

# Martin County JOURNAL

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WEDNESDAY, MARCH 6, 2024

Nine pages

## Townships hold more than \$1.3 million in surplus funds

BY COURTNEY HUGHETT  
Martin County Journal Publisher

Martin County has six township trustees' offices – Perry, Halbert, Lost River, Mitcheltree, Rutherford, and Center. At the end of 2023, the six townships combined had \$1,330,120.42 in unused funds that rolled over to this year. All six townships spent a total of \$358,602.54 in 2023. Of that \$164,388 was spent on salaries and office expenses.

Each township has a trustee, an elected official with a four-year term. Each trustee also has a paid secretary (Lost River Township chooses not to and Center Township didn't have one in 2023) and a paid advisory board of three people. All six township trustees in Martin County in 2023, operated the trustee's office from their homes and were reimbursed for rent, utilities, phone, and travel, in some cases.

There are 1,008 townships in Indiana. The main job of a township trustee is to provide money to people in need. Township assistance is given to individuals who are in an emergency situation and have no other means to provide the basic essentials of life. Residents in need can request help paying for funeral expenses, utilities, rent, medical and dental expenses, prescriptions, vehicle repairs, fuel, groceries, and clothing.

The trustee also provides fire protection to its citizens when the township is not incorporated into a city or town. This includes making an annual payment to a fire department, in the form of a contract, to provide fire service to their township residents.

The trustee also maintains cemeteries by hiring people to provide mowing services. Other duties, per state statute, can include helping by providing and maintaining township parks and community centers, destroying detrimental plants, noxious weeds, and rank vegetation; and providing insulin to the poor.

Money is provided to the townships from property taxes, auto excise tax, and county option income tax. Interest earned from the rollover of cash balances is also included in the budget.

Each year the township trustees are required by state law to file an annual report. Those reports, according to the state Gateway site, must be provided to the state for upload onto the state database 60 days after the end of the year. To view all reports, visit [https://gateway.ifionline.org/report\\_builder/](https://gateway.ifionline.org/report_builder/). Information directly from the state reports is broken down below for each township.

You can also view the most recent audits done on all townships at <https://secure.in.gov/apps/sboa/audit-reports/>.

### RUTHERFORD TOWNSHIP

Per the US Census Bureau, Rutherford Township had 675 residents in 2020.

Rutherford Township's trustee is Terry J. Street. His clerical assistant is Renee Street. The three-member advisory board consisted of Virgil S. Street, Danny Berry, and Jeff Horney. In 2023, Rutherford Township began with a cash balance of \$63,479.64. After tax revenue of \$45,826.86 for the year and then disbursements, totaling \$37,716.41 the township ended 2023 with a balance of \$71,590.09. Of the \$37,716.41 that was paid out, \$19,837.27 went toward sala-

### How to contact your township trustee

**Center Township Trustee:**  
Ann Stewart  
Office address: 13799 Rama Dye Road Shoals IN 47581  
Phone: 812-388-7185

**Halbert Township Trustee:**  
Exzelia Montgomery  
Office address: 11545 Hilltop Honey Road, Shoals IN 47581  
Phone: 812-709-2434

**Lost River Township Trustee:**  
Millie Brown  
Office address: 6490 Brown Lane, Shoals IN 47581  
Phone: 812-247-3490

**Mitcheltree Township Trustee:**  
Tammy Gore  
Office address: 20472 Sipes Road, Shoals IN 47581  
Phone: 812-388-5612

**Perry Township Trustee:**  
Jason Hennette  
Office address: 804 North JFK Avenue, Loogootee IN 47553  
Phone: 812-296-1176

**Rutherford Township Trustee:**  
Terry Street  
Office address: 4224 Beard Road, Loogootee IN 47553  
Phone: 812-644-7949

ries and office expenses including the trustee's salary of \$6,180, his secretary's salary of \$3,090 and the advisory board member's salaries of \$634.33 each. To maintain the trustee's office in his home, Street was paid \$5,280, (\$440 per month) in rent, utilities, and phone for the township office and \$265.28 was reimbursed to Street for mileage. Rutherford Township paid Shawn's Legacy Lawn Care \$2,000 to provide mowing of cemeteries and \$213.19 was paid to Bondstone for cemetery supplies. The township also gave \$13,496.47 to the Haysville Fire Department for a fire service contract and \$200 each was paid to Keith Keller, Kenny Haven, Brandon Epple, and Derrek Johnson from the firefighting fund. As for helping the poor, \$1,369.48 was given to three people (three households) who requested help last year. Of that \$590.74 was paid to Daviess-Martin REMC and \$778.74 to M&M Electric.

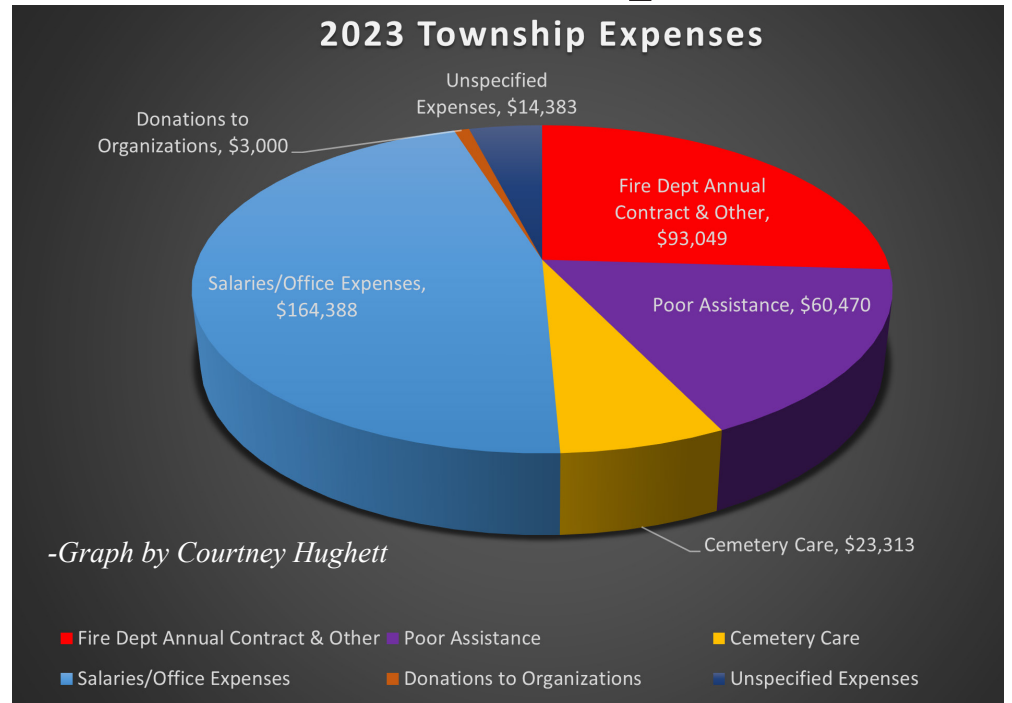
### HALBERT TOWNSHIP

Per the estimated US Census Bureau, Halbert Township had 1,545 residents in 2020.

Halbert Township's trustee is Exzelia Montgomery. Her clerical assistant is Pauletta Montgomery. The three-member advisory board includes Stephanie Horton, Travis Montgomery, and Kimberly Albright. Halbert Township started 2023 with a cash balance of \$302,088.04 and after tax income of \$104,999.67 and spending of \$61,095.74, the township ended the year at \$345,991.97.

Of the \$61,095.74 total spent in 2023 by Halbert Township, \$30,526.41 was used to pay for salaries and office expenses including the trustee's salary of \$13,852.48 (\$1,115.60 more than last year) the clerical salary of \$4,525.16 (\$369.40 more than last year) and \$969.67 (\$92.35 than last year) each to the three advisory board members.

Also \$3,231 (\$269.25 per month) was (See 'TOWNSHIPS' on page 2)



## Commissioners discuss courthouse, highway department internet service

BY COURTNEY HUGHETT  
Martin County Journal Publisher

The Martin County Commissioners met Tuesday morning, March 5.

Highway Clerk Theresa Ray talked to the commissioners about the highway department's internet service. She said they have horrible internet access and have been trying to find something new. She said they did try a company for 30 days, but it wasn't any better than their current provider. She requested the commissioners approve a 30-day trial with Starlink. The cost up front is \$2,500 for equipment, however if they choose not to continue with the service, they will get that money back when the equipment is returned. The monthly cost is \$140. The commissioners approved the trial with Starlink with money coming from the ARPA (American Rescue Plan Act) fund. Commissioner Paul George asked Ray to let them know how the service is, as an option for the courthouse.

Commissioner George said they are checking with companies to replace Sparklight internet in the courthouse, which he said is also horrible. Auditor Michelle Norris said she met with RTC Communications regarding the internet service. She has also reached out to Smithville and will contact Starlink. She said they have serious service issues with Sparklight however are under contract with them until the end of 2025. Commissioner George said they will have to speak with County Attorney Dave Lett to see how they could get out of that contract. He said the bad service should be a good enough reason. Norris said the county is currently paying \$953 a month to Sparklight. The courthouse is receiving 300-megabyte service right now. Norris will report back at the next meeting with the information she receives.

Highway Superintendent Scott Seals reported he had a CDL driver turn in notice and has a few trucks broken down.

Clerk Julie Fithian asked the commissioners if they are adjusting hours for the county employees for the solar eclipse on April 8. She said that is the last day for voter registration so if the commis-

sioners close the courthouse that day or cut it to a half day, she will need to extend voter registration. Commissioner Cody Roush said employees have paid time off and can use that if they want to stay home. Fithian asked Roush if he was saying her entire office could take that day off and close. Roush didn't respond. Commissioner George said he believes the concern is with traffic congestion that day. Fithian agreed saying that even if they decided to close the courthouse at half a day, the traffic would already be congested. Commissioner Aaron Summers said he didn't have a problem with the courthouse being closed. Roush replied that he will be working that day and asked Summers if he was saying that they should let the highway department off that day and give the sheriff's department employees holiday hours, all for a 10-minute window of the solar eclipse. Roush said he is against closing. Commissioner George said they can look into what other counties are doing and discuss it at their next meeting.

Deputy Emergency Management Agency Director Andy Ringwald said they are working on putting together an amateur ham radio club. He said anyone interested in joining that club can contact him.

Commissioner George spoke for Sheriff Josh Greene, who was not in attendance. He explained that the jail has 40-50 water line breaks, and they need to be replaced. He said the sheriff is requesting funds to buy the copper piping but will have the inmates do the work. The commissioners approved starting with \$20,000 from the building improvements fund of the budget. There is cur- (See 'COMMISSIONERS' on page 2)



Don't forget to set your clocks forward one hour this Sunday, March 10 for Daylight Saving Time.

# TOWNSHIPS

(Continued from page one)  
paid to Exzelia Montgomery for the use of her home for the trustee's office.

For Halbert Township's cemetery care \$400 each was paid to Janie Johnson and Vaughn Montgomery, \$800 was paid to Marlin Courtright and \$1,600 was paid to Bill Keller.

For money given to the needy, 41 requests were made for help and 32 households received poor assistance, totaling \$14,669.33. Of the 32 households receiving help, money was paid to the following on their behalf: Kevin Boyd \$1,475, Crane Credit Union \$509.16, Crowder's Drug Store \$119.70, Daviess-Martin REMC \$4,898.16, Duke Energy \$2,350.78, Great Falls Timber \$400, Bryan Montgomery \$150, Premier Companies \$1,200, Propane Direct \$471.20, RJ's \$50, Shoals Municipal Utilities \$499.98, Queen-Lee Chapel \$2,400 and Williams Bros. Pharmacy \$145.35.

Also, \$12,700 was paid to the Shoals Fire Department.

## LOST RIVER TOWNSHIP

Per the US Census Bureau, Lost River Township had 513 residents in 2020.

Lost River Township trustee is Mildred Brown, and she does not pay a clerical assistant. The 2023 advisory board consisted of Alice Butler, Keith Emmons, and Bruce Fithian. At the beginning of 2023 the trustee's cash balance was \$87,095.52 and was \$87,370.08 at the end of the year, after \$43,901.24 in revenue and \$43,626.68 in expenses.

Of the \$43,626.68 paid out in 2023, \$8,528.68 was spent on salaries and office expenses including \$2,828.60 for the trustee's salary and three advisory board members were paid \$535.12 each for the year.

Brown paid \$763.51 (\$63.62 a month)

for the use of her home as the township office.

For cemetery care in Lost River Township, Blake Cooper, David Butler, Keith Allbright, and August Bauer were paid \$800 each.

The township paid \$16,000 to Lost River Fire Department plus \$898 for insurance. The fire department was also given \$15,000 for professional services and

The township had zero requests for poor assistance in 2023 so their township assistance fund had no money spent.

## CENTER TOWNSHIP

Per the estimated US Census Bureau, Center Township had 1,448 residents in 2020.

Center Township's trustee is Ann Stewart and no clerk was listed for 2023. The three-member advisory board includes Norma Baker, Matthew Sullivan and Dean Crandall.

Center Township's cash balance was \$149,494.08 at the beginning of 2023. At the end of the year the balance was \$163,414.28, after tax income of \$53,838.26 and spending of \$39,918.06.

Of the \$39,918.06 spent last year, \$16,887.07 was spent on salaries and office expenses. Of that, \$7,345.80 was paid to Ann Stewart. The advisory board members were each paid \$612.15.

Steward was paid \$3,600 (\$300 per month) for the use of their home as the trustee's office and \$1,300 was paid out to RTC Communications for internet service for the office.

For cemetery care, \$2,300 was paid to Jayce Graber and \$1,900 was paid to Richard Ivey.

Center Township gave \$12,000 to the Town of Shoals for a firefighting contract.

There were 42 poor assistance re-

quests to the trustee last year and all were granted, totaling 28 households. The amount given in assistance in 2023 was \$6,830.99. The following were paid on behalf of those seeking help: REMC \$1,446.57, Duke Energy \$1,703.91, Shoals Municipal Utilities \$325, Centerpoint Energy \$244.41, Bauer Family Enterprises \$149.78, Propane Direct \$100, RJ's \$41.71, Dairyland Insurance \$93.70, Meng Funeral Home \$500, Kevin Boyd \$300, Bill Norman \$300, Queen-Lee Funeral Home \$1,000, KRB Trash \$100, St. Vincent de Paul \$200, Larry Joe Gibson \$200, and JayC Food Store \$125.91.

## MITCHELTREE TOWNSHIP

Per the US Census Bureau, Mitcheltree Township had 571 residents in 2020.

Mitcheltree Township's trustee is Tammy Gore and her clerk is Steven Anderson. The three-member advisory board includes Charity Tolbert, Sharon Belcher and Becky Sellers.

At the start of 2023, the trustee's cash balance was \$272,098.92 and stood at \$2281,730.50 at the end of the year, after \$61,928.49 in tax income and \$52,296.91 in spending.

Of the \$52,296.91 spent last year, \$24,901.78 was spent on salaries and office expenses including \$7,000 for the trustee's salary, \$6,000 (\$1,000 more than last year) for the clerk's salary and \$1,000 (\$200 more than last year) for each advisory board member.

The trustee's office, located in Gore's home, had \$2,700 (\$225 per month) for rent and telephone expenses.

\$3,000 was donated to the Trinity Springs Mustering Elm Park and \$8,000 was given to the Indian Creek Fire Department. \$3,450 was paid out to Arthur Paving for an unknown reason.

\$7,000 was paid to Dant's Mowing for cemetery care.

There were 12 requests for township assistance in Mitcheltree for 2023 and 12 households helped for a total of \$5,945.13. Money paid out for township assistance went to: Daviess-Martin REMC \$4,325.13, Cristy Jenkins \$600 and Dana Wright \$1,020.

## PERRY TOWNSHIP

Per the US Census Bureau, Perry Township had 5,060 residents in 2020.

Perry Township's trustee is Jason Hennette and his clerk was Steven Anderson.

The three-member advisory board consists of Brandi Hennette, Tony Dant, and Julie Green.

Perry's cash balance at the beginning of 2023 was \$351,755.63 and was \$380,023.50 at the end of the year, after \$152,216.61 in tax income and \$123,948.74 in spending.

Of the \$123,948.74 spent last year, \$63,706.91 was paid in salaries and office expenses including \$19,500 (\$1,500 more than last year) for the trustee, \$15,000 (\$2,000 more than last year) for his clerk and \$3,500 (\$1,000 more than last year) for each advisory board member. \$10,932 to Gregory and Sons for repairs and maintenance and \$3,500 to Cameron Truelove for cemetery mowing.

A total of \$6,000 (\$500 per month) was paid in rent to Hennette for the use of his home as the trustee's office and \$681.91 was paid to Frontier for his phone and internet.

\$10,000 was paid to the City of Loogootee for fire protection and \$4,155 was paid to Air Works, LLC to help the Loogootee Fire Department.

Perry Township gave out \$31,654.83 in poor assistance in 2023. There were 76 requests for assistance and what was paid out benefited 74 households. The following received payments on behalf of those seeking assistance: City of Loogootee \$4,478.49, Blake Funeral Home \$4,750, Town of Crane \$1,626.79, Queen-Lee Funeral Home \$2,500, May's Gas Station \$250, Centerpoint Energy \$1,143.68, Pam Loughmiller \$500, Mark Taylor \$300, Martin County Co-Op \$850, Irish Properties \$300, Jay Smith \$600, Utilities District \$350, Warren Albright \$350, Daviess-Martin REMC \$700, Noel Harty \$500, Duke Energy \$11,130.87, Monty Gregory \$1,025 and Eagle Place Apartments \$300.

## COMMISSIONERS

(Continued from page one)

rently \$254,000 in that fund.

The commissioners approved purchasing a battery-powered weed eater and leaf blower for the new courthouse custodian. Commissioner George said he got quotes for the equipment and Napa Auto Parts was the cheapest at \$512.98. The commissioners approved the purchase with Commissioner Summers abstaining from the vote since he works for Napa. Commissioner George said they are also looking to purchase a battery-powered push mower and he will be checking prices locally.

Auditor Norris reported that a link has been added to the county's website for residents to send questions or concerns to the commissioners. The website is [www.martincountyindiana.com](http://www.martincountyindiana.com).

Mary Smith, who was in the audience, asked about an additional appropriation request for \$100,000 that she has read about that says it is a loan to the Town of Shoals from TIF funds. Commissioner Roush said that is money from the redevelopment commission to have on hand for a DNR grant for the 232 Main Street building project. The matching money is \$75,000. Roush said the Town of Shoals has the money, but the redevelopment commission chose to put \$100,000 aside just in case because the town has to show proof of funds. He said the money may not even be used. He said the additional appropriation request, even if the money is from the redevelopment commission, is required to go through the county council for approval.

The next commissioners' meeting is Tuesday, March 19 at 9 a.m.

## TOY'S AUTO PARTS, INC.

<b>Loogootee</b> (812) 295-2312	<b>Shoals</b> (812) 247-3321	<b>Jasper</b> (812) 634-2222	<b>Washington</b> (812) 254-2540
<b>Sullivan</b> (812) 268-5252	<b>Martinsville</b> (765) 342-6623	<b>Linton</b> (812) 847-4494	
<b>Jasonville</b> (812) 665-3969	<b>Bicknell</b> (812) 735-3545	<b>Bloomfield</b> (812) 384-4453	

I just wanted to introduce myself to the folks that may not know me since I've been gone... Dana (Tom) Strange, I was a resident of Loogootee during my school years graduating in 1983. My parents were David H. Strange (Bramble) and Janet Sue Gibson Strange (Loogootee). I'm married to Cheryl Tribolet Strange of Fort Wayne, Indiana. I spent 37 years in the Army retiring out of the Pentagon in the Joint Staff J4 as the Chief Strategic Logistics in May 2019 and moved back to Loogootee. I have been involved in many organizations since retiring: WestGate Authority, Secretary; White River Military Coordination Alliance, Vice Chair; Radius Indiana, Member; Southern Indiana Development Corporation, Partner. I have a Bachelors Degree in Human Resources Management and a Masters Degree in Management, both from Oakland City University. As I stated in my intro post on Facebook, we are at a pivotal point in this county's history. With the MidStates Corridor, West Boggs water issues, and of course, the overall economy we need to pull together and speak with One Voice. We also have an obligation to act with the new Micro Electronics facility coming to WestGate; we need to make sure the county and its schools are poised to take advantage of the more than 1500 high-paying jobs coming to Martin County and the housing required for those additional jobs.

**VOTE for me as your next Martin County Commissioner for the 3rd District...follow me on Facebook - Patriot Farm for more information before the primary.**



Strange for Commissioner

One Voice

-Paid for by Dana (Tom) Strange for Commissioner

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# OBITUARIES

## MICHAEL CUMMINGS

Michael D. Cummings passed away at his home on March 1, 2024. A resident of Shoals, he was 73.



He was born September 16, 1950, in Bedford; son of Jack Dean and Mary Rose (Johnson) Cummings. Mike married Kathryn Pennington and she survives.

## MICHAEL CUMMINGS

He retired from General Motors. He was a member of the Fraternal Order of Eagles, where he was a past state president, and was an officer of Grand Aerie.

Survivors include his wife Kathryn Cummings of Shoals; five children, Brad Cummings and wife, Carol, of Bedford; Jamie Cummings and wife, Lori, of Bedford; Matt Cummings and wife, Becky, of Bedford; Kristi Steinhart and husband, Mike, of Shoals; Robbie Pennington of Washington; 15 grandchildren; nine great grandchildren; and one brother, Terry Cummings of Bedford.

He was preceded in death by his parents.

Funeral services were conducted today, Wednesday, March 6 at the Elmwood Chapel of the Day & Carter Mortuary with Pastor Mike Schlaegel officiating. Burial followed in Springville West Cemetery.

## LOUISE NOLAN

F. Louise Nolan passed away on Thursday, February 29, 2024, at Daviess Community Hospital. A resident of Montgomery, she was 95.



She was born November 20, 1928, in Cannelburg; daughter of the late Hugh and Elizabeth (Howard) Barr.

She was a member of St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Glen "Red" Nolan; parents, Hugh Barr and Elizabeth Rudolph; and sister, Eilene (Gaither) Plumber.

Louise is survived by her children, Lynn (Lee) Knepp of Montgomery and Greg (Sharon) Nolan of Evansville.

In accordance with Louise's wishes, a private service will be held at a later date.

Condolences may be made online at [www.blakefuneralhomes.com](http://www.blakefuneralhomes.com).

Blake Funeral Home in Loogootee is honored to serve the family of F. Louise Nolan.

## MARILYN BORDERS

Marilyn Borders passed away at 5:45 p.m. Saturday, February 24, 2024, at Stonebridge Health Campus. A resident of Bedford, she was 88.

Our mother, Marilyn Borders, was born

at home on February 12, 1936. She was the daughter of Carl and Lois Lee. She spent her childhood and teen years in Bedford. She attended Vincennes University and received a degree in Elementary Education. She married Dean Borders from Loogootee in 1956 and moved to Louisiana to finish his term in the Army. Dean and Marilyn had two daughters, Sherre and Alisha, bringing them great joy. In the mid 1970's the Border's moved back to Loogootee. Marilyn was involved in the Martin County Business and Professional Woman's Club, organized the Loogootee Strawberry Festival and the Martin County 4-H Fair Queen contests. She also was a distribution agent for the Washington Times Herald. Marilyn opened The Little Closet, a children's store.

Mother was a member of the Washington Church of Christ, where she taught many children's and women's bible classes and enjoyed singing at church. She worked for INDOT in accounting for several years. Later, she worked for Action Realty in Bedford as a secretary. Gardening flowers was a passion. Her

thumb was very green, and the proof was evident in her yard.

Ballgames and school activities were often attended to cheer on her grandchildren. TV time was watching college sports and politics. Quiet time was digging into the scriptures. Marilyn spread kindness and laughter to all around.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Dean Borders; parents, Carl and Lois Lee; and brother, Edwin Lee.

Marilyn is survived by her daughters, Sherre (Van) Baker of Bedford and Alisha Chermak of Michigan; grandchildren, Aaron (Tina) Jones, Alexis (Kevin) Hall, Brady Jones and fiancée, Becca Schoenung, Mitchell Chermak, Nathan (Maitlyn) Baker and Todd (Blair) Baker; 12 great-grandchildren; and brother, Fielding (Jeannie) Lee.

Funeral services were held Friday, March 1 at Blake Funeral Home. Burial followed in Goodwill Cemetery.

Condolences may be made online at [www.blakefuneralhomes.com](http://www.blakefuneralhomes.com).

Blake Funeral Home in Loogootee, Indiana is honored to serve the family of Marilyn Borders.

**Dr. Alexandra Loughmiller**  
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Monday-Friday 6:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.  
Saturday (Breakfast Only!) 6:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.  
Sunday (Breakfast Only!) 7:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

Martin County Alliance for Economic Growth, Inc. and Martin County Chamber of Commerce invite you to attend their

# ANNUAL DINNER

SPECIAL ENTERTAINMENT AND SILENT AUCTION

**MARCH 14TH, 2024  
DOORS OPEN @ 5:30**

Lower Level of  
St. John's Center  
408 Church St. Loogootee, IN 47553  
Tickets: \$25  
Entertainment: Illusionist Daniel Cullen  
Dinner Catered by: Carla's Catering

Tickets can be purchased at German American Bank, Crane Credit Union, Martin County Alliance's Office or Martin County Chamber of Commerce's Office

**Friends of the Shoals Public Library's**

# Annual Soup Supper and Basket Raffle

Shoals Public Library Lower Level

**Thursday**  
**March**  
**14th**

**3:00-7:00 pm**

**Chili, Vegetable or Chicken Noodle with Cookies and Drink**  
(or hotdog and chips).

**Free Will Donation – Eat in or Take Out**  
**6 Themed Prize Baskets –**

- Handyman
- Local Foods
- Relax & Enjoy
- Pioneer Woman
- Garden
- Children

## Martin County Sheriff's Department activity log

### MONDAY, FEBRUARY 26

7:33 a.m. - Received a call reporting a tree down south of Loogootee. Martin County Highway Department responded.

10:06 a.m. - Received a call from Hoosier National Forest advising of a controlled burn south of Shoals.

11:26 a.m. - Received a call reporting tree limbs in roadway east of Loogootee. Captain Gibson and Corporal Hawkins responded.

1:15 p.m. - Received a call reporting a disabled vehicle east of Shoals. Captain Gibson and Corporal Hawkins responded.

2:46 p.m. - Received a report of a reckless driver on US 231 South, traveling north. Loogootee Officer Wagoner responded.

3:08 p.m. - Received a call reporting a disabled vehicle south of Loogootee. ISP Trooper Lents, Loogootee Sergeant Wagoner and Captain Gibson responded.

3:49 p.m. - Received a report of a traffic hazard south of Loogootee. Chief Deputy Keller responded.

5:45 p.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance north of Shoals. Martin County Medic 2 and Shoals Fire responded. Medic 2 transported one patient to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

5:47 p.m. - Received a call requesting an ambulance north of Shoals. Martin County Medic 1 and Shoals Fire Department responded. Medic 1 transported one patient to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

6:13 p.m. - Received a report of an accident with no injuries east of Loogootee. Loogootee Sergeant Wagoner responded.

7:08 p.m. - Received a call requesting extra patrol in Loogootee. Major Reed and Corporal Hawkins were advised.

### TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 27

4:41 a.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance east of Shoals. Martin County Medic 1 and Shoals Fire Department responded. Medic 1 transported one patient to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

8:13 a.m. - Received a 911 call requesting the fire department in Loogootee. Loogootee Fire Department responded.

9:04 a.m. - Received a report of a tree down west of Shoals. INDOT responded.

10:02 a.m. - Received a call requesting assistance in Loogootee. Loogootee Chief Hunt responded.

10:03 a.m. - Received a 911 call reporting a disabled vehicle north of Loogootee. Loogootee Assistant Chief Long responded.

12:17 p.m. - Received a 911 call reporting a reckless driver on US 50, traveling west. Captain Gibson and Corporal Hawkins responded.

12:47 p.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Medic 1 responded but did not transport.

3:56 p.m. - Received a call from Sycamore Care advising they will be testing fire alarms. Advised Daviess County.

4:24 p.m. - Received a call requesting an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Medic 1, Loogootee Fire Department and Sergeant Wells responded. No one was transported.

4:39 p.m. - Received a 911 call reporting an accident with no injuries in Loogootee. Loogootee Officer Wagoner and Big John's Towing responded.

5:27 p.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance in Shoals. Martin County Medic 1, Shoals Fire Department and Corporal Hawkins responded. No one was transported.

8:03 p.m. - Received a call reporting a suspicious vehicle north of Shoals. Sergeant Wells responded.

8:36 p.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Medic 1, Loogootee Fire Depart-

ment and Loogootee Officer Wagoner responded. Medic 1 transported one patient to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

9:02 p.m. - Received a call from Lifeline advising of a medical alarm south of Shoals. Martin County Medic 2 and Shoals Fire Department responded. No one was transported.

### WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 28

2:00 a.m. - Received a call from Johnson Controls advising of a commercial burglar alarm north of Loogootee. Major Reed responded.

2:14 a.m. - Received a report of a tree down east of Loogootee. Martin County Civil Defense responded.

2:48 a.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Medic 1 and Loogootee Fire Department responded. Medic 1 transported one patient to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

3:18 a.m. - Received a 911 call reporting a house fire south of Shoals. Shoals Fire Department, Lost River Fire Department, Martin County Civil Defense, and Martin County Medic 2 responded. No one was transported.

4:03 a.m. - Received a call reporting a tree down south of Shoals. Martin County Civil Defense responded.

5:05 a.m. - Received a report of a tree down north of Loogootee. Martin County Civil Defense and Major Reed responded.

7:09 a.m. - Received a call reporting the house from the early morning fire had reignited. Shoals Fire Department and Captain Gibson responded. East Fork Water was also contacted.

11:45 a.m. - Received a call requesting a vehicle unlock in Shoals. Captain Gibson responded.

1:09 p.m. - Received a call requesting a lift assist south of Shoals. Corporal Hawkins and Shoals Fire Department responded.

3:26 p.m. - Received a call requesting a vehicle identification number check south of Loogootee. Deputy Shields responded.

6:10 p.m. - Received a call reporting a suspicious vehicle in Loogootee. Loogootee Officer Wagoner responded.

6:35 p.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance north of Loogootee. Martin County Medic 1 and Loogootee Fire Department responded. Medic 1 transported one patient to Daviess Community Hospital.

7:00 p.m. - Received a call advising of an accidental fire alarm pull in Loogootee.

7:00 p.m. - Received a call from Johnson Control advising of a fire alarm in Loogootee. Advised them it was an accident.

9:00 p.m. - Received a call reporting a possible missing person in Shoals. Deputy Shields responded also left information for Sergeant Wells.

9:00 p.m. - Received a report of a power outage south of Shoals. REMC was notified.

### THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 29

12:06 a.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Medic 1 responded and transported one patient to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

8:28 a.m. - Received call from Shoals School advising of fire drills.

8:46 a.m. - Received a call advising of a controlled burn southwest of Shoals. Shoals Fire Chief was advised.

9:24 a.m. - Received a report of a fire alarm in Loogootee. Deputy Branham responded.

9:42 a.m. - Received a call requesting a vehicle identification number check in Shoals. Deputy Branham responded.

10:42 a.m. - Received a call from Poplar Care Strategies advising of fire alarm drills today.

11:11 a.m. - Received a call requesting to speak with an officer. Deputy Branham

responded.

11:33 a.m. - Received a call requesting a vehicle unlock in Loogootee. Sergeant Wells responded.

12:31 p.m. - Received a call from Medical Alert advising of a medical alarm in Loogootee. Martin County Medic 1 and Loogootee Fire Department responded. Medic 1 transported one patient to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

4:20 p.m. - Received a call reporting a reckless driver in Loogootee. Loogootee Sergeant Wagoner and Sergeant Wells responded.

4:45 p.m. - Received a 911 call reporting an accident south of Shoals. Martin County Medic 1, Shoals Fire Department, Sergeant Wells, Deputy Shields, and Big John's Towing responded. Medic 1 transported one patient to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

5:38 p.m. - Received a report of possible harassment northeast of Shoals. Sergeant Wells responded.

5:55 p.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Medic 2, Medic 1 and Loogootee Fire Department responded. Medic 1 transported one patient to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

6:16 p.m. - Received a call requesting a welfare check in Loogootee. Loogootee Sergeant Wagoner responded.

6:38 p.m. - Received a report of a controlled burn south of Loogootee. Loogootee Fire Chief notified.

6:40 p.m. - Received a report of a controlled burn in Loogootee. Loogootee Fire Chief notified.

7:05 p.m. - Received a 911 call reporting a cow in the roadway northeast of Shoals. Owner was notified.

11:16 p.m. - Received a call requesting to speak with an officer. Sergeant Wells responded.

### FRIDAY, MARCH 1

7:58 a.m. - Received an animal complaint in Shoals. Chief Deputy Keller, Deputy Branham and Deputy Baumgart responded.

8:46 a.m. - Received an animal complaint north of Shoals. Deputy Branham responded.

10:24 a.m. - Received an animal complaint in Shoals. Chief Deputy Keller responded.

10:37 a.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance in Shoals. Martin County Medic 1, Medic 3, Chief Deputy Keller, Deputy Branham, Deputy Baumgart, Shoals Fire Department and Martin County Assistant Coroner responded.

11:38 a.m. - Received a report of a controlled burn north of Loogootee. Loogootee Fire Chief was advised.

3:18 p.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance in Shoals. Martin County Medic 1 and Shoals Fire Department responded. Medic 1 transported one patient to Daviess Community Hospital.

3:49 p.m. - Received a call from Lifeline requesting a lift assist southeast of Shoals. Martin County Medic 2 and Shoals Fire Department responded. No one was transported.

4:05 p.m. - Received a call requesting an officer in Loogootee. Deputy Branham responded.

5:20 p.m. - Received a call requesting extra patrol in Shoals. Sergeant Wells was advised.

8:20 p.m. - Received a call requesting a tow in Loogootee. Big John's Towing responded.

8:37 p.m. - Received a call requesting an officer in Shoals. Deputy Shields responded.

### SATURDAY, MARCH 2

8:47 a.m. - Received an animal complaint in Loogootee. Loogootee Reserve Captain Harmon responded.

9:36 a.m. - Received a 911 call reporting a reckless driver west of Shoals. Deputy Branham responded.

10:00 a.m. - Received a call reporting a controlled burn south of Loogootee.

12:20 p.m. - Received an animal complaint east of Loogootee. Deputy Branham responded.

12:50 p.m. - Received a call from Lifeline requesting an ambulance southeast of Shoals. Martin County Medic 1 responded and transported one patient to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

12:59 p.m. - Received a call reporting a domestic dispute northeast of Shoals. Deputy Branham and Loogootee Reserve Captain Harmon responded. Lawrence County was also notified.

1:46 p.m. - Received a call reporting a controlled burn east of Loogootee. Loogootee Fire Chief was notified.

3:10 p.m. - Received a report of a controlled burn northeast of Shoals. Lawrence County was notified for Indian Creek Fire Chief.

3:15 p.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Medic 1 and Loogootee Fire Department responded. Medic 1 transported one patient to Daviess Community Hospital.

10:14 p.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance north of Shoals. Martin County Medic 1 and Shoals Fire Department responded. Medic 1 transported one patient to Daviess Community Hospital.

### SUNDAY, MARCH 3

3:08 a.m. - Received a 911 call reporting a possible fire east of Loogootee. Loogootee Fire Department responded.

9:46 a.m. - Received a call from Care Center advising of a medical press and requesting an ambulance east of Shoals. Martin County Medic 1 and Shoals Fire Department responded. Medic 1 transported one patient to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

10:04 a.m. - Received a call reporting property damage southwest of Shoals. Corporal Hawkins responded.

3:12 p.m. - Received a report of a controlled burn in Shoals. Shoals Fire Chief was notified.

4:17 p.m. - Received a report of a reckless driver south of Shoals. Deputy Branham responded.

4:36 p.m. - Received a call reporting a gas smell in a home northeast of Loogootee. Shoals Fire Department responded.

4:42 p.m. - Received a call reporting a verbal dispute in Loogootee. Deputy Branham responded.

4:47 p.m. - Received a 911 call reporting verbal dispute in Loogootee. Advised an officer was enroute.

5:07 p.m. - Received a call from Care Center advising of a medical push in Loogootee. Care Center called back to disregard any units responding.

7:15 p.m. - Received a call reporting reckless driving in Shoals. Major Reed responded.

7:54 p.m. - Received a call reporting a controlled burn southwest of Shoals.

7:54 p.m. - Received a report of a possible trespasser southeast of Shoals. Major Reed and Lost River Fire responded.

8:57 p.m. - Received a call from Care Center advising of a medical alarm push in Loogootee. Martin County Medic 1 and Loogootee Fire Department responded. No one was transported.

9:16 p.m. - Received a call requesting a welfare check in Loogootee. Major Reed responded.

11:44 p.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Medic 1, Loogootee Fire Department and Major Reed responded. Medic 1 transported one patient to Daviess Community Hospital.

# COURT NEWS

## CRIMINAL COURT New Charges Filed February 5

Timothy Rogers, driving while suspended, a Class A Misdemeanor.

Destiny Wilkerson, dealing in methamphetamine, a Level 2 Felony; possession of a narcotic drug, a Level 6 Felony; two counts of possession of a controlled substance, Class A Misdemeanors; possession of paraphernalia, a Class C Misdemeanor.

Jon D. Flynn, battery with bodily injury to a public safety officer, a Level 5 Felony; criminal recklessness, a Level 6 Felony; resisting law enforcement, a Class A Misdemeanor; escape, a Level 5 Felony; two counts of intimidation, Level 6 Felonies; criminal mischief, a Class B Misdemeanor.

Darren Bruce Stone, possession of methamphetamine, a Level 6 Felony; unlawful possession of a syringe, a Level 6 Felony; obstruction of justice, a Level 6 Felony; resisting law enforcement, a Level 6 Felony; possession of marijuana, a Class B Misdemeanor; possession of paraphernalia, a Class C Misdemeanor.

Jociah Earl, possession of methamphetamine, a Level 6 Felony; operating a vehicle while intoxicated endangering a person, a Class A Misdemeanor; refusal to submit to breath or chemical test, a Class C Infraction.

### February 7

Noah Whittaker, operating a vehicle while intoxicated endangering a person, a Class A Misdemeanor; possession of marijuana, a Class B Misdemeanor; operating a vehicle with a schedule I or II controlled substance or its metabolite in the body, a Class C Misdemeanor.

Ronald J. Haney, possession of methamphetamine, a Level 5 Felony; possession of paraphernalia, a Class C Misdemeanor.

### February 8

Jeremiah James Adkins, two counts of domestic battery committed in the presence of a child less than 16 years old, Level 6 Felonies.

### February 9

Dylan W. Adams, driving while suspended, a Class A Misdemeanor.

Robert J. Hawkins, dealing in methamphetamine/delivery of methamphetamine, a Level 2 Felony; dealing in methamphetamine, a Level 2 Felony; possession of methamphetamine, a Level 3 Felony; unlawful possession of a syringe, a Level 6 Felony; possession of paraphernalia, a Class C Misdemeanor.

Autumn L. Roberts, possession of methamphetamine, a Level 3 Felony; unlawful possession of a syringe, a Level 6 Felony; possession of paraphernalia, a Class C Misdemeanor.

### February 13

John Michael Mattingly, battery by means of a deadly weapon, a Level 5 Felony; resisting law enforcement, a Class A Misdemeanor; disorderly conduct, a Class B Misdemeanor.

### February 14

Leslie E. Wildman, operating a vehicle with an ACE of .08 or more, a Class C Misdemeanor.

Christopher Moto, failure of a sex offender to possess identification, a Level 6 Felony.

### February 15

Neil J. Sipes, reckless driving, a Class C Misdemeanor.

William T.M. Brown, reckless driving, a Class C Misdemeanor.

### February 20

Thomas C. Earl, driving while suspended, a Class A Misdemeanor.

Billy J. McCoy, possession of methamphetamine, a Level 6 Felony; possession of marijuana, a Class B Misdemeanor; possession of paraphernalia, a Class C Misdemeanor; legend drug deception, a Level 6 Felony.

### February 21

Ragheb Alrim, knowingly or intentionally operating a motor vehicle without ever receiving a license, a Class C Misdemeanor.

### February 22

Robert Leroy Bustos, failure of a sex-violent offender to possess identification, a Class A Misdemeanor.

Angelia E. Chastain, battery, a Class B Misdemeanor.

### February 23

Billy J. McCoy, invasion of privacy, a Class A Misdemeanor.

Shelby R. Harder, visiting a common nuisance -controlled substances, a Class B Misdemeanor.

Shawn M. Brown, escape, a Level 6 Felony.

Calet Dale Kemp, possession of methamphetamine, a Level 6 Felony; visiting a common nuisance- controlled substances, a Class B Misdemeanor.

### February 26

Chad L. Taylor, invasion of privacy, a Class A Misdemeanor.

Robbie Robinson, residential entry, a Level 6 Felony.

Linda Robinson, residential entry, a Level 6 Felony.

Russell Drake, possession of methamphetamine, a Level 6 Felony; possession of paraphernalia, a Class C Misdemeanor.

### February 27

Karry Eugene Prysock, theft, a Class A Misdemeanor.

Joshua T. Hurst, possession of marijuana, a Class B Misdemeanor.

## CRIMINAL CONVICTIONS AND SENTENCINGS

### February 23

John D. Bruner, convicted of operating a vehicle while intoxicated endangering a person, a Class A Misdemeanor. Sentenced to serve 180 days with 0 days suspended and credit for 71 actual days previously served plus 71 Class A credit days.

Zachary E.L. Pace, convicted of operating a vehicle while intoxicated, prior conviction within 7 years, a Level 6 Felony. Sentenced to serve 540 days with 450 days suspended and credit for 45 actual days previously served plus 45 Class A credit days. Defendant received 15 months of probation.

## CRIMINAL CHARGES DISMISSED

### February 23

Zachary E.L. Pace, causing serious bodily injury when operating a vehicle while intoxicated, a Level 5 Felony, dismissed; refusal to submit to breath or chemical test, a Class C Infraction, dismissed.

### February 26

Rachel Lockhart, driving while suspended, a Class A Misdemeanor, dismissed.

## CIVIL COURT

### New Suits Filed

### February 22

Crane Credit Union vs. Isaiah Baylis, civil collection.

### February 23

Discover Bank vs. Sylvia Jones, civil collection.

Sharon Sherer vs. Mark E. Sherer, petition for dissolution of marriage.

### February 27

Amanda Sue Wilson vs. Anthony Shane Wilson, petition for dissolution of marriage.

## CIVIL COURT JUDGMENTS

### February 26

Judgment in favor of the plaintiff LVNV Funding, LLC and against the defendant Tina Shaw in the amount of \$2,773.20.

## CIVIL COURT DISMISSED

### February 26

Castidy Haven and Kenneth Haven vs. Lucas M. Yoder and Progressive Paloverde Insurance Company, civil tort, dismissed.

## SMALL CLAIMS DISMISSED

### February 21

Hoosier Accounts Service vs. Robert E. Bough, complaint, dismissed.

### February 22

Hoosier Accounts Service vs. Thomas G. Hudson, complaint, dismissed.

Hoosier Accounts Service vs. Gale W. May, complaint, dismissed.

Hoosier Accounts Service vs. Leslie J.

## Loogootee Police Department log

### MONDAY, FEBRUARY 26

2:44 p.m. - Sergeant Wagoner responded to a call on Highway 231.

3:10 p.m. - Sergeant Wagoner responded to a call on Highway 231.

### TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 27

10:00 a.m. - Chief Hunt and Assistant Chief Long responded to a call on Highway 231.

3:54 p.m. - Sergeant Wagoner responded to a call on St. Mary's Road.

4:28 p.m. - Loogootee Fire Department responded to a medical call at the Eldorado Motel.

4:38 p.m. - Sergeant Wagoner responded to a call at On The Fly.

### WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 28

8:36 p.m. - Sergeant Wagoner responded to a call on Byron Street.

### THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 29

9:22 a.m. - Loogootee Fire Department responded to a call in Nobles Court.

12:30 p.m. - Loogootee Fire Department responded to a medical call on Fairview Street.

5:55 p.m. - Loogootee Fire Department

## Martin County real estate transfers

**Ernest C. Bauernfiend and Araminta R. Bauernfiend**, of Martin County, Indiana to **Clint R. Carie and Erica K. Carie**, of Martin County, Indiana, a part of the northwest quarter of the southwest quarter of Section 5, Township 1 North, Range 3 West, Lost River Township, Martin County, Indiana, containing 0.55 acres, more or less.

**Northern Property & Development, LLC**, of Daviess County, Indiana to **Craig Stoll and Charlene Stoll, Marrava Stoll and Curtis Stoll**, of Daviess County, Indiana, the northwest quarter of the southeast quarter of Section 22, Township 2 North, Range 4 West, containing 40 acres, more or less, except a section containing 5 acres, more or less.

**Billy J. Walker**, of Daviess County, Indiana to **Beth A. Rubus Family Trust**, of Michigan, Lot Number 34 in Risacher's Addition to the Town, now City of Loogootee, Indiana.

**Greene's Properties, LLC**, of Martin County, Indiana to **Gregory & Sons**

## ARRESTS

### MONDAY, FEBRUARY 26

9:05 a.m. - Clayton Sullivan, 25, of Washington, was arrested by Deputy Baumgart on a Martin County warrant. He is being held without bond.

3:52 p.m. - Billy McCoy, 41, of Vincennes, was arrested by Deputy Baumgart on a Martin County warrant. He is being held without bond.

### TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 27

10:35 a.m. - Carl McCarty, 31, of Shoals, was arrested by Deputy Baumgart on a Martin County warrant. He is being held without bond.

### FRIDAY, MARCH 1

6:03 a.m. - Todd Dasenbrock, 46, of Bedford, was arrested by Deputy Erwin and charged with operating a vehicle while intoxicated-endangerment. He is being held on \$10,000 10% bond.

5:00 p.m. - Melissa Westfall, 44, of Washington, was arrested by Sergeant Wells and charged with operating a vehicle while intoxicated-endangerment. She is being held on \$10,000 10% bond.

### SUNDAY, MARCH 3

2:00 a.m. - Valerie Parsley, 39, of Vincennes, was arrested by Deputy Erwin and charged with operating a vehicle while intoxicated. She is being held without bond.

Campbell, dismissed.

## MARRIAGE LICENSES

### February 23

Jerry Keith Sanders of Shoals and Taylor Michelle Sanders of Shoals.

## Department log

responded to a medical call on Vine Street.  
6:16 p.m. - Sergeant Wagoner responded to a call at the Eldorado Motel.

6:39 p.m. - Loogootee Fire Department responded to a call on Highway 231.

### FRIDAY, MARCH 1

10:27 a.m. - Chief Hunt responded to a call on Wood Street.

2:17 p.m. - Sergeant Wagoner responded to a call at Crane Credit Union.

3:26 p.m. - Sergeant Wagoner responded to a call on Vine Street.

### SATURDAY, MARCH 2

8:47 a.m. - Officer Harmon responded to a call on Reason Avenue.

12:59 p.m. - Officer Harmon responded to a call on Graded Road.

3:15 p.m. - Loogootee Fire Department responded to a medical call on Trimble Lane.

### SUNDAY, MARCH 3

8:57 p.m. - Loogootee Fire Department responded to a medical call on Vine Street.

11:44 p.m. - Loogootee Fire Department responded to a medical call at Sunset Trailer Court.

**Properties, LLC**, of Martin County, Indiana, a tract of land commencing at the northwest corner of the southwest quarter of the northwest quarter of Section 25, Township 3 North, Range 5 West, containing one and one fourth acres, more or less, except a section containing .23 acre, more or less.

**Dorothy Mullett**, f/k/a Dorothy Stoll, of Martin County, Indiana to **Leroy Streepy, Jr. and Debra L. Streepy**, of Daviess County, Indiana, a portion of the northeast quarter of Section 31, Township 3 North, Range 4 West, being also the previously platted lots number 49, 50 and 51 in the Town of Mt. Pleasant, Perry Township, Martin County, Indiana, containing 0.84 acres, more or less.

**Edward E. Schnarr and Maggie J. Schnarr**, of Martin County, Indiana to **Giant Indiana, LLC**, of Hillsborough County, Florida, Lot Number 5 in Block A of the Loogootee Land Company's Addition to the Town, now City of Loogootee, Indiana, except a portion of Lot Number 5 in Block A, containing 0.0011 acres, more or less.

**Margie Ann Arvin**, of Martin County, Indiana to **Seth D. Blackwell and Addison P. Ainscough**, of Martin County, Indiana, a part of the northwest quarter of Section 24, Township 3 North, Range 5 West, containing 0.62 acres, more or less.

**Dennis R. Green**, of Martin County, Indiana to **Julie A. Green**, of Martin County, Indiana, the east one-half of Lot Number 19, also, Lot Number 20 and 15 feet of even width off the west side of Lot Number 21, all in Heck's Addition to the City of Loogootee, Indiana.

**Stewart E. Blake and Mary Ellen Blake**, of Martin County, Indiana to **Stewart E. Blake and Mary Ellen Blake**, of Martin County, Indiana, a part of the southeast quarter of the northwest quarter and a part of the northeast quarter of the southwest quarter, both in Section 25, Township 3 North, Range 5 West, Perry Township, Martin County, Indiana, containing 14.253 acres, more or less.

**Dina C. Wells Radtke and Gregory A. Radtke to Gregory A. Radtke**, all that part of the northwest quarter of the southeast quarter of Section 32, Township 2 North, Range 3 West, which lies south of the Ridge Road containing 3 acres, more or less. More commonly known as 8748 Ridge Road, Shoals IN 47581.

## More Neat Stuff



By Ann Ackerman



An interesting bonus to this article is hearing from students, friends, etc. from the past. I recently received a note from Pat McGovern. You might remember him as a player on the St. John basketball team that won the Wabash Valley Tourney in the early 60s. He's retired and lives in Michigan near his grandchildren. Thanks for the contact, Pat. It was great hearing from you.

### THOUGHTS:

\*My article is meant for people who have a sense of humor, who love joy in their lives, and a little bit of wisdom, and a twist of sarcasm and who wear panties that don't get into a wad.

\*If you ever see me talking to myself, just move along. I am self-employed and we are having a staff meeting.

\*At the safety meeting, I was asked "What steps would you take if there was a fire." Apparently freaking big ones was the wrong answer.

\*They say you need to listen to what your body is telling you . . . but mine just points and laughs.

\*I try to get a full serving of fruits and veggies every day...a Bloody Mary and a strawberry daiquiri usually do the trick.

\*Running is the best way to remind yourself how much you love sitting.

\*I dress for success. If everything's covered, it's a success.

## ANIMAL SHELTER Pet of the Week



AMORA is a female FIV+ adult kitty, 2 years old. She needs to be the only cat in the home. She is very sweet. She is spayed, up to date on shots and litter box trained. Adoption fee is \$45. For more info or to apply to adopt, visit [www.humanesocietyofmartincounty.org](http://www.humanesocietyofmartincounty.org).

\*You know what the nice thing about winter? Neither do I.

\*After a certain age, your body is like a garage sale. . . some stuff looks old, some stuff doesn't work, and some stuff you can't even identify.

### INTERESTING TRIVIA

A 16-year-old Italian boy named Antonio Pasin immigrated to America from Europe at the start of the 20th century. A skilled carpenter, Pasin headed to Chicago and began building little red wagons out of stamped metal. By 1923, he had saved enough money to create the Liberty Coaster Company, and he began mass-producing the wagon for just under \$3. He named it the "Radio Flyer" in homage to two of his favorite inventions of the time: the radio and the airplane.

The Original Little Red Wagon became an icon of childhood, used to pull kid siblings, to deliver newspapers, to race down hills with that funky reverse-handle steering, and so on.

### Johnny's Seven Cats

Teacher: "If I gave you 2 cats and another 2 cats and another 2, how many would you have?"

Johnny: "Seven."

Teacher: "No, listen carefully... If I gave you two cats, and another two cats and another two, how many would you have?"

Johnny: "Seven."

Teacher: "Let me put it to you differently. If I gave you two apples, and another two apples and another two, how many would you have?"

Johnny: "Six."

Teacher: "Good. Now if I gave you two cats, and another two cats and another two, how many would you have?"

Johnny: "Seven!"

Teacher: "Johnny, where in the heck do you get seven from?!"

Johnny: "Because I've already got a freaking cat!"

Make someone smile today!

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### Loogootee School Board meeting

The Loogootee School Board will meet Thursday, March 7 at 4:30 p.m. in the high school media center. The board will be opening bids for the proposed remodeling and expansion projects. The meeting is open to the public.

### Free community meal

The Loogootee Christian Church, at 206 Sherman Street, is having their monthly free meal for the community on Thursday, March 7 from 6-8 p.m. This month they will have fried chicken, hot and cold sides, desserts and drinks. All members of the community are invited to attend.

### County council meeting change

The Martin County Council meeting for March has been moved from March 4 to Thursday, March 7 at 6 p.m. in the Martin County Courthouse. The meeting is open to the public.

### Celebrate Recovery meetings

Celebrate Recovery meetings will be held every Tuesday at 6 p.m. at The River Church in Shoals. This is a Christ-centered recovery program and anyone is welcome to attend.

### Dog/cat Wellness Clinic

The Martin County Humane Society hosts a wellness clinic on the third Friday of each month from 5-6 p.m. The clinic offers low-cost vaccines, testing, nail trims, etc. No appointment needed.

### St. Vincent Food Pantry

The St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry, on Park Street in Loogootee, is open the fourth Thursday of the month except November and December when they are open the third Thursday. The hours are 9

a.m.-noon and 1-3:30 p.m.

### Free lunch for kids

New Beginnings Community Church will be offering a free lunch to all school age children every Saturday. Lunches can be picked up at the fellowship hall of the church, located at 105 Wood St, Loogootee no later than 10:30 a.m. Deliveries will begin between 10:30 and 11 a.m. Saturdays.

### SOAR Tutoring

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

### LUMC Food Pantry

The Loogootee United Methodist Church Food Pantry is open every Thursday (except the fourth Thursday) from 11 a.m.-1 p.m.

### Solid waste board

The Martin County Solid Waste Board holds their monthly meetings on the third Wednesday of each month at 8:30 a.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.

### Soil and Water meetings

The Martin County Soil & Water Conservation District (SWCD) meets the third Tuesday of the month at the SWCD office located at 404 JFK Avenue in Loogootee. The meetings are at 7:30 p.m. (April-October) and at 6:30 p.m. (November-March). Office hours are 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Thursday. Please call 812-295-3149 for assistance.



By Shoals Town Council President Cary D. Albright

## Councilman's Corner

"Critical Infrastructure Challenges Uncovered in Shoals: Urgent Steps Towards Water System Rehabilitation"

On February 16, a joint effort by Councilman Albright, Superintendent Wilson, and HWC Water Engineer Franz revealed alarming issues within Shoals' freshwater infrastructure. The site visit uncovered multiple instances of deteriorated and unsafe equipment, nonfunctional components, and hazardous work environments. Comprehensive documentation, including photographs, was undertaken for future reference.

A primary concern emerged at well number one, currently inoperable due to safety standards and equipment deterioration. Equally critical is the 750-foot water delivery line beneath White River, East Fork Bridge, showing signs of impending failure. The third focal point centered on pump and distribution areas, where environmental controls are currently non-operational on demand.

Engineer Franz is now diligently crafting an action plan for the Town of Shoals, complete with estimated costs for rehabilitation. Once this plan is finalized, the financial rate study consultant in Indianapolis will compile figures for a state grant application from the State Revolving Loan Fund. This grant, exempt from repayment, holds promise for Shoals, particularly given that 36 percent of its residents live below the federal poverty level – a key qualification for the grant.

In a proactive move, the town raised wastewater rates in the last funding round, demonstrating a commitment to self-improvement. Assistance from State and County entities supplemented these



efforts. The focus now is on maintaining and enhancing the quality of life in Shoals by ensuring the delivery of high-quality, safe water to its residents.

Crucially, public hearings are scheduled for March, providing an opportunity for community input as the council steers towards a solution. The urgency stems from the looming April 1 deadline to submit the project, potentially securing the much-needed grant. Shoals' dedication to self-improvement, coupled with strategic planning, sets the stage for a pivotal moment in securing a safer and more sustainable water system for its residents.

Shop Shoals Faytastic Pizza

## SHOALS DAY!

Tuesday, March 12th 2024

Virginia Caudill a Liason & Rural Navigator for the South Central Region for the Indiana Small Business Development Center. Virginia helps new and existing businesses connect with resources that provide advice, relevant services, data, and support in their local communities.

Virginia Caudill  
Rural Navigator, ISBDC

Virginia will be in Shoals on Tuesday, March 12th visiting local businesses. Virginia will be stopping in, introducing herself and can provide information on the free services the ISBDC can offer to your business.

If you would like to set up an appointment with Virginia for this day please contact her at [ViCaudill@isbdc.org](mailto:ViCaudill@isbdc.org) or at (812) 330-6261

Learn More

WWW.ISBDC.ORG

# FARMING & OUTDOORS



## In the Garden

By Ralph Purkhiser  
Purdue University Master Gardener

In southern Indiana, our safe-from-frost date is generally listed as sometime in early May. If you count back the six to eight weeks listed on many seed packets, you will find that it is now prime planting time to have transplants ready when they may be planted in the garden. This includes tomatoes, peppers, eggplant, and many other warm-season crops.

Strong transplants do not happen by accident. It takes some planning. Start with clean containers. If you are re-using containers from previous years, brush out the old soil and wash them in hot water to make sure you kill any pathogens that could be in the soil. You will also want to use clean soil. By that, I mean soil that is sterile. I suggest buying seed starting mix at your local garden center. You do not want to use regular potting soil and stay away from any potting mix that contains fertilizer. The seed has all the nutrients that a plant needs for its first few weeks and the presence of extra nutrients may cause the seedling to grow too quickly and get spindly.

You may make your own seed starting mix. If you have compost, use a screen to separate out any large particles. If your compost bin does not get hot enough to kill weed seeds and pathogens, you may want to bake the compost to sterilize it. I like to use equal parts of compost and milled peat or coir. Adding some vermic-

ulite or perlite will increase drainage. Peat and coir tend to be slow to take up moisture, so I stir in water until the mix is damp, but not soggy.

Follow the planting instructions on the seed packets. It is difficult to get the spacing right on some small seeds. I sometimes mix the seeds with sand in a bowl and then sow that mixture. Some seeds need light for germination, while others need to be covered with a layer of soil. The seed packet should also supply this information.

Some seeds, such as peppers, will germinate more quickly with bottom heat. Heat mats made for this purpose are available at most garden centers, but there are other ways to get the heat needed. While plants need light to develop properly, many seeds do not need light until they have germinated. You may place the trays on top of a refrigerator, freezer or other appliance to take advantage of the heat. Keep an eye on the trays and move them back to a place in the light when seeds have germinated.

After germination, good lighting is essential. If you are trying to grow your plants in a window, choose one that faces the south, if possible. You will need to turn the trays frequently to keep the transplants straight.

Once the tiny plants have their second set of true leaves, the plants will need

some nutrition. I like to use a liquid fertilizer mixed at half the normal strength. You may also wish to transplant the seedlings into individual pots. At this point, it is good to use a potting mix that contains some fertilizer. If your seedlings have become a little leggy, you can plant them so that only the top few leaves are above the soil. Adventitious roots will form along the stem, giving your plant a better root system.

Moisture is also essential for proper plant growth. You will need to check the soil daily and keep it moist. Planting in a plastic enclosure will help keep the moisture level constant and will increase the humidity. You may find that running a humidifier is good for the developing plants. A fan is also good for making the stems grow thicker, resulting in stronger plants.

Not all seeds need to be started inside. Most root crops, such as radishes and carrots, are best planted directly in the garden bed. Beans, peas, corn and many ornamental annuals also do best seeded directly into the growing beds.

If your seedlings do well, you will likely find that you have more plants than you need for your garden. Pot up the extras to share with friends or take them to plant exchanges this spring. Starting your own bedding plants is a great way to increase your plant supply and increase the number of varieties you will grow.

## Outdoor Indiana features White River State Park

Outdoor Indiana magazine's March/April issue features a cover article on White River State Park, highlighting the park's history and its unique status as a destination for outdoor and cultural exploration in downtown Indianapolis.



The issue also includes an article on land preserved for conservation through the Benjamin Harrison Conservation Trust and the Next Level Conservation Trust, as well as a photo essay featuring some of Indiana's most distinctive courthouses.

Outdoor Indiana is available now at Indiana State Park Inns across the state for \$4.

You can buy subscriptions online or by phone for \$15 for one year (six issues, a 27 percent savings over cover price) and \$28 for two years (12 issues, a 42 percent savings).

This edition is also available for purchase at the Visitors Center at White River State Park.

Subscribe at [ShopINStateParks.com](http://ShopINStateParks.com) or by calling 317-233-3046. To read article excerpts, go to [OutdoorIndiana.org](http://OutdoorIndiana.org).

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# PURE COUNTRY *Throwback*

By Dan Gregory

*Originally published March 8, 2016*  
 Last week's Loogootee Tribune had a first. There was a picture of the school's FFA (Future Farmers of America) listening to one of the state's FFA officers speaking about the FFA organization. It's been a long, long time since FFA had a presence in Martin County and both of our school districts now have FFA as an extracurricular activity. The signature blue jackets of the FFA members are what caught my eye in the photo in last week's Tribune.

Our sons (David and Mark) both went to Barr-Reeve school in the mornings of their junior and senior years of high school at LHS. They were old enough to drive and Barr-Reeve offered agriculture as part of the curriculum. For farm kids this was something they could relate to and was different enough that the extra effort was worth it.

I was invited to chaperone the Barr-Reeve FFA club to Kansas City for the


National FFA Convention. Similar to 4-H, FFA is used to encourage and educate some of the next generation of agriculture leaders. The FFA members at Kansas City were in the tens of thousands and from every state in the union. We were in Kansas City for three days of events and having that many young people with similar interests all in one place convinced me that the future of American agriculture was in good hands.

The speakers at the FFA Convention were mostly the young people themselves. Truly an amazing bunch. With the seemingly endless spectacle of the current presidential election at the national level, I think any one of those young people would be a far better choice as true leaders of this country.

This coming Saturday (March 12) Martin County will celebrate Ag-Day. It comes just days before the earth will have completed its rotation back to the northern hemisphere that will provide the warmth and energy from the sun to give all of us next year's supply of food. There will be a lot of things to see and people to talk to from various organizations at AG-Day, not to mention a breakfast that should leave everyone satisfied.

I know everyone does not focus much on where their food comes from. But I also know that it doesn't just magically appear. There is a lot of planning and hard work that goes into feeding the population and it is done by a relatively small number of people. We are fortunate in this country to have those people and can give some of the credit to those 4-Hers and the young people who wear the FFA blue jackets.

Hope to see you on Saturday.  
 Life is Good!



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## NOTICE

In preparation for mowing season, spring cleanup of St. John Catholic Cemetery will take place on Saturday, March 16, 2024. All grave blankets and other ground decorations as well as obviously outdated gravestone decorations (e.g. Christmas) must be removed prior to that time. Any ground or outdated decorations remaining will be removed by the cleanup crew.




# BEST of the NEST

## Birdhouse Building Contest

*Calling Citizens of all ages!*

The Town of Shoals wants to add more birdhouses around town to attract native area birds! Help us by entering our birdhouse building contest!





**JUDGING THREE CATEGORIES:**

- \* PEOPLES CHOICE AWARD  
 MOST LIKES & MOST SHARES COMBINED OVERALL
- \* MOST CREATIVE/WACKY  
 USE YOUR IMAGINATION & BRING YOUR VISION TO LIFE
- \* HOME TWEET HOME  
 BEST SHOALS/JUG ROX THEME

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# BEST of the NEST

## Birdhouse Building Contest

### CONTEST RULES

**How to enter**  
 Bring your birdhouse to the Shoals Town Hall by Friday, May 3rd 2024. If after hours leave out front with name and phone number attached.

**Voting**  
 A single picture of each submitted birdhouse will be posted onto the Town of Shoals facebook page for voting. Each category has instructions of how to place a vote for the specific category.

- "Peoples Choice Award": The photo with the most "likes" and "shares" combined overall will win this category.
- "Most Creative/Wacky": Comment "Wacky" on the photo of the birdhouse you feel best meets this criteria. The photo with the most "wacky" comments will win this category. *One comment per person per category.*
- "Home Tweet Home": Comment "Go Jug Rox" on the photo of the birdhouse you feel is the best Shoals/Jug Rox theme. The photo with the most "Go Jug Rox" comments will win this category. *One comment per person per category.*

**Winners**  
 Winners will be announced Monday, May 20th 2024. Winners will be published on social media and local news media.

**Rules**

- Birdhouses should be designed attract birds that are native to our area.
- Birdhouses must not be over a maximum of 20"x 20 x 20" in size.
- Materials used must be able withstand the elements of weather for this area.
- Entry into the contest forfeits your ownership of the birhouse and releases all rights of ownership to the Town of Shoals.
- The Town of Shoals reserves the right to deny any entry.

**Eligibility**  
 - Everyone and anyone of all ages! Classrooms, teams, groups of any kind, businesses and individuals all may enter the contest.

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# ~LETTERS TO THE EDITOR~

## 'We the people can fight city hall'

To the editor of the *Martin County Journal*,

The Mid-States Corridor Project is an unwelcome intrusion on our usually quiet and peaceful lives here in Martin, Daviess and Dubois counties. It's not the noise, dust and chaos that a major highway project foists on all of us; but, the uncertainty of it all. It's the not knowing what Mike Braun and his cabal of Dubois and Spencer County businessmen have up their sleeves. What shenanigans they will try to ensure they prevail with the Corridor?

Being opposed to the Mid-States Corridor is not, or should not be, a partisan issue. We are all opposed to it, and we all need to continue to make our voices known. What can we do? One thing we can do is to attend the next Martin County Council meeting. The meeting will be held on March 7 at 6 p.m. in the Martin County Courthouse and the meeting is open to the public. Please attend and let's get the council members to state their position on the Corridor.

We all need to remember to vote and to vote for those who have expressed their opposition to the Corridor. As I've said in the past, we the people can fight city hall and we can win. There is strength in numbers and the word "No" is extremely powerful.

Jim Arvin  
Rutherford Township  
Martin County

## 'There is no middle ground'

To the editor of the *Martin County Journal*,

Antisemitism has skyrocketed across America and the world since 3,000 Hamas terrorists invaded Israel October 7, 2023, and murdered 1,200 people, as well as kidnapping 245 others.

The vast majority of those murdered by the terrorists were civilians, including hundreds attending an open-air music concert. They indiscriminately killed adults and children, including babies. Many Jews were tortured before being killed, while many women and girls were raped by the terrorists.

Before October 7, there was no war going on in Israel or Gaza, so in effect a ceasefire. Immediately after the murderous rampage by Hamas, Israel has responded with a methodical military campaign to destroy Hamas and its massive infrastructure in Gaza. There are hundreds of miles of tunnels in Gaza which were built over many years by Hamas. They were built using millions of dollars stolen from the billions sent by gullible nations, such as the United States, to provide "aid" to civilians living in Gaza.

Ever since the Jewish nation of Israel was attacked by bloodthirsty terrorists, Israel has been demonized across this country and around the world. Jews have been verbally and physically attacked repeatedly.

Many in the news media and politics seemed to be stunned by the blatant antisemitism displayed at many college campuses and major cities in the U.S. However, the sad truth is that such hatred for Israel and Jews has been going on for years. It just took the war between Israel and Hamas to bring it out into the open.

Israel has been accused of committing genocide against civilians in Gaza by a few Jew-hating members of Congress, as well as profoundly ignorant college students who have been indoctrinated by their left-wing professors.

The truth is the Israel Defense Forces go to extraordinary means to avoid civilian casualties, which is extremely hard in Gaza when Hamas tunnels and military infrastructure are deliberately placed adjacent to or beneath hospitals and homes. Since this war began, the INF has made millions of phone calls to civilians in Gaza to warn them to leave areas which were about to be targeted by Israel. Hundreds of thousands of Gazans have been able to move safely because of these warnings, which unfortunately also warned members of Hamas.

While Israel does its best to avoid civilian casualties, Hamas does its best to increase them. The terrorists don't care anymore about the lives of those living in Gaza than they do about those living in Israel. In fact, Hamas seeks massive civilian casualties in Gaza, knowing this will lead to more protests against Israel by leftists throughout the world. It also puts more pressure on President Joe Biden, who is already facing criticism from Muslims who hate Jews and are threatening not to support him for re-election.

There is no middle ground. You are either for Israel or you are for Hamas. You either support freedom or you support terrorism. Those who shout about genocide and ceasefire are actually supporting Hamas, because a ceasefire will allow the terrorists to regroup and rearm before attacking Israel again.

God has always been on the side of Israel, and we should be too. The land of Palestine was promised to Abraham by God thousands of years ago and so it will ever be.

Tim Pinkham  
Washington, Indiana



## Fund distributions

-Photos provided

The Martin County Humane Society received their yearly distribution from designated funds held with the Martin County Community Foundation. This year the MCCF provided grants of \$1,819 to the Humane Society for operations and maintenance costs. This amount is up considerably from last year thanks to a generous donor to the Martin County Humane Society Fund, and to the Bill and Pat Daily Fund for its first distribution to the Humane Society. Shown, from left to right, are MCCF Board members Angie Risacher, Janie Johnson and Paula Ringwald, Humane Society Vice-President Jessica Parker and President Josh Hughett, MCCF Board member Greg Bateman, and MCCF Director Curt Johnson.



The Shoals United Methodist Church received their yearly distribution from the Shoals United Methodist Church Fund, a designated fund held with the Martin County Community Foundation. This year the fund provided a grant of \$82,162 to the church for operations and maintenance. Shown in the front row, from left to right, are MCCF Board members Liz Chatten and Paula Ringwald, SUMC Pastor Pat Sinnott, SUMC member Dorothy Albright, and MCCF Board member Angie Risacher. In the back row, from left to right, are SUMC members Jerry Loomis, Jim Woody, Phil and Chyrstal Goodpaster, Barb Loomis and Alton Qualkenbush, and MCCF Board member Greg Bateman.

# CLASSIFIED ADS

## YARD SALE

THE RSVP VOLUNTEER CENTER annual Arts and Crafts Supply Sale will be held on March 14, 15, and 16 at the Eastside Park Community Building in Washington. 8 a.m.-4 p.m. on Thursday and Friday, 8 a.m. to noon on Saturday. Lots of fabric, craft kits, patterns, books, papercrafting, craft tools and more! All sales are donation based.

## GRABER AUCTIONS - HARDING ESTATE

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# Canvas Paint Competition

MARCH 9, 2024  
9AM-11:00AM

\$100 Cash Prize & 4 FREE gallons of paint!

Registration Fee \$20

Help us kick off our Paint BOGO Sale at the end of March with a canvas painting contest! Only 10 spots available! Come in or call the store to sign up. Painters will be provided with canvas, paint, and brushes. Painters will be required to paint during the 2 hour event. Paintings will be on display for customers to vote on during the month of March. Tickets for voting will be given to customers who purchase items. The tickets will be for customers to vote throughout the month on their favorite painting. Winner will be announced on April 1st. Paintings will be auctioned off and the proceeds will be donated to the Shoals Art Department.

There will also be a coloring page contest for kids 10 and under beginning the 9th-31st. Pick up coloring sheet on the 9th and return by the 31st.

See you there!

All proceeds and extra supplies will be donated to the Shoals Art Department

