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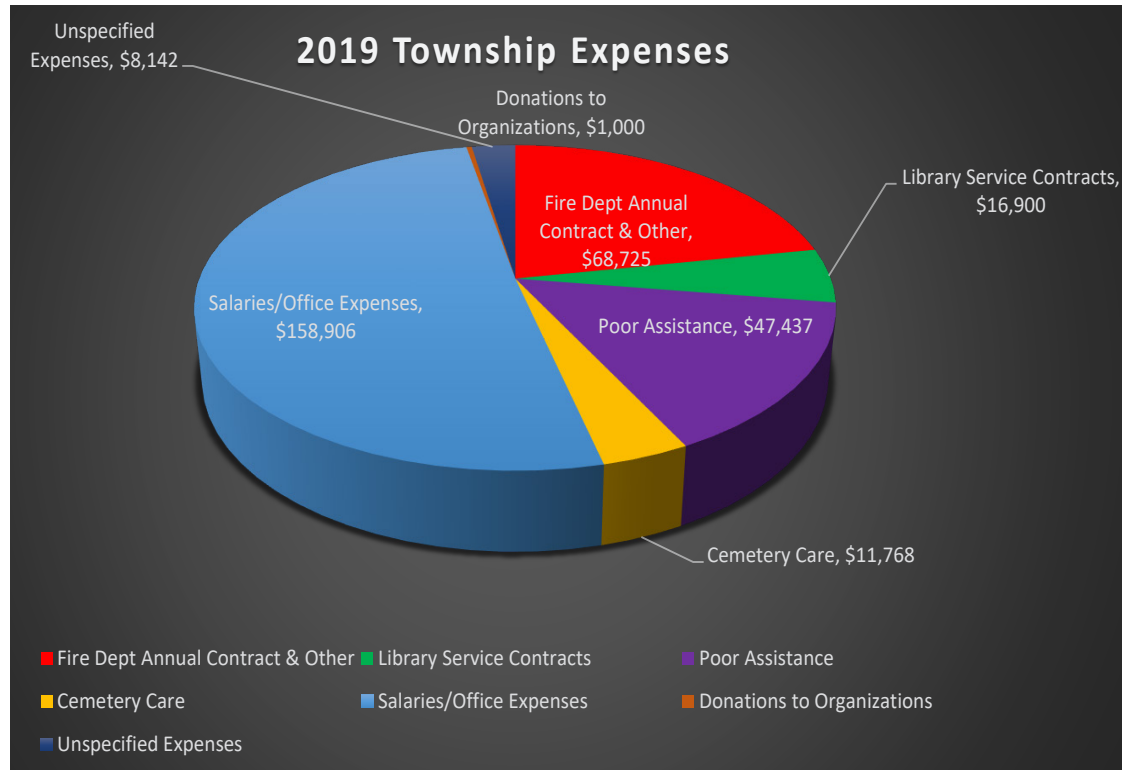
Townships have over \$1 million in unused funds

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 2019, the six townships combined had \$1,074,001.70 in unused funds that rolled over to this year. All six townships spent a total of \$312,878.41 in 2019. Of that \$158,906 was spent on salaries and office expenses. (See the graph to the right to see what the six townships spent money on in 2019.)

Each township has a trustee, an elected official with a four-year term. Each trustee also can have a paid secretary (Lost River Township chooses not to) and a paid advisory board of three people. All six township trustees in Martin County in 2019, 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,



es, 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 to provide fire service

City's former insurance agent fights to get job back

BY COURTNEY HUGHETT
Martin County Journal Publisher

Rex Strawn talked to the Loogootee City Council at their meeting Monday night, March 9, about the job he has done as the city's insurance agent of record up until he was replaced at the last meeting. Dave Welsh, with German American, was voted as the new agent last month. Strawn said the new agent doesn't have an office in Loogootee, his office is in Bloomington. "He's not going to do any more for you or less," he said. "At least I care for you guys." Strawn said he works with the same companies Welsh does.

He said he's not in insurance for the money, he's in it for the service. He directed his comments to Council Member Rick Norris who said at last month's meeting he wasn't satisfied with Strawn as the city's agent. Strawn told Norris that he is doing his job and working with city employees all the time.

"If I knew you guys were having a problem, I'd like to know," he said. He said the only thing the city is doing is taking business away from another Loogootee company.

He brought information on workman's compensation insurance for the city, for the past few years. He presented the loss ratios since he became the city's agent of record. He said that IPEP is the cheapest company in the state and that's why he chose them. He added that until the loss ratios come down, there isn't anything he can do to help with the cost. He said again that he works behind the scenes and he doesn't come to meetings because he doesn't want to take up anyone's time.

He's been attending meetings for 10

years to help keep workman's compensation costs down.

Council Member Rick Norris said one of the issues they have is claims not being paid. One employee who was injured back in July was getting letters from the ambulance company threatening lawsuit because his claims were never paid.

Strawn replied that the employee just has to call him. He said he didn't know there was an issue. "I'm sorry, I didn't even know," he said.

Strawn said he would like to get the agent of record back.

Council Member Norris said they already voted and told the other guy he had the position.

"So, you're going to take it out of town then, huh?" asked Strawn.

Norris replied that they've worked with him before on insurance.

Strawn said again that the city is throwing money outside of the city. He said they are helping shut down a business.

Norris said again that they have worked with the new agent before and he did right by them.

Strawn said again that he would do what he could for the city, he's in town and he cares.

Norris said they already voted for the other agent and he is not one to go back on his word, but he doesn't know what the other council members would do.

Strawn asked them to take a vote and see.

Council Member Teresa Nolley said her personal agent is German American and she didn't know they do not have an office in Loogootee. She made a motion to go back to Rex Strawn as the agent. Council Member Ron Gilbert made the

(See 'AGENT' on page 2)

to their township residents. Townships, such as Lost River, also help by providing funds for buildings, equipment, and vehicles for the department.

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.ifonline.org/report_builder/. Information directly from the state reports is broken down below for each township.

RUTHERFORD TOWNSHIP

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 2019, Rutherford Township began with a balance of \$91,459.47. After disbursements, totaling \$39,336.28 the township ended 2019 with a balance of \$77,481.13.

Of the \$39,336.28 that was paid out, \$19,832.04 went toward salaries 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 \$625 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 \$168.52 was reimbursed to Street for mileage.

Rutherford Township paid Shawn Truelove \$1,800 to provide mowing of cemeteries. The

township also gave \$13,500 to the Haysville Fire Department for a fire service contract and \$275 each was paid to Keith Keller, Kenny Haven, Lacy Haven, Steven Buchta, Brandon Epple, Bailey Holt, Kolton Braun and Derek Johnson from the firefighting fund.

As for helping the poor, \$2,004.24 was given to eight people (six households) who requested help last year. Of that \$1,909.52 paid to Daviess-Martin REMC, and \$68.80 to CVS Pharmacy, and \$25.92 to East Fork Water.

HALBERT TOWNSHIP

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 2019 with a cash balance of \$254,202.14 and ended the year at \$273,378.69.

Of the \$60,970.48 total spent in 2019 by Halbert Township, \$21,986.22 was used to pay for salaries and office expenses including the trustee's salary of \$11,336.88, the clerical salary of \$2,581.20 and \$757.27 each to the three advisory board members.

(See 'TOWNSHIPS' on page 2)

Commissioners discuss multiple issues

BY COURTNEY HUGHETT
Martin County Journal Publisher

There were several topics of discussion at the Martin County Commissioners' meeting Tuesday night, March 10, from the cell phone towers to the coronavirus.

County Attorney Dave Lett told the commissioners that he received a letter from Frontier saying they want to construct three 5G cell phone transmission towers in three locations around the county - Highway 231 in Rutherford Township, Windom Road and Emmons Ridge Road. Lett said he is not sure the exact location of each tower, but he wanted the commissioners to know what is going on in case property owners start contacting them with complaints. Lett said that according to the letter, Frontier will be contacting property owners affected, in the near future.

Auditor Bobbie Abel reported that the

highway department is accepting sealed bids on a used maintainer truck. The commissioners decided they want a minimum bid of \$500. Bids are being accepted at the highway department.

Vickie Wathen, 2020 Census Committee Chairman, told the commissioners that they will have a booth set up at Ag Day to provide information and answer questions about the Census. She said that questionnaires are being mailed out this week.

Monte Wolfe, with Civil Defense, wanted to remind residents not to have open burns when it's windy out. He told the commissioners that they were called out to four brush fires over the weekend and residents need to be more cautious.

Andy Ringwald, with Civil Defense, reminded the commissioners that there will be a coronavirus readiness meeting tomorrow night at 6 p.m. in the court- (See 'COMMISSIONERS' on page 2)

TOWNSHIPS

(Continued from page one)

Also \$2,525.76 (\$210.48 per month) was paid to Exzelia Montgomery for the use of her home and phone for the trustee's office.

For Halbert Township's cemetery care \$300 was paid to Janie Johnson and Jaron Gibson, \$600 was paid to Marlin Court-right and \$1,200 was paid to Bill Keller.

For money given to the needy, 66 requests were made for help and 39 households received poor assistance, totaling \$15,903.31. Of the 39 households receiving help, money was paid to the following on behalf of those seeking help: Lisa Bauer \$300, Cave & Cave Family Dentistry \$210, Daviess-Martin REMC \$4,700.89, Duke Energy \$3,609.89, Monte Gregory \$181, Hampton Excavating \$375, Jay C Food Store \$73.04, Jones Oil Company \$151, Montgomery Farms \$60, Property Sure \$500, Shoals Municipal Utilities \$667.49, SHWS Development LLC \$725, Thorne-George Family Funeral Home \$3,100, Tony Tinkle \$400, and White River Co-Op \$850.

Also, \$10,339.67 was paid to the Shoals Fire Department and \$9,000 to the Shoals Public Library.

LOST RIVER TOWNSHIP

Lost River Township trustee is Mildred Brown and she does not pay a clerical assistant. The 2019 advisory board consisted of Alice Butler, Keith Emmons, and Bruce Fithian. At the beginning of 2019 the trustee's cash balance was \$79,288.26 and was \$83,921.03 at the end of the year.

For 2019, a total of \$33,909.34 was paid out. Of that, \$7,673.94 was spent on salaries and office expenses including \$3,254.16 for the trustee's salary and three advisory board members were paid \$616.44 for the year.

Brown paid \$800 (\$67 a month) for the use of her home as the township office.

For cemetery care in Lost River Township, Keith Albright was paid \$900, Phillip Jones was paid \$600, and August Bauer and David Butler were paid \$400 each.

The township paid \$17,325.10 to the Lost River Fire Department with \$1,200 of that to Northwoods Mapping, \$2,151.78 to Hopf Outdoors, and \$1,413.32 to Spring Valley Supply. The rest was for a fire contract.

The township paid \$3,000 to the Shoals

CITY

(Continued from page one)

second. Council Member Tim Lawrence voted in favor and the motion passed 3-2 with Council Members Norris and Carroll Rayhill voting against.

After the vote, Strawn apologized to Norris again saying he didn't know there were issues.

Clerk-Treasurer Carol Harder provided information to the council about the city's finances. Due to a rough year in 2019, the statements given out each month are not accurate. The statements show the city operating close to \$300,000 in the negative. Harder said they are still working to get an accurate statement and didn't want the council to be concerned about the funds. Council Member Tim Lawrence said that it's difficult for the council to approve spending when they don't know what the city's balances are. Harder said she understands and will be working to get the council accurate information.

Forest Burton and the Loogootee Ministerial Association submitted a letter to the city council stating they want to erect a Ten Commandments monument in downtown Loogootee. The mayor said the first step is to see if it can be done and then they need to find a location that is suitable. He said the city could donate the land and he believes he has the perfect location in mind although he didn't say where.

Public Library.

Three people requested hardship assistance from the Lost River Trustee last year and three households were helped totaling \$3,610.30. Of that, \$1,817.33 was paid to Daviess-Martin REMC, \$500 to the White River Co-Op, \$92.97 to Smithville Telephone and \$1,200 to Queen-Lee Funeral Home.

CENTER TOWNSHIP

Center Township's trustee was Charles Hamilton for part of 2019 and Ann Stewart for the rest of the year, starting in April. Hamilton's clerk was Donna Hamilton and Stewart's clerk is Kevin Stewart. The three-member advisory board includes Kenneth Brett (partial year), Larry Downs, Dean Crandall and Larry Downs.

Center Township's cash balance was \$119,120.67 at the beginning of 2019. At the end of the year the balance was \$119,831.04.

A total of \$41,897.84 was spent by the township last year. \$16,486.07 was spent on salaries and office expenses. Of that, \$1,473.42 was paid to Charles Hamilton during his time as trustee and \$5,094.72 was paid to Ann Stewart for the remainder of the year. Hamilton's clerk was paid \$522 and Stewart's clerk was paid \$2,240.37. The advisory board members were paid as follows: \$588.81 to Norma Baker and Larry Downs, \$441.60 to Dean Crandall, and \$147.19 to Kenny Brett.

The rent for the trustee's office was \$450 (\$150 per month) to Charles Hamilton and \$1,350 (\$150 per month) to Ann Stewart.

For cemetery care, \$920 was paid to Roy Dale Grafton and \$1,398 to Jayce Graber.

Center Township gave \$10,000 to the Town of Shoals for a firefighting contract and paid \$359.87 for fire department insurance. The township gave \$3,900 to the Shoals Public Library.

There were 37 poor assistance requests to the trustee last year and 21 households were given assistance. The amount given in assistance in 2019 was \$8,633.26. Of that, \$200 was paid to Tim Norris, FBD; \$252.24 to Shoals Municipal Utilities, \$50 to Kroger, \$75 to Ruler, \$3,222.71 to Daviess-Martin REMC, \$1,705.53 to Duke Energy, \$1,200 to Queen-Lee Funeral Home, \$1,200 to Cresthaven Funer-

Council Member Teresa Nolley said she wanted to make a public statement that she is in favor of the Midstates Corridor coming as close to Loogootee as it can. She said Loogootee needs the traffic and without it, the city will be a ghost town. She would like to see Highway 231 improved all the way to I-69. She said she knows many homes and businesses will be affected but she believes all can be relocated. Council Member Ron Gilbert agreed.

The mayor told the council that the building on the square, across from the KofC has been purchased and is going to be remodeled. They would like some parking spaces painted. The mayor said he will get quotes and report back to the council.

During the board of public works and safety meeting, prior to the council meeting, Loogootee Chief Rayhill asked that police officer, Kevin McBeth, be promoted to sergeant from first class patrolman. This would be \$300 more per year in salary. The board of works approved.

Residents questioned the board of public works on whether the city was responsible for maintaining John C. Strange Street. There is question on whether the city council approved taking over the street and when it would have happened. The board of works decided to table the issue until more research can be done.

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: 812-295-3237

RUTHERFORD TOWNSHIP

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

al Home, \$60 to RJ's Food Mart, \$127.71 to East Fork Water, \$100 to White River Co-Op, \$122.08 to Walmart, \$220 to Shoals Senior Housing, \$200 to Daniel Hart, and \$98.53 to Jay C Food Store.

MITCHELTREE TOWNSHIP

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

At the start of 2019, the trustee's cash balance was \$264,816.25 and stood at \$249,315.86 at the end of the year.

A total of \$49,581.89 was spent last year and of that \$16,853.02 was spent on salaries and office expenses including \$6,500 for the trustee's salary, \$4,100 for the clerk's salary and \$600 for each advisory board member.

The trustee's office, located in Gore's home, had \$1,200 (\$100 per month) for rent and telephone expenses.

COMMISSIONERS

(Continued from page one)

house. Commissioner Paul George said they met a few weeks ago and decided they would meet again once the virus was 100 miles from Martin County. He said within two days, it was. The meeting tomorrow night will be centered around the health department.

Rex Strawn asked the commissioners to reconsider hiring him as the insurance agent of record. Strawn was replaced by Dave Welsh, with German American, last year. Strawn said that keeping business in the county is important and by using Welsh, they are sending money outside the county. "Keep it in the damn county," he said. Commissioner Aaron Summers told Strawn that he has known him all his life and he applauds anyone who wants to keep business in the county. The commissioners will have the option of choosing a new workman's compensation agent in June but made no decision during the meeting.

The commissioners chose to give \$3,000 each to Civil Defense, Shoals Fire Department, Loogootee Fire Department and Lost River Fire Department as a disbursement from the state forest logging money. The commissioners are required to give the fire departments at least 50 percent of the funding however they chose to give it all to them, except

Mitcheltree paid out \$4,500 to William Heckard and \$1,100 to Tony Clark for unspecified repairs and maintenance. 1,000 was donated to the Trinity Springs Mustering Elm Park and \$500 each was paid out to the Shoals Library and Mustering Elm Park for rentals.

There were nine requests for township assistance in Mitcheltree for 2019 and nine households helped. \$2,733 was paid out - \$2,255.24 to Daviess-Martin REMC, \$428.46 to White River Co-Op and \$50 to Crystal Trambaugh.

\$4,000 was given to Indian Creek Fire Department for a firefighting contract and \$1,000 was given to the Shoals Public Library.

PERRY TOWNSHIP

Perry Township's trustee is Jason Hennette and his clerk for last year 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 2019 was \$231,520.95 and was \$270,073.95 at the end of the year.

A total of \$87,182.58 was paid out in 2019. Of that, \$58,679.51 was paid in salaries and office expenses including \$18,000 for the trustee, \$13,000 for his clerk and \$2,500 for each advisory board member).

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 \$1,690.81 was paid to Frontier for his phone and internet.

Shawn Truelove Mowing was paid \$2,950 for cemetery care and \$11,000 was paid to the City of Loogootee for fire protection.

Perry Township gave out \$14,552.81 in poor assistance in 2019, benefiting 44 households. The following received payments on behalf of those seeking assistance: Martin County Senior Housing \$200, Vectren \$262.95, Utilities District \$400, Perry Water \$77, City of Loogootee \$1,848.11, Duke Energy \$3,609.24, Daviess-Martin REMC \$995.31, Jay Smith \$350, Mary Fields \$200, Queen-Lee Chapel \$500, Robert Williams \$300, Town of Crane \$393, Blake Funeral Home \$1,220, Mike Jones \$500, Rosemary Harder \$850, Larkin Apartments \$228, Scott Funeral Home \$1,250, Propane Direct \$349.20, CVS \$70, Mark Taylor \$200, Mark Pennington \$150, and Monte Gregory \$600.

\$178.85, which will go back into the highway department accounts.

The commissioners decided not to replace the ceiling tiles and sprinklers downstairs in the courthouse. Auditor Abel provided them quotes to do the work however the commissioners decided they would rather do remodeling in a few of the upstairs offices and mentioned the recorder and treasurer's offices. Commissioner George said he would like to tour the offices to see what needs to be done.

Leo Rumschlaug, with JSE, provided the commissioners with information on his company and said he would like to be considered to serve as the county's bridge inspector. He served as the bridge inspector in the past. Requests for qualifications have already been posted and he told the commissioners that they will be receiving letters of interest in about three weeks. He also reminded them that prices will not be included in the proposals for bridge inspections because the state is looking for qualifications not cost. The state pays for 80 percent of the bridge inspections, with the county being responsible for 20 percent.

Animal Control Officer Josh Hughett reported that the jail currently has 78 inmates with 21 of them from Vigo County.

OBITUARIES

RAY BAXTER

Ray Allen Baxter passed away at 11:51 p.m. Sunday, March 8, 2020 at his home.



A resident of Shoals, he was 85.

He was born December 3, 1934 in Lawrence County; the son of Luther Ray and Ova Christine (Summers) Baxter.

He retired from Ford Motor Co. and operated a body shop in Indianapolis. He also took over and ran his father's tool handle business along with making grade stakes for construction companies in the area. Ray had a very big heart and was very loving and caring. He was an outspoken person and was very independent his entire life. Ray loved spending time with his friends, they all meant the world to him. He also had a very big passion for river fishing, hunting and doing anything outdoors. He loved bird hunting almost more than fishing. Ray took a lot of pride in everything he did be it work or hobbies and will be missed by so many.

Survivors include his children, Kevin Baxter and Danny Green; siblings, Jerry Baxter, Larry Baxter, Jim Baxter, April Simmerman, and Janice Williams; several grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents; a son, Mike Green; and a brother, Steve Baxter.

Funeral services will be conducted at 1 pm on Friday, March 13 in the Elmwood Chapel of the Day & Carter Mortuary. Burial will follow in Mt. Olive Cemetery.

Visitation will be from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. on Thursday, March 12 and from noon until the hour of service on Friday, March 13 at the Day & Carter Mortuary.

Family and friends may express condolences at www.daycarter.com.

NORMA LOU THRASHER

Norma Lou (Hitchcock) Thrasher passed away Saturday, March 7, 2020 at



I.U. Health Hospice House in Bloomington. A resident of Harrodsburg, she was 85.

She was born May 17, 1934; the daughter of Arnold Faris and Hazel Laverne (Adkins) Hitchcock.

She was raised in Martin County and graduated from Williams High School with the class of 1951. She married John Michael Thrasher on November 22, 1956 and he survives.

She was a Central Service Technician at Bloomington Hospital. She was a member of the Harrodsburg United Methodist Church where she had been involved with many activities through the church. She had lived in Harrodsburg for sixty years.

Survivors include her husband, John, of Harrodsburg; a daughter, Beth Thrasher Ponce and husband, Ernesto, of Harrodsburg; seven grandchildren, Aaron, Jordan, Christian, Emmanuel, Isaiah, and Samuel Ponce and Hannah Ponce Parks; seven great grandchildren; a brother, Edward Hitchcock and wife, Geneva; a sister, Patsy Hitchcock Dye; a nephew, David Dye; and two nieces, Susan and Karen Dye.

She was preceded in death by her parents and a nephew, Scott Dye.

Funeral services will be conducted at 10 a.m. Thursday, March 12 in the Elmwood Chapel of the Day & Carter Mortuary with Pastor Matt Hinshaw officiating. Burial will follow in the Trinity Springs Cemetery.

Visitation will be from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Wednesday, March 11 at the Day & Carter Mortuary. The family asks that friends consider memorial contributions be made to the Harrodsburg United Methodist Church or the Alzheimer's Assoc. Family and friends may express condolences at www.daycarter.com.

MICHAEL BURRIS

Michael G. Burris passed away at 9:40 p.m. Thursday, March 5, 2020 at Brookside Village in Jasper. A resident of Loogootee, he was 69.



He was born May 18, 1950 in Washington; son of the late Virgil and Mary Alberta (Norris) Burris.

Mike married Helen Schiller on February 20, 1971 and she survives.

He was a proud Marine. He served during the Vietnam War and received a Purple Heart for his courageous efforts.

Mike retired from Old Ben Coal after 34 years as a dragline operator. In his "spare" time he loved to move dirt and could often find him operating his dozer. Whether it was building a pond or terrace, taking care of the cows or hogs, or operating the dragline, Mike LOVED to work.

He loved his family and his witty personality always made everyone smile or simply shake their heads. He also enjoyed giving and taking care of others. Whether it was buying groceries for someone in need, donating to one of his beloved charities, like St. Jude, or simply helping a neighbor, Mike did it and wanted no recognition.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Virgil and Mary Alberta Burris; brother, Joe (Kay) Burris; sisters, Betty McDonald and Mary Malinda Burris; and brother-in-law, Gerald Colvin.

He is survived by his wife of 49 years, Helen (Schiller) Burris of Loogootee; children, Jarrod (Amy) Burris, Melinda Grow, both of Loogootee and Cassie (Blake) Helfrich of Haubstadt; grandchildren, Wade and Karter Burris, Eliana, Luke and Anna Grow and Edie and Tucker Helfrich; siblings, Helen Colvin of Washington, Ronald Burris of Loogootee, Rick Burris of Indianapolis, Gary (Wanda) Burris of Loogootee and Carol (Ron) Boyd of Loogootee; brothers-in-law, Jerome McDonald of Columbus, Ray (Joann) Schiller of Indianapolis, Delbert (Sandy) Schiller of Franklin and Jim (Janice) Schiller of Ireland; many nieces, nephews and great-nieces and great-nephews.

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated by Very Rev. J. Kenneth Walker and concelebrants Rev. Joseph Erbacher and Rev. Sudhakar Bhastati on Monday, March 9 at St. Martin Catholic Church in Whitfield. Burial followed in the church cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions can be made to St. Martin Men's Club. Condolences may be made online at www.blakefuneralhomes.com. Arrangements were provided by Blake Funeral Home in Loogootee.

JOHN ENGLE

John Weston Engle passed away Wednesday, March 4, 2020 at his home. A resident of Shoals, he was 83.

He was born October 24, 1936 in Gary; son of the late Frank L. and Ruth E. (Tillis) Engle. He married Janice Winger on June 12, 1960 in the Shoals United Methodist Church.

John graduated from Waterloo High School, received his bachelor's degree from Indiana Central in Indianapolis and his master's degree from the University of Northern Colorado. He was a member of

the Shoals United Methodist Church, the Shoals American Legion and the Martin County Historical Society.

John loved the outdoors, hunting and fishing, riding his motorcycle, spending time at the family cabin he built in southern Colorado and cheering for the Denver Broncos. His travels covered all 50 states (including Hawaii for he and Janice's 25th anniversary, and a motorcycle trip to Alaska), Australia, New Zealand and Europe. Even after his stroke 14 years ago, he and Janice made trips to visit their children in New York and New Jersey as well as two more trips to their beloved cabin in Colorado.

Survivors include his wife, Janice; one son, Mark Engle and wife, Michelle, of Brazil; two daughters, Deborah Engle of Bloomington and Suzanne Nuccio and husband, Mark, of Houston, Texas; five grandchildren, Danielle Santulli, Brandon Santulli and wife, Grace; Dominic Nuccio, Mikala Nuccio and Ariella Engle; one brother, David Engle and wife, Janet, of New Haven.

He was preceded in death by his parents.

A funeral service was held Tuesday March 10 at the Shoals United Methodist Church with Reverend Marvin Lagel and Pastor Marty Evans officiating. Music was provided by Mark Nuccio, John Winger, Mikala Nuccio and Ken Woods.

Burial was made at the Pleasant Valley Cemetery. Pallbearers were Mark Engle, Brandon Santulli, Dominic Nuccio, Mark Nuccio, Jim Bardwell and Max Fischer.

Memorial contributions can be made to the Shoals United Methodist Church or the Martin County Historical Society.

HILDRED TAYLOR

Hildred Ilene Taylor, formerly of Cale, passed away Saturday, March 7, 2020 at the Loogootee Nursing Center. A resident of Shoals, she was 86.

Hildred was born July 4, 1933 in Martin County; the daughter of William M. and Fannie (Chastain) Taylor. She married Herman Vertis Taylor on April 30, 1949. She was a member of the Fairview Regular Baptist Church of Cale. She was a 50-year member of the Order of Eastern Star. She held several offices and served as Worthy Matron several times of the Shoals Chapter. She also served as a Star

Point and Conductress at the state level. She was a former member of the Martin County Extension Homemakers Club and was a former Martin County 4-H leader.

She worked at N.A.D Crane during the Vietnam War, and retired from the Bedford Westview Nursing Home as a CNA in the Alzheimer's Unit.

She was preceded in death by her parents, her husband, and siblings, John Taylor, Imogene Crane and Vernell Raney.

She is survived by her daughter, Cordilla (Jimmy) George of Williams; her grandson, Paul Robert (Eva) George of Shoals; great grandson, Tyler George of Springville, great granddaughter, Taylor George of Shoals; step great grandson, Edmund Neeley of Shoals, step great granddaughters, Reeva (Alan) Dorsey of Newburgh, Sistoria Neeley of Bedford, and Zafira and Eleora Neeley of Shoals; John (Lori) Daniel of Loogootee who was like her second grandson; two sisters, Opal Mullis of Bloomington and Annabell Fields of Bedford, and several nieces and nephews.

Following her wishes, there will be no visitation. Graveside services and a celebration of life will be held at a later date.

Memorial contributions can be made to The Martin County 4-H Council at 2666 U.S. Hwy 50, Loogootee, IN 47553. In memory of Hildred Taylor.

A Proud Member of the Shoals Community Since 1937!



Stop by and see our newly renovated facility!



Come and support the 2020 LHS Musical production of

The Wizard of Oz



Fish Fry Fundraiser

Friday, March 13, 2020

5p.m.-8p.m.

@Loogootee United Methodist Church

Meals are \$8.50 and include fish sandwich, 2 sides (slaw, chips, and/or baked beans), dessert, and drink

Sandwich, chips, and drink- \$6.00

Hotdog meal-\$6.00 includes hotdog, chips, dessert, & drink

****Take-out available. No drinks with take-out orders.*

Call ahead! 812-296-1833

Martin County Sheriff's Department log

MONDAY, MARCH 2

10:46 a.m. - Major Keller and Corporal Wright assisted with a welfare check north of Shoals.

1:48 p.m. - Received a request for medical assistance near Shoals. Martin County Ambulance responded and transported to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

2:46 p.m. - Received a report of a noise complaint in Loogootee. Deputy Wells responded.

3:53 p.m. - Received a report of a reckless driver near Loogootee. Loogootee Chief Rayhill responded.

7:42 p.m. - Received a report of reckless driver east of Shoals. Deputy Wells responded.

TUESDAY, MARCH 3

7:32 a.m. - Jail Commander Brulla transported an inmate to the doctor.

9:05 a.m. - Lawrence County on station with Megan Lane returning from court.

9:40 a.m. - Major Keller performed a vehicle unlock in Loogootee.

10:30 a.m. - Major Keller transported two inmates to court.

10:47 a.m. - Received a request for medical assistance north of Loogootee. Martin County Ambulance responded and transported to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

12:30 p.m. - Received a report of an animal complaint in Shoals. Advised Animal Control Officer Hughett.

1:39 p.m. - Received a report of a suspicious person in Loogootee. Major Keller and Loogootee Chief Rayhill responding.

1:48 p.m. - Deputy Wells performed a welfare check in Shoals.

2:44 p.m. - Loogootee Officer Cummings performed two VIN checks in Loogootee.

3:10 p.m. - Received a report of a power line down south of Loogootee. Advised Daviess/Martin REMC.

4:03 p.m. - Received a report of a suspicious person in Loogootee. Loogootee Officer Cummings and Deputy Wells responded.

5:56 p.m. - Received a request for medical assistance in Loogootee. Martin County Ambulance, Loogootee Fire Department, Loogootee Officer Cummings and Deputy Wells responded.

6:52 p.m. - Received a request for medical assistance in Loogootee. Martin County Ambulance, Loogootee Fire Department, Loogootee Officer Cummings and Deputy Wells responded.

11:20 p.m. - Received a report of persons on a roof in Loogootee. Loogootee Officer McBeth responded.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 4

12:18 a.m. - Received a report of suspicious activity. Deputy Gibson and Sergeant Reed responded.

5:52 a.m. - Received a report of a dog that had been hit near Loogootee. Advised Animal Control Officer Hughett and Loogootee Chief Rayhill.

8:20 a.m. - Received a request for a VIN check near Shoals. Major Keller responded.

8:45 a.m. - Received a request for funeral detail assistance in Loogootee. Loogootee Chief Rayhill responded.

10:15 a.m. - Major Keller transported two inmates to court.

11:23 a.m. - Received a report of vandalism in Crane that occurred the night before.

1:05 p.m. - Received a report of harassment in Loogootee. Loogootee Chief Rayhill responded.

1:15 p.m. - Major Keller transported two inmates to court.

2:36 p.m. - Received a request for

medical assistance in Loogootee. Martin County Ambulance and Loogootee Chief Rayhill responded.

4:25 p.m. - Received a report of an animal complaint in Shoals. Advised Animal Control Officer Hughett.

4:40 p.m. - Received a request for additional patrol at an area in Loogootee. Advised Loogootee Officer McBeth.

5:00 p.m. - Received a report of an aggressive driver near Shoals. Advised all Martin County law enforcement.

7:07 p.m. - Received a report of an audible burglary alarm in Loogootee. Loogootee Officer Floyd responded. All checked secure.

8:13 p.m. - Received a report of a subject requesting a ride in Loogootee. Loogootee Officer Floyd and Major Keller responded. Loogootee Officer Floyd transported the subject home.

8:58 p.m. - Received a report of a suspicious vehicle in Shoals. Shoals Town Marshal Eckert responded.

10:23 p.m. - Shoals Town Marshal Eckert and Deputy Seymour checked a suspicious vehicle near Shoals.

11:53 p.m. - Received a call referencing an issue in Orange County. Transferred call to Orange County Dispatch.

THURSDAY, MARCH 5

6:29 a.m. - Received a report of debris in the road north of Loogootee. Sergeant Reed responded.

9:19 a.m. - Loogootee Chief Rayhill performed a VIN check in Loogootee.

9:50 a.m. - Major Keller transported two inmates to court.

9:58 a.m. - Received a report of a controlled burn near Loogootee.

10:06 a.m. - Corporal Wright assisted a disabled semi west of Shoals.

11:43 a.m. - Major Keller transported two inmates to court.

12:12 p.m. - Received a report of fraudulent activity on credit cards south of Loogootee. Advised Corporal Wright.

12:43 p.m. - Received a request for medical assistance north of Shoals. Martin County Ambulance and Indian Creek Fire Department responded. Martin County Ambulance transported to IU Health Bedford.

12:50 p.m. - Major Keller transported two inmates to court.

3:40 p.m. - Received a report of a controlled burn in Loogootee.

4:29 p.m. - Received a report of a controlled burn near Shoals.

5:40 p.m. - Received a request for a welfare check in Shoals. Shoals Town Marshal Eckert responded.

10:23 p.m. - Received a report of vandalism near Shoals. Advised Deputy Seymour and Reserve Deputy Dorsey.

FRIDAY, MARCH 6

1:11 a.m. - Received a report of a burglar alarm in Loogootee. Loogootee Officer Floyd, Deputy Gibson and Reserve Deputy Dorsey responded.

6:14 a.m. - Received a request for medical assistance in Loogootee. Martin County Ambulance and Loogootee Officer Cummings responded.

10:50 a.m. - Received a report of a single-vehicle accident in Shoals. Major Keller responded.

11:00 a.m. - Loogootee Officer Cummings assisted with evacuation for a fire alarm west of Loogootee.

11:18 a.m. - Received a report of a truck carrying loader hitting phone lines east of Shoals. Advised Major Keller and Lawrence County Dispatch.

12:53 p.m. - Received a report of a controlled burn near Shoals.

1:56 p.m. - Received a request for a vehicle unlock in Loogootee. Advised Corporal Wright.

3:59 p.m. - Received a request for a vehicle unlock south of Loogootee. Corporal Wright responded.

7:46 p.m. - Received a report of a tree down near Shoals. Shoals Fire Department and Martin County Highway Department responded.

11:41 p.m. - Deputy Seymour and Deputy Gibson performed a welfare check near Shoals.

SATURDAY, MARCH 7

7:10 a.m. - Received a request for medical assistance near Loogootee. Martin County Ambulance and Loogootee Fire Department responded. Martin County Ambulance transported to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

9:15 a.m. - Received a report of a vehicle-animal accident north of Loogootee. Corporal Wright responded.

10:00 a.m. - Received a report of a controlled burn in Loogootee.

11:11 a.m. - Received a report of a controlled burn in Loogootee.

12:00 p.m. - Received a report of an animal complaint in Shoals. Advised Animal Control Officer Hughett.

12:11 p.m. - Received a request for a VIN check near Loogootee. Advised Deputy Wright.

2:32 p.m. - Corporal Wright performed a welfare check near Shoals.

2:38 p.m. - Received a report of aggressive driving north of Shoals. Corporal Wright and ICO Doane responded.

3:14 p.m. - Received a report of a noise complaint in Loogootee. Loogootee Captain Hennette responded.

3:42 p.m. - Received a report of heavy smoke near Shoals. Shoals Fire Department, Corporal Wright and Martin County Ambulance responded.

4:11 p.m. - Received a report of harassment in Loogootee. Corporal Wright responded.

5:25 p.m. - Received a report of a reckless driver west of Shoals. Advised all Martin County law enforcement.

10:05 p.m. - Received a request for medical assistance north of Loogootee. Martin County Ambulance and Loogootee Fire Department responded. Martin County Ambulance transported one to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

SUNDAY, MARCH 8

2:37 p.m. - Received a report of reckless driving near Shoals. Advised Corporal Wright.

3:00 p.m. - Received a report of a fire that got out of control near Loogootee. Loogootee Fire Department and Martin County Ambulance responded.

3:02 p.m. - Received a report of a fire that is out of control near Shoals. Shoals Fire Department, Martin County Civil Defense, Loogootee Fire Department, Martin County Ambulance, Corporal Wright and National Fire Association responded.

3:23 p.m. - Received a report of an out of control fire near Loogootee. Loogootee Fire Department, Cannelburg Fire Department and Martin County Ambulance responded.

3:27 p.m. - Received a report of a reckless driver in Loogootee. Loogootee Captain Hennette responded.

8:54 p.m. - Received a request for medical assistance in Loogootee. Martin County Ambulance and Loogootee Officer Floyd responded. Martin County Ambulance transported to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

9:21 p.m. - Received a report of a disabled semi near Loogootee. Sergeant Reed and Loogootee Officer Floyd responded.

10:38 p.m. - Received a report of an animal being found near Loogootee. Advised Animal Control Officer Hughett.

ARRESTS

MONDAY, MARCH 2

9:10 p.m. - Heather Waggoner, 42, of Loogootee, was arrested by ISP Trooper Nolan and charged with operating a vehicle while intoxicated. She is currently being held on \$3500/10% bond.

TUESDAY, MARCH 3

3:01 p.m. - Jason Wilson, 40, of Gosport, was brought in by Jail Commander Brulla and is currently being held for court without bond.

3:01 p.m. - Jessica Martin, 30, of Shoals, was arrested by Jail Commander Brulla on a Martin County warrant. She is currently being held without bond.

THURSDAY, MARCH 5

8:21 p.m. - Jennifer Lents, 34, of Shoals, was arrested by Deputy Gibson for possession of methamphetamine, maintaining a common nuisance and neglect of a dependent. She is currently being held without bond. Reserve Deputy Dorsey assisted with the arrest.

8:21 p.m. - Steel Wolcott, 25, of Shoals, was arrested by Deputy Gibson and charged with possession of methamphetamine, maintaining a common nuisance and neglect of a dependent. He is currently being held without bond.

FRIDAY, MARCH 6

9:45 p.m. - Jennifer Lents, 34, of Shoals, was arrested by Deputy Seymour on a Dubois County warrant. She is currently being held for pick up.

10:51 p.m. - James Gingras, 24, of Sterling, Connecticut, was arrested by Reserve Deputy Joshua Harmon for possession of marijuana. He is currently being held without bond. Deputy Seymour assisted with the arrest.

SATURDAY, MARCH 7

12:23 a.m. - Curtis Brown, 48, of Loogootee, was arrested by Reserve Deputy Harmon and charged with operating a vehicle while intoxicated controlled substance and possession of marijuana. He is currently being held without bond.

9:49 p.m. - Robert Waggoner, 47, of Shoals, was arrested by Shoals Town Marshal Eckert and charged with possession of methamphetamine. He is currently being held on \$20,000.00 cash only and \$50,000/10% bond. Deputy Seymour assisted with the arrest.

Real estate transfers

Robert L. Crawford, Jr. and Sondra Crawford, of Martin County, Indiana to **Brandon S. Melvin**, of Martin County, Indiana, a part of the northwest quarter of the northwest quarter of Section 17, Township 2 North, Range 3 West, Halbert Township, Martin County, Indiana, containing 1.348 acres, more or less.

Michael Spurgeon, of Martin County, Indiana to **David LeBarge**, of Martin County, Indiana, the west half of Lots Numbered 69 and 70, as shown on the plat of Harrisonville, Indiana.

Advertise in the
Martin County
Journal

Email: courtney@martincountyjournal.com

Loogootee Police Department log

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 23

7:57 a.m. - First responders were requested on Cedar Street for a medical call.

10:53 a.m. - Caller reported an animal complaint on Broadway Street.

2:34 p.m. - Caller reported a suspicious male on JFK Avenue.

7:20 p.m. - Caller reported a harassment complaint.

10:10 p.m. - Caller reported a possible intoxicated driver on Hwy 50.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 24

12:17 a.m. - Officer McBeth responded to a medical alarm.

12:47 a.m. - Officer McBeth responded to a business alarm.

9:45 a.m. - Male requested a vehicle identification check.

4:20 p.m. - Female reported a theft of a license plate.

8:30 p.m. - Caller reported a male making threats towards a female.

10:05 p.m. - Sgt. Floyd responded to a residential alarm.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 25

9:30 a.m. - Female on station for a transient voucher.

11:30 a.m. - Female on station to report a lost license plate.

11:40 a.m. - Female caller reported a possible theft.

6:20 p.m. - Caller reported loud music on JFK Avenue.

9:00 p.m. - Caller reported loud music on Park Street.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 26

12:15 a.m. - Sgt. Floyd assisted the ambulance service on South Kentucky Avenue.

1:41 a.m. - Sgt. Floyd assisted the ambulance with a medical alarm on SW 3rd Street.

10:27 a.m. - Caller reported misuse of 911 on Brooks Avenue.

7:36 p.m. - Caller requested a welfare check on a male.

9:32 p.m. - Sgt. Floyd assisted a motorist.

11:10 p.m. - Caller reported a reckless driver on US 231.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 27

10:19 a.m. - Caller reported a property dispute on North Line Street.

10:35 a.m. - Male requested a vehicle identification check.

2:15 p.m. - Caller reported an animal complaint. Animal Control was contacted.

3:12 p.m. - Caller reported a reckless

driver on Hwy 50.

3:55 p.m. - Caller reported a property damage accident on Hwy 50.

7:04 p.m. - Female reported a loose dog on Lincoln Avenue.

8:34 p.m. - Caller reported a child custody matter.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 28

1:15 p.m. - Caller reported a property damage accident on US 231.

2:39 p.m. - Caller requested a welfare check on a female.

3:00 p.m. - Captain Hennette responded to a business alarm.

7:23 p.m. - Female reported a civil complaint.

10:10 p.m. - Female requested a welfare check on a male.

11:39 p.m. - Female and her children were on station for a transient voucher.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 29

2:05 a.m. - Officer McBeth assisted the department of child services.

4:08 a.m. - Loogootee Fire was paged out to a house fire on Grant Street.

9:20 a.m. - Captain Hennette assisted a female with transportation.

9:44 a.m. - Loogootee Fire was paged out to Poplar Street for a smell of smoke in a business.

5:45 p.m. - Male requested a security check at his residence.

8:40 p.m. - Sgt. Floyd assisted the county with a domestic dispute.

10:43 p.m. - Caller reported a reckless driver on Hwy 50.

SUNDAY, MARCH 1

8:15 a.m. - Caller reported a traffic complaint.

1:15 p.m. - Female reported an animal complaint.

6:25 p.m. - Caller reported hearing gunshots near Bellgrade Road.

6:30 p.m. - First responders were requested on US 231 for a medical call.

8:45 a.m. - Caller reported a reckless vehicle on US 231.

MONDAY, MARCH 2

1:40 a.m. - First responders were requested on Elliot Lane for a medical call.

4:20 a.m. - Caller requested a security check at a residence on Queen Street.

10:13 a.m. - Male requested a vehicle identification check.

3:53 p.m. - Caller reported a reckless vehicle on US 231.

4:45 p.m. - Caller reported a suspicious male on Park Street.

5:10 p.m. - Caller reported a possible intoxicated driver on JFK Avenue.

TUESDAY, MARCH 3

2:52 a.m. - Caller reported a suspicious male on Broadway Street.

4:43 a.m. - Male requested transient assistance.

8:51 a.m. - Received a call of a 911 hang-up on High Street.

1:39 p.m. - Caller reported a suspicious male at her residence on John C. Strange Street.

1:58 a.m. - Caller requested a welfare check on a child.

4:03 p.m. - Caller reported a male asking for money at a local business.

5:00 p.m. - Female reported a lost purse.

6:05 p.m. - First responders were requested on West Williams Street for a medical call.

8:54 p.m. - First responders were requested at the Family Dollar for a medical call.

11:20 p.m. - Caller reported subjects on the road at Eagle View. Officers were unable to locate anyone.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 4

5:52 a.m. - Female reported a dog had been struck by a car on Queen Street.

8:45 a.m. - Chief Rayhill assisted with a funeral procession.

9:26 a.m. - Male reported four-wheelers near Shaded Estates.

1:05 p.m. - Female reported a harassment complaint.

2:36 p.m. - Chief Rayhill assisted the ambulance service on Sheridan Street.

5:25 p.m. - Caller requested a welfare check on a male

7:07 p.m. - Sgt. Floyd responded to a residential alarm.

8:12 p.m. - Caller reported a male harassing people at a local business.

THURSDAY, MARCH 5

9:19 a.m. - Female requested a vehicle identification check.

10:30 a.m. - Female requested a welfare check on a male.

4:00 p.m. - Caller reported a reckless driver on Hwy 50.

5:08 p.m. - Female reported a child custody matter.

6:19 p.m. - Caller reported a possible intoxicated driver on Broadway Street.

8:56 p.m. - Caller reported an animal complaint.

FRIDAY, MARCH 6

1:11 a.m. - Sgt. Floyd responded to a business alarm.

6:14 a.m. - Officer Cummings assisted the ambulance service.

11:00 a.m. - Officer Cummings assisted with a fire alarm.

2:34 p.m. - Male reported a traffic complaint.

6:21 p.m. - Caller requested a welfare check on a male.

11:45 p.m. - Caller reported a reckless driver on US 231.

SATURDAY, MARCH 7

7:10 a.m. - First responders were requested on US 231 for a medical call.

3:14 p.m. - Caller reported a loud music complaint on Poplar Street.

7:15 p.m. - Caller reported a speeding vehicle on Hwy 50.

7:54 p.m. - Caller reported a parking complaint.

10:07 p.m. - First responders were requested on Harper Hill Road for a medical call.

SUNDAY, MARCH 8

7:20 a.m. - Caller requested a welfare check on a male.

3:00 p.m. - Loogootee Fire was paged out to a field fire on East Washington Street.

4:03 p.m. - Loogootee Fire was paged out to a fire on Cherry Road.

4:05 p.m. - Caller reported a property damage accident on Hwy 50.

5:08 p.m. - Loogootee Fire assisted the county with a field fire on US 231.

8:59 p.m. - First responders were requested at a local business for a medical call.

9:20 p.m. - Caller reported a traffic complaint on US 231.

10:40 p.m. - Male reported locating a dog near the 4-H building

COURT NEWS

CRIMINAL CONVICTIONS AND SENTENCINGS

February 20

Cody W. Combs, convicted of reckless driving, a Class C Misdemeanor. Sentenced to serve 60 days with 60 days suspended. Defendant received 2 months of probation.

CIVIL COURT

New Suits Filed

February 28

Rent to Own Rentals, LLC vs. Andrew D. Jones, civil collection.

Heather L. Egloff vs. Scott A. Egloff, petition for dissolution of marriage.

SMALL CLAIMS COURT

New Suits Filed

February 27

Medical of Dubois vs. Derrick W. Pendley, complaint.

Medical of Dubois vs. Kaylee Hastings and Quentin Hastings, complaint.

Medical of Dubois vs. Nicholas J. Guy, complaint.

Medical of Dubois vs. Matthew J. Satterfield, complaint.

Medical of Dubois vs. Sarha A. Jones, complaint.

Medical of Dubois vs. Betty S. Fields, complaint.

Medical of Dubois vs. Tokala B. Richardson, complaint.

Medical of Dubois vs. Robert J. Douglas, complaint.

Medical of Dubois vs. Jennifer K. Sheffield, complaint.

Medical of Dubois vs. Cortney M. Moffitt, complaint.

Medical of Dubois vs. Dawn E. Price, complaint.

Medical of Dubois vs. Janet M. Stroud, complaint.

February 28

Garry E. Jones vs. Caleb A. Tisdell, complaint.

SMALL CLAIMS JUDGMENTS

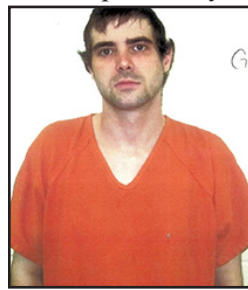
March 4

Judgment in favor of the plaintiff Isha Wright-Ryan and against the defendant Michaela Jones in the amount of \$2,637.74.

Man receives prison sentence for possession of meth

On January 21, 2019 Brock E. Gill was arrested by Martin County Sheriff's Office Corporal J. Tyler Reed after an initial traffic stop led to illegal substances being discovered. Corporal J. Tyler Reed with Martin County Prosecutor Aureola S. Wright applied for a search warrant, which was granted by the Martin Circuit Court. Corporal J. Tyler Reed executed the search warrant and enough methamphetamine was recovered to charge Brock E. Gill with Level 5 possession of methamphetamine.

On February 7, 2020, Judge Lynne E. Ellis approved a plea agreement with a 1,277-day sentence be served at Indiana State Prison for possession of methamphetamine.



BROCK GILL



UPDATED: Check out this 3 BR, 1.5 bath home w/updated kitchen & bath, newer roof, and 2-car detached garage on large lot in city limits. \$95,900. Call Billy. MLS#202007927

CENTURY 21 Classic Realty

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 Noel Harty, 812-295-6506
 Ed Schnarr, 812-295-6188
 Billy Walker, 812-296-1807
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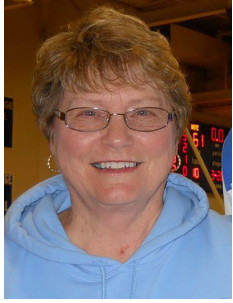
TOY'S AUTO PARTS, INC.

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Sullivan (812) 268-5252	Martinsville (765) 342-6623	Linton (812) 847-4494	
Jasonville (812) 665-3969	Bicknell (812) 735-3545	Bloomfield (812) 384-4453	

More Neat Stuff



By Ann Ackerman



DOG LESSONS FOR PEOPLE

1. Enjoy the simple pleasures of a walk.
2. Follow your instincts.
3. Never underestimate the value of a belly rub.
4. Be loyal and faithful.
5. Be quick to forgive.
6. Always drink plenty of water.
7. Sometimes it is best to just sit close and listen.
8. Avoid biting when a growl will do.
9. Keep digging until you find what you want.
10. Run and play daily.
11. When your loved ones come home, always run to greet them with enthusiasm and love.
12. Accept all of life's treats with gratitude.
13. Life is short, pet often.
14. Love unconditionally.

The following is a repeat story, but I've been asked to share it with you again. I think you'll understand after you read it:

An elderly Florida lady did her shopping and, upon returning to her car, found four males in the act of leaving with her vehicle.

She dropped her shopping bags and drew her handgun, proceeding to scream at the top of her lungs, "I have a gun, and I know how to use it! Get out of the car!"

The four men didn't wait for a second threat. They got out and ran like mad.

The lady, somewhat shaken, then proceeded to load her shopping bags into the back of the car and got into the driver's seat. She was so shaken that she could not

get her key into the ignition.

She tried and tried, and then realized why. It was for the same reason she had wondered why there was a football, a Frisbee and two 12-packs of beer in the front seat. A few minutes later, she found her own car parked four or five spaces farther down.

She loaded her bags into the car and drove to the police station to report her mistake. The sergeant to whom she told the story couldn't stop laughing. He pointed to the other end of the counter where four pale men were reporting a carjacking by a mad, elderly woman described as white, less than five feet tall, glasses, curly white hair, and carrying a large handgun.

No charges were filed.

The moral of the story? If you're going to have a senior moment, make it memorable.

THOUGHTS

*About to fall asleep and your brain asks, "Do you want your worries in alphabetical or chronological order?"

*My neighbor knocked on my door at 2:30 a.m. this morning. Can you believe that - 2:30 a.m. Luckily for him I was still up playing my drums.

*8-year-old: I feel like you're always making up rules and stuff.

Me: Like what?

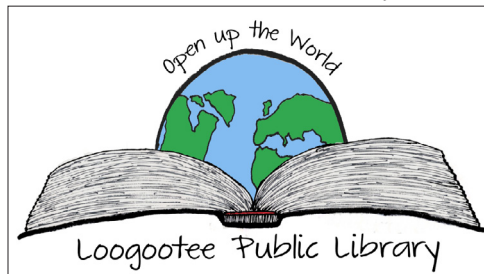
8-year-old: Like if we don't pick up our room a portal will open and take us to another dimension.

Me: Well that's what happened to your older brother.

8-year-old: What older brother?

Me: Exactly!

Make someone smile today!



BY DARLA WAGLER

Librarian, Loogootee Public Library

Christina Mattingly Frisz will be at the library on Saturday, March 14 at 11 a.m. to talk about the Keto Diet. She will share her story about changing her eating habits and she is no longer a diabetic. Lots of great information. Becky Lingenfelter will offer Yoga sessions at the library on Monday evenings at 5 p.m. The cost will be \$5 per session. Limited space so call the library for more information.

New Books:

Mystery Fiction: "Reasonable Doubt" by Phillip Margolin.

Fiction: "Journey of the Pharaohs" by Clive Cussler.

Inspirational Fiction: "One Little Lie" by Colleen Coble.

Non-fiction: "Profiles in Corruption: Abuse of Power by America's Progressive Elite" by Peter Schwizer.

DVDs: "Frozen II", "Dark Waters", "Terminator: Dark Fate", "Knives Out", and "Judy".

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

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Shoals School Board meeting

The Shoals School Board will meet Thursday, March 12 at 6 p.m. in the central administration office. The meeting is open to the public.

Food pantry hours

The Loogootee United Methodist Food Pantry will be open the first, second, third and fifth Thursdays of the month from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. and also the first Monday of the month from 5-6:30 p.m.

Mental Health Task Force

The Martin County Mental Health Task Force meets on the second Wednesday of the month from 1-2 p.m. at the Community Learning Center on the Martin County Fairgrounds.

Celebrate Recovery meetings

Celebrate Recovery meetings will be held every Tuesday at 6:30 p.m. at Redemption Church in Loogootee. This is a Christ-centered recovery program and anyone is welcome to attend.

Local recovery meetings

Wednesdays-Alcoholic Anonymous, Martin County Community Corrections Building at 8 p.m.; Thursdays-Narcotics Anonymous, Redemption Church Loogootee at 8 p.m.; Fridays-Alcoholic Anonymous, Loogootee Municipal Building Loogootee at 8 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 be 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!

Solid waste board

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

Soil and Water meetings

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

Kindergarten, pre-school immunization clinic

The Martin County Health Department Immunization Clinic will be open Friday March 13 for any child who will be attending kindergarten or is 4/5-year-olds who will be attending pre-school in the fall. Hours for this special clinic will be from 8:30 a.m.-3 p.m. In addition to this special clinic date, the health department conducts immunization clinics every Wednesday from 8:30 a.m. to noon and from 12:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. On the first Wednesday of each month the clinic remains open until 6 p.m. Please bring your child's immunization record and insurance card for billing purposes. No appointment is necessary. The health department is now located at 127 Water Street, Shoals (next to the Shoals Fire Station). Please call 812-247-3303 if you have any questions.

On The Home Front

By Linda Evans-Dillon
Martin County
Veteran Service Officer

The Martin County Veteran Service Officer has an office in the Martin County Courthouse. An appointment is necessary. For assistance, call 812-247-2210; transportation needs, call 812-247-2450 and leave a message or e-mail martincountyvso2013@yahoo.com.

During the month of February, the veteran service officer assisted four veterans and had no meetings. The veterans' van took five trips transporting five veterans to VA medical centers and clinics.

The veterans' van only transports to appointments at VA hospitals and clinics. You must contact me for transportation needs. Do NOT contact the driver's directly, they do not have the van schedule. The veterans' van is not a part of the DAV program, it is funded by Martin County taxpayers so we only transport Martin County residents.

The veterans' van will only transport to Indianapolis and Northern clinics on Tuesday and Thursday, Louisville and New Albany on Wednesday and Friday and Southern clinics on Mondays. The veterans' van will NOT leave earlier than 7a.m. Please schedule your appointments accordingly.

If you have hearing issues and would be interested in a CapTel captioned telephone, please call the office at 812-247-2210. You DO NOT have to be a veteran to receive this phone.

The Veterans Crisis Line provides confidential help for veterans and their families. Call at 1-800-273-8255 (PRESS 1) for help.

CLASSIFIED ADS

YARD SALES

ANNUAL RSVP ARTS AND CRAFTS SUPPLY SALE, March 26th, 27th, & 28th at Eastside Park Community Building in Washington. Fabric, yarn, paints, books, crafting tools, stamps and much, much more! Thursday and Friday 8am to 4pm, Saturday 8am to noon. Support RSVP and find some great items. For more info, call 812-254-1996. If you are an artist or craftsperson, this is the sale for you! Sales are donation based, or on Saturday fill a bag for just a dollar! Donations are still being accepted.

HELP WANTED

City of Loogootee Open Positions

The City of Loogootee is accepting applications for one Full-Time Laborer position and one Part-Time Mechanic Position with the Public Works Department.

- Full-Time laborer's position candidate requirements are, but not limited to:
- Must possess a valid Indiana driver's license
 - Must have a high school diploma or equivalent
 - Be able to pass pre-employment physical, drug and alcohol screening with random testing thereafter
 - Preference may be given to candidates with prior experience, possess a CDL license and/or heavy equipment skills
- Part-time mechanic's position candidate requirements are, but not limited to:
- Must possess a valid Indiana's driver's license
 - Must have a high school diploma or equivalent, certification from a vocational school or completion of apprenticeship is preferred
 - Be able to pass pre-employment physical, drug and alcohol screening with random testing thereafter
 - Preference may be given to candidate with a CDL and/or heavy equipment skills
 - Candidate will be required to conduct routine maintenance on vehicles and machinery, schedule future routine maintenance and maintain records of all work performed.

Applications available at the Loogootee Municipal Building or Utility Office, 401 JFK Avenue, Loogootee IN 47553.
Deadline for job applications is Wednesday, March 18, 2020 at 4 p.m.

In the Garden

By Ralph Purkhiser
Purdue University Master Gardener

We have had a nice taste of spring weather, but we must remember that we are still in winter. There are, however, some things we can begin doing to prepare for the new season.

It is time to start seeds for bedding plants. Of course, a greenhouse is the best place to do that, but it is possible to do in your home. If you want to start plants in a window, you must be willing to turn the flat several times a day to keep plants growing straight. Another option is to use artificial lights. The light needs to be adjustable, as the light source should be within a couple of inches of plants. Therefore, as the plants grow taller, the light needs to be adjusted.

When starting plants from seeds, do not use garden soil. Most sources recommend using a soil-less potting medium. You definitely do not want to use any mix that contains fertilizer. The seed has everything the young plant needs for several weeks. You may use a half-strength liquid fertilizer in a few weeks, but that may not be necessary. Too much fertilizer may result in leggy plants. It is best to wait and use a good root-stimulating fertilizer when the plants are set out.

Consult the seed packet to see when seeds should be planted. Our safe-frost date is around May 10, so most tender plants should not be planted until then. The packet will tell how many days to plant before that date.

Of course, most of the same information covers ornamentals as well as vegetables. Growing your own flowers from seed can save a lot of money. A packet of seeds usually costs less than three dollars, even for premium varieties, and you will get plenty of plants from a packet to fill several containers or to plant out in your landscape. Be sure to read the packet. There are some plants that just do not like to be disturbed once the seed has germi-

nated. Such seeds are usually best sown directly. If you are determined to get an early start, plant such seeds in individual peat pots or paper cups so the roots of the plant need not be disturbed when setting the plants out.

Many of the popular bedding and potting plants are grown from bulbs or tubers. You may get a head start on them also. If you plan to grow the plant in a container, you may go ahead and plant it in that container, as long as the container is movable. Otherwise, plant the bulbs in nursery pots. I generally use compost as my planting medium when planting bulbs in pots, but you may use any light-weight medium, as long as it has good drainage. Watch the watering. Too much water will result in rotting bulbs. We are at a point where most days will have temperatures above freezing, so I recommend taking the plants out when temperatures allow. If you have a wagon or cart, just leave the pots on the wagon and pull it into a garage or other building when freezing temperatures are expected. By starting bulbs and tubers in this way, you may save money when buying assorted bulbs. Planting bulbs in individual pots will allow you to see the colors that you get and make decisions about their final places in the garden.

Meanwhile, in the garden, we are seeing a lot of daffodils and other spring flowers. It looks like this may be a banner year for daffodils. Now is the time to spread some compost or fertilizer to feed the bulbs and ensure strength for the future. There is also swelling of buds on the early-blooming bushes. If you want some blooms in the house a little early, cut a few branches. Use a hammer to mash the stems and place them in water. Keep them in bright but indirect light and the warmth of your home will have them in full bloom in just a few days. Spring is just around the corner.

Creel survey at West Boggs

The Indiana Department of Natural Resources is conducting an angler creel survey at West Boggs Lake in Daviess County this year.

The survey is part of a study that began today and will run through October. A DNR creel clerk will be stationed at the main boat ramp to conduct brief interviews with anglers at the end of their fishing trips. The creel clerk will also make periodic laps around the lake to count anglers.

Angler participation, including boat and shoreline anglers, is an essential part of this study. Fishery renovation occurred in 2014, and lake restocking

took place late November that year. The creel survey is an opportunity for DNR to evaluate the project through angler participation.

Early this year, black crappie were marked with yellow plastic tags for a harvest study. Anglers should also be on the lookout for these tags and return the tags to the creel clerk or drop box located on the property. Data from this study will help biologists evaluate the harvest rate and is helping DNR take a vital step toward future management efforts of black crappie at the lake.

Visit wildlife.IN.gov/10192.htm to learn more about Indiana crappie fishing.

Agricultural grain explosions are usually preventable, but 2019 still saw eight in the U.S.

BY EMMA EA AMBROSE
Purdue University News Service

"There are many substances you might not think are explosive that, under the right conditions, actually are," says Kingsly Ambrose, agricultural and biological engineering professor.

Ambrose studies particle technology, grain processing and particulate flow. One of the particles especially vulnerable to combustion is grain dust, found in grain handling facilities. Explosions at such facilities can be significant, potentially resulting in fatalities, injuries and/or millions of dollars in damages and lost revenue.

"When the grain is getting handled or processed, dust gets separated and suspended in the air and settles around the facility," Ambrose said. "If there is an

ignition generating spark, maybe due to the malfunction of a machine, friction or an electrical failure can ignite the dust. Although the primary explosion might be quite small, due to the amount of existing dust, the secondary explosions can be catastrophic."

Ambrose collects annual statistics on the number of national agricultural dust explosions and has just released the statistics from 2019:

There were eight grain dust explosions reported in 2019, four fewer than in 2018. These explosions resulted in one fatality and four injuries.

Grain dust explosions occurred in six different states: three in Iowa and one each in Indiana, Illinois, Minnesota, Ohio and Georgia.

The best way to avoid grain dust explosions, Ambrose said, is for grain facilities to follow rigorous housekeeping practices, regularly maintaining equipment and providing extensive employee training.

Spring into Fitness Walk at Patoka Lake

Kick off the spring season with a walk along the Patoka Lake Fitness Trail on Saturday, March 21 at 10:30 a.m. This trail is an extension of the bike trail and features 26 fitness stations. Participate at the stations or simply walk along with the group during this fun, no pressure fitness walk. Get back on track with a New Year's Resolution or stay focused with this group activity! Meet at the Modern Campground parking lot located next to the campground gatehouse. Patoka Lake (stateparks.IN.gov/2953.htm) is at 3084 N. Dillard Road, Birdseye, IN 47513.

The entrance fee of \$7 per vehicle for Indiana residents (\$9 out of state) is required for the Newton Stewart State Recreation Area, Patoka Reservoir, located north of Wickliffe Indiana, Highway 164. For more information regarding this program or other interpretive events, call the Nature Center at 812.685.2447.

Hunter education class to be held in Loogootee

An Indiana Hunter Education Course will be held at the Faith Baptist Church located at 205 E. Main Street, Loogootee. The course will be held Friday, March 27 from 6-9:30 p.m. and Saturday, March 28, from 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Participants will learn about wildlife conservation, hunter ethics, firearms safety, shotguns, rifles, archery, and survival. There is no charge for attending the course.

All instruction will be done by Indiana Conservation Officers and certified Indiana Volunteer Hunter Education Instructors. Register online at www.passitonindiana.com.

Hunter education certification is required to purchase an Indiana hunting license.



Register for Becoming an Outdoors Woman

The annual Becoming an Outdoors Woman workshop is May 1-3 at Ross Camp in West Lafayette. The workshop is open to women ages 18 and older and limited to 100 participants.

The program is designed for women to learn outdoor skills in a relaxed, low-pressure environment. Participants will choose four activities from more than two dozen offerings, including fishing, archery, geocaching, wild edibles, wildlife tracking, shooting muzzleloader guns and outdoor cooking.

The workshop is for women who have never tried these activities, but have hoped for an opportunity to learn; who have tried them but are beginners hoping to improve; or who know how to do some of the activities, but would like to try new ones.

Women who enjoy the camaraderie of like-minded individuals and who seek time away to reconnect with nature are also prime candidates for BOW.

Registration, which runs from now until March 31 or until there are 100 registrants, can be done online at IndianaBOW.com. The cost for the workshop is \$215 and includes all equipment, meals and lodging.



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National unemployment edges down to 3.5 percent

Total nonfarm payroll employment rose by 273,000 in February, and the unemployment rate was little changed at 3.5 percent, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported last week. Notable job gains occurred in health care and social assistance, food services and drinking places, government, construction, professional and technical services, and financial activities.

This news release presents statistics from two monthly surveys. The household survey measures labor force status, including unemployment, by demographic characteristics. The establishment survey measures nonfarm employment, hours, and earnings by industry. For more information about the concepts and statistical methodology used in these two surveys, see the Technical Note.

Household Survey Data

Both the unemployment rate, at 3.5 percent, and the number of unemployed persons, at 5.8 million, changed little in February. The unemployment rate has been either 3.5 percent or 3.6 percent for the past 6 months.

Among the major worker groups, the unemployment rate for Asians declined to 2.5 percent in February. The rates for adult men (3.3 percent), adult women (3.1 percent), teenagers (11.0 percent), Whites (3.1 percent), Blacks (5.8 percent), and Hispanics (4.4 percent) showed little or no change over the month.

The number of long-term unemployed (those jobless for 27 weeks or more), at 1.1 million, changed little in February and accounted for 19.2 percent of the unemployed.

The labor force participation rate remained at 63.4 percent in February. The employment-population ratio, at 61.1 percent, changed little over the month but was up by 0.4 percentage point over the year.

The number of persons employed part time for economic reasons, at 4.3 million, changed little in February. These individuals, who would have preferred full-time employment, were working part time because their hours had been reduced or they were unable to find full-time jobs.

In February, 1.4 million persons were

marginally attached to the labor force, little changed from the previous month. These individuals were not in the labor force, wanted and were available for work, and had looked for a job sometime in the prior 12 months but had not looked for work in the 4 weeks prior to the survey.

Discouraged workers, a subset of the marginally attached who believed that no jobs were available for them, numbered 405,000 in February, little different from the previous month.

Establishment Survey Data

Total nonfarm payroll employment rose by 273,000 in February, after an increase of the same magnitude in January. In 2019, job growth averaged 178,000 per month. In February, notable job gains occurred in health care and social assistance, food services and drinking places, government, construction, professional and technical services, and financial activities.

Employment in health care and social assistance increased by 57,000 in February. Health care added 32,000 jobs, with gains in offices of physicians (+10,000), home health care services (+10,000), and hospitals (+8,000). Employment in social assistance increased by 25,000, with a majority of the gain in individual and family services (+18,000). Over the past 12 months, employment increased by 368,000 in health care and by 191,000 in social assistance.

Food services and drinking places added 53,000 jobs in February. Employment in the industry has increased by 252,000 over the past 7 months, following a lull in job growth earlier in 2019.

In February, government employment increased by 45,000, led by a gain in state government education (+16,000). Federal employment increased by 8,000, reflecting the hiring of 7,000 temporary workers for the 2020 Census.

Construction added 42,000 jobs in February, following a similar gain in January (+49,000).

In 2019, job gains averaged 13,000 per month. In February, employment gains occurred in specialty trade contractors (+26,000) and residential building (+10,000).

In February, employment in profes-

sional and technical services increased by 32,000. Job growth occurred in architectural and engineering services (+10,000) and in scientific research and development services (+5,000). Employment continued to trend up in computer systems design and related services (+8,000). Over the past 12 months, professional and technical services has added 285,000 jobs.

Employment in financial activities increased by 26,000 in February, with gains in real estate (+8,000) and in credit intermediation and related activities (+6,000). Over the past 12 months, financial activities have added 160,000 jobs.

Employment in other major industries, including mining, manufacturing, wholesale trade, retail trade, transportation and warehousing, and information, changed little over the month.

In February, average hourly earnings for all employees on private nonfarm payrolls increased by 9 cents to \$28.52. Over the past 12 months, average hourly earnings have increased by 3.0 percent. Average hourly earnings of private-sector production and nonsupervisory em-

ployees increased by 8 cents to \$23.96 in February.

The average workweek for all employees on private nonfarm payrolls rose by 0.1 hour to 34.4 hours in February. In manufacturing, the workweek increased by 0.2 hour to 40.7 hours, and overtime edged up by 0.1 hour to 3.2 hours. The average workweek for production and nonsupervisory employees on private nonfarm payrolls increased by 0.1 hour to 33.7 hours.

The change in total nonfarm payroll employment for December was revised up by 37,000 from +147,000 to +184,000, and the change for January was revised up by 48,000 from +225,000 to +273,000. With these revisions, employment gains in December and January combined were 85,000 higher than previously reported. (Monthly revisions result from additional reports received from businesses and government agencies since the last published estimates and from the recalculation of seasonal factors.) After revisions, job gains have averaged 243,000 per month over the last 3 months.

Health department offers illness prevention tips

WASH YOUR HANDS! WASH YOUR HANDS! WASH YOUR HANDS! Hand washing is the best way to prevent illness. 20 seconds of vigorous scrubbing with soap and water is best! Use alcohol-based hand sanitizer if soap and water are not available.

STAY HOME IF YOU ARE SICK! Help prevent the spread of illness to others by staying home if you are sick. If you have vomiting, diarrhea, a bad cough or sore throat with fever you should not return to work/school until you are symptom free for 24 hours. In cases of fever, you should be fever free without fever reducing medicine (Tylenol, Ibuprofen, Naproxen) for 24 hours. Stay home except to seek medical care! Don't go to the store, church, the ballgame or any other public event when you are sick!

COVER YOUR COUGH/SNEEZE! A lot of illnesses are spread through the droplets that are created during a cough or sneeze. These germs can live on surfaces for a period of time. Other people

can become infected from touching a contaminated surface and then touching their eyes, nose or mouth or from not washing their hands before eating. After coughing or sneezing into a tissue, dispose of used tissues in the trash.

AVOID CONTACT WITH PEOPLE WHO ARE SICK! Avoid shaking hands, hugging etc. during times when respiratory illnesses are circulating in the community.

AVOID TOUCHING YOUR EYES, NOSE OR MOUTH!

CLEAN AND DISINFECT SURFACES FREQUENTLY TOUCHED! Sanitize faucet handles, doorknobs, phones, counter tops and other frequently touched surfaces often. Increase frequency in areas where sick people have been. Be sure to use a wipe or cleaner that will kill viruses/bacteria. Check the label if you are unsure.

For more information on how to prevent illness or information on a specific disease visit www.cdc.gov/ or <https://www.in.gov/isdh/>.

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