

Martin County JOURNAL

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8 Pages

Stimulus to purchase leased county building

BY COURTNEY HUGHETT
Journal Publisher

At last month's meeting of the Martin County Redevelopment Commission a discussion ensued about what Stimulus Engineering's plans were for the building they are currently leasing from the county. The commission requested that Stimulus' owners attend the next regular meeting.

As requested, Tim Wagler and Jeff Anderson, of Stimulus Engineering, came before the commission to give them an update at their Tuesday, February 23 meeting.

At the January meeting board member Dan Gregory questioned why Stimulus had not yet followed through with a verbal agreement to create 25 plus jobs for the county. He said he felt that they were rushed to get the lease put together six months ago only to have the building sitting empty.

At Tuesday night's meeting Wagler apologized to the board for their sluggish pace. He assured them that the plan to create jobs is still in place and his firm had been waiting for their portion of a \$4 million electro-optics grant to come through. It recently has been awarded although they were expecting it to happen last summer.

Wagler said that Stimulus could receive 15 to 25 percent of the grant. He added that he "can easily see three or four other buildings going up" at the location and will probably be coming to the board in 90 days to purchase the building from the county.

"That will be our headquarters over in Shoals."
-Tim Wagler, Stimulus

He said that around 70 percent of the 25 jobs to be created would be new hires which would be happening within 90 days as well. "We are committed to it and we are going to make it work," he said. Wagler also said that his company is looking to relocate their Loogootee office to the Shoals location because they have been unable to get a good deal on the building. "That will be our headquarters over in Shoals," he said.

Wagler and Anderson said they would check back in with the board at a later date.

Redevelopment Commission consultant

Jerry Ott presented the board with information on the transportation and treatment of the sanitary sewage coming from the tech park. The five buildings' estimated monthly usage is 41,000 gallons but the actual flow going through the meters is close to 100,000 gallons. He said the customers are only being charged \$200 per month or less and that when Crane starts charging for actual sewage flow that the \$4,100 a month being charged now will quickly go to around \$9,000. "We may have to make some adjustments in some of the billing rates," he said. He said that the commission may have to ask Westgate for more than \$7,200. He added, though, that Westgate will probably be taking over the sewer lines by the end of the year so they may not be too quick to make changes.

He said one of the reasons that the usage is so high is because about 40,000 gallons of ground water is running through the flow ('STIMULUS' continued on page 2)



Recycling Center expands

-Photo by Courtney Hughett

The Martin County Recycling Center is growing. They are in the process of adding a 3,600-square-foot addition to their building. This addition is necessary according to Director Laura Albertson. "We need the extra space to accommodate businesses and other counties who want to drop off material," she said. The addition is being built by D.C. Metal, of Montgomery, and will not contain electricity. The roof will be see through to allow natural light to come in. The recycling center accepted almost 7 million pounds of material last year and is one of the only recycling centers in the state able to take in this volume.

Loogootee schools looking at all options to cut back spending

BY COURTNEY HUGHETT
Journal Publisher

With the announcement at the Loogootee School Board meeting Saturday morning, February 27, Superintendent Larry Weitkamp said that the administration will be looking hard at filling the retired positions from within. He said the positions will probably not be posted.

He also went on to discuss the future of the corporation's funding. He said that federal stimulus money is "not going to last forever" and that the state of Indiana has one year left of those funds. "When that goes away and the economy doesn't pick up in a hurry there's a strong possibility there will be another round of cuts," he said.

Weitkamp said that his administrative team has been brainstorming to find ways to cut back on spending. He said that on their list includes not replacing retired positions and trying to avoid any kind of reduction in staff. "We are looking at whether or not we can close an elementary and shift them (students) into another building because that saves dollars without losing programs," he said. He went on to say, "At the bottom of our list, all the way down to what we would have to do if the state forced or we decided we needed



PHIL EYLER



TWALA HOWARD



STEPHANIE MCATEE



SUSAN EYLER

Phil Eyer - Mr. Eyer has been with the Loogootee School system for 32 years. He has taught junior high language arts and history and has coached junior high girls' basketball.

Susan Eyer - Mrs. Eyer is the Title 1 teacher at Elementary West and has been with the Loogootee School Corporation for 32 years.

Stephanie McAtee - Mrs. McAtee is the corporations At-Risk Counselor and has been with the school for 23 years.

Twala Howard - Mrs. Howard is the Elementary West secretary/treasurer and has been with the school for 32 years.

"We want to wish them well and hope retirement treats them well," said Weitkamp. West Principal Laura Mattingly said that three of those retirements are from her building. "Tremendous people and lots of experience and that's a great loss to our building, I really hate to see them go but I wish them ('SCHOOL' continued on page 2)

to actually do some consolidation." "I guess what I am saying is that anything is open," he said. He said the school is fortunate enough that they can ride it out for awhile, but not forever, which is why they need to do some planning. He said that they will have to see what happens.

Weitkamp also announced that there will be no junior high track team this year. "There's just not numbers," he said. Athletic Director Scott Reid said that there are only eight students signed up and grade checks have yet to be performed.

"I guess what I am saying is that anything is open."
-Superintendent Weitkamp on ways to cut spending

"It's hard to run a track team without numbers," said Weitkamp. He said that he is not bringing any coaching recommendations before the board at this time and unless there is an "explosion" in sign-ups, there will not be a need. He added that there are a lot of other sports programs that the junior high students are electing to do. "Track just happens to be the odd one out as far as students' selection this time around," he said.

Two teachers along with two administrative support staff members are retiring at the end of the school year.

STIMULUS

(Continued from page 1)

meter, but there is nothing that can be done about it. He also added that the EG&G usage number is what bothers him the most. He said at 2.8 thousand gallons something doesn't seem right and that amount has been consistent since they started at the location. "There needs to be some work done there to see what is going on," he said.

According to Ott the annualized receipts from the five buildings usage is \$7,145 and the Westgate Authority is reimbursing the county for \$7,200 for now, the county is still ok.

The board approved an invoice to the Westgate Authority for 2009's fees of \$7,200.

In the final order of business Ott presented the board with three letters. The first letter from April, 2006 was from then-Commissioner Mike Dant to the Indiana Economic Development Commission presenting the total amount of money committed or spent towards Martin County's portion of the tech park. The total was originally \$259,323. The second letter was a revised version from February, 2009, showing the actual amount spent by the county or through forgiven taxes totaling \$207,188. Part of the reduction was \$30,035 that was

paid by an in-kind donation solicited by SIDC on the county's behalf. The other was for \$22,100 for the 2006 Economic Development Director which Ott explained was paid after June 13th when the Westgate was officially established and therefore not included in the original funds. The third letter was a combination of the first two to be sent to the Westgate Authority per their request. Ott said that the authority requested the breakdown.

"So where's this headed after we send it?" said board member Dan Gregory. "They requested it for a reason."

"I can only say that they want to attempt to reimburse you when they can," said Ott. "That's all you need to take it for at the moment, there has been no action taken prior to this as to what will happen next," he said. He added that there was no guarantee or written commitment that the county would be reimbursed for the money and he reminded the board that the county recently received an unsolicited reimbursement of \$50,000 from the authority.

He said, however, that it was implied that money spent after Westgate's creation would be reimbursed.

Board member Randy Winger was not present at the meeting.

Eric Wade chosen as new Veterans' Service Officer

BY SHAYNA OTTO
Journal Assistant Publisher

The Martin County Commissioners recently appointed Eric Wade as the new Veterans' Service Officer for the county.

Eric Wade was born and raised in Shoals. His parents were George and Sissy Wade. Eric recalls his parents being great and always being involved, both personally and professionally, in the community.

After graduating in 1987, Eric then entered into the Navy two years later. He was trained in Advanced Emergency Medicine and Laboratory Science all while traveling around the world. In 1993 Wade left the Navy with an Honorable Discharge just in time for the birth of his daughter, Haley. After leaving the service, he went to work for Fidelity Investments and began training brokers for Insurance Ethics and Investment Protocols in 1990. He then formed his own education and training company, Morgan's Trust.

Eric resided in Texas for a number of years because, he says, Houston has the largest financial district in the world. After



ERIC WADE

Hurricane Ike roared through, and with his daughter in mind, he set his sights on returning home to Shoals.

Being continuously involved with the VA and other veterans' service organizations, when the opportunity came to serve his fellow veterans and community, he decided to apply for service officer.

Eric Wade has always believed that "giving something back" to the community, where he was born and raised, is the best way to show appreciation for the people who have helped shape his life.

Eric draws inspiration from Napoleon Hill's novel 'Success Through A Positive Mental Attitude' and remarks that it is literally true that you can succeed best and quickest by helping others to succeed.

Eric plans to cover everything from health benefits to education and training for placement opportunities at Crane for Martin County's veterans. "I am humbled by the chance to serve the community, and look forward to meeting veterans and assisting them as best I am able," he said.

To contact Eric email him at mcveterans@gmail.com.

SCHOOL

(Continued from page 1)

well in retirement," she said.

Weitkamp also announced the resignation of Susie Nowaskie as the junior high cheer coach. Mrs. Nowaskie will be having a baby this summer.

The board approved the following recommendations: Jamie Wildman as girls' assistant tennis coach, and Jim Weisheit and Randy Chapel as volunteer softball coaches.

Condolences were offered to Brenda Weisheit in the passing of her aunt, Seasonal Lawson for the passing of her uncle, Sarah Trambaugh in the passing of her grandfather-in-law, and Brenda Mathias for the passing of her father-in-law.

It was also mentioned that Elementary East teacher Ron Gilbert is doing well following his recent open heart surgery.

Policy Review

The school board has recently added policy review as an agenda item for each meeting. The policies set for adoption are put on the school's website for review. Weitkamp said that since last month's meeting, when he suggested to Technology/Curriculum Director Mike Tippery that he put a counter on the page, 67 unique visitors have been to the site.

The board did a second reading and adopted the following policies: Educational Surrogate Parent Policy, Training and Health Precautions for Communicable Diseases, Least Restrictive Environment, Administra-

tion of Medicine at School, Moment of Silence, Display of Flag and Pledge of Allegiance. All policies that have been adopted, to date, can be found on the school's website at www.loogootee.k12.in.us/boardpolicyreview.htm.

The policies reviewed at Saturday's meeting were as follows: Student Discipline, Student Lockers, Habitual Truancy, Student Wellness and Homeless Children.

For more information on these policies see the side bar at the bottom right of this page.

School and Student Success Elementary West

Elementary West Principal Laura Mattingly reported that midterms were sent home February 8 and that due to a change in the grading period report cards will not be sent home until March 19.

The kindergarten and first grade music program was held on February 22 and ISTEP+ testing began on Monday for third graders.

Elementary East

Elementary East Principal Bill Powell reported that the students of the month for January were fourth grader Cora Hedrick, fifth grader Emily Brookshire, and sixth grader Bailey Holt.

Mr. Powell also reported that the County Spelling Bee was held at East on Wednesday, February 24 and Sarah Stoll and Jacob Simmons participated from his building. Dalton Jenkins, an eighth grader at Loogootee Jr./Sr. High School was this year's county champion and will go on to participate in the tri-state competition in Evansville in two weeks.

Also, Loogootee East just completed their annual "Hearts for Riley" campaign and raised \$774.80 which is an average of \$3.25 per student. East qualified as a Miracle School for having donations exceeding one dollar per student. All proceeds go directly to the Riley Hospital Children's Foundation.

The boys' and girls' fifth and sixth grade basketball teams recently completed their seasons. Mr. Powell gave his congratulations to all the players and coaches for a job well done.

East's midterm reports were sent home Monday, February 8 and ISTEP+ testing for East also started on Monday.

Loogootee Jr./Sr. High School

Athletic Director Scott Reid read the report for Principal John Mullen who was unable to attend. Congratulations were given to all the Historical Marker Essay Contest winners, to the 23 District Chorus Solo and Ensemble medalists, and to the 28 District Band Solo and Ensemble medalists.

Kelci Mann and Wynter Wagoner were

named to the Blue Chip All-Conference and Mike Tippery was named 2009 District 5 Coach of the Year by the Indiana High School Tennis Association.

The Coaches vs. Cancer basketball game recently held raised more than \$1,000 to go toward cancer research and the French and Spanish Clubs raised more than \$1,000 for Doctors without Borders benefiting Haiti.

Also congratulated were the Top Ten Scholars honored at a dinner sponsored by Tri-Kappa. Those honored were Audra Lannan, Ashton Matthews, Bailey Anderson, Vicki Sorrells, Misty Bough, Luke Kidwell, Diane McFeaters, Hannah Pruett, Andrea Huff, and Jeff Norris.

School policies under review

Homeless Students

To the extent practical and as required by law, the corporation will work with homeless students and their families to provide stability in school attendance and other services. Special attention will be given to ensuring the enrollment and attendance of homeless students not currently attending school. The superintendent shall designate an appropriate staff person to be the corporation's liaison for homeless students and their families. Homeless students are entitled to transportation to their school of origin or the school where they are to be enrolled.

Student Wellness

The Board of School Trustees of Loogootee Community School Corporation supports increased emphasis on nutrition as well as physical activity at all grade levels to enhance the well-being of the school corporation's students. Therefore, it is the policy of the board to: provide students access to nutritious food and beverages; provide opportunities for physical activity and developmentally appropriate exercise; and require that all meals served by the school corporation meet the federal nutritional guidelines issued by the U. S. Department of Agriculture.

Student Discipline

School officials may find it necessary to discipline students when their behavior interferes with school purposes or educational functions of the school corporation. In accordance with the provisions of I.C. 20-33-8, administrators and staff members may take the following actions: Removal from class or activity by the teacher, suspension from school by the principal, expulsion, or corporal punishment. Grounds for expulsion include: Student misconduct and/or substantial

disobedience, bullying, possessing a firearm or a destructive device, possessing a deadly weapon, or unlawful activity.

Student Lockers

All lockers made available for student use on the school premises, including lockers located in the hallways, physical education and athletic dressing rooms, industrial education classrooms and art classrooms, are the property of the school corporation. These lockers are made available for student use in storing school supplies and personal items necessary for use at school but the lockers are not to be used to store items which cause, or can reasonably be foreseen to cause, an interference with school purposes or an educational function, or which are forbidden by state law or school rules. A student may not expect to have privacy in a locker or its contents. The school corporation retains the right to inspect the locker and its contents to ensure that the locker is being used in accordance with its intended purpose.

Habitual Truancy

A. An "habitual truant" is defined as a student who has 11 or more days of unexcused absences in one school year. B. All students who are at least 13 years of age but less than the age of 15 years, and who are determined to be a habitual truant per the definition above, are subject to Indiana Code 20-33-2-11, which provides that any person who is determined to be a habitual truant as defined by school board policy cannot be issued an operator's license or learner's permit until the age of 18 years, or until the student's attendance record has improved as determined by the principal upon review of the student's record of at least once per school year.

Visit www.loogootee.k12.in.us/boardpolicyreview.htm for detailed policies.

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Log jams to be cleaned up; veterans' service officer appointed

BY COURTNEY HUGHETT
Journal Publisher

The Martin County Commissioners gave the go ahead, at their meeting Tuesday night, February 23, to continue their partnership with Orange County to remove log jams from Lost River.

Theresa Criss-Hartwig, of Commonwealth Engineers, spoke to the commissioners about the preliminary engineering that needed to be done prior to submitting the grant application. She said that the grant being sought to fund the project targets level three and four jams and there are five levels with five being the worst.

The preliminary engineering includes working with the county surveyor and the Soil and Water Conservation District to determine what kind of effect removing the jams would have on residents in the area. A fly over was planned for last Thursday to survey the jams.

Surveyor Paul Sanders questioned whether the flight crew would be able to get an accurate reading of the jams with Lost River's bank being so full. Sanders said he was just afraid that if the jams could not be identified because of the water, the flight would have to be done again at an additional cost.

Hartwig said that GPS identifies each jam and then the engineers come back and identify them closer.

"From a surveying standpoint I just don't see how they can identify it from the air," said Sanders.

Highway Superintendent Jim Williams said that someone has already walked Lost River.

Sanders said no one had contacted him so far regarding the project. Hartwig said she would contact them the next morning and have them get in touch with him.

"You might have 20 more log jams that we'll miss, and if they've already been identified that's great, I just don't see how the pending flight Thursday is going to make that great deal of difference," he said.

Hartwig said the local SWCD offices were in charge of the identifying plans. "We do want to have the best data possible," said Hartwig.

The grant does not cover the cost for engineering which would be \$5,500. Hartwig said that it could, however, be used as the matching funds. Everything else would be covered under the grant.

Commissioner Paul George said that they would be attending Monday night's county council meeting to request the engineering fees.

The commissioners appointed Eric Wade as the new Veterans' Service Officer. Wade said he has been in initial contact with several veterans' administrators at the VA Medical Clinic in Bloomington and has spoken with a command at Crane that's main purpose is to hire veterans and train them for

Crane. "I want to modernize it and run with it," said Wade. "I want to be a proactive force."

He added that he wants to help veterans get their benefits, disability and education. Wade's service was effective March 1 and he replaces Eugene Wilcoxon.

Andy Ringwald, of the Emergency Management Agency, reported that "substantial completion" of the fire station at the fairgrounds was expected by March 1. He added that the only thing that should be left for after that date was the ground work which can't be done due to the ground being so wet. Also to be completed are the septic lines, the air unit, and the setting of the plumbing fixtures that is delayed due to the ground work. He also noted that there was

"I want to be a proactive force."

-Eric Wade, new Veterans' Service Officer

not enough money to complete the upstairs and they hope to have that done sometime this summer.

Ringwald also mentioned that a weather spotters' class will be held March 30 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at the learning center.

The commissioners approved Highway Superintendent Jim Williams putting a 10-ton weight limit on all county roads due to declining conditions. "Even the cars are tearing the roads up right now they are so soft," said Williams. The limit includes anything but non-essential vehicles. It is requested that everyone lighten their load as much as possible. It was discussed that there is a penalty for violating the limit although the amount of that penalty was unknown.

Williams also mentioned that there is a mud slide at McBride's Bluff. He said that normally when there is a slide the trees and bushes are leaning and you can actually see how it's moving. "This one, the only thing you can see is that it's dropping," he said. "We don't know where it's going," he added. He said from Friday evening to Sunday morning he was told that it had dropped a foot and that he had people filling it back up and smoothing the area out "I don't know what we got out there yet, everything is going down," he added.

"We're going to have to stay on top of that one," said Commissioner George. Williams said he has an employee who lives nearby and is keeping a close eye on it.

Williams also reported that he has been in discussion with a few county residents who have put locked gates up across county roads. He said one has agreed to take the gate down and he is working things out with the other two. He said that the county cannot maintain the roads with the gates up and he wanted to make the commissioners aware of what was going on in case they were contacted in the future.

Williams also requested to be changed to hourly pay instead of salary. He said he is currently not accruing comp time as the other county workers are. "I put in 22 hours in the last two days and I don't want to do that all the time if I don't get compensated



-Photos by Courtney Hughett

The new fire station was scheduled to be substantially completed by Monday. Andy Ringwald of the Emergency Management Agency says that a few things will still need to be completed after the ground dries up. Shown in the top picture is the front of the fire station and the inset picture is the back. The upstairs will not be completed until a later time because funding from the grant ran out. Jasper Lumber was in charge of the construction.

for it," he said. He said he does want to clarify that he does not expect to receive compensation for coming to the bi-weekly commissioners' meetings. "This is just part of the job," he said. The commissioners approved his request.

Brent Roberts, of BF&S Civil Engineers approached the commissioners to talk about stimulus money. He said that Congress is currently working on a jobs bill similar to the stimulus bill.

He said, if passed, the bill would give consideration for nine miles of road that the county did not qualify to have done in the first round of stimulus funding. He said that the rules will be the same as before, first come first serve, and that the commissioners may want to consider going ahead with the construction inspections, either by using INDOT's selected consultants or the commissioners can put out a request for proposals.

The construction cost and the construction inspections are paid for by the grant.

Commissioner Paul George asked Roberts if the county could use his company as the engineering firm. Roberts replied that they could and that he can get the proposal ready and get it posted on the INDOT website right away.

The commissioners approved BF&S proceeding with the request for proposals.

The final decision to be made on Public Health Coordinator Bobbie Souerdike, which was an agenda item, was postponed until the next commissioners' meeting. Souerdike is still suspended without pay.

Assessor Carolyn MacGuire requested transferring software companies from INDOX to AS2. The cost for the ScanMan software is \$11,250 with a three-year contract for annual maintenance of \$3,000 and the cost for the Propman software is \$7,650 with a three-year maintenance contract of \$3,500 per year.

The money to buy the software will come from the assessor's reassessing funds.

Forestry workshop to be held

The Martin County SWCD Forestry Workshop will be held on Monday, March 15 at the Martin County Learning Center.

The workshop is free and will begin at 6 p.m. District Forester Steve Brandsasse and Tenna Ligman, of Forestry Service will provide information on forestry management, classified forest, and invasive species.

RSVP to the Martin County Soil and Water Conservation District at 295-3149.

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Fithian seeks re-election for county clerk

Announcement written and submitted by Julie Fithian



JULIE FITHIAN

I, Julie Fithian, am announcing my candidacy for re-election to the office of Martin County Clerk on the Republican ticket.

When I took office in January, 2008, I was excited about the challenges that lay ahead. The clerk's office is responsible for a variety of duties. These include processing court documents, maintaining voter records, conducting elections, and numerous other services to the community. With the help of the deputy clerk, clerks from other counties, and several training sessions, I have been able to perform the duties of clerk in an efficient and cost-effective manner.

In the past two years, I have improved the standard of service and the quality of records while trimming the clerk's budget by \$10,000 and the election budget by \$17,000.

Since I have taken office, I have worked hard to understand every aspect of the clerk's duties by working every position. By doing this, I am able to keep up with changes and look for better ways to increase productivity. While serving as clerk, I have become more knowledgeable about how the county is run and I have maintained good working relationships with other county offices.

I have lived in Martin County for 17 years. Before moving to Shoals, I lived in Chicago. From 1982 until 1993, I worked for various commodities firms. When I left Chicago, I was Operations Manager for Shearson Lehman Brothers at the Chicago Board of Trade. In this position, I handled accounts for customers all over the world. In 1992, I married Bruce and we decided to move to Martin County and start a family. We now have two children, Raquel and Alyssa.

I attend Shoals Christian Church where I am involved with VBS and Junior Church.

I am a member of the Shoals Eagles Auxiliary and have been the auditor since 2001. I am also a member of the Friends of the National Rifle Association East Fork Committee.

I have enjoyed serving you – the citizens of Martin County and I hope for the opportunity to serve you for another term.

If re-elected, I will continue to provide quality service and look for additional ways to benefit this county. Please vote on May 4.

Highway Department in trouble with funding, requests imposing wheel tax

BY COURTNEY HUGHETT
Journal Publisher

Highway Superintendent Jim Williams once again suggested to the Martin County Council Monday night, February 1, that the county impose a wheel tax to help increase funds for the highway department. The maximum that can be charged is \$25 which would apply to cars and trucks.

Williams said that in order for the tax to be put in place by 2011, it has to be approved by the council before June 1. Williams noted that the highway department would not be the only ones benefiting from the tax and that some of the money would also go to Loogootee, Shoals, and the town of Crane. The amounts that Williams presented to the council dated back to 2005 and he said he was unable to get current numbers prior to Monday night's meeting. The council requested that he get updated numbers when he could.

Williams said that the state cut the highway department's budget by \$210,000 and that if the council had any other options to raise money he was open to hear them. He said that there is no money for road paving and that he is even going to be short on gravel. Council member Lonnie Hawkins asked Williams if any roads had been paved last year. He said he thought that the former superintendent had said they would try to

pave 15 miles of road per year. Williams said that no paving had been done last year and that the only thing his department could afford to do was some hand patching. "It wasn't near what we should have," said Williams.

Council member Randy Winger told Williams that he knows how things stand at the highway department and he knows that he has tried everything he can but added, "I've never been in favor of another new tax."

He said that the economy may stay the way it is but it also may start to improve. "If we are in a valley, I am not really in favor of a new tax," he said. "And then when we come out of the valley and keeping that new tax on there, that happens too much in my opinion," he added. He said he questions whether there would be any EDIT money left over that could go to the highway department and keep them afloat for the time being.

Williams noted that all the surrounding counties have a wheel tax and although he is also not in favor of increasing taxes he is unsure on what else to do.

Hawkins said that last fall the council agreed to give the highway department money from the EDIT fund but on an "as needed" basis. He requested that Williams

get an estimate on what it would cost to maintain those 15 miles and report back.

An additional appropriation of \$24,250 was requested by the judge in writing from the Probation Users Fund for office renovation in the downstairs courthouse. The renovations began in 2009 and the council has already approved \$6,500 for the first stage. The judge noted in his request that no renovations had been done for 11 years since the office was moved to that location and it

was noted this money would not be from the General Fund and is not from tax money collected. Council member Lonnie Hawkins said he was concerned that with a new judge being elected next year that he or she would have the option to move from the current location. He said "I don't want to see another request come in after the first of the year because the new judge doesn't like the \$30,000 we spent to improve," he said.

"I think we have the biggest part of it done I hate to stop before it's finished," said Council member John Stoll.

Council member Richard Summers asked Commissioner Paul George who was in the audience what his input was. George said "We already started it we might as well finish it now." The judge's request was approved.

In other business Sheriff Tony Dant updated the council on the 2003 Chevy Trailblazer that was repaired for front end wear at G & M. The cost was \$1,521. A 2005 Ford will also have the transmission replaced at Ruxer's at a cost of \$3,983.53.

Commissioner George also gave a report on the Lost River log jam and the possible grant to clear it. Commonwealth Engineering is doing a pre-engineering study for the fee of \$5,500 that is required to apply for the grant that is available up to \$1,000,000. Martin County's match will come from the \$5,500. It was mentioned that the wash-out on Windom Road last year cost much more than the pre-engineering fee would cost and asked if the council would give their verbal consent to this project. It has not been decided if Martin County would be in a combined grant with Orange County. The council members agreed, verbally, to go forward with the application.

The following additional appropriations were also approved:

An additional appropriation of \$4,760 from the Clerk's Perpetuation Fund was presented by Deputy Clerk Amber Gilbertson for the purchase of a copier and an additional appropriation request of \$3,608 from the General Fund, Courthouse for the remainder of the custodian's salary. This was needed to keep his salary at the same amount as last year.

Senate approves bill to eliminate township boards

The Republican-led Indiana Senate has approved a bill to eliminate township boards and transfer their duties to the county level starting in 2013.

The chamber voted 30-20 Thursday to approve a House bill that had largely been rewritten in the Senate. The Senate version stripped out language that would have allowed voters in every Indiana township to vote in November on whether to eliminate their township trustees and township boards and transfer those duties to the county.

The Senate version also would scrap township boards but retain township trustees.

The bill now likely will go to a House-Senate conference committee to try to resolve the House-passed and Senate-approved versions of the bill.

The Messmer Report

By District 63 State Representative
Mark Messmer



Dear Friends,

The mood at the Statehouse was definitely different this week.

The House Speaker and Senate Pro Tempore had both set ambitious goals: they wanted both chambers to move voting deadlines up by one week.

This was a week earlier than the original deadline.

Everyone in the House seemed antsy to not only meet this new goal, but get as much done as possible each day so that we could avoid having to vote on bills late into the night.

While we voted on over fifty bills this week, I would like to discuss three that I believe are of particular interest.

Senate Bill (SB) 23 passed on third reading in the House on Wednesday. This bill repeals the huge employer tax increases passed last year by the House majority, which was not supported by a single House Republican in 2009.

This tax increase, passed last year, increased unemployment insurance taxes on nearly 80,000 small, medium, and large businesses by more than \$700 million over two years.

Because Republicans were against the tax increase in the first place, it made sense to me to support this repeal. It's just one more burden businesses shouldn't have to worry about.

We passed SB 309 on Thursday. It permits schools to transfer money into the general operating fund from other funds, under certain conditions.

However, it stipulates that schools can only use the transferred funds if they use them to avoid school employee layoffs and protect instructional programs.

The most important part of a child's edu-

cation is a good teacher, and the General Assembly passed this legislation in the hopes that we can protect teachers while still providing as much flexibility as possible to school districts during this economic crisis.

SB 309 will grant schools the flexibility to use their funds as efficiently as possible.

Another bill we voted on this week, Senate Bill 356, contained issues we have been discussing since last summer. It will make government more efficient in several ways.

First of all, the bill establishes procedures for the Attorney General to seize, secure, store, and destroy abandoned or at-risk health records and other records containing personally identifying information.

I know that keeping your health records private is important to you, so it's also important to us.

This bill also allows a criminal history check for employees of home health agencies and personal services agencies to be provided through a private agency.

This will speed up the rate at which agencies are able to hire nurses and health aides and get them into homes to serve Hoosiers, while still making sure that those employees have no criminal history.

Lastly, this bill works to further protect Hoosiers by ensuring that licensed occupations are regulated in a manner so that when an individual is falsely practicing without a license, the board of that occupation may issue a cease and desist order in a uniform manner with other occupations.

I believe that these bills will be beneficial to Hoosiers, whether it be through finance, education, or privacy rights.

As always, feel free to contact me with any questions. You can reach me by email at h63@in.gov.

Public RECORDS

News from the Martin County Court

CRIMINAL CONVICTIONS AND SENTENCES

January 19

William H. Machin, convicted of operating a vehicle with a schedule I or II controlled substance or its metabolite in the body (Class C Misdemeanor). Sentenced to serve 60 days in the MCSC with credit for time served. Court suspends 54 days. Defendant receives 4 months probation.

February 2

Rocky Joe Morton, convicted of operating a vehicle with a blood alcohol content of .08 or more (Class C Misdemeanor). Sentenced to serve 60 days in the MCSC with credit for time served. Court suspends 56 days. Defendant receives no probation.

February 22

James H. Grace, convicted of possession of marijuana (Class A Misdemeanor). Sentenced to serve 365 days in the MCSC with credit for time served. Court suspends 359 days. Defendant receives 11 months probation.

CRIMINAL CHARGES DISMISSED

James H. Grace, maintaining a common nuisance (Class D Felony), dismissed.

Melissa B. Eberle, failure to stop after accident resulting in damage to unattended vehicle (Class B Misdemeanor), dismissed.

Lavelle R. Grace, possession of marijuana (Class A Misdemeanor), dismissed; maintaining a common nuisance (Class D Felony), dismissed.

CIVIL FILINGS

February 22

Capital One Bank vs. Robert W. Allen, civil collection.

Midland Funding, LLC vs. Melchi E. Pennington, civil collection.

Rocky McClure vs. Jennifer McClure, petition for dissolution of marriage.

February 23

James A. Sorrells vs. Victoria F. Sorrells, petition for dissolution of marriage.

SMALL CLAIMS FILINGS

February 22

Family Dental Care vs. Charla Ivey, complaint.

SMALL CLAIMS JUDGMENTS

February 18

Jamie Abel to Procol for \$2,376.09
James Carroll to Procol for \$3,373.11

TRAFFIC TICKETS PAID

February 12 – February 24

Patrick Bruner, Loogootee, two counts child restraint violation – child less than 8, \$50.

Eric Carrico, Loogootee, two counts seatbelt violations, \$50.

Sharon Coppinger, Loogootee, speeding 70 in a 55, \$119.

Nick Eichere, Loogootee, child restraint violation – child age 8-16, \$25.

William Gay, Shoals, seatbelt violation, \$25.

Kimberly Payne, Owensboro, Kentucky, speeding 68 in a 50, \$124.

Travis Stewart, Franklin, speeding 46 in a 30, \$124.

Allen Swayze, Loogootee, ignore stop sign, \$124.

Grant Tharp, Crawfordsville, speeding 40 in a 25, \$119.

Jason Wittmer, seatbelt violation, \$25.

Loogootee man arrested for meth

PRESS RELEASE PROVIDED BY THE ISP

The Indiana State Police arrested a Robert Allbright, of Loogootee early Monday morning, February 23, on a warrant for manufacturing methamphetamine.

According to the state police, at approximately 1:11 a.m., Deputy Josh Greene and Trooper Jarrod Lents arrived at 211 Cedar Street, Apt. 5, in Loogootee to serve an arrest warrant on Allbright for purchasing more than three grams of pseudoephedrine.

Once inside the residence, drug paraphernalia was noticed in plain sight.

Allbright then showed officers various items of methamphetamine and methamphetamine manufacturing paraphernalia. Allbright was arrested and transported to the Martin County Jail.

His offense was enhanced to a Class A Felony due to the fact that the apartment was government subsidized housing and located less than 1,000 feet from a preschool.

Martin County transfers of real estate

Green Farms, LLC, of Indiana to **Green Farms, LLC**, of Indiana 30 acres in the southwest quarter of the northeast quarter of Section 3, Township 4 North, Range 3 West that lies north and west of the public road leading from Harrisonville to Silverville. Also all the part of the northeast quarter of the southwest quarter lying west and north of the road leading from Harrisonville to Silverville, in Section 3, Township 4 North, Range 3 West. Also, a part of the northeast quarter of the southwest quarter in Section 3, Township 4 North, Range 3 West, containing 13.5 acres, and containing in all 22.5 acres, more or less. Also, all that part of the north half of the Southeast quarter of Section 9, Township 4 North, Range 3 West, Mitcheltree Township, Martin County, Indiana, containing 34.22 acres, more or less. Also, a part of the southwest quarter of the northeast quarter and a part of the northwest quarter of the southeast quarter and a part of the northeast quarter of the southwest quarter of Section 9, Township 4 North, Range 3 West, Mitcheltree Township, containing 48.17 acres. Also, a part of the northeast quarter of the southwest quarter and a part of the southeast quarter of the northwest quarter of Section 9, Township 4

North, Range 3 West, Mitcheltree Township containing 8.26 acres. Also, the southwest quarter of the northwest quarter and the northwest quarter of the southwest quarter of Section 10, Township 4 North, Range 3 West. Also, all that part of the southeast quarter of the northeast quarter of Section 9, Township 4 North, Range 3 West, and estimated to contain 25 acres. Except a part of the west one-half of Section 10, Township 4 North, Range 3 West, containing 3.5 acres. Also except the northwest quarter of the southwest quarter of Section 10, Township 4 North, Range 3 West. Also except a part of the southwest quarter of the northwest quarter of Section 10, Township 4 North, Range 3 West, containing in all after said exceptions 57.50 acres, more or less.

Tim Moffatt, of Orange County, Indiana to **Jason D. Loughmiller and Pamela J. Loughmiller**, trustees of the Jason D. Loughmiller and Pamela J. Loughmiller Revocable Living Trust, of Martin County, Indiana, the northeast quarter of the southwest quarter of Section 14, Township 2 North, Range 3 west, containing 40 acres. The northwest quarter of the southeast quarter of Section 14, Township 2 North, Range 3 West, containing 40 acres.

Loogootee Police Department log

Monday, February 22

7:45 p.m. – Caller reported a dog was howling constantly on Northwest 1st Street. The owner of the dog was notified.

10:34 p.m. – Caller reported a domestic dispute at Sunset Trailer Court. Sgt. Norris arrived and advised that the male was packing his belongings and leaving.

Tuesday, February 23

12:30 p.m. - Terri Swartzentruber, Montgomery, reported that she was bitten by a black dog while at the Dollar General. The dog was later identified; however, officers could not quarantine the animal.

2:55 p.m. – Caller reported a domestic dispute at Sunset Trailer Court. Sgt. Hennette arrived and spoke with the subjects.

4:30 p.m. – Officer Branham was flagged down by a citizen and advised of a domestic dispute at Redwing Trailer Court. Officer Branham filed a case report.

Thursday, February 25

10:30 p.m. – Caller reported a fight at Redwing Trailer Court. Sgt. Hennette ar-

rived to find the subjects had already left the area. Subjects were later located in Shoals. Hennette spoke with all parties involved.

Friday, February 26

2:29 p.m. – Alma Walker, Loogootee, reported someone is poisoning cats on East Washington Street.

4:20 p.m. – Witness observed a 1987 Mazda driving recklessly at the pool parking lot. Vehicle ended up stuck in the grassy area. Sgt. Hennette responded and charges are pending.

Saturday, February 27

1:15 a.m. – Martin County Sheriff's Department advised Sgt. Hennette of a Townsend truck in the ditch on Brickyard Road. Vehicle was later reported stolen from Hoosier Auto.

11:02 a.m. – Employee at Hoosier Auto called to report that a customer's vehicle had been vandalized. It appeared that someone had attempted to steal the vehicle. Officer Nolan completed a case report.

City of Loogootee accident reports

Monday, February 22

6:34 p.m. – Deborah Harmon, Montgomery, was operating a 2004 Jeep and slowed for traffic on JFK Avenue. At this time Darlene Wells, Loogootee, was operating a 2000 Pontiac and failed to see the Harmon vehicle in front of her. Wells' vehicle collided with the Harmon vehicle. No injuries were reported. Sgt. Norris was the investigating officer.

Tuesday, February 23

2:15 p.m. – Mark Elliot, Loogootee, was operating a 2000 Bravada and was backing into the church parking lot. At this time, El-

liott failed to see a 2000 Dodge owned by Ernest and Carolyn Thompson, Loogootee. No injuries were reported and Sgt. Hennette was the investigating officer.

Wednesday, February 24

8:15 p.m. – Sarah R. Crane, Loogootee, was operating a 1997 Pontiac and was turning out of the CVS parking lot. At this time Joshua Phillips, Loogootee, operating a 1996 Oldsmobile, made a right turn into the parking lot. Due to a snow-covered lot Phillips slid into the Crane vehicle. No injuries were reported. Sgt. Hennette was the investigating officer.


ARE YOU INVOLVED IN A NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION?
The Martin County Journal has started a "Wish List" for you on our website.

Send us a list of the items you need for your club or organization to courtney@martincountyjournal.com



Happy 10th Birthday, ALEX HUGHETT

We love you very much!! Mom, Dad & Wyatt





My Point of VIEW

By Courtney Hughett

Well, after what feels like months of driving you all crazy with promotion . . . here it is; the first issue of the *Martin County Journal*.

I've been in the newspaper business, in one capacity or another, since 1998. I started at the *Brown County Democrat* newspaper. At *The Democrat* I was special projects coordinator and was in charge of producing special sections from the ground up. I also helped out with the newspaper by writing and laying out pages. After having Alex in 2000 I decided to stay at home with both my boys and left *The Democrat* in early 2001. Since then I worked as a reporter for the *Washington Times-Herald*, a writer, reporter, graphic designer, and website designer for *The Loogootee Tribune*; and a writer, ad designer, and website updater for *The Shoals News*. I learned everything I know from the publisher and general manager of *The Democrat*. They took me under their wing and I applied everything I had learned to the newspapers that followed. It just took me awhile to figure out what I guess I knew all along . . . I needed to produce my own publication the way I wanted to.

I have been in newspapers long enough to have a pretty good idea what the readers want to see. While at *The Tribune* I started the court news, the opinion page, and helped organize the paper so that the reader knew right where to turn to find what they wanted to read. No one wants to read a paper that has everything scattered throughout. They want organization and neatness. I also learned that people want to read what really took place at meetings. They don't want to read the minutes, they want to feel like they were sitting right there with quotes and a true telling of what happened. Newspaper readers also want to feel like they are

a part of their local newspaper. They want to feel like all citizens are equal, all sports are equal, all clubs and organizations are equal, and not just the select few. Readers also want to read local news from their own community as much as possible, most state and national news is available about everywhere you turn. Our first focus is Martin County news and then, if requested, news from the surrounding communities.

I will admit that covering every single thing is impossible, that's where the readers come in. To be a "community" newspaper, you have to have the involvement of the community. Feel free to write up a story and submit it or send us your photos. If you are not comfortable writing stories then just submit the basic info and we will put it together for you.

The Journal will be adding a lot of things in the future. Just getting things started is difficult. We are doing our best to contact all of the area's clubs, organizations, coaches, churches, etc. to receive press releases. This issue may be short and sweet but please keep in mind that this is our very first issue. We will only get better from here.

The Journal will also be sharing this weekly column with our readers each week. So get to writing and become a guest columnist. Write about whatever you want as long as it isn't offensive.

I think one of the reasons I love newspapers is because I love history. Every time I put together a story or take a photograph I picture someone, 100 years from now, looking back at that newspaper to see what we are living right now. I want to document it to the best of my ability so our footprint here in Martin County lives on.

Contact Courtney - courtney@martincountyjournal.com.

Martin County OUTDOORS

TURKEY TIME

BY JOSHUA HUGHETT
Journal Co-Owner

Turkey hunters have been patiently waiting for spring to roll back around. Well the wait is just about over, and the time has come to get out the decoys, the guns and the camouflage and let story trading begin.

If you have never been in the woods when the light is peeking over the woods line and heard that big Tom let out the gobble that makes the hair stand up on your neck, than you haven't done everything.

Most people have been deer hunting at least once in their lives; it's just not the same as turkey hunting. When you are trying to find an animal that spends most of its time standing in the middle of a 100-acre field and then you have to figure out how to get to him all while being invisible to him and the surrounding hens. That's where all the fun truly begins. If you are like me, you know where that turkey has been every day, and you know where to be to get that one-time shot.

It's only when you get set up does that big Tom gobble 200 yards away in some other part of the woods that you didn't even know was there. So you pack up everything you just spent an hour, in the dark, setting up,

just the way you think it should be, to make that big score.

The funny part is, it will only take you about 15 seconds to repack run several hundred yards only to find out there are four other guys just like you running for the same big tom. So now it's on.

Now there are turkeys gobbling in every part of the woods except the one you are in. This is when it is time to decide which one sounds more excited than the others and which one will respond to your sweet little purrs and yelps, from your calls, and think that you are the best hen he has heard since last year. This takes a lot of waiting, listening, and sitting perfectly still for hours and trying not to

itch your nose or flip the ticks off that are crawling all over you by now. And if you have a buddy with you, and most of us do, you are both looking at each other thinking, since it is lunch time, do you take a break or just sit and listen and hope the turkeys get closer.

All of you just get out there and spend some time in the woods during turkey season be patient and be careful, and maybe the big Tom will strut by and gobble and give you the shot of a life time.

Contact Josh - josh@martincountyjournal.com.



JOSHUA HUGHETT

Indiana youth turkey season, April 17 and 18

Indiana's 2010 youth turkey season will take place Saturday and Sunday, April 17 and 18. The special season is open to hunters age 17 or younger. Youth hunters are limited to one bearded or male wild turkey.

To participate, a youth hunter must be accompanied in the field at all times by an adult who is at least 18 years old and is not in possession of a firearm, bow and arrow, or crossbow.

The adult does not need a hunting license, unless the youth is using an apprentice license. The youth must be properly licensed to take a wild turkey and comply with all tagging and check-in requirements.

A list of check stations is available in the 2008-2009 Hunting and Trapping Guide or at www.wildlife.in.gov. Legal equipment includes 10-, 12-, 16-, or 20-gauge shotguns, bow and arrow, or crossbow.

An apprentice license is available to youths who have yet to complete the requirement of hunter education. All persons, regardless of age, are limited to three apprentice licenses in their lifetime.

Youth turkey hunters killed 978 turkeys statewide during the 2009 youth season and 956 turkeys statewide during the 2008

youth season.

The DNR is offering reserved youth turkey hunts at 21 DNR properties during the youth turkey season—Atterbury, Crosley, Glendale, Goose Pond, Hovey Lake, Jasper-Pulaski, Sugar Ridge, Kankakee, Kingsbury, LaSalle, Pigeon River, Tri-County, Minnehaha, Fairbanks Landing, Hillenbrand, Chinook, Winamac and Willow Slough fish and wildlife areas, as well as at Salamonie, Roush and Mississinewa lakes. The hunts are limited.

Youth hunters may be drawn for either or both hunt days, or not at all, depending on the number of applicants. Youth hunters, or an adult representing them, must register in person at the property of choice, from March 15 through March 26, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Drawings will be held March 29. All applicants will be notified of drawing results by mail. Applicants may sign up for only one property.

Those wanting to sign up for Fairbanks Landing, Chinook or Hillenbrand hunts may do so at Minnehaha FWA.

Find DNR property contact information at <http://www.in.gov/dnr/3233.htm>. Hunts run one-half hour before sunrise until noon at properties in the Central Time Zone, and one-half hour before sunrise until 1 p.m. on properties in the Eastern Time Zone.



Calendar of events

Humane Society meetings

The Martin County Humane Society meets every third Tuesday of the month in the Loogootee Municipal Building at 7 p.m.

Special joint meeting

A special joint meeting with the Martin County Commissioners, the Martin County Council, the Shoals Town Board and the Solid Waste Board will be held tonight Wednesday, March 3, at 6 p.m., at the courthouse. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss strategy with respect to the purchase or

lease of real property by the Martin County Board of Commissioners as authorized by I.C. 5-14-1.5-5.1 (b)(2). This meeting is open to the public.

Cracker Barrel meeting

Martin County Farm Bureau will host a Cracker Barrel meeting on Saturday, March 6, at noon, at the Martin County Community Building. Featured speakers are Indiana Senator Lindel Hume and Indiana State Representative Sandy Blanton. Light refreshments will be served.

New Outdoor Indiana magazine hits bookstands

Remember the massive fish kill in the White River? In this, the 10th anniversary year of that event, the March-April issue of Outdoor Indiana magazine, which will be on newsstands this week, shows how the recovery has made the river a fishing destination again.

It's just one of many articles you'll find nowhere else but in the latest issue of the DNR's 48-page full-color magazine, now in its 76th year.

The issue also includes part I of a two-

part series on the history of Fort Harrison State Park, from farm land to park land. Look for the picture of the river otters on the cover.

Subscriptions are \$12 for a year (six issues) or \$20 for two years. You also can ask for Outdoor Indiana at most Borders and Barnes and Noble stores in the state, and at DNR properties.

Single copies sell for \$3. To subscribe, or for more information, call 317 233-3046 or go to www.outdoorindiana.org.



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Area **SPORTS**

Lions fall to the Vikings in sectional

BY MARC OTTO
Journal Chief Sports Editor

It was a packed house at Jack Butcher Sports Arena as the Loogootee Lions went up against the Barr-Reeve Vikings in game one of the Loogootee Sectional Tuesday night.

The first quarter began with five straight points from the Lions. With five minutes left in the first quarter, the game was tied with a three-pointer by Barr-Reeve's #30.

Viking senior #34 Christian Duncheon single-handedly took over the game with 11 of the next 13 Viking points and held Loogootee to only four second quarter points.

Both teams then began trading baskets back and forth until a three-pointer by Loogootee Sophomore #21 Bryant Ackerman brought the Lions within seven points.

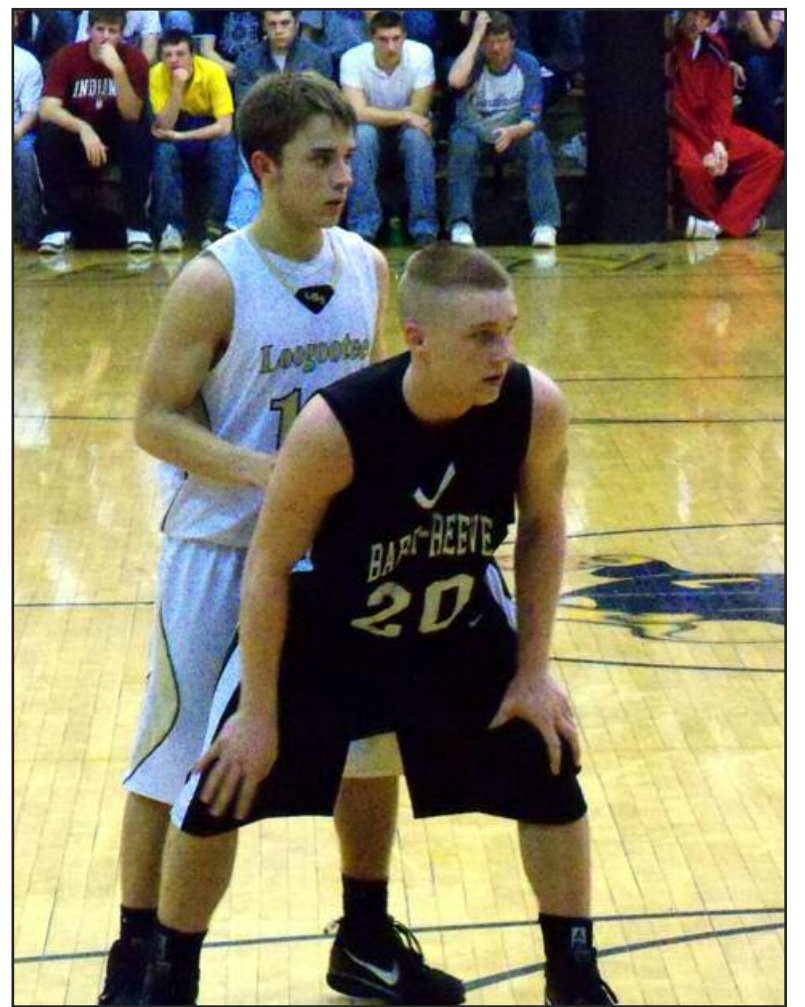
The fourth quarter started out much like the third, and the Lions could never close the gap. With a minute left in the game, the Vikings started to hold the ball and draw time off the block. Barr Reeve made five out of the six free throws from Loogootee's last minute fouling. Barr-Reeve walked away with a 44-37 win and will go on to the semi-final round of the sectional against Vincennes Rivet.

High scorers were #21 Bryant Ackerman of Loogootee with 16 points and player of the game #34 Christian Duncheon, of Barr Reeve with 17 points. The Loogootee Lions ended their season with a 16-5 record. Josh Divine, Jordan Arvin, and Greg Woody are departing seniors.



-Photo by Joshua Hughett

Sophomore sensation Bryant Ackerman proved to be the spark for the Lions during the opening game of the sectional Tuesday night. Despite Ackerman's 16 points Loogootee still fell to the Vikings.



-Photo by Joshua Hughett

Lion senior Josh Divine finished his high-school career with only two field goal attempts, with only one falling. Barr-Reeve senior Willie Helms stayed close to Divine and contributed to his limited shooting. The Lions finish their season with a 16-5 record.

Shoals Jug Rox fall to North Daviess Cougars, 43-26, to end season



-Photo by Joshua Hughett

The Shoals Jug Rox ended the first half of play against the North Daviess Cougars in the opening round of the sectional with a deficit of only five points. During the second half both teams had numerous turnovers but North Daviess' senior Kendall Wittmer nailed bucket after bucket and pushed North Daviess over the top with a 43-26 victory. North Daviess will go on to play Washington Catholic Friday night.



-Photo by Joshua Hughett

Shoals sophomore Zach Cook contributed three points to the Rox 26-point total.



-Photo by Joshua Hughett

Shoals junior Garrett Bateman could never find his 3-point stride throughout the game only landing one triple. Shoals ended their season 10-11 with three overtime victories this season.

Rox win nail biter over Patriots

BY MARC OTTO
Journal Chief Sports Editor

On February 26, the Shoals Jug Rox faced off against the Vincennes Rivet Patriots.

With the score 4 to 16 early on, the Patriots seemed to be in control of the game. Then the 3-point shooting and solid defense of the Jug Rox brought them back into the game and suddenly the momentum shifted to their side.

The score at half time ended up being 24 to 20, in favor of the Patriots.

The Jug Rox scored four unanswered points and forced two turnovers to tie the game at 24 with 7:50 left in the third quar-

ter. At the beginning of the fourth quarter, Shoals scored six unanswered points to make the score 33 to 38, Jug Rox.

With six straight points of their own, the Patriots came back. #3 Rox player Zach Cook made a clutch free throw with a minute eighteen left to tie the game at 39.

Shoals launched a half court shot with no luck. Both teams traded shots back and forth through overtime.

Then with 1.3 seconds remaining #22 Garrett Bateman made the game winning shot.

The Patriots took a desperation shot but missed and the game ended with a 46 to 47 Shoals victory.

Vikings defeat White River Valley 53 to 50

BY MARC OTTO
Journal Chief Sports Editor

On Tuesday, February 23, the Barr-Reeve Vikings faced off against the White River Valley Wolverines. The crowd was full of excitement from the start due to the presentation of the team's second consecutive Blue Chip Conference Championship trophy.

The game started off with four points, scored by #34 Christian Duncheon. Then two consecutive travelling violations by #34 David McNeal of White River Valley gave the Vikings even more momentum.

Both teams came out of half-time with

good energy. White River Valley finally started to put some points on the score board. With five minutes left in the third quarter, the Viking's star guard #24 Trey Hughes forced a five second call and made WRV call a time out their next trip down the court. With the momentum back on their side, the Vikings never looked back and defeated the Wolverines 53 to 40.

Leading were #24 Trey Hughes with 22 points, #34 Christian Duncheon, and #40 Ashton Wagler, both with 12 points for the Vikings. #12 Jerad Shelton was the only player for WRV in double digits with 26 points.

**New Beginnings
Church**
WEEKLY MESSAGE
By Shirley Canell
-Pastor's wife

These are the days of Elijah, 1 Kings 17:1. As we look at 1 Kings 17 and 18, we see that those days are like the day of today. In dark and desperate times, God will send a light in the darkness. God will always call someone to stand for his kingdom. That light could be a man, a church, or a whole generation. God used Elijah. Are you ready to be used by God?

I am ready to be used by God. I am ready for his will. In Jeremiah and 1 Kings we are told of the struggles that came on Israel when they would not listen to the Lord. The days of Elijah are much like our times, kings ruled, idol worshippers, false Gods ruled. They were evil and wicked. Today we worship material things, money, sports, clothes, etc. Are you more worried about your standing in the community or your standing with God?

One of my favorite verses, 2 Chronicles 7:14, "and My people who are called by My name humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, will forgive their sin and will heal their land."

What is revival? There are many different definitions of a community saturated with God, God purifying his Church, the Holy Spirit of a super natural kind putting power into the preaching of the word. God wants revival. If you haven't read it you should read the Story of D.L. Moody. This was a man who truly served God. He fully surrendered himself to a living God.

We must know we serve a living God. Our God is not dead. He is with us daily. He is there when things get tough. We must know our Savior lives. He lives in us. Through daily devotion, prayer and doing the will of God we are invincible. We can do all things through Christ who strengthens us. Practice the word of God. Share the word of God.

Pray earnestly and passionately, publically and privately. Be like Elijah. Elijah stood for truth, he was loyal and faithful; he put his total trust in God. There was something about Elijah we all need to learn: be courageous, confrontative, full of faith, and bold. It is not easy in any day to stand up for what you believe in.

If God was looking for a faithful and steadfast servant that He could call on to start a revival, would he find you? What would He find? Are you available and accessible for his service?

The sermon Sunday was awesome. It's really hard to put it into a shortened version in this article. The Holy Spirit was truly present and working throughout the Church. I heard several "amen's" and several "yes Jesus". To get the full impact you needed to be there to hear and feel the excitement as Christ uses Ernie to get his message across. I often sit there and think, 'Wow where did this Ernie come from.' He is thoroughly engrossed in the passion of Christ and fulfilling the great commission of Christ. Which is what we all should do go and tell others, spread the good news of what Christ has done, will do, and is doing in our lives.

Our Sunday morning service is at 10 a.m., Wednesday night bible study is at 7 p.m., and Team Kids is at 7 p.m. on Wednesdays. If and when God puts it in your heart to attend our church or another church you will feel his awesome power, peace, and joy. He wants you to get to know him.

Call Pastor Ernie at 709-0258 if you have any questions. Pray and seek His face!

If you would like to have a church-related weekly column please contact courtney@martincountyjournal.com

Printing Express opens its doors in Loogootee

BY SHAYNA OTTO
Journal Assistant Publisher

One can always celebrate when a new business opens in town. Printing Express held their grand opening in Loogootee on February 13.

Owner Ernie Canell is originally from Michigan. He now resides in Loogootee with his wife, Shirley, of Shoals, and his daughter, DeAnna.

Printing Express provides copies - color and black and white, business cards, flyers, postcards, carbonless forms, letterheads, brochures, note pads, and can print up to a 14 by 18 sheet.

"I started the business because I saw a need in the area for simple printing. In the past everyone had to go out of town or online for printing," said Canell. "I have been in Martin County for 10 years now and have met a lot of nice people."

Printing Express also does sales pieces, church flyers, or business flyers.

They are open Tuesday through Friday from 8 to 5 and Saturday from 8 to noon.

You can contact Printing Express at 295-4488 or email newprintingexpress@gmail.com. They are located on Main Street in Loogootee.

New baby girl for Nolan family

Steve and Amanda Nolan, of Loogootee, wish to announce the birth of their baby girl, Lauren Nichole.

Lauren was born on February 22, 2010, at Daviess Community Hospital. She weighed 8 pounds, 11 ounces and was 20 and one-half inches long.

Lauren is also welcomed home by her sister, Lindsey.

Maternal grandparents are Steve and DeeAnn Nolan of Loogootee and Paul and Kim Traylor of Washington.



-Photo provided

Printing Express, in Loogootee, officially opened its doors on Saturday, February 13. Shown above are Mike Jones, Dennis Overall, Shirley Canell, owner Ernie Canell, and DeAnna Canell. Printing Express provides a variety of services including business cards, flyers, postcards, church newsletters, and letter head. They are located on Main Street and can be reached at 295-4488 or via email at newprintingexpress@gmail.com.

Final list of primary election candidate filings

The following are the candidates who have applied to run for elected office. Those who are unsure of their district can look on their voter registration card or contact the clerk's office at 247-3651.

District 63 State Representative

Daniel M. (Dan) Steiner (Democrat)

School Boards

(Voters will choose one candidate from their district. The school board elections will be decided in the primary on May 4.)

Loogootee School Board

District 1

Scott Hall

District 2

Larry W. Craney

Mark C. Sims

District 3

Lori Mattingly

Shawn Howell

Jason Ziegler

Keeven Neukam

Shoals School Board

District 1

Christy Farhar

Chad D. Cundiff

District 4

Glen A. (Tony) Cundiff

Martin County Circuit Court Judge

Lynne E. Ellis (Republican)

David Lett (Democrat)

Martin County Clerk

Julie Fithian (Republican)

Bobbi Sue Nonte (Democrat)

Martin County Sheriff

Robert F. (Rob) Street (Democrat)

T.A. (Andy) Burkhardt (Democrat)

Kevin R. Boyd (Republican)

Bruce Hardwick (Republican)

Martin County Assessor

Carolyn Sue McGuire (Republican)

County Commissioner District 2

Paul R. George (Democrat)

County Council District 1

Randy Winingger (Democrat)

County Council District 2

Phyllis J. (Allen) Kidwell (Democrat)

Keith Gibson (Republican)

County Council District 3

Michael (Mike) Dant (Democrat)

John D. Stoll (Republican)

County Council District 4

Lynn Gee (Democrat)

Township Trustees

Perry Township

Noel D. Harty (Democrat)

Rutherford Township

J. Sue Hembree (Democrat)

Mitcheltree Township

Michael R. LaMar (Democrat)

James Norman (Republican)

Lost River Township

Alice Dianne Butler (Republican)

Halbert Township

Exzelia Montgomery (Republican)

Township Advisory Board (Voters choose up to three in their township)

Perry Township

Brandi Hennessee (Democrat)

Julie Green (Democrat)

Sandra (Sue) Hunt (Democrat)

Rosemary Harder (Democrat)

Mitcheltree Township

Barbara Braton (Democrat)

Tammy Gore (Democrat)

Dan J. Butler (Republican)

Rutherford Township

Rosamary Street (Democrat)

Lonnie E. Survance (Democrat)

Jason Survance (Democrat)

Lost River Township

Mildred C. Brown (Republican)

Keith Emmons (Republican)

Halbert Township

Travis Montgomery (Republican)

Kimberly L. Albright (Republican)

Jane Montgomery (Republican)

Center Township

Kenneth L. Brett (Republican)

Larry L. Downs (Republican)

Norma J. Baker (Republican)

Precinct Committeeman

James (Rich) Taylor - Perry 1 (Democrat)

Floyd "Lonnie" Hawkins - Perry 6 (Democrat)

Raydies Thimling - East Memphis (Democrat)

Roger Cooper - Lost River (Democrat)

Charles W. Stringer - Halbert (Democrat)

Richard T. (Rick) Baught - Halbert (Democrat)

Harley L. Bratton - Mitcheltree (Democrat)

Tammy Gore - Mitcheltree (Democrat)

Chad D. Cundiff - West Memphis (Democrat)

State Convention Delegate

Noel D. Harty (Democrat)

Fred A. Dupps (Democrat)

Gerald D. Montgomery (Republican)

Larry G. Shaw (Republican)

Warren D. Albright (Republican)

Earl Boyd, Jr. (Republican)

You must register to vote by Monday, April 5th. Contact the Martin County Clerk's office for more information.