 9, 1937; daughter of Richard and Sara (Beaver) Beam.

She was a member of the Burns City United Methodist Church and the United Methodist Church of Loogootee. She worked as a supervisor at Red Door Industries in Loogootee and volunteered at the food pantry at the Loogootee United Methodist Church and at the Ketcham Nursing Home in Odon.

She is survived by sons, James Vernon and wife, Rita, of Jacksonville, Florida; and Martin Sexton of Burns City; daughter, Adella Sexton of Odon; sisters, Betty Con-dor of Cross Roads, Tennessee; and Robert Beam of Neveah; many grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

She is preceded in death by her parents; husband, Robert Sexton; and brother, Louis Beam.

Funeral services will be conducted at 11 a.m. Saturday, March 7 at Burns City United Methodist Church.

Memorial contributions may be made to United Methodist Church.

Condolences may be made online at www.brocksmithblakefuneralhomes.com.

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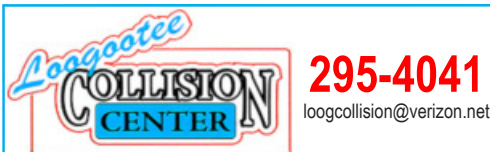
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COPS & COURT

Wednesday, February 18, 2015 ~ Martin County Journal

4

Martin County Sheriff's Department log

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 9

5:19 a.m. - Received a report of a commercial burglar alarm at White River Co-Op. Deputy Harmon and Loogootee Sergeant Norris responded.

7:53 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County EMS transported to Daviess Community Hospital, Washington.

8:10 a.m. - Received a report of a reckless driver westbound on US 150 from the Orange/Martin County line. Deputy Dant was advised.

9:18 a.m. - Received a report of a rekindle at the shed fire south of Shoals. The Shoals Fire Department responded.

1:45 p.m. - Received a report of a reckless driver eastbound on US 50 from Cannelburg. All on-duty officers were advised.

6:50 p.m. - Received a report of a theft in Shoals. Sergeant Keller responded.

9:29 p.m. - Received a report of a large pile of trash on East River Road north of Boat Club Lane. Deputy Harmon was advised.

9:57 p.m. - Received a report of a noise complaint south of Shoals. Deputy Harmon responded.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 10

3:27 a.m. - Received a report of reckless driver northbound on US 231 from Whitfield. All on-duty officers were advised.

5:50 a.m. - Received a report of a vehicle crash involving a deer on US 231 just south of Loogootee city limits. Deputy Harmon responded.

6:54 a.m. - Received a report of a large

pile of trash on East River Road north of Boat Club Lane. Chief Deputy Greene was advised.

8:00 a.m. - Received a report of an abandoned vehicle on 250 N. west of US 231. Deputy Dant and G&M Wrecker Service responded.

8:46 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County EMS and the Loogootee Fire Department responded. Martin County EMS transported to Memorial Hospital, Jasper.

9:26 a.m. - Received a report of a vehicle rollover with no injury on Dover Hill Road. Chief Deputy Dant responded.

9:30 a.m. - Deputy Dant transported three inmates to court.

10:32 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance west of Burns City. Martin County EMS and the Loogootee Fire Department responded. Martin County EMS transported to Daviess Community Hospital, Washington.

1:00 p.m. - Deputy Dant transported three inmates to court.

3:11 p.m. - Sergeant Keller transported a male subject from Loogootee to Jasper city limits.

7:45 p.m. - Sergeant Keller transported an inmate to Memorial Hospital, Jasper.

11:00 p.m. - Sergeant Keller back on station with inmate from transport.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 11

2:24 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance southeast of Shoals. Martin County EMS, Shoals Fire Department, Martin County Civil Defense, and Deputy

Baker responded. Martin County EMS transported to Daviess Community Hospital, Washington.

5:37 a.m. - Received a report of a commercial burglar alarm at White River Co-Op. Deputy Baker and Loogootee Sergeant Norris responded.

6:34 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County EMS and the Loogootee Fire Department responded. Martin County EMS transported to Daviess Community Hospital, Washington.

11:06 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance north of Shoals. Martin County EMS transported to Memorial Hospital, Jasper.

1:00 p.m. - Deputy Dant transported two inmates to court.

1:40 p.m. - Received a report of debris floating in a creek near Cherry Road. Deputy Dant responded.

1:46 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance west of Loogootee. Martin County EMS and Loogootee Captain Henette responded. Martin County EMS had no transport.

3:21 p.m. - Received a report of a failure to pay for fuel at the Chuckles in Loogootee. All on-duty officers were advised.

4:17 p.m. - Received a report of someone receiving threats north of Loogootee. Major Burkhardt responded.

4:20 p.m. - Received a report of a semi stuck at the entrance to West Boggs Park. Park Ranger Axom responded.

9:34 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County EMS transported to Memorial Hospital, Jasper.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 12

3:43 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County EMS responded with no transport.

5:45 a.m. - Received a report of a vehicle crash with unknown injury on State Road 550 near Abel Hill Road. Deputy Baker responded and had all other emergency units disregard due to no driver being located. ATM Towing also responded to the scene.

8:39 a.m. - Received a request for a welfare check on a male subject walking on Brooks Bridge Road. Deputy Baker and Deputy Dant responded.

1:00 p.m. - Deputy Dant transported three inmates to court.

2:32 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County EMS responded.

4:50 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County EMS transported to Daviess Community Hospital, Washington.

6:41 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County EMS transported to Memorial Hospital, Jasper.

8:48 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County EMS transported to Memorial Hospital, Jasper.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 13

3:26 a.m. - Received a report of a fully engulfed house fire on 2nd Street in Shoals. The Shoals Fire Department, Martin County Civil Defense, Martin County EMS, and Deputy Baker responded.

10:18 a.m. - Received a report of a residential fire west of Burns City. The Loogootee Fire Department, Martin County Civil Defense, the Naval Surface Warfare Center Crane Division Fire Department, Martin County EMS, and Daviess-Martin REMC responded.

2:57 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County EMS responded.

3:30 p.m. - Received a report of a telephone scam in Loogootee. Major Burkhardt was advised.

4:15 p.m. - Received a report of a semi in a ditch on Abel Hill Road. Major

Burkhardt responded.

5:42 p.m. - Received a report of a rekindle at the residential fire west of Burns City. The Naval Surface Warfare Center Crane Division Fire Department and Martin County EMS responded.

5:48 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance east of Shoals. Martin County EMS, the Shoals Fire Department, and Air Evac responded.

7:03 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County EMS transported to Memorial Hospital, Jasper.

7:31 p.m. - Received a report of a broken down vehicle on US 50 near half mile curve. Deputy Baker and the Shoals Fire Department responded.

10:03 p.m. - Received a report of a rekindle at the residential fire west of Burns City. The Loogootee Fire Department and Martin County EMS responded.

10:12 p.m. - Received a report of hay bales all over the roadway on US 50 near Red School Road East. Deputy Baker, Shoals Marshal Eckert, and the Shoals Fire Department responded.

11:55 p.m. - Received a report of an abandoned vehicle at Hindostan Falls. Deputy Baker and G&M Wrecker Service responded.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 14

5:05 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Bramble. Martin County EMS responded with no transport.

8:10 a.m. - Received a report of a telephone scam. Major Burkhardt was advised.

10:57 p.m. - Received a report of a theft north of Shoals. Major Burkhardt responded.

11:07 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County EMS transported to Daviess Community Hospital, Washington.

12:12 p.m. - Received a report of a vehicle crash with no injury in the RJ's parking lot in Shoals. Major Burkhardt responded.

12:12 p.m. - Received a report of a residential alarm north of Dover Hill. ISP Trooper Lents responded.

2:40 p.m. - Received a report of a theft south of Loogootee. Major Burkhardt was advised.

3:11 p.m. - Received a report of a commercial burglar alarm at the Martin County Learning Center. Major Burkhardt responded.

5:30 p.m. - Received a report of a telephone scam in Shoals. Major Burkhardt was advised.

7:17 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance south of Whitfield. Martin County EMS and the Haysville Fire Department responded. Martin County EMS transported to Memorial Hospital, Jasper.

8:02 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County EMS and the Loogootee Fire Department responded. Martin County EMS transported to Memorial Hospital, Jasper.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 15

8:34 a.m. - Received a report of a residential entry in Crane. Sergeant Keller responded.

1:07 p.m. - Received a report of animal neglect in Bramble. Sergeant Keller responded.

3:42 p.m. - Received a report of a suspicious person east of Shoals. Sergeant Keller was advised.

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Loogootee Police log

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 9

1:00 p.m. - Captain Hennette assisted the Martin County Sheriff's Department in serving a warrant.

1:45 p.m. - Caller reported a reckless driver on US 231.

2:50 p.m. - Caller reported an animal complaint.

8:10 p.m. - Caller reported a possible intoxicated driver on Broadway Street. Officers were unable to locate.

10:25 p.m. - Caller reported a dog complaint.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 10

3:27 a.m. - Received a report of a reckless vehicle on US 231.

8:46 a.m. - First responders were requested on Acton Street for a medical call.

10:32 a.m. - First responders were requested on Harper Hill Road for a medical call.

4:09 p.m. - Female caller reported her son had left her residence without her permission. Captain Hennette located the male and transported him back to his residence.

5:53 p.m. - Caller reported someone burning something near her residence.

6:23 p.m. - Caller reported loud music in Shaded Estates.

10:50 p.m. - Female caller requested to speak with an officer in regards to a domestic issue.

11:54 p.m. - Received a report of loud music on Walnut Street. Sgt. Norris advised the homeowner to turn the music down.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 11

3:18 a.m. - Caller reported someone had tried to enter his residence in Redwing Trailer Court.

5:37 a.m. - Sgt. Norris responded to a business alarm on Church Street.

6:34 a.m. - First responders were requested on Cedar Street for a medical call.

12:10 p.m. - Caller reported a dog complaint.

5:37 p.m. - Received a report of a reckless vehicle on Broadway Street.

6:52 p.m. - Caller reported a reckless vehicle on US 231.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 12

9:15 a.m. - Female caller requested to speak with an officer regarding a domestic issue.

8:38 p.m. - Caller requested a welfare check on her son. Subject was later transported to Jasper Memorial.

9:32 p.m. - Caller reported a vehicle in the road on West Main Street. Vehicle was towed to G&M.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 13

8:43 a.m. - Female requested a welfare

check on a male.

10:18 a.m. - Loogootee Fire was paged out to a house fire on Harper Hill Road.

7:06 p.m. - Male came on station requesting to speak with an officer regarding a domestic issue.

10:02 p.m. - Loogootee Fire was paged back out to a rekindled fire on Harper Hill Road.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 14

9:08 a.m. - Captain Akles responded to a business alarm.

9:55 a.m. - Captain Akles completed a vehicle identification check.

10:27 a.m. - Caller reported vandalism.

8:01 p.m. - First responders were requested on SE 1st Street for a medical call.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 15

8:04 a.m. - Captain Akles assisted a female with a minor medical call.

10:07 a.m. - Female caller reported property damage.

1:19 p.m. - Male caller reported trespassing.

6:29 p.m. - Male caller requested an officer assist in removing another male from his residence.

11:27 p.m. - Female caller reported harassment.

JAIL BOOKINGS

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 9

12:50 p.m. - Denim Dorsey, 36, of Loogootee, was arrested on a failure to appear warrant in Pike County for invasion of privacy. Dorsey is awaiting extradition to Pike County. Dorsey was arrested by Loogootee Captain Hennette. Captain Hennette was assisted by Sheriff Roush.

5:45 p.m. - Phillip Freeman, 31, of Jasper, was arrested for operating while intoxicated. Freeman is being held on \$50,000 or 10% bond and was arrested by ISP Trooper Lents.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 10

6:15 p.m. - Michelle Collins, 41, of Bedford, was arrested on a Martin County failure to appear warrant. Collins is being held without bond and was arrested by Sheriff Roush.

6:15 p.m. - Michael Turpin, 32, of Bedford, was arrested on a Martin County petition to revoke warrant. Turpin is being held on \$25,000 or 10% bond and was arrested by Chief Deputy Greene.

6:15 p.m. - Jeremy Tharp, 35, of Shoals, was arrested for a hold for court. Tharp is being held on without bond and was arrested by Sheriff Roush.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 11

4:35 a.m. - Angela Killion, 47, of Loo-

gootee, was arrested for abetting a fugitive. Killion is being held on \$50,000 or 10% bond and was arrested by Deputy Harmon.

8:21 p.m. - Jayland Baker, 19, of Shoals, was arrested for possession of marijuana. Baker is being held on \$25,000 or 10% bond and was arrested by ISP Trooper Sexton. Trooper Sexton was assisted by Sheriff Roush and Shoals Town Marshal Eckert.

5:35 p.m. - Jennifer Wagler, 41, of Loogootee, arrested on a writ of attachment. Wagler is being held on \$216.59 bond and was arrested by Sheriff Roush.

11:22 p.m. - Glenn Richardson, 45, of Ellettsville, was arrested for public intoxication. Richardson is being held on \$10,000 or 10% bond and was arrested by Loogootee Officer Nolan.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 13

9:15 p.m. - Robert T. McCutcheon, 46, of Evansville, was arrested for criminal mischief. McCutcheon is being held on \$10,000 or 10% bond and was arrested by Loogootee Officer Nolan.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 15

10:50 a.m. - Delles Hert, Jr., 53, of Shoals, was arrested on a Martin County warrant for failure to abide by court order. Hert is being held without bond and was arrested by ISP Trooper Lents.

Martin County real estate transfers

Larry A. Hall and John A. Hall to April L. Hopf, Ashley A. Hohler, Jill Ernst, and Jarod Hall, part of the southeast quarter of the southeast quarter of Section 35, Township 2 North, Range 4 West containing 3 acres, more or less.

Mark L. Taylor and Dawn D. Taylor, of Martin County, Indiana to **Michael J. McAtee and Phillip M. Smith**, of Martin County, Indiana, the west half of Lot Number 77 in Keck's Addition to the Town, now City of Loogootee, Indiana.

Leon Baker, Anna Lee Baker, and Van Baker, of Martin County, Indiana to **Donna Walker**, of Martin County, Indiana, 0.215 acres in Section 24, Township 3 North, Range 5 West.

Stewart Blake and Charles Lyon, of Martin County, Indiana to **Mark Taylor and Dawn Taylor**, of Martin County, Indiana, a part of the west half of the northwest quarter of Section 36, Township 4 North, Range 5 West, Perry Township, Martin County, Indiana, containing 3.307 acres, more or less.

Mark Taylor and Dawn Taylor, of Martin County, Indiana to **Kevin O'Conner and Mary Diana Burch**, of Martin County, Indiana, a part of the west half of the northwest quarter of Section 36, Township 4 North, Range 5 West, Perry Township, Martin County, Indiana, containing 3.307 acres, more or less.

Mark Taylor and Dawn Taylor, of Martin County, Indiana to **Larry I. Lawson and Seasonal R. Lawson**, of Dubois County, Indiana, a part of the southwest quarter of the northwest quarter of Section 36, Township 4 North, Range 5 West, Perry Township, Martin County, Indiana containing 1.179 acres, more or less.

Mark Taylor and Dawn Taylor, of Martin County, Indiana to **Phillip Goodpaster**, of Martin County, Indiana, a part of the southwest quarter of the northwest quarter of Section 36, Township 4 North, Range 5 West, Perry Township, Martin County, Indiana containing 0.636 acre, more or less.

Marvin Lengacher and Naomi

Lengacher, of Daviess County, Indiana to **Willis Ray Wagler and Rosalie Wagler**, of Daviess County, Indiana, a strip 30 rods wide off of the south end of the southeast quarter of the southeast quarter of Section 2, Township 1 North, Range 3 West, containing 15 acres, more or less. Also, 10 acres of equal width off of the north side of the northeast quarter of the northeast quarter of Section 11, Township 1 North, Range 3 West, except 1/7 acre deeded heretofore to Emmons Ridge Cemetery.

William Douglas Walker, trustee of the Alma R. Walker Trust Agreement, of Martin County, Indiana to **William Douglas Walker and Mary Leila Livengood**, of Marion County, Indiana, Lot Number 22 in Walker's Addition to the City of Loogootee, Indiana.

William Douglas Walker, trustee of the Alma R. Walker Trust Agreement, of Martin County, Indiana to **William Douglas Walker**, of Marion County, Indiana, a part of the northwest quarter of Section 31, Township 3 North, Range 4 West containing 6.15 acres, more or less.

Joseph H. Ryan and June Ryan, of Martin County, Indiana to **Ryan Rentals, LLC**, of Martin County, Indiana, Lots Numbered C3, C4, and C5 in Block C in the original Town of Crane, Indiana.

Ryan Rentals, LLC, of Martin County, Indiana to **Furlong Properties, LLC**, of Daviess County, Indiana, Lots Numbered C3, C4, and C5 in Block C in the original Town of Crane, Indiana.

Ronda S. Fuhs and Brian A. Witsman to **William D. Wade**, a part of the north-

west quarter of the southeast quarter of Section 32, Township 5 North, Range 4 West containing .82 acres, more or less.

Tim W. Moffatt and Bill J. Moffatt to Einterz Properties, LLC, a part of Section 1, Township 1 North, Range 3 West, situated in Lost River Township, Martin County, Indiana, containing 107.06 acres, more or less.

Paul L. Allen, of Martin County, Indiana to **Travis J. Pemberton**, of Lawrence County, Indiana, a part of the northeast quarter of the northeast quarter, Section 24, Township 2 North, Range 3 West, Second Principal Meridian, Lost River Civil Township, Martin County, Indiana, containing 14.80 acres, more or less.

Martin County accident reports

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 9

8:35 a.m. - Falisha J. Salmon, of Loogootee, was operating a 2002 Mercury and pulling into a parking spot on the south side of Subway. At this time, Salmon stated a cat that was in the vehicle tangled on her feet caused her to strike the south side of the building. No injuries were reported. Chief Rayhill investigated.

3:46 p.m. - Gary Denton, of Paoli, was operating a 2014 International in the Marathon parking lot. At this time while turning in the lot he struck a 2013 Volvo owned by Wischmeier Trucking, of Brownstown. Captain Hennette investigated.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 12

2:47 p.m. - Michelle L. Huff, of Elnora, was operating a 2014 Freightliner on Broadway Street. Huff went to turn left onto Pine Street and struck a 2003 Cadillac operated by Bettye Norris, of Loogootee. Chief Rayhill was the investigating officer.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 14

12:13 p.m. - Sharon Ray, of Loogootee, was operating a 2005 Chevy on Broadway Street when she merged into another lane and stuck a 2002 Chevy operated by William Graber, of Loogootee. Captain Akles investigated.

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In the Garden

By Ralph Purkhiser
Purdue University Master Gardener

With the snow and sub-zero temperatures this week, it may seem that any gardening work is in the distant future. However, late February and early March will usually bring some moderate weather that is perfect for some early gardening chores.

This time of year is very important for the orchard and vineyard. A dormant oil spray applied while the trees and vines are dormant will help prevent some insect and disease problems. The oil actually smothers some of the pathogens. This should be done before the buds begin to break open, but must be applied when temperatures will remain above freezing for at least twenty-four hours.

It is also important for fruit trees and grapevines to be properly pruned before they break dormancy. This column would not allow me to begin outlining proper pruning techniques. However, Purdue University Extension Service offers some excellent publications on pruning. There is another opportunity to learn about fruit tree pruning and pest control coming up on Monday, February 23. This class is free of charge and is open to everyone. It will be held at the Orange County Community Center at the 4-H Fairgrounds in Paoli and will begin at 6 p.m. Topics to be addressed will include when and how to prune fruit trees, identifying fruit pests and controls for fruit pests. While there is no charge for the program, pre-registration is necessary. One may register by contacting Levi Berg at the Orange County Extension Office at 812-723-7107 or at berg31@purdue.edu.

How to deal with nuisance Canada geese

If Canada geese have become a problem on your property, information that may help is available through the Indiana Department of Natural Resources website.

Most goose problems occur from March through June, during nesting season. That is when geese are especially aggressive, sometimes attacking and nipping at people.

Geese also can cause localized damage if many young are hatched in one area. After hatching, goslings are incapable of flight for about 70 days, so the young birds and their parents will graze near the hatching area for that time. Damage to landscaping can be significant, and large amounts of excrement can render areas unfit for human use.

Information on how property owners can manage Canada geese is at

Purdue Extension 2014 Midwest vegetable trials report released

BY CARLEE GLASSBURN
Purdue University News Service

Purdue Extension has released the 2014 Midwest vegetable trial publication that contains 30 reports from seven land-grant universities on the performance of vegetable varieties and production practices.

A variety of crops covered in the Midwest Vegetable Trial Report for 2014 report includes Asian vegetables, cantaloupe, pepper, pumpkin, sweet corn, watermelon, broccoli, cucumber, potato, radish and tomato.

Purdue vegetable specialist Liz Maynard said vegetable growers often tell her the trial reports help them identify varieties and practices that may do well on their farm.

"While even one year's worth of data from an independent trial is valuable, the fact that reports from past years are also online means that consistency of performance from year to year can be assessed," Maynard said. "Growers also find the reports useful to get an idea of expected yield for various crops."

Four of the reports address specific growing practices: the use of hairy vetch to supply nitrogen, biochar use in a high tunnel bag culture system, effects of organic soil amendments, and scion-rootstock compatibility for

It is also time to begin planting pepper seeds. Peppers are slow to germinate, so they need to be started earlier than tomatoes and other warm-season crops. As always, start with sterile soil-free planting medium and sterile containers. Cover the seeds with more planting mix and water the container well. Like the onions discussed in last week's column, pepper seeds need warm soil and will benefit from bottom heat from a heat mat or other source. It may take up to three weeks for the seeds to germinate, but keep them well-watered in the meantime. Once they have germinated, good light is essential to make the young plants develop. When the young seedlings have developed three sets of leaves, it is time to transplant them into individual pots. Unlike tomatoes, peppers do not develop adventitious roots along the stem, so do not plant them too deep when transplanting.

It is also time to seed cabbage, broccoli, cauliflower, Brussel sprouts and other cole crops. These crops develop at cooler temperatures, so they do not need to be set on a heat source. They also develop more quickly and will be ready to plant in the garden in a little more than a month.

If you did not plant lettuce on Valentine's Day as is traditional, go ahead and plant some any time you can work the soil. You may also go ahead and seed other salad greens, kale and even radishes. If you have a cold frame, you could be eating fresh salads from your garden in a month.

Keep thinking spring.

wildlife.IN.gov/2996.htm.

Solutions range from habitat modification, to daily goose harassment through noisemaking devices, to supporting goose hunting or obtaining a DNR trapping permit. The U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service also allows landowners who are properly registered to destroy resident Canada goose eggs and nests on their property.

More information on registering for federal permission to destroy eggs and nests is at <https://epermits.fws.gov/ercgr/gesi.aspx>. It's against federal law to destroy a Canada goose nest that contains one or more eggs without first securing permission through the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service.

It's best to use preventive measures such as habitat modification before geese become a nuisance.

Campground hosts needed at Indiana State Parks

Indiana's state parks and reservoir properties seek volunteers to serve as campground hosts in exchange for free camping during their service.

Hosts work a minimum of 20 hours per week. The volunteer period varies at sites, based on the number of applicants and the amount and type of work required. Properties seek dedicated campers who enjoy working outdoors, with the public, and with DNR staff.

A complete list of site availability and detailed information about hosting duties is at stateparks.IN.gov/2404.htm or by contacting the property where you would like to serve. Completion of a volunteer application is required. Download a volunteer application form at stateparks.IN.gov/2443.htm

Purdue partners with Indiana zoos for hellbender conservation

BY OLIVIA MADDOX
Purdue University News Service

Purdue University is partnering with three Indiana zoos and the state in a conservation program that will involve raising year-old hellbender salamanders and then a few years later returning them to their southern Indiana habitat to be tracked.

Rod Williams, associate professor of wildlife science and leader of the university's hellbender effort, approached officials at Columbian Park Zoo in Lafayette, Fort Wayne Children's Zoo and Mesker Park Zoo in Evansville about joining the program, which also includes the Indiana Department of Natural Resources.

North America's largest salamander is in decline nationally and is most vulnerable to predators when young.

"Mortality can be as high as 99 percent in the wild," Williams said. "By rearing them in captivity for three to four years they will have a much better survival rate."

In 2013, Williams and his team collected 300 eggs from the Blue River in southern Indiana, currently the only location in the state where the salamander is found.

"You don't want to have all your eggs in one basket - literally," Williams said, referring to the 1-year-old hellbenders that were hatched at Purdue's Aquaculture Research Lab. "Parceling some of them out to different locations reduces the risk that an equipment malfunction or other problem could jeopardize the entire clutch of eggs."

The Fort Wayne Children's Zoo received 20 on Tuesday, February 17. The transfer of another 20 to Mesker Park Zoo and 10 to Columbian Park Zoo will be scheduled soon.

The zoos have been preparing since last summer, setting up chillers, water pumps and tanks, replicating conditions at ARL. Last fall, a representative from each zoo and Williams' team attended a hellbender husbandry conference at the St. Louis Zoo, a world leader in captive rearing of the amphibian.

Joe Smith, director of animal health for the Fort Wayne zoo, said the zoo's mission is to inspire people to care about wildlife.

"We're always looking for local opportunities, and it's especially important that our guests can take steps to protect hellbenders and their environment," he said.

"Knowing that they will be returned to the wild is a big motivator for me," said Smith, a veterinarian. "We don't often get to contribute to conservation so directly. Most of our impact is through education."

For Williams, education is an important part of the partnership. The zoos will expand on his Purdue Extension programming and the Help the Hellbender website.

"Collectively, the zoos can reach about a million patrons a year," Williams said. "The combination of research, conservation messaging and increased awareness is a win-win for everyone."

Key messages include what anglers should do if they catch a hellbender and how homeowners and farmers can improve water quality through conservation practices.

While Columbian Park Zoo has worked with Purdue on other projects, this is its first wildlife conservation collaboration with the university, said Dana Rhodes, interim zoo director. "It's a great conservation program and local-state partnership."

While the hellbenders will not be incorporated into public exhibits at the zoos, they may be included on special tours, such as those for school groups.

Two years ago, Williams and his team released 18 hellbenders, which were raised in captivity, into the Blue River. Radio transmitters tracked their movements and habitat preferences for a year. The results



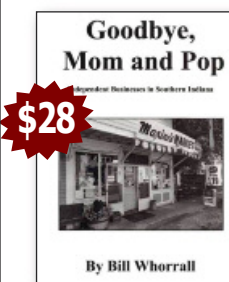
Rod Williams raises juvenile hellbenders at Purdue's Aquaculture Research Lab for later release into the wild. Indiana zoos will also help raise young hellbenders and include conservation messages in their education programs. (Purdue Agricultural Communication/Tom Campbell)



Hellbenders raised in captivity for their first few years have a better chance of surviving in the wild. (Purdue Agricultural Communication/Tom Campbell)

will help guide the future release of those raised by Purdue and the zoos.

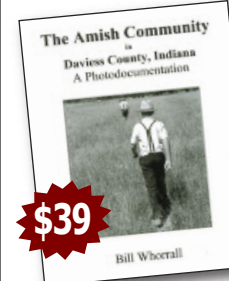
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SCOUTING MATTERS

By Mike Leighty - Odon Troop 481 Scoutmaster

ALL GOOD THINGS MUST COME TO AN END – OR DO THEY?

You've heard it said, "All good things must come to an end." This proverb dates back to about 1374 (Chaucer). First attested in the United States around 1680. It's an old proverb that reminds us to enjoy the high times, but not to crash too hard when it's time to face the real world again, refocus and move on. Instead, we are meant to look back and enjoy the fact that we were fortunate enough to experience the good times at all.

It's hard to believe that I've been penning Scouting Matters for five years. I really had no idea. I guess time flies when you are having fun, but that is a completely different proverb. I've had a good time writing this column, it has been enjoyable, and I feel I have even learned a few things along the way. I hope you have as well. Nonetheless, even an enjoyable experience cannot last forever, can it? It's been a fantastic five years but all good things must come to an end – or do they? Allow me to explain.

Change is inevitable and in the past couple of years I've experienced some change relative to my involvement in the scouting movement, as well as my personal life. In the local troop I was blessed with the opportunity to mentor my son to the rank of Eagle; then send him off to college in New York City where he quickly bonded with other Eagle Scouts from around the country and world. For me this was personal validation of the strength of the scouting movement and its lasting fraternity.

Secondly, I transitioned out of my scoutmaster responsibility and passed the torch on to some very capable leadership. The local program remains strong and nationally the scouting movement is growing and expanding like never before with new programming, creativity and innovation. Locally I've moved into a background role serving on the troop committee and will remain involved, assisting the program in providing a valuable option for growth and leadership for young men in the area.

And finally, I've had changes in my personal life in the past year. I retired from a long and worthwhile civil service career and have spent the last year simply pondering the future, experimenting with things I enjoy, and reflecting upon what's next. So with all this inevitable change I have made some decisions and now need to get busy and focused on my future. The sad note, I fear I can no longer do the Scouting Matters publication justice and give it the time it needs, therefore, this will be my last. It's time to leave the party because all good things must come to an end... right? NOT! While this publication will end... the goodness of scouting and my memories will not. So I want to leave you with some final thoughts.

While any individuals' role and involvement might change in scouting – ONCE A SCOUT ALWAYS A SCOUT. Many of you

Updated weed control guide for Ohio, Indiana and Illinois now available

BY EMMA HOPKINS
Purdue University News Service

The Extension services of Ohio State University, Purdue University and the University of Illinois have partnered to publish an updated weed control guide to aid crop farmers in choosing an effective weed management plan.

The free 2015 Ohio, Indiana and Illinois Weed Control Guide is a quick reference farmers can use in the field to identify and manage weeds. It offers specific tips for several individual crops such as corn, soybeans, popcorn, sweet corn, small greens, forages and grazing pastures.

The new guide includes expanded sections on Palmer amaranth and marehail as well as an updated index of herbicides. There is also a weed response table which Bill Johnson, a Purdue weed scientist, said will be especially helpful to farmers during preparation for planting season.

"The weed response tables are very con-

venient because they have herbicides listed down the side and weeds across the top, so farmers can find the weeds they have had problems with in the past and know the herbicides that should work best," Johnson said.

Johnson added that once a herbicide is chosen, crop producers can go to the herbicide section of the guide to find a concise profile summarizing its label. The guide is updated with new herbicides and their control recommendations.

The guide can be downloaded from Purdue Extension's The Education Store at www.edustore.purdue.edu. To find the guide, search for its product code, WS-16-W.

Printed copies of the guide are available through the Ohio State University Extension eStore for \$14.75 each. The product code for the print copy is 789. An interactive PDF e-book with links for easy navigation is also available through the Ohio State eStore for \$9.99. The product code for the ebook is e789.

Scouting memories and stories and you remain the foundation of the movement. I don't have to tell you scouting is a good thing that just does not end or leave your memory. For those of you who have yet to experience the movement or get involved just ask around, scouting participation gets in the blood... the seeds sprout and take root in the heart, mind, body and soul and will live forever. This good thing truly has no end! It defies the proverb.

My scouting involvement dates back to the 60's in cub scouts. I can still remember those den meetings, outings, SCOUTORAMA, parental involvement and my fellow cubs and leaders. My involvement and learning continued in my early teens in boy scouts and while I was just an average scout at best, the outdoor skills I obtained then are as solid today as ever. Of note, I continue to love cooking on an open fire, experimenting with cast iron cooking and wowing those that gather around my campfire for fellowship and the need to detach from a hectic world. There nothing like comfort food from a Dutch oven to make a big world melt away. I've even considered publishing a cast iron cookbook from my years of experimentation.

During my scouting journey I have been blessed with observing the worldwide movement in Japan, Scotland and its birthplace in England. As with my son's experience in college, it truly is a nationwide and worldwide fraternity. There's something special about the brotherhood you experience by belonging to a fraternity such as scouting. Time in the workforce, military or college is so crucial to a young person's future, and knowing that you can find others who share the values you developed through scouting is extremely encouraging.

So I guess I will say it one last time in print... "Scouting Matters!!!" It is a viable path to leadership development. It provides comprehensive growth of boys into men. Honestly, I probably have learned more lasting and enduring life lessons from the scouting program than through any other experience. The BSA has been positively impacting lives and helping to build leaders for more than a century and I have no doubt the tradition will continue for another. An undying mission of creating - Better Men for a Better World.

Yours in Scouting,
Scoutmaster Mike

SBOE addresses shortening ISTEP+ testing at special meeting

The Indiana State Board of Education held a special meeting last Friday morning to discuss shortening ISTEP+ testing this spring. The board heard the recommendations made by two consultants hired by Governor Mike Pence to assist the Indiana Department of Education (DOE) shorten the test. Many board members showed appreciation to the many leaders that have focused on shortening the ISTEP+ assessment since the Department of Education announced in late January that it was increasing testing times by up to 300%.

"I'm extremely grateful to Governor Pence, the Indiana General Assembly, and Superintendent Ritz for their efforts toward removing this hardship," said District 4 SBOE Representative Sarah O'Brien. "The length of our ISTEP cannot stand. Our kids deserved better and we need to make sure that happens."

Following brief public comment, national assessment experts Dr. Edward Roeber and Dr. William Auty offered recommendations regarding how testing time for the ISTEP+ test can be reduced. Dr. Roeber pointed out that while the test should be shortened it also needs to be sufficiently reliable and valid to enable the intended purposes of the assessment to be achieved. He went on to report that mathematics now contributes to four hours and the English/language arts (ELA) section test now contributes over eight hours of testing. Roeber indicated that the large increase ELA testing appears to be the main culprit of extended testing times.

"When the state decided we wanted more rigorous standards it was safe to assume we'd have a more rigorous test," said District 6 SBOE Representative Dr. Brad Oliver. "However, I think more rigor should not mean a significantly longer test."

Overall, Drs. Roeber and Auty made five recommendations to shorten this year's ISTEP+ assessment:

Reduce the amount of open ended questions;

Administer some parts of ISTEP+ administered to only a sample of students;

Move deleted open-ended questions to 2016 fall pilot in order to use them in future tests;

Suspend social studies part of ISTEP+ for 2015; and

Eliminate vertical scaling items from on-line assessments.

Ms. O'Brien asked Dr. Roeber how difficult will it be to implement the recommendations in a timely manner. He said that it will be challenging, but it can be

done. He cautioned that anytime there is a last minute change of this significance there is a chance for errors. Dr. Roeber noted that the new ISTEP+ still maybe longer than past tests, but these recommendations will significantly reduce the test times originally reported by the DOE.

Superintendent of Public Instruction Glenda Ritz indicated that DOE was also working with test vendor CTB-McGraw on its recommendations to shorten ISTEP+ following the Board's request that she reach out to CTB. Superintendent Ritz also said she would consider Roeber and Auty recommendations except eliminating the vertical scale, which she insisted is necessary. Seventh District SBOE Representative Dan Elsener questioned that if the DOE had the capacity to make these changes, why it didn't make changes earlier.

"If this is a priority now, it should've been a priority during the development of this test," said Elsener. "This could've been taken care of a long time ago. There is a clear leadership void that has caused a lot of angst for everyone that could've been prevented."

Elsener also recalled concerns made last July by several members of the Indiana Education Roundtable, including Governor Pence, that if Superintendent Ritz included extra reading items in ISTEP+'s language arts section that it could significantly lengthen the test.

The SBOE also discussed suspending social studies testing for the current year with mixed perspectives. Whether social studies testing is removed from grades 5 and 7 will ultimately be decided by the Indiana General Assembly.

The Board also approved Hendry's motion to remove Superintendent Ritz's resolution to eliminate this year's school accountability measures. This marks the third-consecutive year the Superintendent has recommended suspending accountability. Hendry's motion passed 10-1 with Superintendent Ritz casting the lone dissenting vote.

"I do not believe is the right time or place to pause accountability," said Hendry. "Today, we should not spend a minute dealing with issues not related to ISTEP. I want to do everything we can as a board to help the department to deal with ISTEP issues."

The next meeting regular business is scheduled for March 12, 2015. The recommendations by national experts Roeber and Auty, along with last Friday's agenda and meeting materials, may be found online at <http://in.gov/sboe/2609.htm>.

Classified ADS

HELP WANTED

Maintenance Technicians Manufacturing Positions

Jasper Rubber Products, Inc. is excited to announce our improved benefits package and competitive wages for 2015. We are a 100% employee-owned company providing steady employment for the employee owners. We have immediate openings in our Maintenance department and manufacturing areas on the following shifts.

1st shift - 6:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.
2nd shift - 2:00 p.m.-10:00 p.m.
3rd shift - 10:00 p.m.-6:00 a.m.

Jasper Rubber Products

1010 First Avenue
Jasper, IN 47546
www.jasperrubber.com
Equal Opportunity Employer



More Neat Stuff



By Ann Ackerman



SOUTHERN THINKING

1. LOUISIANA

A senior at LSU was overheard saying, "When the end of the world comes, I hope to be in Louisiana."

When asked why, he replied he'd rather be in Louisiana because everything happens in Louisiana 20 years later than in the rest of the civilized world.

2. MISSISSIPPI

The young man from Mississippi came running into the store and said to his buddy, "Bubba, somebody just stole your pickup truck from the parking lot!"

Bubba replied, "Did you see who it was?"

The young man answered, "I couldn't tell, but I got the license number."

3. TENNESSEE

A Tennessee state trooper pulled over a pickup on I-65.

The trooper asked, "Got any ID?"

The driver replied, "Bout what?"

4. ARKANSAS

A man in Little Rock had a flat tire, pulled onto the side of the road, and proceeded to put a bouquet of flowers in front of the car and one behind it. Then he got back in the car to wait.

A passerby studied the scene as he drove by and was so curious he turned around and went back. He asked the fellow what the problem was.

The man replied, "I have a flat tire."

The passerby asked, "But what's with the flowers?"

The man responded, "When you break down they tell you to put flares in the front and flares in the back. I never did understand it neither."

5. GEORGIA

The owner of a golf course was confused about paying an invoice, so he decided to ask his secretary for some mathematical help. He called her into his office and said, "You graduated from the University of Georgia and I need some help. If I were to give you \$20,000, minus 14%, how much would you take off?"

She replies, "Everything but my earrings."

You can say what you want about the South, but you never hear of anyone retiring and moving North.

THINGS TO PONDER

1. Why do I have to press one for English when you're just gonna transfer me to someone I can't understand anyway?

2. Even duct tape can't fix stupid ... but it can muffle the sound!

3. The kids text me "plz" which is shorter than please. I text back "no" which is shorter than "yes".

4. If God wanted me to touch my toes, he would've put them on my knees.

5. My people skills are just fine. It's my tolerance to idiots that needs work.

6. I don't have gray hair. I have "wisdom highlights". I'm just very wise.

7. Lord grant me the strength to accept the things I cannot change, the courage to change the things I can and the friends to post my bail when I finally snap!

8. The biggest lie I tell myself is ... "I don't need to write that down, I'll remember it."

9. When I was a child I thought nap time was a punishment ... now, as a grown up, it just feels like a small vacation.

10. Legend says when you can't sleep at night, it's because you're awake in someone else's dream. So if everyone would stop dreaming about me, that would be nice.

11. Old age is coming at a really bad time!

12. I don't trip over things, I do random gravity checks!

13. Wouldn't it be great if we could put ourselves in the dryer for ten minutes and come out wrinkle-free and three sizes smaller!

14. Last year I joined a support group for procrastinators. We haven't met yet.

15. Whenever I have a problem, I sing. Then I realize that my voice is a lot worse than my problem.

16. If you want to see bright-eyed and bushy-tailed in the morning, go find a squirrel.

Make someone smile today!

Calendar of Events

Relay for Life meeting

The next Martin County Relay for Life committee/captain's meeting will be held at the Martin County Learning Center on Thursday, February 19 at 6 p.m. Anyone interested in participating or planning Relay 2015 is welcome to attend.

Public records commission meeting

The Martin County Commission on Public Records will meet Friday, February 20 at 10:30 a.m. in the commissioners' room of the Martin County Courthouse located at 129 Main Street in Shoals.

Sons of the American Revolution meeting

The first quarterly meeting of the Daniel Guthrie Chapter, Indiana Society Sons of the American Revolution will be held on February 17 at the Free Methodist Church on R Street in Bedford. Dinner is at 6 p.m. and the cost is \$13 each. The meeting begins at 7 p.m. This will be the annual Awards Night where they will be presenting the Law Enforcement and Firefighter Commendation Medals and Certificates. Hero of the year Medal and Certificate will be presented. They will also be presenting the Bronze Good Citizenship and Outstanding Citizenship awards. Three Edgewood High School girls will receive certificates from the George S. and Stella M. Knight Essay Contest. A Eagle Scout Medal, patch and certificate will be presented to an Eagle Scout.

ACCTS Banquet

The ACCTS (Area Churches honoring Christ Together in Service) 13th Annual Banquet will be held Saturday, February 21 at 6:30 p.m. in the lower level of St. John Center in Loogootee. The event is free of charge and the public is invited to attend.

Boy Scouts

Boys interested in Boy Scouts, call 295-

6652 or 854-7837 for information on joining.

Cub Scout meetings

Cub scout meetings are held at Loogootee United Methodist Church on the first, third, and fourth Monday of each month from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. For more information, contact Bryan Adams at 812-854-7837.

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. To find out how to become a member, call the shelter at 812-295-5900 or email mchs@frontier.com.

Tourism meetings

The MCCC Tourism Committee meets on the third Monday of each month at 7 p.m. in the Martin County Community Learning Center on the fairgrounds.

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.

On the Home Front

By Linda Evans-Dillon
Martin County Veteran Service Officer

The Martin County Veteran Service Officer has an office in the Martin County Courthouse. The hours are Monday through Thursday from 12 p.m. to 4 p.m. An appointment isn't required but suggested as there are times I am out of the office meeting with or visiting veterans in the community.

DRIVERS NEEDED for the veteran's van. I am aware that we all have very busy lives and very little free time which is why I am looking for drivers to add to my call list. I am looking for **VOLUNTEERS** that are willing to transport a veteran possibly one trip a week to medical appointments in the surrounding area. This is not a paid position but I am able to provide \$10 a trip as long as there is money in the "Thank the Driver Fund". You must have an Indiana license and a clean driving record. If interested please contact me.

During the month of January the CVSO assisted 10 veterans, had two meetings, took one veteran run, attended one funeral and visited the Legions and VFWs in Crane, Loogootee and Shoals. The veteran van took six trips and transported seven veterans to VA medical centers and clinics.

It has come to my attention that veterans can get a V added to their driver's license that will allow them to get military discounts in some stores. You need to take your DD214 to the license branch and request that it be put on your license. It is free when get you license renewed or \$10.75 if you have it done at any other time. It will require a new driver's license.

Office/contact information is 812-247-2210 or e-mail martincountyvso2013@yahoo.com. For transportation needs, please call 812-247-2450.

CITY OF LOOGOOTEE
MAYOR NOEL D. HARTY
EXECUTIVE ORDER

PROCLAMATION

To All To Whom These Presents May Come, Greetings!

WHEREAS, Kappa Kappa Kappa, Inc. is a philanthropic sorority; and

WHEREAS, Kappa Kappa Kappa, Inc. was founded in 1901 to promote charity, culture and education in Indiana; and

WHEREAS, Kappa Kappa Kappa, Inc. is celebrating their 114 year in the State of Indiana;

WHEREAS, Kappa Kappa Kappa, Inc. membership is located solely in the State of Indiana; and

WHEREAS, Kappa Kappa Kappa, Inc. celebrated our membership and philanthropic activities in our Indiana communities the fourth week of February each year; and

WHEREAS, Kappa Kappa Kappa, Inc. membership celebrates the spirit of volunteerism and kindness throughout the State of Indiana;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Noel D. Harty, Mayor of the City of Loogootee, Indiana, do hereby proclaim February 22-28, 2015 as

TRI KAPPA WEEK

in the City of Loogootee, Indiana, and invite all citizens to duly note this occasion,

In Testimony Whereof, I have set my hand and cause to be affixed the seal of Loogootee this 18th day of February in the Year of our Lord 2015 and of the Independence of the United States 138.

BY THE MAYOR: Noel D. Harty