

# Martin County JOURNAL

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Eleven pages

## Probation department again requests to hire more help

BY COURTNEY HUGHETT  
Martin County Journal Publisher

The Martin County Council met Thursday, March 7. Council Member Andrew Beaver was not present.

Chief Probation Officer Stephanie Helton came back to the council to request adding on a case manager to help with their workload. Helton had requested more help during budget hearings last year but was denied. The council, at that time, told Helton to come back this year. She explained that the probation department's workload on adult cases has increased to five times more and the juvenile referrals have tripled. Council President Jordan Dant asked what was driving the increase in the caseload. Helton said it's not just Martin County, she received a letter from the Supreme Court that said all prosecutors in the state have seen a 40 percent increase in cases. She said she doesn't know what is causing increased crime but a lot of it has to do with repeat offenders and drug and alcohol abuse. She said the average case load for probation officers in other counties is 80-100 clients per probation officer. In Martin County, there are 200 clients per probation officer. Helton said the need for extra help is to assist with monitoring sex offenders and those in residential treatment facilities, along with paperwork. She said it comes down to her office having the ability to protect the public.

Helton had provided several options for adding extra help at budget time last year. Two of those options included adding a case manager for 28 hours a week with no benefits for \$38,944 a year or 21 hours a week with no benefits for \$26,208 per year.

Council Member Dant asked where the money would come from. Auditor Michelle Norris said it would have to come from the general fund. Helton said they had some money in their supplemental fund however she isn't sure how much. Council Member Monty Gregory said it looked like using money in the supplemental fund, the probation budget would be \$6,000 shy of paying for the 28 hours per week position. He said it looks like there is enough money to cover the 21 hours per week.

Dant said he would like to see data from the last three years of cases to see what kind of increase there has been. He said he needs to see justification prior to adding on a new position. "We are not in a good place to be adding new employees," he said. He added that once new positions are added, they never go away, even if the workload decreases. "We've got to be mindful of that," he said.

Helton replied that she brought them data last year, but they didn't like it. She said she was told to come back so she is back.

Dant said they need to figure out if there is enough money in the budget before they make a decision on the position. Council Member Adam Greene agreed. They requested Helton bring back three years of data to justify the position. Greene said the increase in the caseload may be seasonal and fluctuate throughout the year. Dant also requested information

on the probation department's revenue stream. He said if the caseload is up five times higher than the revenue from fees should also be five times higher.

The council approved the following additional appropriation requests:

-\$75 from the general fund for ISCA dues for a new deputy in the coroner's office

-A total of \$4,000 for hiring and referral bonuses for the sheriff's department. This money comes from the jail's commissary fund and put back into the general fund.

-\$7,500 from the general fund to pay for the shortfall to cover the salary of the part-time jail substance abuse treatment coordinator. Community Corrections Director Danielle Murphy said they have \$7,500 in their budget they can use, which is half the amount of the salary. She said in the past, they have received a grant from the state to cover the position but didn't receive it this year. She said they will try again for the grant in 2025 but there is no guarantee it will be awarded. She said they can discuss at that time if they want to continue the program if they don't get the grant. Murphy said the program is very popular, especially with the Vigo County inmates being housed in Martin County. She said they usually have a waiting list for it. She explained judges use the program as an incentive for offenders to receive less jail time. She said last year they had an 87 percent completion rate. The program is a certified treatment through the Indiana Department of Corrections.

-\$4,500 for accident reports for the sheriff's department

-\$15,000 for firearms training which includes purchasing firearms, targets and ammunition. Sheriff Josh Greene said he just wants the money allocated so he can make purchases, as needed, especially for ammunition.

-\$5,000 for supplies for the two police K9s. Greene said he doesn't need to spend the full amount now but wants it available for dog food and vet bills, as needed.

-\$300 for crises response unit expenses. Sheriff Greene said they want to close out this line item to clean up the budget.

-\$3,000 in the reserve deputy donations line item. Sheriff Greene said this money was donations for uniforms and equipment for reserve officers. He said they have been using another fund instead of this one to purchase items for the reserve deputies so he would like to get this money approved for use, as needed.

-\$750 from the sheriff's donation fund for a ballistic vest. This is also a donation fund that Sheriff Greene would like to have allocated so it can be used.

-\$134.21 in the sheriff's salary donation for the chief deputy salary. Greene explained this is money remaining from a donation made by the Loughmillers in 2022 to cover deputy raises. He wants to use the money from this fund so it can be deleted.

-\$19,000 in jail booking fees for inmate expenses. Greene said this money is paid by those who are booked into the jail and it isn't being used. Inmates pay a \$50 booking fee. He would like it allocated so it can be used to purchase bedding, etc.

(See 'PROBATION' on page 2)

## Three Loogootee School projects come in at \$8 million

BY COURTNEY HUGHETT  
Martin County Journal Publisher

The Loogootee School Board held a special meeting last Thursday afternoon, March 7 to open bids for three of the four building and remodeling projects the school has planned.

Five bids were received for the 22,000-square-foot activities center. The low bid was from Wolfe Construction, of Vincennes, for \$6,888,000. The highest bid was \$8,014,000.

Three bids were received for the middle school remodel. The lowest bid was from Wagler & Sons Construction, of Montgomery, for \$937,295.25. The highest bid was \$1,595,500.

Three bids were received for the elementary playground remodel. The lowest bid was from Wagler & Sons Construction for \$246,251. The highest bid was \$340,000.

## Martin County's jobless rate bumps to 3.3 percent for January

BY COURTNEY HUGHETT  
Martin County Journal Publisher

Martin County's unemployment rate bumped up in January to 3.3 percent, from 2.5 percent the month before. The county had the 17<sup>th</sup> lowest jobless rate in the state for January, tied with six other counties.

In January, the county had 5,203 residents in the workforce and 173 of them were unemployed. In December, there were 5,302 residents able to work and 133 of them were without jobs. In January of 2023, Martin County's unemployment rate was 3.1 percent with 5,244 residents in the workforce and 160 of them jobless.

Daviess County's jobless rate also jumped from 1.9 percent in December to 2.8 percent in January. The county had the lowest jobless rate in the state for January, tied with Gibson County.

## Loogootee boards approve road closures, gun purchases and discuss ongoing drainage issue

BY COURTNEY HUGHETT  
Martin County Journal Publisher

The Loogootee Board of Public Works and Safety and City Council met Monday night, March 11.

The board of public works and safety approved closing Riley Street, from the highway to the fire station and Heritage Hill Street at the southside fire station for the solar eclipse on April 8 to allow emergency vehicles to get out, if needed.

Assistant Police Chief Kyle Long talked to the council about the police department becoming a member of the Fraternal Order of Police. He said there are benefits with the membership including a lawyer fund where officers can be represented if needed. He said the cost is \$75 per year with the lawyer fund fee of \$100-\$200 per officer. He said reserve officers can also become associate members, but he is not sure how much their fee would be. The board tabled a decision until next month's meeting when Long can provide all the pricing.

The board of works approved purchasing new tires for the city's three fire trucks

The board accepted all three bids for a total of \$8,071,546.25. The fourth project planned, a new bus barn, has not yet been put out for bids. The school has estimated total project costs at \$9.9 million. The interest on the bond is estimated at \$7.1 million for a total project cost of \$17 million with repayment over 19 years.

The school plans to start the projects within the next few months.

In other business, the board approved purchasing property owned by Richard Taylor and family, by the softball field for \$240,500. The property includes the house, field and two lots across the street from the house. The school got two appraisals on the property and took the average of the two for the purchase price.

The board approved hiring Steven Engleman as full-time custodian and Matthew Birk as the Lion Manufacturing teacher for next school year.

In January, the county had 16,743 residents in the workforce and 476 of them were unemployed. In December, there were 17,124 residents able to work and 319 of them were without jobs. In January of last year, Daviess County's unemployment rate was 2.6 percent with 16,580 residents in the workforce and 431 of them without jobs.

Dubois County's jobless rate bumped a full percent from 2 percent in December to 3 percent in January. The county had the sixth lowest unemployment rate in the state for January, tied with Hendricks County.

In January, the county had 21,508 residents in the workforce and 654 of them were unemployed. In December, there were 21,994 residents able to work and 443 of them were without jobs. In January (See 'JOBLESS' on page 2)

for \$11,758 from Dubois County Tire.

The board approved using opioid settlement funds to replace police department guns and purchasing ammunition. The cost is \$6,312.60 but they plan to sell old guns and ammunition to offset the cost to around \$2,192.60.

A city property use request was tabled until the next meeting. It was not mentioned what the request was.

The board approved closing Williams Street at the location of the new Dollar General store for the installation of new concrete from March 18-25. Mayor Brian Ader said he knows a lot of residents are concerned about the traffic congestion once the new Dollar General is open, however he said only INDOT can make changes to the state highway. He said he will be requesting a traffic count on the road to see if INDOT would be willing to install a traffic light or expand the roadway.

At the end of the board of works meeting, Mike Kirk was honored with a plaque for his 57 years of service to the fire department. Kirk started with civil defense in 1967 and then joined the Loogootee (See 'LOGOOTE' on page 2)

# PROBATION

(Continued from page one)

-\$10,000 in the traffic safety enforcement fund which is a grant for extra patrol to watch for school bus stop arm violations. The grant is reimbursable after deputy hours are submitted to the state.

-\$76,500 from the TIF Capital Projects fund for professional services. Auditor Norris explained that \$17,500 is the county's portion to pay for USI Consultants to come up with the Mid-States Corridor Plan. The redevelopment commission and City of Loogootee paid a portion of the cost as well. She said the work has been started on the plan but she is not sure where USI is on the project. The plan's purpose is for Martin County to be able to stay ahead of the Mid-States Corridor to help steer it in the direction the county wants it to go. \$50,000 is to go toward the Town of Shoals 232 Main Street Project (Nu Tap building), per the redevelopment commission. \$3,000 for LWG, CPA for consulting services related to the use of the TIF funds. \$5,750 for appraisals to be done however Auditor Norris isn't sure yet how much those will cost. She put in the \$5,750 to make sure it was covered.

-\$100,000 from the TIF Capital Projects fund for a loan to the Town of Shoals for the 232 Main Street project, formerly the Nu Tap building. The town is applying for a grant but must show proof of matching funds. It was noted the town may not even need any of the money but wanted it available just in case. The town would be paying five percent interest if they use the money.

There was a request for allocating \$176,471.79 in ARPA (American Rescue Plan Act) funds with \$72,007.32 for supplies, \$72,007.32 for miscellaneous expenses and \$32,457.15 for capital expenses. The council questioned what the money was going to be used for. Auditor Norris explained that the commissioners gave blanket approval for the ambulance service to use the money when needed and she didn't know what the money was going to be spent on. "I don't like blankets," said Dant adding that the county council's job is accountability. Council Member Warren Albright told Dant that the council doesn't have any say over how ARPA funds are spent. He said a committee was formed when the money was first received, and the commissioners have sole discretion on how to spend those dollars. Dant said he didn't understand how that was possible that the county council doesn't decide how money is being spent. Albright said this is how it was set up when the county received the money

from the federal government. "I'm just confused," said Dant.

The council spent quite a bit of time discussing how much they wanted to approve until they could get more information from the ambulance director. Auditor Norris said they do have some bills to pay for the ambulance service totaling \$7,120 along with \$2,500 approved at the last commissioners' meeting to pay for Starlink internet equipment for the highway department.

The council questioned how much money was in the ambulance fund and if that money could be used for ambulance purchases. Auditor Norris said there is \$98,000 in the fund of insurance reimbursements received. Council Member Greene said using the ARPA money would prevent money coming from the general fund. Auditor Norris was asked when the ARPA money had to be used. Norris replied that it has to be allocated by the end of the year and spent by the end of 2026. Council Member Gregory said his fear is when the ARPA money "dries up" they are going to have to spend money from other places to pay for the ambulance service. Council Member Dant said he's been saying this for the past 18 months.

The council decided to approve \$15,000 in the supplies line item and \$15,000 in the miscellaneous expenses line item for now until they could get more information on how the money is being spent.

Sylvia Albaugh, with the Shoals Public Library and Shoals Library Attorney Dave Lett presented a resolution to the council requesting approval for the library to issue bonds for their expansion project. This is a requirement due to the library having more than 50 percent of their tax base residing outside the Town of Shoals. The bond will not exceed \$660,000. The library received an OCRA (Office of Community and Rural Affairs) grant in the amount of \$500,000. The total cost of the project is estimated at \$1 million. The library is not seeking a change in their current tax levy and payments on the bond will come from their current budget. The repayment on the bond is 40 years at 3.5 percent or less interest. Albaugh was asked if the expansion will include parking. Albaugh said they are planning to upgrade the parking however that will be done later, after the construction. She said they have applied for a grant from the community foundation to help with that.

The next council meeting is Monday, April 1 at 6 p.m.

# LOOGOOTEE

(Continued from page one)

Fire Department 9 years later. He served multiple positions including chief and assistant chief.

During the city council meeting after the board of works meeting, Mayor Ader reported that May 14 is the United Way Day of Caring. He said it's a community service day and anyone interested in volunteering can contact his office at 812-295-1000.

The council approved destroying old city records and donating an antique radio transmitter and microphone to the Martin County Museum. Mayor Ader said any records older than 10 years can be destroyed.

Resident Jason Tinkle talked to the council about the drainage issue at Green Acres that has been ongoing for several years. Tinkle provided background to the council on the process he has gone through to get something done to resolve the flooding issue on his property. Mayor Ader said he spoke with Midwestern Engineers, who is working up plans to correct the problem, and also with IDEM (Indiana Department of Environmental Management), who said there are no permits required to do any work. He said he plans to set up a meeting with himself, Midwestern Engineers and the property owners affected to discuss

what Midwestern has come up with. Ader said the issue should never have been the responsibility of the city and they have paid a lot of money to help resolve it. "We got stuck holding the bag," he said adding that whatever Midwestern comes up with, the city will go with it. He said the property owners are not going to make changes to that plan because the city is paying for the work. Gary Arvin, who lives in that area, told Mayor Ader that they have been waiting for a resolution for four years. He said at the last meeting Mayor Ader had said no one could touch the property while waiting on Midwestern and IDEM however Ader then allowed work to be done to raise up the ground creating more of a problem. Ader said he did give permission for the ground to be raised to help water escape and he apologized for doing that after saying no one was going to touch the area. Ader said the bickering and arguing between the property owners has to stop and they all need to calm down and let the city handle it because they are making progress. He again said he will be setting up a meeting with himself, Midwestern and the property owners in two or three weeks.

A public hearing will be held on March 22 at 10 a.m. for the city's bond reissuance of the wastewater state revolving fund.

# JOBLESS

(Continued from page one)

of 2023, Dubois County's jobless rate was 2.7 percent with 21,655 residents in the workforce and 586 of them unemployed.

Greene County's unemployment rate moved from 3.3 percent in December to 4.8 percent in January. The county had the eighth highest unemployment rate in the state for January.

In January, the county had 13,250 residents in the workforce and 634 of them were without jobs. In December, there were 13,416 residents able to work and 447 of them were unemployed. In January of last year, Greene County's jobless rate was 4.5 percent with 13,473 residents in the workforce and 600 of them unemployed.

The top ten spots in the state for lowest jobless rate for January were Gibson and Daviess counties at 2.8 percent, Hamilton, Clinton, and Boone counties at 2.9 percent; Hendricks and Dubois counties at 3 percent, and Steuben, Posey, Johnson and Jackson counties at 3.1 percent.

The top ten spots in the state for highest jobless rate for January were Lake County at 5.7 percent, Howard County at 5.6 percent, Vermillion County at 5.2 percent, Starke County at 5.1 percent, Fayette, LaPorte and Newton counties at 5 percent, Greene County at 4.8 percent, and Fulton, Lawrence, Miami and Sullivan counties at 4.6 percent.

The unemployment rate of the State of Indiana in January stands at 3.5 percent, according to the Indiana Department of Workforce Development. By comparison,

the national unemployment rate for January stands at 3.7 percent.

In addition, Indiana's labor force participation rate stands at 63.0 percent for January, remaining above the national rate of 62.5 percent. This rate is the percentage of Hoosiers 16 and older that are either working or actively looking for work. Those not in the labor force include, primarily, students, retirees and other non-working populations, such as individuals unable to work due to a disability or illness, or adults responsible for their family's child-care needs.

Indiana's total labor force stands at 3,398,047 - a decrease of 10,628 from the previous month.

"Indiana has carried the momentum from a strong economy in 2023 into 2024," said DWD Commissioner Richard Paulk. "The unemployment rate of 3.5 percent remains near historic lows and remains below the national average. Additionally, Indiana has again set a new peak for private sector employment."

Private sector employment in Indiana increased by 10,500 jobs over the last month, resulting in a gain of 42,000 jobs from this time last year. Indiana's January private employment stands at 2,845,300.

Industries that experienced job increases in January included: Construction (+2,700); Trade, Transportation and Utilities (+2,700); and Private Educational and Health Services (+1,900).

As of March 4, 2024, there were 98,653 open job postings throughout the state. As of the week ending on February 24, 2024,



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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..

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# OBITUARIES

## BONITA JOHNSON

Bonita Fern (Kerns) Johnson passed away Tuesday, March 12, 2024, at East Gate Manor, Washington. A resident of Shoals, she was 90.



**BONITA JOHNSON**

She was born August 19, 1933, in Cuzco; daughter of John and Lizzie (Noble) Kerns.

She married Donald Johnson on July 15, 1952, in French

Lick, and he preceded her in death on September 28, 2011.

Bonita was a graduate of French Lick High School and worked as a factory worker and housekeeper for many years. She was a member of the Crystal Community Church and the Rusk Homemakers Club.

Surviving are her children, Rick (Inger) Johnson and Donna Sue Johnson, both of Shoals; two grandsons, Jeremiah (Andrea) Johnson and Scott Johnson, of Shoals; great-grandson, Jett Johnson; siblings, Mary Lou (Harold) Walters and Amon (Becky) Kerns; and several nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents; husband, Donald; and siblings, Ed Kerns, Mildred Warner, Georgia Bird, Riley Kerns, and Virginia Smith.

Funeral services will be at 1 p.m. Thursday, March 14 at the Queen-Lee Chapel of George Funeral Care. Burial will be in Pleasant Valley Cemetery.

Visitation will be from 11 a.m. until the service hour on Thursday at the Queen-Lee Chapel, Shoals.

Online condolences may be sent to the family at [www.queenlee.com](http://www.queenlee.com).

## ROBERTA BECHTEL

Roberta (Goffinet) Bechtel passed away peacefully on March 3, 2024. A resident of Bloomington, she was 71.



**ROBERTA BECHTEL**

She was born November 2, 1952, at Good Samaritan Hospital in Vincennes; daughter of Martha E. (Hart) and Robert H. Goffinet.

Roberta graduated from Shoals Community High School with the class of 1970. She proudly served the Navy for over 30 years of employment at NSWC Crane, starting as a file clerk in 1980 and retiring as a Logistics Management Specialist in 2010. Roberta was a parishio-

ner of St. Mary's Catholic Church of the Immaculate Conception in Shoals for 30 years. She was then a parishioner of St. Joseph Catholic Church in Bramble for 20 years. And lastly, Roberta was a parishioner of St. Charles Borromeo Catholic Church in Bloomington until her passing.

She is survived by her beloved husband of over 41 years, Joe Bechtel. Roberta's life was blessed with her daughter Marti (Albaugh) Leslie, her husband Jay Leslie, and their children, Lauren and Jacob Leslie; and her son, Matthew Albaugh, his wife Jessica Albaugh, and their children, Ellen and Kate Albaugh. Roberta was also blessed by her two stepdaughters, Anita (Bechtel) Montalone, her children, Adrienne and Carson Montalone, and their father, Joe Montalone; and Karla (Bechtel) Hawk, her husband, Steve Hawk, and their children, Evan, Ethan, and Emily. Roberta is also survived by the father of her children, Tom Albaugh.

She was an avid reader, painter, and collector of antiques – delighting more in the hunt than the actual possession of her cherished collectables. Roberta loved traveling, exploring vast expanses of the United States on long road trips, overseas trips to Europe, and on cruises. Roberta relished celebrating the successes and accomplishments of her children and grandchildren. She was a diligent follower of local and national politics – a highlight being the time she met (and hugged) then presidential candidate Barack Obama. Roberta had a keen interest in genealogy and her family roots: collecting pictures, stories, and backgrounds of her ancestors. Roberta loved the Christmas season, showering family with gifts and savoring in the annual "Dirty Santa" gift exchange among family. Birthday and holiday cards were her specialty: she never missed sending cards out, and they always arrived days—even weeks—before the allotted time. Her family will miss her dearly.

Roberta truly believed in the old adage that a person dies three deaths: the first is when the body ceases to function, the second is when the body is consigned to the grave, and the third is that moment, sometime in the future, when your name is spoken for the last time. Her favorite gospel parable was that of the Prodigal Son in the Gospel of Luke: "Then let us celebrate with a feast, because this son of mine was dead, and has come to life again; he was lost and has been found. Then the celebration began."

The family would like to extend their sincere gratitude to the doctors, nurses, and staff at the MD Anderson Cancer Center (Greenwood) and the IU Health

Bloomington Hospice House for the wonderful care of their wife, mother, and grandmother.

Allen Funeral Home has been entrusted with providing Roberta's cremation services. Her remains will be buried near those of her parents, grandparents, great grandparents, aunts, uncles, and cousins at the Springhill Cemetery in Shoals.

## LORENA LEVITT

Lorena V. Levitt, formerly of Kankakee and Bourbonnais, died March 4, 2024, in Legacy Living in Jasper. A resident of Assumption, Illinois, she was 92.



**LORENA LEVITT**

Lorena was born June 26, 1931, in Chicago, Illinois; daughter of Lloyd and Gladys (Phelps) Sinnard. She married Bernie Levitt on May 10, 1969,

in Assumption, Illinois. He preceded her in death.

She was a member of College Church of the Nazarene in Bourbonnais, Illinois. She enjoyed traveling, hummingbirds, and all animals, but most of all she loved the many students she taught and spending time with her family.

Surviving are her sister, Phyllis (Gerald) Lynch of Loogootee; sisters-in-law, Loretta Sinnard of Assumption, Illinois and Glenda Sinnard of Mt. Zion, Illinois; many nieces and nephews; great-nieces and nephews; and great-great-nieces and nephews.

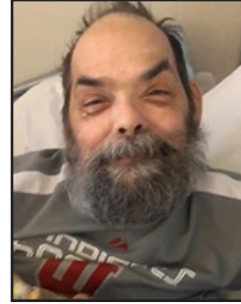
Preceding her in death are her husband, parents, and brothers, Bob Sinnard and Bill Sinnard.

Funeral services were held Thursday, March 7 in Seitz Funeral Home, Assumption. Burial followed in Pleasant View Cemetery, Assumption.

Seitz Funeral Home, Assumption has been entrusted with the care and service arrangements. Condolences for the family may be left at [www.seitzfh.com](http://www.seitzfh.com).

## JEFFERY FOX

Jeffery Fox passed away at 12:23 p.m. Wednesday, March 6, 2024, at Poplar Care Strategies. A resident of Loogootee, he was 62.



**JEFFERY FOX**

He was born January 10, 1962, in Washington; son of the late Gary and Carolyn (Street) Fox.

Jeff loved watching Andy Griffith, Judge Judy, Dukes of Hazard, Green Mile, Pretty Woman, Smokey and the Bandit and NASCAR. He enjoyed spending time with his family and especially loved the holidays and playing bingo. Over the years, Jeff was employed by Delta Faucet, Hardee's, McDonald's, and the cord factory in Loogootee.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Gary and Carolyn Fox; siblings, Tammy Fox Hampton and Janet Fox; and great-nephew, Hunter Fox.

Jeff is survived by his nephews, Dustin (Trisha) Fox and Travis (Brandi) Fox; niece, Megan Mountcastle; great-nephew, Gunner Fox; and great-nieces, Alivia Fox, Bryleigh Fox, and Emma Evans.

Jeff wished to be cremated and a Celebration of Life will be held at a later date.

Blake Funeral Home in Loogootee is honored to serve the family of Jeffery Fox.

## DANNY CLARK

Danny L. Clark passed away at 5:17 a.m. Wednesday, March 6, 2024, at his home. A resident of Loogootee, he was

74.

He was born March 8, 1949, in Raglesville; son of the late Albert O. Clark and Esther (Kelsey) Nicholson.

Danny married Goldie Robbins on July 17, 1968, and she preceded him in death on July 21, 2017.

He was a member of the Mt. Zion Wesleyan Church, where he was a church board member for many years. He loved to sit on his front porch and play with his great-grandchildren. Danny also loved to watch his grandson wrestle, whether he could attend in person or watch online. He enjoyed collecting diecast cars. Danny never met a stranger that he didn't enjoy a good conversation with.

Danny was preceded in death by his wife, Goldie Clark; parents, Albert O. Clark and Esther Nicholson; and siblings, John Clark, William Clark, Thelma Hudson, and Hazel Ping.

He is survived by his children, Danny R. (Sheila) Clark, Tammy Clark, and Cindy Clark, all of Loogootee; grandchildren, Jessica (Mark) Potts, Jennifer (Travis) Inman, Justin Clark, and Trenton Clark; seven great-grandchildren; sisters, Cathy Spears of Odon and Laura (Mark) Robertson of Loogootee; several stepsiblings and two sisters-in-law.

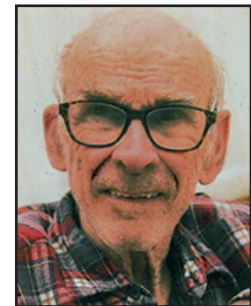
Funeral services were conducted by Rev. Caleb Moffatt on Saturday, March 9 at Mt. Zion Wesleyan Church in Loogootee. Burial followed in the church cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions can be made to the Mt. Zion Wesleyan Church.

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

## BOB KAMPLAIN

Carl Robert "Bob" Kamplain passed away Friday March 8, 2024, at Hillside Manor in Washington. A resident of Bramble, he was 80.



He was born September 9, 1943, in Bramble; son of Carl R. and Esther (Padgett) Kamplain.

Bob was a member of the Catholic Faith and attended St. Joseph Catholic

Church in Bramble. In his earlier years he worked as a TV repair man, and then later in life he worked as an outboard mechanic repairing boats and boat motors.

Bob liked to watch baseball games, play cards, fish, and spend time with his family. He will be missed by all that knew him.

He is preceded in death by his parents, Carl R. and Esther (Padgett) Kamplain and his brother, Roger Kamplain.

Bob is survived by his siblings, Charles E. "Ed" (Carol) Kamplain, James S. "Steve" Kamplain, and Wilma E. (Ronald) Moorehouse, his nieces and nephews, Curt (Elizabeth) Moorehouse, Jennifer (Dusty) Sloan, Laura Jean (David) Wright, Estelene (George) House, and Derek (Pam) Kamplain, three great-nieces, three great-nephews, one great-great niece, and two great-great nephews.

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated by Very Rev. J. Kenneth Walker this morning, Wednesday, March 13 at St. Joseph Catholic Church in Bramble. Burial followed in the church cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Alzheimer's Association P.O. Box 96011 Washington, DC 20090-6011 in memory of Bob Kamplain.

Online condolences can be made at [www.blakefuneralhomes.com](http://www.blakefuneralhomes.com).

Blake Funeral Home is honored to serve the family of Carl Robert "Bob" Kamplain.

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**QUEEN-LEE CHAPEL**

GEORGE FUNERAL CARE, LLC

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Shoals, Indiana 47581  
812-247-3101

## Martin County Sheriff's Department activity log

### MONDAY, MARCH 4

12:42 a.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Medic 1 and Loogootee Fire Department responded. No one was transported.

2:30 a.m. - Received a call from Care Center advising a medical alarm push in Loogootee. Martin County Medic 1 and Loogootee Fire Department responded. No one was transported.

6:40 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.

7:38 a.m. - Received a report of a suspicious person southeast of Loogootee. Chief Deputy Keller responded.

12:11 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.

12:20 p.m. - Received an animal complaint south of Loogootee. Corporal Hawkins responded.

1:15 p.m. - Received a report of a possible scam in Loogootee. Notified Loogootee Police.

1:44 p.m. - Received a report of a controlled burn in Shoals.

2:53 p.m. - Received a 911 call reporting an accident south of Loogootee. Martin County Medic 1, Chief Deputy Keller, Corporal Hawkins, Big John's Towing, and Haysville Fire Department responded. Medic 1 transported one patient to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

5:24 p.m. - Received a call requesting an officer in Loogootee. Loogootee Sergeant Wagoner responded.

5:42 p.m. - Received a call reporting a reckless driver on US 231 South, traveling north. Corporal Hawkins responded.

5:47 p.m. - Received a report of a possible neighbor dispute south of Loogootee. Corporal Hawkins responded.

6:00 p.m. - Received a call requesting an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Medic 1 and Loogootee Fire Department responded. No one was transported.

7:39 p.m. - Received a call requesting an officer in Loogootee. Loogootee Sergeant Wagoner responded.

8:26 p.m. - Received multiple calls reporting a suspicious male in Loogootee. Loogootee Sergeant Wagoner and Major Reed responded.

11:19 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.

11:46 p.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance in Shoals. Martin County Medic 2 and Shoals Fire Department responded. Medic 2 transported one patient to Daviess Community Hospital.

### TUESDAY, MARCH 5

6:14 a.m. - Received a call reporting a reckless driver on US 50, traveling east. Notified Lawrence County.

8:54 a.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 IU Bloomington.

9:34 a.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance east of Shoals. Martin County Medic 2 and Shoals Fire Department responded. Medic 2 transported one patient to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

10:20 a.m. - Received a report of a traffic hazard in Shoals. Captain Gibson responded.

2:07 p.m. - Received a call requesting a welfare check in Shoals. Chief Deputy

Keller and Captain Gibson responded.

3:10 p.m. - Received a call requesting a vehicle identification number check on a camper south of Loogootee. Deputy Baumgart responded.

3:35 p.m. - Received a call reporting a domestic dispute in Crane. Captain Gibson, Corporal Hawkins and Loogootee Sergeant Wagoner responded.

5:48 p.m. - Received a call reporting an accident with no injuries east of Loogootee. Corporal Hawkins responded.

6:48 p.m. - Received a call reporting possible suspicious activity northeast of Shoals. Corporal Hawkins responded.

9:25 p.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Medic 1 responded and transported one patient to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

11:59 p.m. - Received a call from Lenders Recovery advising of a vehicle repossession east of Loogootee.

### WEDNESDAY, MARCH 6

5:30 a.m. - Received a call requesting an officer in Loogootee. Major Reed responded.

6:31 a.m. - Received a call reporting a reckless driver US 50, traveling west from Loogootee. Advised Daviess County.

11:14 a.m. - Received a call requesting to speak with an officer. Chief Deputy Keller responded.

11:20 a.m. - Received a report of a suspicious male west of Loogootee. Loogootee Chief Hunt and Loogootee Assistant Chief Long responded.

11:23 a.m. - Received a request to speak with an officer. Chief Deputy Keller responded.

11:53 a.m. - Received a call requesting to speak with an officer. Chief Deputy Keller responded.

12:06 p.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Medic 1 and Medic 3 responded. No one was transported.

2:05 p.m. - Received a call requesting to speak with an officer about a possible scam. Deputy Baumgart responded.

2:28 p.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance northeast of Shoals. Martin County Medic 1 and Indian Creek Fire Department responded. Medic 1 transported one patient to IU Bedford.

4:03 p.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Medic 2 and Medic 3 responded. No one was transported.

4:20 p.m. - Received a call from the Care Center requesting a welfare check in Shoals. Martin County Medic 1, Medic 3 and Deputy Shields responded. No one was transported.

5:29 p.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Medic 1, Loogootee Fire Department and Loogootee Sergeant Wagoner responded. Medic 1 transported one patient to Daviess Community Hospital.

5:55 p.m. - Received a call requesting an officer in Loogootee. Loogootee Sergeant Wagoner and Deputy Shields responded.

6:01 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Shoals. Martin County Medic 2 and Shoals Fire Department responded. Medic 2 transported one patient to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

7:50 p.m. - Received a call reporting a possible threat in Loogootee. Loogootee Sergeant Wagoner responded.

7:57 p.m. - Received a call reporting a possible theft in Loogootee. Loogootee Sergeant Wagoner responded.

9:28 p.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance east of Loogootee. Martin County Medic 1 responded and transported one patient to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

### THURSDAY, MARCH 7

8:02 a.m. - Received a call reporting a

reckless driver in Shoals. Deputy Branham responded.

9:00 a.m. - Received a call reporting a controlled burn north of Loogootee.

10:53 a.m. - Received a request to speak with an officer. Chief Deputy Keller responded.

11:02 a.m. - Received a call requesting an ambulance south of Shoals. Deputy Branham, Martin County Medic 1, and Shoals Fire Department responded. No one was transported.

11:09 a.m. - Received a 911 call requesting transfer to Crane Base 911.

11:12 a.m. - Received a 911 call requesting transfer to Crane Base 911.

11:49 a.m. - Received a call requesting a vehicle identification number check on a kayak north of Loogootee. Deputy Branham responded.

1:34 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. Deputy Branham and Martin County Medic 1 responded. Medic 1 transported one patient to Daviess Community Hospital.

3:19 p.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Medic 1 and Loogootee Assistant Chief Long responded. Medic 1 transported to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

3:36 p.m. - Received a request to speak with an officer. Deputy Branham responded.

6:05 p.m. - Received a call reporting an accident with no injuries in Loogootee. Loogootee Sergeant Wagoner responded.

6:35 p.m. - Received a call requesting an ambulance south of Shoals. Martin County Medic 1 and Shoals Fire Department responded. No one was transported.

7:07 p.m. - Received a call reporting a dog attack in Loogootee. Loogootee Sergeant Wagoner responded.

10:50 p.m. - Received a 911 call reporting a domestic dispute south of Loogootee. Deputy Shields and Loogootee Sergeant Wagoner responded.

### FRIDAY, MARCH 8

8:00 a.m. - Received a call from INDOT requesting traffic control in Shoals. Chief Keller and Deputy Branham responded.

8:02 a.m. - Received a 911 call reporting a reckless driver traveling east of Shoals. Deputy Baumgart, Chief Keller, and Deputy Branham responded.

8:21 a.m. - Received a call requesting a vehicle identification number check east of Shoals. Deputy Branham responded.

8:58 a.m. - Received a call reporting two trees down southwest of Shoals. Shoals Fire Department responded.

9:34 a.m. - Received a 911 call reporting a reckless semi driver. ISP Master Trooper Lents, Loogootee Chief Hunt, and Loogootee Assistant Chief Long responded.

10:52 a.m. - Received a call requesting an officer in Loogootee. Loogootee Sergeant Wagoner and Deputy Branham responded.

11:05 a.m. - Received an ambulance request from Lawrence County EMS. Martin County Medic 1 responded and transported to IU Bedford.

12:11 p.m. - Received a request to speak with an officer. Deputy Baumgart responded.

12:30 p.m. - Received a call reporting a reckless driver east of Shoals. Deputy Branham and Deputy Shields responded.

2:28 p.m. - Received a call reporting a single vehicle accident east of Shoals. Deputy Branham and Deputy Shields responded.

2:29 p.m. - Received a call reporting an accident with no injuries east of Shoals. Deputy Branham and Deputy Shields responded.

4:15 p.m. - Received a request to speak with an officer. Deputy Branham responded.

4:30 p.m. - Received a request for extra patrol south of Shoals. Deputy Branham and Deputy Baumgart advised.

5:01 p.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance north of Shoals. Martin County Medic 1 and Shoals Fire Department responded. No one was transported.

8:50 p.m. - Received an ambulance request from Orange County EMS. Martin County Medic 1 responded and transported to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

9:05 p.m. - Received a call requesting extra patrol in Loogootee. Loogootee Chief Hunt and Deputy Erwin advised.

9:17 p.m. - Received a 911 call reporting a deer-car accident east of Loogootee. Deputy Erwin responded.

10:35 p.m. - Received a call reporting a found dog in Loogootee. Deputy Shields responded.

### SATURDAY, MARCH 9

12:52 a.m. - Received a call requesting an ambulance in Shoals. Martin County Medic 1 and Shoals Fire Department responded. No one was transported.

9:05 a.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance north of Shoals. Martin County Medic 1, Shoals Fire Department and Deputy Branham responded.

9:52 a.m. - Received a call reporting a possible traffic hazard in Shoals. Deputy Branham responded.

11:25 a.m. - Received a call reporting a commercial burglar alarm in Shoals. Deputy Branham responded.

1:36 p.m. - Received a call reporting illegal parking in Loogootee. Loogootee Reserve Officer Shaw and Deputy Branham responded.

3:27 p.m. - Received a call requesting a vehicle identification number check on a boat north of Loogootee. Deputy Branham responded.

5:20 p.m. - Received a call requesting to speak with an officer. Deputy Shields responded.

8:05 p.m. - Received a call advising of a controlled burn in Shoals.

10:25 p.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Medic 1 and Loogootee Reserve Officer Shaw responded. Medic 1 transported one patient to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

10:33 p.m. - Received a 911 call reporting a reckless driver on US 231 South, traveling north. Deputy Erwin responded.

11:51 p.m. - Received a call reporting a car-deer accident north of Loogootee. Deputy Erwin and Big John's Towing responded.

### SUNDAY, MARCH 10

10:36 a.m. - Received a call reporting a possible invasion of privacy. Deputy Branham responded.

11:47 a.m. - Received a report of a traffic hazard north of Loogootee. Deputy Branham responded.

1:24 p.m. - Received a 911 call reporting a car-deer accident north of Loogootee. Captain Gibson responded.

3:00 p.m. - Received a call from Lifeline advising of a medical alarm south of Shoals. Martin County Medic 1 and Shoals Fire Department responded. No one was transported.

3:50 p.m. - Received a report from Indiana Conservation Officer Fuhrman that Orange County is in pursuit of a subject on foot. Captain Gibson, Deputy Branham, and Reserve Deputy Dorsey responded.

5:52 p.m. - Received two 911 calls reporting gun shots in Shoals. Captain Gibson and Deputy Branham responded.

6:43 p.m. - Received a call requesting officer assistance in Loogootee. Captain Gibson, ISP Trooper Watson, and Deputy Branham responded.

8:51 p.m. - Received a call reporting a vehicle repossession in Loogootee.

# COURT NEWS

## CRIMINAL CONVICTIONS AND SENTENCINGS

February 28

Lisa M. Lemons, convicted of driving while suspended, a Class A Misdemeanor. Sentenced to serve 64 days with 0 days suspended and credit for 32 actual days previously served plus 32 Class A credit days.

March 2

James Tyler Mesarosh, convicted of domestic battery committed in the presence of a child less than 16 years old, a Level 6 Felony. Sentenced to serve 365 days with 355 days suspended and credit for 5 actual days previously served plus 5 Class A credit days. Defendant received 12 months of probation.

March 5

Jordan G. Davis, convicted of invasion of privacy, a Class A Misdemeanor. Sentenced to serve 90 days with 0 days suspended and credit for 45 actual days previously served plus 45 Class A credit days. Also convicted of possession of paraphernalia, a Class A Misdemeanor. Sentenced to serve 90 days with 0 days suspended and credit for 45 actual days previously served plus 45 Class A credit days. Also convicted of operating a vehicle while intoxicated

ed, a Level 6 Felony. Sentenced to serve 296 days with 0 days suspended and credit for 148 actual days previously served plus 148 Class A credit days. Also convicted of possession of methamphetamine, a Level 6 Felony. Sentenced to serve 262 days with 0 days suspended and credit for 131 actual days previously served plus 131 Class A credit days.

Jacob R. Fox, convicted of invasion of privacy, a Class A Misdemeanor. Sentenced to serve 365 days with 132 days suspended and credit for 104 actual days previously served plus 104 Class A credit days. Defendant received 4 months of probation.

## CRIMINAL CHARGES DISMISSED

February 28

Lisa M. Lemons, false informing, a Class B Misdemeanor, dismissed.

February 29

Vikki Stumbo, possession of methamphetamine, a Level 6 Felony, dismissed; possession of paraphernalia, a Class A Misdemeanor, dismissed.

March 2

James Tyler Mesarosh, criminal recklessness, a Level 6 Felony, dismissed; intimidation, a Level 6 Felony, dismissed; possession of marijuana, a Class B Misdemeanor, dismissed; possession of paraphernalia, a Class C Misdemeanor, dismissed.

March 5

Jordan G. Davis, battery resulting in bodily injury, a Class A Misdemeanor, dismissed; possession of methamphetamine, a Level 5 Felony, dismissed; two counts of possession of methamphetamine, Level 6 Felonies, dismissed; two counts of possession of paraphernalia, Class A Misdemeanors, dismissed; operating a vehicle while intoxicated endangering a person, a Class A Misdemeanor, dismissed; refusal to submit to breath or chemical test, a Class C Infraction, dismissed; two counts of intimidation, Level 6 Felonies, dismissed; driving while suspended, a Class A Misdemeanor, dismissed.

Jacob R. Fox, obstruction of justice, a Level 6 Felony, dismissed; three counts of invasion of privacy, Class A Misdemeanors, dismissed.

## CIVIL COURT

### New Suits Filed

March 5

Brian E. Clifton vs. Toni R. Clifton, petition for dissolution of marriage.

Mortgage Assets Management, LLC vs. Angelique Gerkin, the estate of Thomas W. Gerkin, deceased; Misty Gerkin, et al, mortgage foreclosure.

## CIVIL COURT DISMISSED

March 1

LVNV Funding, LLC vs. Robert Zollman, civil collection, dismissed.

## SMALL CLAIMS JUDGMENTS

February 29

Judgment in favor of the plaintiff Larry Phillips and against the defendant Crystal Trambaugh in the amount of \$2,126.

# ARRESTS

## MONDAY, MARCH 4

11:04 a.m. - Homer Smith, 46, of Mitchell, was arrested on a Martin County warrant. He is being held without bond.

## TUESDAY, MARCH 5

4:29 p.m. - Mark Alexander, 45, of Huntingburg, was arrested on a Martin County warrant. He is being held without bond.

5:10 p.m. - Bernard Butcher, 85, of Crane, was arrested by Corporal Hawkins and charged with domestic battery. He is being held on \$10,000 10% bond.

9:39 p.m. - Jordan Davis, 35, of Loogootee, was arrested by Loogootee Sergeant Wagoner and charged with driving while suspended-prior, possession of methamphetamine and possession of paraphernalia. He is being held without bond.

## WEDNESDAY, MARCH 6

1:48 p.m. - Joanna Hurst, 48, of Loogootee, was arrested by Deputy Baumgart on a Martin County warrant. She is being held without bond.

6:19 p.m. - Justin Killion, 43, of Loogootee, was arrested by Loogootee Sergeant Wagoner and charged with public intoxication. He is being held on \$5,000 10% bond.

10:20 p.m. - Giovanni Grieves, 28, of Jasper, was arrested by Loogootee Sergeant Wagoner and charged with operating a vehicle while intoxicated. He is being held on \$3,000 10% bond.

## THURSDAY, MARCH 7

11:07 a.m. - Tangelia Hunt, 51, of DuBois, was arrested by Deputy Baumgart on a Martin County warrant. She is being held without bond.

2:42 p.m. - Karry Prysock, 25, of Shoals, was on station for a Martin County warrant. He is being held without bond.

## SATURDAY, MARCH 9

4:20 p.m. - Christy Stone, 56, of Shoals, was arrested by Deputy Shields and charged with operating a vehicle while intoxicated and resisting law enforcement with a motor vehicle. She is being held on \$15,000 10% bond.

8:31 p.m. - Eddie Heacock, 44, of Platteville, was arrested by Deputy Erwin and charged with operating a vehicle while intoxicated-endangerment, resisting law enforcement and child neglect. He is being held on \$15,000 10% bond.

## SUNDAY, MARCH 10

12:43 a.m. - Viking Wright, 43, of Bedford, was arrested by Deputy Erwin and charged with possession of methamphetamine and possession of paraphernalia. He is being held on \$15,000 10% bond.

# Loogootee Police Department log

## MONDAY, MARCH 4

12:42 a.m. - Loogootee Fire Department responded to a medical call on Cedar Street.

6:40 a.m. - Loogootee Fire Department responded to a medical call on Cedar Street.

11:25 a.m. - Assistant Chief Long responded to a call at On The Fly.

12:13 p.m. - Loogootee Fire Department responded to a medical call on Vine Street.

2:30 p.m. - Loogootee Fire Department responded to a medical call on Vine Street.

5:24 p.m. - Sergeant Wagoner responded to a call on Walker Street.

6:00 p.m. - Loogootee Fire Department responded to a medical call on Oak Street.

## TUESDAY, MARCH 5

8:55 a.m. - Loogootee Fire Department responded to a call on Wood School Road.

3:35 p.m. - Sergeant Wagoner responded to a call on Earl Street.

8:26 p.m. - Sergeant Wagoner responded to a call near the Loogootee City Park.

8:41 p.m. - Sergeant Wagoner responded to a call at On The Fly.

11:19 p.m. - Loogootee Fire Department and Sergeant Wagoner responded to a medical call on JFK Avenue.

## WEDNESDAY, MARCH 6

3:47 p.m. - Assistant Chief Long, Sergeant Wagoner and Officer Harmon responded to a call on Cooper Street.

4:43 p.m. - Sergeant Wagoner responded to a call on Locust Street.

# Martin County real estate transfers

**Verlin D. Kemp and Malinda R. Kemp**, of Daviess County, Indiana to **Kevin R. Boyd and Riza L. Boyd**, of Martin County, Indiana, 5.67 feet off of the east side of Lot Number 45 in McCormick's Subdivision of Lot Number 103 in Chenoweth's Extension to the Town of West Shoals, now Shoals, Indiana. Also, 39.33 feet off of the west side of Lot Number 46 in McCormick's Subdivision of Lot Number 103 in Chenoweth's Extension to the Town of West Shoals, now Shoals, Indiana.

**Dakota N. Mullins**, of Martin County, Indiana and **Kali Sanders, f/k/a Kali Mullins**, of Daviess County, Indiana to **Severn Harper and Julia Harper**, of Martin County, Indiana, a part of Section 24, Township 3 North, Range 5 West, containing 0.25 acre, more or less. Being Lot Number 4 in the New Second Fairway Addition to Loogootee, Indiana.

**Severn Harper and Julia Harper**, of Martin County, Indiana to **Raymond K. Chesser and Tina M. Chesser**, of Martin County, Indiana, a part of Section 24, Township 3 North, Range 5 West, containing 0.25 acre, more or less. Being Lot Number 4 in the New Second Fairway Addition to Loogootee, Indiana.

5:29 p.m. - Loogootee Fire Department and Sergeant Wagoner responded to a medical call on Vine Street.

7:50 p.m. - Sergeant Wagoner responded to a call at the Methodist church.

7:57 p.m. - Sergeant Wagoner responded to a call on Oak Street.

## THURSDAY, MARCH 7

1:36 p.m. - Assistant Chief Long responded to a call on Sycamore Street.

2:06 p.m. - Chief Hunt and Assistant Chief Long responded to a call at the Methodist church.

3:04 p.m. - Assistant Chief Long performed a vehicle unlock on Park Street.

3:21 p.m. - Assistant Chief Long responded to a medical call on Poplar Street.

6:05 p.m. - Sergeant Wagoner responded to a call at Ruler grocery store.

10:50 p.m. - Sergeant Wagoner responded to a call on Webb Road.

## FRIDAY, MARCH 8

9:16 a.m. - Chief Hunt and Assistant Chief Long responded to a call near the post office.

9:34 a.m. - Assistant Chief Long responded to a call near Redemption Church.

12:02 p.m. - Sergeant Wagoner responded to a call on Butcher Boulevard.

## SATURDAY, MARCH 9

1:36 p.m. - Officer Shaw responded to a call on Walker Street.

7:19 p.m. - Officer Shaw responded to a call at CVS Pharmacy.

10:25 p.m. - Officer Shaw responded to a medical call on Park Street.

**First Equipment, LLC to Julie R. Graber**. Tract I: A part of the south half of the northeast quarter of Section 1, Township 1 North, Range 5 West, Rutherford Civil Township, Martin County, Indiana, containing 4.855 acres, except a section containing 0.057 acre, more or less. Tract II: A part of the north half of the southeast quarter of Section 1, Township 1 North, Range 5 West, Rutherford Civil Township, Martin County, Indiana, containing 5.722 acres, more or less, except sections containing 0.621 acre and 0.870 acre, more or less. Tract III: Part of the south half of the northeast quarter of Section 1, Township 1 North, Range 5 West, Rutherford Civil Township, Martin County, Indiana, containing 29.957 acres, more or less, except a section containing 5.7550 acres, more or less. Tract IV: A part of the south half of the northeast quarter and a part of the north half of the southeast quarter, all in Section 1, Township 1 North, Range 5 West, Rutherford Civil Township, Martin County, Indiana, containing 73.511 acres, except sections containing 29.957 acres, 11.371 acres, and 17.459 acres, more or less.

**Daniel H. Quinn**, of Martin County, Indiana to **Daniel H. Quinn and Dora E. Quinn**, of Martin County, Indiana, a portion of the south half of the northwest quarter and a portion of the north half of the southwest quarter all in Township 2 North, Range 3 West, in Lost River Township, Martin County, Indiana, containing 79.13 acres, more or less, except a section containing 3 acres.

# 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.



# Corner Cafe

201 N JFK Avenue, Loogootee  
812-295-4243

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.



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- Home Purchase
- Refinancing
- Estate
- Divorce
- Bankruptcy
- Value Opinion

## More Neat Stuff



### THOUGHTS

\*Sometimes I like to turn the TV off and just sit quietly with my thoughts. Then, when I'm sure the commercials are over, I turn it back on.

\*Why, yes, I could start my day without coffee, but I like being able to remember things like how to use words and put on pants.

\*I heard the more colorful your salad is, the better it is for you. So, I swapped my croutons for M&M's.

\*Since this storm started, my husband hasn't stopped looking through the window. . . If it gets any worse, I have to let him in.

### \*My bucket list:

1. Fill a bucket with bacon.
2. Eat bacon.

### GOOD ADVICE

1. The most important person in your life is the person who agreed to share their life with you. Treat them as such.

2. You might live a long life, or you might live a short one either way, trust me that you're going to wish you took better care of yourself in your youth.

3. Stuff is just stuff. Don't hold onto material objects, hold onto time and experiences instead.

4. Jealousy destroys relationships. Trust your significant other because who else are you supposed to trust?

5. People always say, "Make sure you get a job doing what you love!" The right job is the job you love some days, can tolerate most days, and still pays the bills.

6. If you're getting overwhelmed by life, just return to the present moment and savor all that is beautiful and comforting. Take a deep breath, relax.

7. Years go by in the blink of an eye. Live your life. Go places. Do things. See the world. Look through travel magazines and pick a spot. GO!

8. Don't take life so seriously. Even if things seem dark and hopeless, try to laugh at how ridiculous life is.

9. A true friend will come running if you call them at 2 a.m. Everyone else is just an acquaintance.

10. Children grow up way too fast. Make the most of the time you have with them.

11. Nobody ever dies wishing they had worked more. Work hard, but don't prioritize work over family, friends, or even yourself.

12. Eat and exercise like you're a diabetic heart patient with a stroke — so you never actually become one.

13. The joints you damage today will get their revenge later. Even if you think they've recovered completely. TRUST ME!

14. We have one time on this earth. Don't wake up and realize that you are 60 years old and haven't done the things you dreamed about.

15. If you have a dream of being or doing something that seems impossible, try for it anyway. It will only become more impossible as you age and become responsible for other people.

-----  
Make someone smile today!

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### Closed door meeting

The Martin County Council and Martin County Commissioner will meet in executive session this evening, Wednesday, March 13 at 6 p.m. at the courthouse. The purpose of the meeting is for discussion of records classified as confidential by state or federal statute pursuant to I.C. 5-14-1.5-6.1(b)(7). The meeting is closed to the public.

### Tourism meeting

The Martin County Tourism Council will meet Tuesday, March 19 at 5 p.m. at 404 JFK Avenue in Loogootee. The meeting is open to the public.

### Annual banquet

First Choice Solutions will hold their Gift of Life annual fundraising banquet as they celebrate 25 years of incorporation. Participants can choose two dates: dinner Friday evening, April 12, at 6 p.m. Doors open at 5:30 p.m. Or brunch Saturday, April 13, at 10 a.m. Doors open at 9:30 a.m. The keynote speaker is Mike Fichter, President and CEO of Indiana Right to Life. The event will be held at Bethany Christian Church, 1139 S St Rd IN-57, Washington. To reserve a seat, call 812-257-1041.

### 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.



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## THE BEATLES

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March 23 Saturday  
7:00 PM

Loogootee American Legion  
Open House - All Welcome!



Do you feel the excitement growing? It is just like looking forward to Christmas! Garden centers and greenhouses will be opening for the season soon.

The middle of March has traditionally been the time for garden centers to open. It is still too early to plant tender annuals, but most gardeners can hardly wait to visit the garden centers to see what they will be stocking for the spring.

The big box stores have already been stocking the shelves with garden tools, chemicals and other garden items. Some even have potted spring bulbs to sell. Still, that does not compare with the excitement over the opening of the local independent garden center. While I admit that I purchase plants at the chain stores when I find a bargain, I cannot rely on such outlets to provide the plants I desire for my garden. I am a firm supporter of the local garden centers and greenhouses.

I have found that the majority of locally owned garden centers are also family-owned. Many times, the family lives right on the same property where the garden center sits. The store is more than a business—it is a passion. I have met many nice clerks at the chain stores, but I rarely find anyone who truly knows the plants and can answer my questions. At the locally owned centers, I may well be talking with the owner, who started the center because of his or her love of gardening. That owner will know the growing conditions needed by every plant and will know how big the plant will be when mature.

## USDA announces Conservation Reserve Program

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) announced that agricultural producers and private landowners can now sign up for the general Conservation Reserve Program (CRP). General CRP signup runs March 4 through March 29, 2024. This conservation opportunity gives producers tools to conserve wildlife habitat while achieving other conservation benefits, including sequestering carbon and improving water quality and soil health.

“The USDA has a long track record of fostering and supporting the vital relationship between production agriculture and conservation, and the Conservation Reserve Program helps our producers be good stewards of their lands and boost wildlife populations at the same time,” said Julia A. Wickard, FSA State Executive Director in Indiana. “These efforts demonstrate the power of USDA’s Farm Bill conservation programs to conserve wildlife habitat, protect clean water and safeguard environmentally sensitive land in partnership with farmers, forest owners and conservation organizations across the country.”

As one of the largest private lands conservation programs in the United States, CRP offers a range of conservation options to farmers, ranchers, and landowners. It has been an especially strong opportunity for farmers with less productive or marginal cropland, helping them re-establish valuable land cover to help improve water quality, prevent soil erosion, and support wildlife habitat.

Producers and landowners enrolled about 926,000 acres in General CRP in 2023, bringing the total of enrolled acres in General CRP to 7.78 million. This, combined with all other acres in CRP through other enrollment opportunities, such as Grassland and Continuous CRP, bring the current total of enrolled acres to 24.8 million.

General CRP helps producers and landowners establish long-term, resource-con-

serving plant species, such as approved grasses or trees, to control soil erosion, improve water quality and enhance wildlife habitat on cropland. Additionally, General CRP includes a Climate-Smart Practice Incentive to help increase carbon sequestration and reduce greenhouse gas emissions by helping producers and landowners establish trees and permanent grasses, enhance wildlife habitat, and restore wetlands.

Selection is also a great reason to support local establishments. The chain stores usually get their plants from a couple of regional producers, and there is little difference from one store to another. While the locally owned centers may also buy from the regional producers, they will also have plants that have been produced right there. Some of our area garden centers even offer some plants that have been bred there or are propagated from unusual plants that have been found locally. You will never find these unusual plants at chain stores. If you are hoping for something different from what all your neighbors have, locally owned garden centers are the best places to look.

Perhaps the best reason to favor local stores is friendship. As I travel, I rarely miss a chance to stop when I see a greenhouse or garden center. The staff of most of the local stores near my home know me well. I have visited many times over the years and have built relationships. If I am looking for a specific plant about which I have read, the staff will search to see if it is available from their suppliers. Sometimes, they are able to place a special order to get the plant I want. That kind of personal service is just not found at the chain stores.

I urge you to get out there and visit the local greenhouses and garden centers. Do it often and hit as many of them as you can. I love to be there on opening day. The staff does not seem to mind that I am not buying much. They know I will be back—again and again.

General CRP is one of several ways agricultural producers and private landowners can participate in the program. This past January FSA began accepting applications for the Continuous CRP signup. Under this enrollment, producers and landowners can enroll in CRP throughout the year. Offers are automatically accepted provided the producer and land meet the eligibility requirements and the enrollment levels do not exceed the statutory cap.

The USDA also offers financial assis-

## Modest improvement in farmer sentiment, yet financial concerns loom

The latest Purdue University/CME Group Ag Economy Barometer reveals a modest increase in farmer sentiment compared to the previous month, though concerns remain regarding farm financial performance in the year ahead.

The February barometer reading reached 111, marking a 5-point rise from last month. The small uptick is attributed to producers expressing increased optimism about the future, with the Future Expectations Index climbing 7 points to 115. However, the Current Conditions Index remained unchanged. Despite their improved outlook for the future, farmers’ financial performance expectations did not keep pace. February’s Farm Financial Performance Index registered at 85, a slight dip from January and notably lower than its recent peak in December. The February survey was conducted from February 12-16.

“Weak crop prices continue to weigh heavily on financial expectations, with mid-February Eastern Corn Belt cash prices for corn and soybeans declining by 7 percent and 8 percent, respectively, compared to two months earlier,” said James Mintert, the barometer’s principal investigator and director of Purdue University’s Center for Commercial Agriculture.

When producers were asked about their primary concerns for farm operations in the upcoming year, the top concern cited by 34 percent of respondents was “high input costs,” closely followed by “lower crop/livestock prices,” chosen by 28 percent of respondents. Worries about rising

tance to producers and landowners enrolled in CRP to improve the health of their forests through the Forest Management Incentive (FMI), which can help participants with forest management practices, such as brush management and prescribed burning.

FSA will announce the dates for Grassland CRP signup in the near future.

Producers with expiring CRP acres can use the Transition Incentives Program (TIP), which incentivizes producers who sell or enter a long-term lease with a beginning, veteran, or socially disadvantaged farmer or rancher who plans to sustainably farm or ranch the land.

Landowners and producers interested in CRP should contact their local USDA Service Center to learn more or to apply for the program before their deadlines.

Signed into law in 1985, CRP is one of the largest voluntary private-lands conservation programs in the United States.

interest rates among producers seem to have diminished somewhat, with only 18 percent of February respondents citing it as a top concern, down from 26 percent who did so in November.

The Farm Capital Investment Index remains weak at 34 points, 9 points lower than last year. Producers expressing reluctance toward making large investments highlighted concerns over high production costs and weak output prices. The percentage of farmers worried about farm profitability has tripled since last October. This month, 22 out of every 100 farmers pointed to farm profitability concerns, while last fall only 7 out of every 100 farmers felt the same way.

The Short-Term Farmland Values Expectations Index held steady in comparison to January but declined by 4 points from a year ago and by 30 points from two years ago. Although the farmland index remains positive, it is clear that overall sentiment regarding future increases in farmland values is weaker than it was a couple of years ago. Among producers who expect values to increase in the next year, the top reason cited for their optimism was demand from non-farm investors.

Each February, the barometer survey asks producers about growth plans for their farm operation in the upcoming five years. This year, 4 out of 10 respondents expressed no plans for growth, with 14 percent saying they plan to exit or retire. Alternatively, just over 3 out of 10 respondents anticipate their farm’s annual growth rate to exceed 5 percent. Responses to this question, which have been consistent in recent years, point to further consolidation among farm operations.

“To put growth rates into perspective, consider that a farm operation growing at a 5 percent annual rate will double in size in about 14 years, whereas a farm growing at an annual rate of 10 percent will need just seven years to double,” Mintert said.

Interest in leasing farmland for solar energy development remains strong, with 10 percent of respondents having discussed such projects in the last six months. Rates varied widely, but over half of the respondents reported being offered lease rates of \$1,000 per acre or more. The top end for solar lease rates appears to be rising over time. When this question was posed in June 2021, just 27 percent of respondents reported a lease rate offer of \$1,000 or more per acre, compared to 56 percent of respondents this year.



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# Primary Election May 7, voter registration deadline April 8

All registered voters in the county will be eligible to vote in the May 7 Primary Election. If you are unsure of your voting status, you may contact the Martin County Clerk's office or go online at <https://indianavoters.in.gov/to/register> or update your voter registration. You have until April 8, 2024, to update or register to vote in order to vote in the Primary Election. In-office absentee voting starts at the clerk's office on April 9, 2024. Absentee ballot by mail applications can be requested anytime by calling the clerk's office at 812-247-3651.

Republican candidates Mark Franklin, for coroner, and Dean Crandall, for precinct committeeman for South Center, have withdrawn from the Primary Election.

The following candidates will be on the May 7 Primary ballot:

- US President
- Joseph R. Biden, Jr. (D)
- Nikki R. Haley (R)
- Donald J. Trump (R)
- United States Senator
- Jim Banks (R)
- Marc Carmichael (D)
- Valerie McCray (D)
- Governor
- Mike Braun (R)
- Brad Chambers (R)
- Suzanne Crouch (R)
- Eric Doden (R)
- Curtis Hill (R)
- Jamie Reltenour (R)
- Jennifer G. McCormick (D)
- US Representative District 8
- Jim (JustIN) Case (R)
- Jeremy L. Heath (R)
- John N. Hostettler (R)
- Dominick Jack Kavanaugh (R)
- Mark Messmer (R)

## ~LETTER TO THE EDITOR~

**'Remember, we can beat city hall'**

To the editor of the *Martin County Journal*,

Somewhere over the rainbow in a land not so far way, there is a place where the citizens have a say in what happens in their neighborhoods. Where community values and wants and needs are listened to by those who represent them.

The sentiments expressed in the song "Over the Rainbow" should be apparent to our elected officials; but, alas, this is not the case. Can you imagine any elected official purposely passing legislation to ensure that the wants and needs of their constituents are usurped? Is it even possible for this to happen in the United States of America?

Yes, it is possible and yes it can; and, in fact it did happen, right here in Indiana. Some of our local politicians, Shane Lindauer, Mark Messmer and Mike Braun, colluded with other politicians in the state to eliminate the public referendum for construction (roads) projects. They were instrumental in getting the RDA bill(s) passed. The RDA bills enable an agency to make taxpayer decisions without having to have taxpayer approval. Reminds me of one of the issues our Founding Fathers had with King George, taxation without representation.

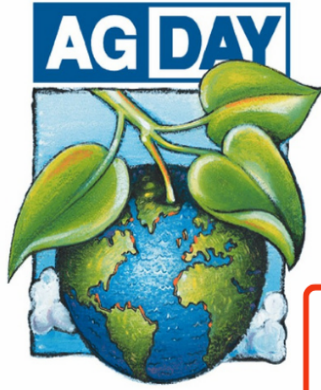
Keep asking our county commissioners, councilmen, mayors and others elected or appointed officials what their position on the Mid-States Corridor is. If they hedge or ignore the question, privately or publicly, it must mean they are supportive of the Corridor. Use this information when you go to the primary elections in May and the general election in November. Remember, we can beat city hall and stop the Mid-States Corridor, it all starts with our votes.

Jim Arvin  
Rutherford Township  
Martin County

- Luke A. Misner (R)
- Richard Moss (R)
- Kristi Risk (R)
- Erik Hurt (D)
- Peter FH Priest II (D)
- Edward Upton Sein (D)
- Michael Talarzyk (D)
- State Representative District 63
- Shane M. Lindauer (R)
- Teresa Kendall (D)
- Martin County Auditor
- Michelle Norris (D)
- Martin County Recorder
- Sheri Crandall (R)
- Martin County Treasurer
- Rhonda Sanders (R)
- Martin County Coroner
- Tony Abel (R)
- Martin County Surveyor
- Nathan Dale Hoffman (R)
- Martin County Commissioner District 1
- Kevin R Boyd (R)
- J. Cody Roush (R)
- Retha Warner (R)
- Martin County Commissioner District 3
- John L Daniel (R)
- Dana Tom Strange (R)

- Aaron Moose Summers (R)
  - Martin County Council-at-Large (three positions open)
  - Warren D Albright (R)
  - Matthew (Matt) Ray Copeland (R)
  - Gerald D Montgomery (R)
  - Stephen "Tex" Shout (R)
  - Jim Woody (R)
  - Republican Precinct Committeeman
  - Monty Gregory (R), Perry 6
  - Aaron Moose Summers (R), Perry 6
  - Adam Greene (R), South Center
  - Nathan Dale Hoffman (R), South Center
  - Kevin R Boyd (R), East Memphis
  - J. Cody Roush (R), East Memphis
  - Four Republican Convention Delegates-at-Large
  - Warren D Albright (R)
  - Kevin R Boyd (R)
  - Mike Engleman (R)
  - Adam Greene (R)
  - Nathan Dale Hoffman (R)
  - Gerald D Montgomery (R)
  - J. Cody Roush (R)
  - Aaron Moose Summers (R)
- The below positions WILL NOT appear on the May 7 Primary Ballot since they are not contested.

- Republican Precinct Committeemen
  - Carolyn Sue McGuire (R), Perry 1
  - Brian S Boyd (R), Perry 3
  - Brian T Ader (R), Perry 4
  - David A Smith (R), Perry 5
  - Charles H Parcels, Jr (R), Crane
  - Terry J Street (R), Rutherford
  - Becky L. Sellers (R), Mitcheltree
  - Benjamin "Snoop" Shaw (R), North Center
  - Bruce Fithian (R), Lost River
  - Bill Shaw (R), North Halbert
  - Gerald D Montgomery (R), South Halbert
  - Garry W. Smith (R), Southeast Halbert
  - 2 Democratic Convention Delegates-at-Large.
  - Audra P Deckard (D)
  - Stephen A Deckard (D)
- School board offices will be on the November General Election ballot only. School board candidate filing period has changed. The filing period will run from Tuesday, May 21 to Thursday, June 20 at noon. All forms will be available in the Martin County Clerk's Office located at 129 Main Street in Shoals. For more information, call the clerk at 812-247-3651.



**Martin County Ag Day**  
**Saturday, March 16th**  
 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.  
 Martin Co. Community Building

**BREAKFAST SERVED: 8-10:00 A.M.**  
 Prepared by the Martin County Junior Leaders and featuring Jug Rox Farm Pork!  
 Eggs, Sausage, Cinnamon Rolls, Biscuit & Gravy, Fruit & Beverage-\$5 each  
**5 and under eat FREE!**

**30+ DOOR PRIZES PROVIDED BY LOCAL BUSINESSES AND RESTAURANTS!**

White Pines are **BACK!**  
 Thank you **SWCD!!**  
 Come get a **FREE** sapling Saturday!



**Petting Zoo!**  
 Provided By: Shoals Ag, Loogootee FFA  
 Martin County Ag Day Committee &



**Thank you to all our Ag Day sponsors!**



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- Daviess-Martin CISMA
- Daviess-Martin Farm Service Agency
- Daviess-Martin REMC
- Farm Bureau, Inc.
- German American Bank
- H & H Hardware
- Hopf Equipment
- IN Dept of Natural Resources
- Let the Sun Shine IN-Indiana
- Martin Co. Community Foundation
- Martin County SWCD
- Memorial Hospital & HCC
- Purdue Extension Martin Co. and Martin Co. 4-H
- RTC Communications
- Shoals Shop & FFA
- Shoals Grounds
- Springs Valley Bank & Trust

Sponsored by the Martin County Ag Day Committee



# Lt. Gov. Crouch, OCRA announce 14 communities, including Shoals, to receive new Indiana Main Street designations

Lt. Gov. Suzanne Crouch and the Indiana Office of Community and Rural Affairs on March 7 announced 14 organizations have been recognized as Indiana Main Street programs or have moved into a new Indiana Main Street level. The Historic Shoals River District has been named an OCRA Downtown Affiliate Network.

The Indiana Main Street program annually accepts applications for three levels, which include:

Indiana Accredited Main Street: IAMS programs meet all Accreditation Standards set forth by Main Street America but may lack a full-time paid staff person and do not have an identified transformation strategy.

Aspiring Indiana Accredited Main Street: A-IAMS programs are within one year of meeting all Accreditation Standards set forth by Main Street America and lack a full-time paid staff person.

OCRA's Downtown Affiliate Network: ODAN communities may be organizations that prefer to specialize in event-related activities only, lack the physical or historical capacity required to qualify as a Main Street organization or are working towards building capacity to meet the Main Street America Accreditation Standards.

The organizations earning new Indiana Main Street designations include:

- Indiana Accredited Main Street
- Dillsboro Main Street
- Streets of Monticello Association
- Aspiring Indiana Accredited Main Street
- Boonville NOW
- Sheridan Main Street
- Tipton Main Street
- OCRA Downtown Affiliate Network
- Alexandria Main Street, Inc.

- INergize Linton
- Historic Marion Inc.
- Middletown Main Street
- Discover New Carlisle
- New Haven – Historic Broadway Inc.
- Heart of Poseyville
- Possibilities in Paoli
- Historic Shoals River District

A main street organization's performance is evaluated by Indiana Main Street, which works in partnership with Main Street America to identify organizations that meet rigorous performance standards.

"Congratulations to these 14 communities for elevating their organization's status in the Main Street network, and for ODAN communities joining the network," said OCRA Executive Director Duke Bennett. "In 2023, our Indiana Main Street team provided more than \$621,000 in value of in-kind services to main street communities, which includes technical assistance visits and trainings, community exchanges throughout the state, and ongoing support. I look forward to seeing these Main Street organizations showcasing their downtowns and what makes them unique."

The 14 organizations will be provided with a formal certificate, access to Main Street America and Indiana Main Street trainings, networking opportunities with other regional and statewide programs, a resource toolbox unique to their needs, and more.

To learn more about the Indiana Main Street program, visit [in.gov/ocra/mainstreet](http://in.gov/ocra/mainstreet). To view the full directory of Indiana Main Street communities, visit [in.gov/ocra/mainstreet/community-directory](http://in.gov/ocra/mainstreet/community-directory).



## H&H donation

-Photo provided

H & H Hometown Hardware recently donated \$187.50 to the Shoals Lady Rox Softball team from their bucket sales. They also had additional donations given by community members. Thank you to the community for your support to both the hardware store and the softball team.

## PRICE REDUCED!!

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Cody Roush, Sales & Service  
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Hours: Mon.-Fri. 8:30am-5pm  
[info@WhiteRiverMarine.com](mailto:info@WhiteRiverMarine.com)  
White River Marine and Motorsports

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# Martin County Community Foundation hands out designated grants



-Photos provided

The Shoals High School recently received two “designated” grants from the Martin County Community Foundation. These yearly grants are from endowments established to benefit a particular organization. One grant was for \$997 from the Shoals Community School Corporation K-12 Fund. Shown top left for this grant is MCCF Board member Liz Chatten presenting the check to Shoals Schools Superintendent Kindra Hovis, MCCF Board members Greg Bateman and Paula Ringwald, and MCCF Director Curt Johnson. The other grant of \$1,367 was from the Leo Harding Memorial Fund for maintenance of the ball-field. Shown directly above are MCCF Director Curt Johnson, MCCF Board member Greg Bateman presenting the check to Shoals Schools Athletic Director Bryson Abel, and MCCF Board members Paula Ringwald and Liz Chatten.



**DOOR BUSTERS**

**GREENWELL HARDWARE**

April, 2024

**Quantities are limited. While supplies last.**

	<b>\$279<sup>99</sup></b> Milwaukee Saw Hatchet Pruning Fuel 8in 0333534		<b>\$14<sup>99</sup></b> 100-Pk. Utility Knife Blades 0428482
	<b>\$5<sup>99</sup></b> 3/8-in. x 9-in. Roller Cover 2004836		<b>\$199<sup>99</sup></b> 20V Dewalt Max XR 12 in. Cordless Chainsaw 2309805
	<b>\$369<sup>99</sup></b> Flexvolt® 60 Volt Max Brushless Chainsaw 2309813		<b>\$329<sup>99</sup></b> Milwaukee Chainsaw Cordless 6600Rpm 16in 3639325
	<b>\$219<sup>99</sup></b> Milwaukee Saw Circular Cords 18V 6-1/2in 3639333		<b>\$229<sup>99</sup></b> 20V Oscillating Multi-Tool Kit 3888955
	<b>\$189<sup>99</sup></b> 3/4 HP Sump Pump 4741666		<b>\$17<sup>99</sup></b> 1.2-Gal. Water Seal® Waterproof 4976296



The St. Vincent de Paul Society recently received several yearly “designated” grants from the Martin County Community Foundation. One grant was for \$2,389 from the Martin County Food Pantry Fund which is designated specifically for the St. Vincent de Paul Food Panty. Two other grants were also provided to help St. Vincent de Paul to continue their mission of helping the needy in our county. One of these was for \$1,875 from the Good Samaritan Fund of SVDP and the other was for \$2,916 from the St. Vincent de Paul Society of St. John’s Catholic Church Fund. Shown above are MCCF Board member Greg Bateman, St. Vincent de Paul President Sammi Nelson, MCCF Board member Paula Ringwald, and St. Vincent de Paul Food Panty volunteer Vernita Williams.

**DOOR BUSTERS**

**Quantities are limited. While supplies last.**

	<b>\$9<sup>99</sup></b> 1.88-in. x 35- Yd. Gorilla® Tape Double thick adhesive and strong reinforced backing. 5121447		<b>\$9<sup>99</sup></b> 1.88-in. x 35- Yd. Gorilla® Tape 5121454
	<b>\$9<sup>99</sup></b> 30-Yd. Gorilla® Tape Double thick adhesive and tough reinforced backing. 5121470		<b>\$11<sup>99</sup></b> 14.4-Oz. WD-40® Spray 5172697
	<b>\$19<sup>99</sup></b> 1-Gal. Compression Sprayer For staining, sealing and washing decks, siding... 6134100		<b>\$9<sup>99</sup></b> 2-in. Saw Blade 7116692
			<b>\$129<sup>99</sup></b> 18 Volt Cordless Wet/Dry Vac 7926496

**GREENWELL HARDWARE**

**102 CHURCH STREET  
LOGOOTE, IN 47553  
(812) 295-3597**

**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

# National unemployment stood at 3.9 percent for February

Total nonfarm payroll employment rose by 275,000 in February, and the unemployment rate increased to 3.9 percent, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. Job gains occurred in health care, in government, in food services and drinking places, in social assistance, and in transportation and warehousing.

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.

## Household Survey Data

The unemployment rate rose by 0.2 percentage point to 3.9 percent in February, and the number of unemployed people increased by 334,000 to 6.5 million. A year earlier, the jobless rate was 3.6 percent, and the number of unemployed people was 6.0 million.

Among the major worker groups, the unemployment rates for adult women (3.5 percent) and teenagers (12.5 percent) increased over the month. The jobless rates for adult men (3.5 percent), Whites (3.4 percent), Blacks (5.6 percent), Asians (3.4 percent), and Hispanics (5.0 percent) showed little or no change in February.

Among the unemployed, the number of permanent job losers increased by 174,000 to 1.7 million in February. The number of people on temporary layoff was little changed at 827,000.

The number of long-term unemployed (those jobless for 27 weeks or more), at 1.2 million, was little changed in February. The long-term unemployed accounted for 18.7 percent of all unemployed people.

In February, the labor force participation rate was 62.5 percent for the third consecutive month, and the employment-population ratio was little changed at 60.1 percent. These measures showed little or no change over the year.

The number of people employed part time for economic reasons, at 4.4 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, the number of people not in the labor force who currently want a job, at 5.7 million, was little changed. These individuals were not counted as unemployed because they were not actively looking for work during the 4 weeks preceding the survey or were unavailable to take a job.

Among those not in the labor force who wanted a job, the number of people marginally attached to the labor force changed little at 1.6 million in February. These individuals 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 preceding the survey. The number of discouraged workers, a subset of the marginally attached who believed that no jobs were available for them, was little changed at 425,000 in February.

## Establishment Survey Data

Total nonfarm payroll employment rose by 275,000 in February, above the average monthly gain of 230,000 over the prior 12 months. In February, job gains occurred in health care, in government, in food services and drinking places, in social assistance, and in transportation and warehousing.

Health care added 67,000 jobs in February, above the average monthly gain of 58,000 over the prior 12 months. In February, job growth continued in ambulatory health care services (+28,000), hospitals (+28,000), and nursing and residential care facilities (+11,000).

Government employment rose by 52,000 in February, about the same as the prior 12-month average gain (+53,000). Over the month, employment continued to trend up in local government, excluding education (+26,000) and federal government (+9,000).

Employment in food services and drinking places increased by 42,000 in February, after changing little over the prior 3 months.

Social assistance added 24,000 jobs in February, about the same as the prior 12-month average gain of 23,000. Over the month, job growth continued in individual and family services (+19,000).

Employment in transportation and warehousing rose by 20,000 in February. Couriers and messengers added 17,000 jobs, after losing 70,000 jobs over the prior 3 months. In February, job growth also occurred in air transportation (+4,000), while warehousing and storage lost 7,000 jobs. Employment in the transportation and warehousing industry is down by 144,000 since reaching a peak in July 2022.

In February, employment continued to trend up in construction (+23,000), in line with the average monthly gain of 18,000 over the prior 12 months. Over the month, heavy and civil engineering construction added 13,000 jobs.

Retail trade employment changed little in February (+19,000) and has shown little net change over the year. Over the month, job gains in general merchandise retailers (+17,000); health and personal care retailers (+6,000); and automotive parts, accessories, and tire retailers (+5,000) were partially offset by job losses in building material and garden equipment and supplies dealers (-6,000) and electronics and appliance retailers (-2,000).

Employment showed little change over the month in other major industries, in-

cluding mining, quarrying, and oil and gas extraction; manufacturing; wholesale trade; information; financial activities; professional and business services; and other services.

In February, average hourly earnings for all employees on private nonfarm payrolls edged up by 5 cents to \$34.57, following an increase of 18 cents in January. Average hourly earnings were up by 0.1 percent in February and 4.3 percent over the year. In February, average hourly earnings of private-sector production and nonsupervisory employees edged up by 7 cents, or 0.2 percent, to \$29.71.

In February, the average workweek for all employees on private nonfarm payrolls edged up by 0.1 hour to 34.3 hours, following a decline of 0.2 hour in January. In manufacturing, the average work-

## Memorial Hospital Foundation scholarship opportunities

The Memorial Hospital Foundation is offering over \$77,000 in scholarship opportunities for current high school seniors or students currently enrolled in post-secondary education. A scholarship application must be completed by applicants and submitted online by March 15, 2024. For additional scholarship information, or to apply visit [www.mhhcc.org/giving](http://www.mhhcc.org/giving) and click on "Scholarship Opportunities."

For more information regarding these scholarship opportunities, please contact Alisha Schwenk: [aschwen@mhhcc.org](mailto:aschwen@mhhcc.org) or call 812-996-8428.

### Bethany Volz Medical Staff Scholarship

This scholarship, created in memory of Bethany Volz, daughter of former MHHCC Medical Staff member Kim Alan Volz, M.D., will be awarded to a high school senior who lives in the Memorial Hospital service area who plans to enter a two-to-four-year educational program in a health-related field. (2024 Amount: \$1,500)

### The Kathleen M. Tempel Nursing Scholarship

Scholarships will be awarded to residents of the Memorial Hospital service area or southern Indiana area who are enrolled, or plan to enroll, in post-high school programs leading to an ASN or BSN registered nurse designation. The desired outcome is that the recipient returns to the southern Indiana area to practice subsequent to graduation. Past recipients may apply annually if they wish. (2024 Amount: \$1,500 each scholarship)

### Lou Jerger Memorial Healthcare Scholarship

This scholarship is for current high school seniors or currently enrolled post-secondary students who attended high school in Memorial Hospital's service area pursuing a degree in the health care field (M.D., pharmacist, anesthesia, radiology, nursing, etc.). Priority consideration will be given to those interested in the field of Anesthesia. The desired outcome is that the recipients return to the Dubois County area to practice subsequent to graduation. Past recipients may apply annually if they wish. (2024 Amount: \$2,000)

### Memorial Hospital Auxiliary Magy Clark Volunteer Scholarship

This scholarship is presented to a current and active volunteer for Memorial Hospital and Health Care Center. To qualify, applicants must volunteer a minimum of 80 hours (prior to March 15, 2023) at an MHHCC location and pursuing a post-secondary degree or certificate. This scholarship is not limited to health care fields and is presented directly to the recipient. (2024 Amount: \$1,000)

### Memorial Hospital Foundation Nursing Scholarship

This scholarship is a unique opportunity for nursing students going into their final year of nursing education. The scholarship is intended to support future nurs-

ing professionals as they achieve their educational objectives, nursing licensure and career goals nursing at MHHCC. The funds are payable to the individual recipient. As a part of the scholarship, the future nursing professional must sign an agreement to remain employed at Memorial Hospital and Health Care Center as a Registered Nurse in a direct patient care area full time for a period of two (2) years. This scholarship has its own separate application, which can be found linked on the website. (2024 Amount - \$5,000; 10 available)

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### Memorial Hospital Foundation Scholarships

Eight scholarships will be awarded to residents of the Memorial Hospital service area, one each specifically in Crawford, Daviess, Dubois, Martin, Pike, Perry, Orange and Spencer counties. These are for students who attended high school in these respective counties and are enrolled, or plan to enroll, in post-high school programs leading to a degree in any health career field (M.D., pharmacist, radiology technologist, rehabilitation therapist, etc.). The desired outcome is that the recipients return to the Dubois County area to practice subsequent to graduation. Past recipients may apply annually. (2024 Amount: \$1,000 each scholarship)

### Memorial Hospital Foundation HOSA Scholarship

Awarded to a 2023 Health Occupations Students of America participant who is assigned to Memorial Hospital and Health Care Center pursuing a degree in a healthcare field. (2024 Amount: \$1,000)

Tonya Heim Nursing Scholarship  
The Tonya Heim Nursing Scholarship is for current Memorial Hospital and Health Care Employees. It is intended to remove barriers to degree advancement by RN employees of MHHCC and provide them with financial assistance to advance their degrees to BSNs, MSNs, DNP's or PH.D.s. in Nursing. (2024 Amount - \$1,500.00)



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