

Martin County JOURNAL

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WEDNESDAY, APRIL 17, 2024

Twelve pages

Residents upset over Dollar General fence being eyesore

BY COURTNEY HUGHETT
Martin County Journal Publisher

The Martin County Commissioners met Tuesday night, April 16.

Shoals resident Kelly Tinkle talked to the commissioners about the fence at the Dollar General Store that has almost completely collapsed. She said she is a direct neighbor of the store, and it is a terrible eyesore along with being a safety hazard. She said the Dollar General is across the street from Shoals Schools and is also directly in front of a major highway. She said the panels from the fence that have fallen, have been blown all over the area, including across the highway to the school. Tinkle said she has been trying to get the issue resolved with the Dollar General for quite some time because the panels have been coming off the fence for a few years. She has spoken with the manager of the Dollar General multiple times who told her that they submitted work orders for the repair of the fence. She has also called the corporate office of Dollar General and the current owner of the store, who is in New Jersey. She said she isn't getting any calls back. Other residents who have issue with the fence have also tried to get something done but have also been unable to get any response from the Dollar General owners.

Tinkle said the eyesore is not what people need to see when they are coming to Shoals to attend events at the school. "This is not the representation we want for Shoals," she said. Tinkle also said her husband owns a mechanic business and has customers at their home all the time. She asked the commissioners what can be done and who is responsible for the repair of the fence.

County Attorney Dave Lett said he has sent two letters to the owner of the building – one last fall and another one in December or January. He also never received a response.

Commissioner Cody Roush said the only thing that can be done is for the commissioners to approve an ordinance that allows the county to take action on the fence. He said if nothing is done, they can repair the fence and charge the store on their taxes. Attorney Lett said they cannot enact an ordinance specifically for the Dollar General, it would have to be an ordinance that encompasses the entire county. Commissioner Paul George said he's not in favor of that.

Lett explained that with an ordinance, the commissioners would have to appoint an inspector to investigate complaints made to them and the commissioners would have to decide whether or not to take action. Commissioner George asked if this was the same thing as zoning. Lett replied that it is not zoning, just responding to complaints on dilapidated properties. He added that the commissioners can enforce any ordinance as actively as they want and can take each complaint that comes before them on a case-by-case basis.

John Daniel, who was in the audience, asked if they could just implement the ordinance on businesses and not regular homeowners.

Lett said that would handcuff the com-

missioners in dealing with problems that come to them. He said if there was a truly dilapidated property, owned by an individual, that was a safety hazard and needed to be dealt with, the commissioners couldn't do anything about it.

Commissioner Roush said the fact that it's a safety issue, with panels blowing around, he is in full support of an ordinance.

Commissioner George again said he wanted to make sure it will not dictate what homeowners can do with their own property. He said he just wants that on the record. "I'm not coming headhunting for every person in Martin County," he said.

The commissioners decided to have Attorney Lett draft a more stern letter to the owner of the Dollar General building and give them a deadline to have the issue corrected. In the meantime, they requested Lett come up with an ordinance.

Susan Arvin, who lives on Wallace Lane, said she read where Vic Wallace had come to a previous commissioners' meeting requesting Wallace Lane be improved. She asked if it was on the list to be repaved or chip and sealed. Commissioner George said he is not sure when they will be able to chip and seal the road, but it was on the list. Arvin said there are five homes on Wallace Lane, and it is a half a mile long. She said it's a dead-end road so she understands that it is not a top priority. Commissioner George said money is the issue and while the county has been receiving money from the Community Crossings grants, it's just not enough to do all they want to do.

Highway Superintendent Scott Seals suggested Wallace Lane be put back to gravel for the time being. He said that would allow time for the gravel to get packed in and then they could go back in a year and then do the chip and seal. Arvin said she would hate to see the road go back to gravel but she would like to get something done to it as soon as possible.

Camelot Wright came before the commissioners to request changing the name of Sawmill Road to Valley Road. He said Sawmill Road runs into Valley Road and this causes a lot of confusion for travelers. He said no one lives on Sawmill Road currently and they would like to get the name changed now, before any residents move in. The commissioners approved moving forward with the process to get the name changed.

John Church, who lives on Divine Road, said he has been to the commissioners four times over the past four years to get something done for his road. He said listening to the commissioners' discussion with Arvin, he understands there is an issue with funding however he and his neighbors have waited a long time. He said it sounds like his road is going to have to go back to gravel too, based on its current condition. He said he understands the commissioners are tired of him showing up to their meetings and he is tired of being there but he feels he is paying tax dollars and not seeing any benefits from those tax dollars.

Church added that the last time he attended a meeting, the commissioners asked him if he was in favor of a wheel (See 'COMMISSIONERS' on page 2)



-Photo provided

Shown above, from left to right, are MCCF Board member Janie Johnson presenting one of the \$500 checks to Psi Iota Xi member Kellie Shaw and Psi Iota Xi President Audra Deckard, and Martin County Alliance Project Coordinator Michelle Grace receiving the second \$500 check from MCCF Board President Kristi Ausbrooks.

Foundation gives grants to Dolly Parton Imagination Library for Martin County kids

The Martin County Community Foundation granted two \$500 Make My Day grants for the Dolly Parton Imagination Library for Martin County children. This program is available to every child from birth to age 5, no matter their family background. Dolly Parton started this program in hopes of instilling a love of reading and learning in the minds of our youth. Funding for the program is made possible through local sponsorships, grants, donations, and support from the Indiana State Library. If you want to help, donations of any amount are appreciated as it only costs \$13 a year per child. The

Republicans to hold caucus to replace Andrew Beaver on county council

The Martin County Republican Party Central Committee will be holding a caucus on Thursday, April 25 at 5 p.m. in the meeting room of the Loogootee City Hall, 407 N. JFK Ave, Loogootee. The purpose of the caucus is to select a new Martin County Council District 4 member to replace Andrew Beaver, who has turned in his resignation effective immediately.

Martin County Republican Precinct Committeemen from Perry's 1-4 are eligible to vote. Anyone interested in the position of Martin County Council will need to complete a CEB 5, Declaration of Candidacy. The CEB 5 needs to be received by Dave Smith or the Martin County Clerk's Office by April 22, at noon. You can pick up a CEB 5 at the Martin County Clerk's Office or you can go to www.in.gov/sos/elections/election-administrators-portal/election-forms/ and print one from there. You will need to sign in front of a notary, or you can sign at the clerk's office.

As a precinct committeeman, it is your responsibility to attend this meeting and help with the selection of a new Martin County Councilman.

Any questions feel free to contact David Smith 812-296-7397 or the Martin County Clerk's Office at 812-247-3651

Martin County Alliance initiated the program for Martin County and secured donations to cover the first year of costs for the program. The Psi Iota Xi - Gamma Iota sorority in Shoals has volunteered to take over the reins for the Martin County Dolly Parton Imagination Library and is looking forward to putting books in the hands of our young kids for years to come. They are now working toward the next goal of \$13,000 to fund the program for five years at no cost to participating families. The MCCF is thrilled to grant this \$1,000 to spur the program on. If you want to donate to put books in the hands of some of our kids, contact Psi Iota Xi President Audra Deckard at 812-631-3271 or email GammaIotaSorority@hotmail.com. You can also mail donations to Psi Iota Xi - Gamma Iota, ATTN: Dolly Parton Imagination Library, PO Box 261, Shoals IN 47581.

Martin County, Loogootee, Shoals awarded road grants

It was announced last week, 252 Indiana cities, towns, and counties received a combined \$207.3 million in state matching funds for local road projects through Community Crossings, a component of the Governor's Next Level Roads program. The following in Martin County received funds:

Martin County: \$994,436.55
Loogootee: \$1,455,930.75
Shoals: \$235,837.50



Lady Lions Tennis results

On Friday, April 12, the Loogootee Lady Lions Tennis Team won a hard fought 4-1 match over the Evansville Christian Eagles to improve to 3-1 on the season.

The junior varsity were defeated by Evansville Christian, 0-1.

Varsity results
Loogootee 4, Evansville Christian 1
#1 Singles Charlotte Truchon-Bartès (L) d. Kate Cashmer (E) 6-4, 6-2
#2 Singles Addy Lengacher (L) d. Carmen Hall (E) 5-7, 7-6 (6), 7-5

#3 Singles Erica Miller (E) d. Marley McAtee (L) 6-3, 0-6, 6-2

#1 Doubles Macy Knepp/Brooklyn Knepp (L) d. Anne Grimm/Emerson Hammett 7-6 (5), 7-6 (1)

#2 Doubles Ashlynn Gilbert/Kamila Wilson (L) d. Ava Cline/Lillian McClarnon 6-7 (4), 7-5, 6-2

Junior Varsity results
Evansville Christian 1, Loogootee 0
#1 Doubles Peyton Gobin/Aubrey Petersen (E) d. Cora Consley/Izabelle Gingerich (L) 8-5

COMMISSIONERS

(Continued from page one)
tax. He said he was. Commissioner George said Martin County has lost a lot of money that could have been used on roads by not having a wheel tax. Commissioner Roush said, from what he came up with, Martin County could be bringing in an additional \$477,000 a year with three quarters of the maximum wheel tax. It was noted that this money would also help the county be able to apply for the full \$1.5 million now available in Community Crossings grant. The county can currently only apply for \$1 million because there is no extra money for the match.

Commissioner George told Arvin and Church that the highway department could put both their roads back to gravel this fall and then next spring chip and seal both roads. George said they have several roads in the same situation, a few in every district. He said Wallace Lane and Divine Road would be added to the list.

Tara Damin, with USI Consultants, who helps the county apply for Community Crossings grants, said that if the county has an excise tax and a wheel tax, they are eligible to apply for revolving loans to put toward road repair. She said several counties already do this.

Commissioner Roush said they need to go to the next county council meeting to request the wheel tax be implemented.

EMA Director Monty Wolf wanted to remind residents that the fire departments do not cut trees that are mixed into downed power lines. He said a deputy in another county recently lost his life because he came into contact with a downed power line. Wolf said they have received

a lot of backlash from county residents for not cutting trees in the roadway but this is the reason they are not doing it. He said they do work in conjunction with the electric companies, however.

Commissioner Roush asked Director Wolf about what he thought about the turnout for the solar eclipse. Wolf said the county was definitely not overwhelmed with people, but he is glad they prepared for it anyway. Roush said the state had their information wrong regarding the number of people who would be coming into Indiana. "People were disappointed," said Roush.

The commissioners approved a contract with Zillow that allows them to acquire bulk information from the recorder's office for a fee.

The commissioners approved Adam Greene to replace Cody Roush on the WestGate Authority Board.

The commissioner approved quotes for renovations to the courtroom, recorder's office and assessor's office. The cost for the new carpet and wall work in the courtroom is \$19,042. The cost for painting in the assessor and recorder's office is \$9,680. The cost of remodeling the assessor and recorder's offices is \$29,367.

The commissioners approved purchasing a 20-inch lawn mower for the courthouse from H&H Hometown Hardware for \$296.99.

The commissioners and department heads offered their condolences to the family of former Shoals Town Marshal Todd Eckert who passed away earlier this week.

The next commissioners' meeting is Tuesday, April 30 at 5:30 p.m.

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OBITUARIES

JESSE PARSONS

Jesse L. Parsons passed away at 5:30 p.m. Saturday, April 13, 2024, at Poplar Care Strategies. A resident of Loogootee, he was 90.



He was born August 18, 1933, in Loogootee; son of the late Jesse N. and Ethel (Hovis) Parsons.

Jesse married **JESSE PARSONS** Barbara Walton on December 25, 1955, and she preceded him in death on July 25, 2013.

Jesse was an Air Force veteran and served during the Korean War. Prior to his retirement, Jesse was an agriculture salesman. He also was a pilot and a flight instructor. He was member of the Loogootee Methodist Church, American Legion Post 120, Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 9395, and the White River Lodge 332.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Barbara Parsons and parents, Jesse N. and Ethel Parsons.

Jesse is survived by his daughters, Diane (Delbert) Lengacher of Loogootee, Cheryl (Kim) Kiltz of Washington, and Carolyn (Roger) Downey of Loogootee; siblings, Harold (Louise) Parsons, Roger Parsons, and Donna Walker, all of Loogootee; grandchildren, Stephanie (Keith) Knepp, Courtney Williams, Ashley Harris, Lacey (Aaron) Gress, Derek (Ashley) Kiltz, Brecklyn (Justin) Kiltz, Dylan Kiltz, Nick (Jessica) Downey, and Blythe (Joby) Jeffers; great-grandchildren, Nichole, Dalton, Kayden, and Avery Knepp, Gabrielle and Trinity Williams, Riley, Brailey, and Jaley Harris, Renley Sellers, Isaiah, Anya, Kyran, and baby boy Gress due this week, Evie Neel, Ellington Downey, Carter Downey, Porter, Cutler, and Adler Jeffers; and brother-in-law, Wayne Walton.

A funeral service was held this morning, Wednesday, April 17 at the Loogootee Methodist Church.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions can be made to Truelove United Methodist Church.

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

Blake Funeral Home is honored to serve the family of Jesse L. Parsons.

TODD ECKERT

Milan Todd Eckert passed away Sunday, April 14, 2024, at Daviess County Hospital, Washington. A resident of Shoals, he was 56.

He was born November 7, 1967, in Huntingburg; son of Eddie Dale and Mary Lou (Steffen) Eckert.

Todd graduated from Forest Park High



TODD ECKERT

helping them in any way he could, and enjoyed serving the community and Town of Shoals.

He enjoyed the Wagler Motorsports Track in Lyons, where he worked for many years. Todd loved spending time with his family, especially his grandbabies, and his church family at Church of the Cross.

Surviving are his wife, Grace; son, Dustin (Jessica) Eckert; step-children, Keyanna Parrott and Michael Parrott; grandbabies, Langstyn and Colton Eckert; siblings, Brian (Nicole) Eckert and Bret (Erica) Eckert; and nieces and nephews, Caden, Danielle, Austin, and Felecia Eckert.

He was preceded in death by his parents; and sister, Missy (Carla) Eckert.

A funeral service will be at 2 p.m. Sunday, April 21 at the Church of the Cross. Burial will follow in Spring Hill Cemetery.

Visitation will be from 4-9 p.m. Saturday, April 20 at Queen-Lee Chapel in Shoals.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Queen-Lee Chapel to assist with funeral expenses.

Online condolences may be made to the family at www.queenlee.com.

MICHAEL CARR

Michael J. Carr passed away at 2:56 p.m. Sunday, April 14, 2024, at Memorial Hospital and Health Care Center in Jasper. A resident of Loogootee, he was 65.

He was born November 27, 1958, in Linton; son of the late Ernest and Dorothy (Evans) Carr.

Mike married Rhonda Broughton on August 11, 1979, and she survives.

He enjoyed woodworking, the outdoors and mowing.

Mike was preceded in death by his parents, Ernest and Dorothy Carr; sister, Brenda Brinegar; brother-in-law, Donnie Edwards.

He is survived by his wife, Rhonda Carr of Loogootee; sons, Robert Carr of Seattle, Washington; Thomas (Stacie) Carr of Dubois and Jeremy (Adrienne) Carr of Dubois; sister, Linda Edwards; grandchildren, Hayden and Mackenzie Carr, Grayce, Zoey, Wyatt, Jolee, Olivia, Finley, Abraham, and Eleanor Carr (who is due in a few weeks).

School with the Class of 1986.

He married Grace Cardwell on June 10, 2023, and she survives.

Todd worked as the Town Marshal of Shoals for over 20 years. He cared for the people,

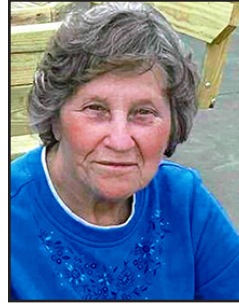
Cremation was chosen and a graveside service will be held at a later date.

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

Blake Funeral Home is honored to serve the family Michael J. Carr.

MADELINE QUINN

Margaret Madeline (Jones) Quinn passed away Thursday, April 11, 2024, at Jasper Memorial Hospital. A resident of



MADELINE QUINN

Shoals, she was 85.

She was born September 20, 1938, in Shoals; daughter of George T. and Hazel (Albright) Jones.

She married Merlin "Bob" Quinn on January 1, 1957, at the Peoples Tabernacle in West Baden and he preceded her in death on May 25, 2020.

Madeline attended West Baden High School and worked as a server and kitchen assistant for many years.

She was a member of the Natchez Community Church.

Madeline enjoyed gardening, watching Family Feud, cooking, loved the Lord, and spending time with her family.

Surviving are her children, Craig (Karen) Quinn, Kevin (Becky) Quinn, Dinah (Roy) Bergman, and Jeanine (John) Cole; ten grandchildren, Carrie Roach, Michael Quinn, Christopher Quinn, Larry Quinn, Joni Todd, Ryan Bergman, Matt Quinn, Josh Bergman, Kaci Hall, and Jayme Quinn; 23 great-grandchildren; two great-great-grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents and siblings, Leland Collins, Harrison Jones, Norman Jones, and Fern Sanders.

A funeral service was held Saturday, April 13 at the Queen-Lee Chapel of George Funeral Care with Brother Kevin Quinn officiating. Burial followed in Emmons Ridge Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Emmons Ridge Cemetery.

Online condolences may be sent to the family at www.queenlee.com.

JUDY BRUNER

Judith Bruner, formerly of Loogootee, passed away at 3:56 a.m. Wednesday, April 10, 2024, at Cedar Creek of Washington. A resident of Washington, she was 81.

She was born March 17, 1943, in Bedford; daughter the late Bernard and Audrey (Waggoner) Savvage.

Judy married Paul R. Bruner on December 26, 1987, and he preceded her in death on January 17, 2023.

Judy spent the majority of her teaching career at Loogootee Elementary West. She took great pride in teaching Special Education. After her retirement she substituted for many years.

She was a member of the Loogootee Methodist Church and Tri Kappa Loogootee-Shoals Delta Tau Chapter. Judy loved making jewelry, interior decorating, gardening and caring for her flowers.

Judy was preceded in death by her husband, Paul R. Bruner; parents, Bernard and Audrey Savage; sister, Barbara Wineinger; and stepson, Paul Joseph Bruner.

She is survived by her cousin, Mary Rose (Delmar) Holland; brother-in-law, Darrel Wineinger; stepchildren, Deborah McKibben of Washington, Shirley (John) Stangle of Vincennes, David Bruner of Vincennes and Amy (Steve) Caurro of South Bend; nine step-grandchildren, 13 step-great grandchildren and one step-great great grandchild.

Funeral services were conducted Friday, April 12 at the Loogootee Methodist Church. Burial followed in the Goodwill Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions can be made to the Martin County Humane Society or the Loogootee Methodist Church.

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

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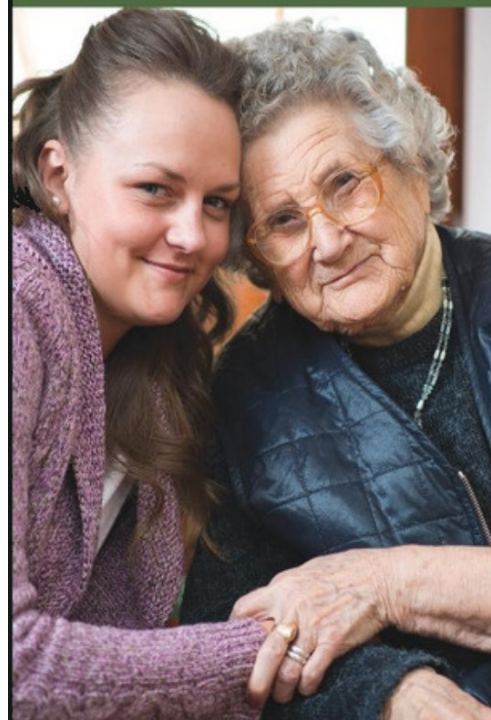


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Martin County Sheriff's Department activity log

SUNDAY, APRIL 7

9:21 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.

11:10 a.m. - Received a report of a tree limb on a power line south of Loogootee. Deputy Branham re-ponded.

12:27 p.m. - Received a report of a possible health hazard east of Shoals. Captain Gibson responded.

12:57 p.m. - Received a report of an accident in Loogootee. Captain Gibson, Deputy Branham, Martin County Medic 1, and Loogootee Fire Department responded. No one was transported.

4:57 p.m. - Received a 911 call reporting an accident with no injuries in Loogootee. Captain Gibson re-ponded.

6:41 p.m. - Received a report of a reckless driver south of Shoals. All on duty units were notified.

7:25 p.m. - Received a call reporting property damage northeast of Shoals. Deputy Doane responded.

8:16 p.m. - Received a call requesting a welfare check northeast of Loogootee. Captain Gibson and Deputy Doane responded.

10:08 p.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Medic 1, Loogootee Fire Department, Major Reed, and Deputy Doane responded. Medic 1 transported one patient to Daviess Community Hospital.

MONDAY, APRIL 8

6:25 a.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Medic 1 responded and transported one patient to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

8:28 a.m. - Received a call advising of property damage in Loogootee. Loogootee Chief Hunt responded.

8:40 a.m. - Received a report of a traffic hazard south of Loogootee. Martin County Highway Department was notified.

1:14 p.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance south of Shoals. Martin County Medic 2 and Lost River Fire Department responded. Medic 2 transported one patient to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

1:38 p.m. - Received a report of a controlled burn east of Loogootee.

2:00 p.m. - Received a report of a controlled burn east of Loogootee.

2:20 p.m. - Received a call requesting extra patrol near Goodwill Cemetery area. All Martin County Law was advised.

3:18 p.m. - Received a report of a small structure fire east of Shoals. Martin County Medic 2, Shoals Fire Department and Deputy Doane responded. No one was transported.

5:38 p.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance south of Loogootee. Martin County Medic 1 and Haysville Fire Department responded. Medic 1 transported one patient to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

6:35 p.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Medic 2, Loogootee Officer Wagoner and Loogootee Reserve Officer Shaw responded. No one was transported.

6:42 p.m. - Received a call reporting a physical altercation south of Loogootee. Deputy Doane responded.

6:46 p.m. - Received a report of possible vandalism in Shoals. Corporal Hawkins responded.

10:40 p.m. - Received a call reporting possible trespassing northeast of Loogootee. Loogootee Officer Wagoner and Loogootee Reserve Officer Shaw responded.

TUESDAY, APRIL 9

12:52 a.m. - Received a call reporting a possible traffic hazard south of Loogootee. Loogootee Reserve Officer Shaw responded.

ed.

4:23 a.m. - Received a report of a tree down south of Shoals. Lost River Fire Department responded.

5:27 a.m. - Received a report of a disabled vehicle south of Shoals. Major Reed and Big John's Towing responded.

12:20 p.m. - Received a call reporting a domestic dispute northeast of Shoals. Captain Gibson and Sergeant Wells responded.

1:27 p.m. - Received a call requesting to speak with an officer. Corporal Hawkins responded.

2:52 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 Jasper Memorial Hospital.

5:08 p.m. - Received a call requesting an officer south of Shoals. Deputy Doane responded.

6:03 p.m. - Received a report of a possible hit and run in Loogootee. Loogootee Officer Wagoner responded.

9:51 p.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Medic 1 and Loogootee Officer Wagoner responded. No one was transported.

10:40 p.m. - Received a call requesting an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Medic 1 and LPD Officer Wagoner responded. Medic 1 transported one patient to Daviess Community Hospital.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 10

6:39 a.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Medic 1 responded and transported one patient to Daviess Community Hospital.

8:16 a.m. - Received a call reporting a suspicious vehicle at Crane Village. Chief Deputy Keller responded.

8:22 a.m. - Received a call from Life Protect reporting a medical button push north of Shoals. Martin County Medic 1 and Shoals Fire Department responded. Medic 1 transported one patient to Good Samaritan Hospital.

9:18 a.m. - Received a call requesting to speak with an officer. Chief Deputy Keller responded.

9:31 a.m. - Received a call requesting extra patrol north of Loogootee. Advised all Martin County units.

12:10 p.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance northeast of Shoals. Martin County Medic 1 and Shoals Fire Department responded. Medic 1 transported one patient to IU Bedford.

12:33 p.m. - Received a call reporting a reckless driver in Loogootee. Loogootee Assistant Chief Long responded.

12:58 p.m. - Received a call requesting a vehicle identification number check on a boat. Sergeant Wells responded.

2:21 p.m. - Received a 911 call reporting an accident with no injuries north of Shoals. Sergeant Wells responded.

4:57 p.m. - Received a 911 call reporting a domestic dispute in Loogootee. Martin County Medic 1, Deputy Shields and Loogootee Officer Wagoner responded. Medic 1 transported one patient to Daviess Community Hospital.

8:19 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance east of Loogootee. Martin County Medic 1 responded and transported one patient to IU Bedford.

8:37 p.m. - Received a call reporting a suspicious male in Daviess County. Called Daviess County with information.

8:54 p.m. - Received a 911 call reporting a tree down south of Shoals. Shoals Fire Department responded.

9:10 p.m. - Received a report of a suspicious vehicle in Loogootee. Loogootee Officer Wagoner responded.

9:12 p.m. - Received a call reporting a possible missing person in Daviess County.

Notified Daviess County.

10:27 p.m. - Received a call reporting a verbal dispute in Loogootee. Deputy Shields and Deputy Baumgart responded.

THURSDAY, APRIL 11

3:28 a.m. - Received multiple 911 calls reporting a tree down south of Shoals. Shoals Fire Department responded.

4:02 a.m. - Received multiple 911 calls reporting a tree partially in road south of Loogootee. Major Reed responded.

8:33 a.m. - Received a report of a tree down south of Shoals. Martin County Highway Department responded.

12:40 p.m. - Received a call from Area 1 advising of a commercial burglar alarm northeast of Loogootee. Deputy Branham and Indiana Conservation Officer Fuhrman responded.

1:32 p.m. - Received a 911 call reporting an animal complaint south of Loogootee. Deputy Branham responded.

4:53 p.m. - Received an accidental 911 call.

5:05 p.m. - Received a call requesting a vehicle unlock in Shoals. Deputy Branham responded.

5:16 p.m. - Received a report of vandalism in Shoals. Sergeant Wells, Deputy Branham, Deputy Shields, and Deputy Erwin responded.

9:18 p.m. - Received multiple calls reporting an accident with no injuries in Loogootee. Loogootee Sergeant Wagoner, Sergeant Wells and Big John's Towing responded.

FRIDAY, APRIL 12

12:30 a.m. - Received a call requesting an ambulance northeast of Loogootee. Martin County Medic 1 responded and transported to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

1:46 a.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance in Loogootee. Loogootee Sergeant Wagoner, Loogootee Fire Department and Martin County Medic 1 responded. No transport was needed.

3:26 a.m. - Received multiple calls reporting a disabled vehicle in Loogootee. Deputy Baumgart responded.

10:29 a.m. - Received a call requesting an officer in Loogootee. Loogootee Chief Hunt, Loogootee Assistant Chief Long, Loogootee Sergeant Wagoner and Deputy Branham responded.

10:34 a.m. - Received a call from Loogootee School advising of fire drill being completed today.

11:04 a.m. - Received a 911 call reporting a disabled vehicle in Shoals. Corporal Hawkins responded.

11:37 a.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance in Shoals. Martin County Medic 1 and Medic 3 responded. Medic 1 transported one patient to Daviess Community Hospital.

11:38 a.m. - Received a call reporting an accident with no injuries in Loogootee. Loogootee Sergeant Wagoner responded.

12:14 p.m. - Received a call requesting an officer in Shoals. Deputy Branham and Loogootee Officers responded.

1:45 p.m. - Received a call requesting an officer in Loogootee. Loogootee Sergeant Wagoner responded.

2:47 p.m. - Received a call requesting to speak with an officer. Loogootee Sergeant Wagoner responded.

5:23 p.m. - Received a report that water is over Low Gap Road, north of Shoals.

5:25 p.m. - Received a report of a tree down south of Shoals. Shoals Fire Department responded.

7:10 p.m. - Received a report of an accident with no injuries in Loogootee. Loogootee Sergeant Wagoner and Big John's Towing responded.

7:51 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 Jasper Memorial Hospital.

8:42 p.m. - Received a call reporting property damage in Loogootee. Loogootee Sergeant Wagoner responded.

8:59 p.m. - Received a call requesting an ambulance in Shoals. Martin County Medic 2 and Shoals Fire Department responded. Medic 2 transported one patient to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

9:23 p.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Medic 1, Loogootee Sergeant Wagoner, Loogootee Fire Department and Deputy Branham responded. Medic 1 transported one patient to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

SATURDAY, APRIL 13

8:48 a.m. - Received a report of stolen property. Deputy Branham responded.

9:33 a.m. - Received a call reporting an accident with no injuries in Loogootee. Deputy Branham responded.

9:42 a.m. - Received a report of a controlled burn east of Shoals.

10:08 a.m. - Received a 911 call reporting an accident with no injuries in Loogootee. Deputy Branham responded.

10:43 a.m. - Received a report of a controlled burn east of Shoals.

1:01 p.m. - Received a report of a reckless driver in Loogootee. Deputy Branham responded.

1:27 p.m. - Received a 911 call in Shoals, requested welfare check. Deputy Branham responded.

2:16 p.m. - Received a call requesting a welfare check in Loogootee. Loogootee Officer Stiver, Deputy Shields and Big John's Towing responded.

2:18 p.m. - Received a call reporting a possible fire in Loogootee. Loogootee Fire Department responded.

3:30 p.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance south of Shoals. Martin County Medic 1 and Lost River Fire Department responded. Medic 1 transported one patient to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

6:11 p.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance south of Loogootee. Martin County Medic 1 and Haysville Fire Department responded. Medic 1 transported one patient to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

6:21 p.m. - Received a call reporting a reckless motorcycle driver on US 50 traveling east. Deputy Branham responded.

SUNDAY, APRIL 14

2:03 a.m. - Received a call reporting reckless driving in Loogootee. Deputy Baumgart responded.

9:41 a.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Medic 1, Medic 3 and Loogootee Fire Department responded. Medic 1 transported one patient to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

1:31 p.m. - Received a report of a car-turkey accident north of Loogootee. Deputy Branham responded.

2:51 p.m. - Received a report of a tree down north of Shoals. Shoals Fire Department responded.

3:50 p.m. - Received multiple 911 calls requesting an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Medic 1, Medic 3, Loogootee Fire Department and Daviess County EMS responded. Daviess County transported one patient to Daviess Community Hospital.

7:24 p.m. - Received a 911 call reporting a reckless driver on US 50 traveling west. Captain Gibson responded.

8:58 p.m. - Received a report of animal abuse. Deputy Doane responded.

10:21 p.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance in Shoals. Martin County Medic 1, Shoals Fire Department and Deputy Doane responded. Medic 1 transported one patient to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

COURT NEWS

CIVIL COURT New Suits Filed April 9

Portfolio Recovery Associates, LLC vs. Lori Carrico, civil collection.

Citibank vs. Prestin Hart, civil collection.

Primary Residential Mortgage, Inc. vs. Alex Blanton, Amanda Blanton, Indiana Housing and Community Development Authority, et al, mortgage foreclosure.

CIVIL COURT JUDGMENTS April 3

Judgment in favor of the plaintiff Hoosier Accounts Service and against the defendant David Merkley in the amount of \$13,962.19.

April 9

Judgment in favor of the plaintiff Farm Credit Mid-America, PCA and against the defendant Joseph Lanan in the amount of \$126,045.56.

SMALL CLAIMS COURT New Suits Filed April 3

Hoosier Accounts Service vs. Jerryco K. Burris, complaint.

Hoosier Accounts Service vs. Jeremy R. Knight, complaint.

April 9

Padanaram, Inc. vs. Diamond Wright, eviction.

Real estate transfers

Gary L. Norris, of Martin County, Indiana to **Richard L. Gibbs and Tina M. Gibbs**, of Martin County, Indiana, a strip of even width 34 feet and 9 inches off of the east end of Lot 63 in the Town of Shoals, and of even width 30 feet wide off the west end of Lots 99 and 100 in the Town of Shoals, Indiana.

James Steven Mersinger, of Martin County, Indiana to **Aaron T. Means and Alissa S. Means**, of Martin County, Indiana, Lot 9 in Ackerman's Addition, City of Loogootee, Indiana.

MONDAY, APRIL 8

8:48 a.m. - Chief Hunt responded to a call on Kentucky Avenue.

1:40 p.m. - Chief Hunt, Assistant Chief Long and Sergeant Wagoner responded to a call at Eldorado Motel.

6:35 p.m. - Sergeant Wagoner and Officer Shaw responded to a call on Bloomfield Road.

10:40 p.m. - Sergeant Wagoner and Officer Shaw responded to a call on Brady Street.

TUESDAY, APRIL 9

12:52 a.m. - Officer Shaw responded to a call on US Highway 231.

2:43 p.m. - Loogootee Fire Department responded to a medical call on Cedar Street.

2:56 p.m. - Assistant Chief Long responded to a call on Washington Street.

3:51 p.m. - Assistant Chief Long responded to a call at Ruler grocery store.

6:03 p.m. - Sergeant Wagoner responded to a call at Los Bravos.

9:51 p.m. - Sergeant Wagoner responded to a call on Poplar Street.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 10

12:35 p.m. - Assistant Chief Long responded to a call on US Highway 231.

4:57 p.m. - Sergeant Wagoner responded to a call at Country Place Apartments.

9:10 p.m. - Sergeant Wagoner responded to a call near Muffler Menders.

THURSDAY, APRIL 11

3:12 p.m. - Assistant Chief Long responded to a call at Hometown Flowers & Gifts.

FRIDAY, APRIL 12

10:29 a.m. - Chief Hunt, Assistant Chief Long and Sergeant Wagoner responded to a call on Washinton Street.

11:38 a.m. - Sergeant Wagoner responded to a call at the Marathon gas station.

12:00 p.m. - Sergeant Wagoner responded to a call near O'Reilly's Auto

Parts.

2:16 p.m. - Officer Stivers responded to a call at McDonald's.

2:18 p.m. - Loogootee Fire Department responded to a call on Sycamore Street.

7:10 p.m. - Sergeant Wagoner responded to a call at McDonald's.

7:51 p.m. - Loogootee Fire Department and Sergeant Wagoner responded to a call on Main Street.

8:42 p.m. - Sergeant Wagoner responded to a call at Pizza Junction.

9:23 p.m. - Loogootee Fire Department and Sergeant Wagoner responded to a medical call on Cedar Street.

SATURDAY, APRIL 13

No calls to report.

SUNDAY, APRIL 14

9:41 a.m. - Loogootee Fire Department responded to a call on Sheridan Street.

3:50 p.m. - Loogootee Fire Department responded to a medical call at Poplar Care Strategies.

ARRESTS

MONDAY, APRIL 8

9:01 p.m. - Jayden Smith, 27, of Loogootee, was arrested by Deputy Doane and charged with strangulation and battery. He is being held on \$15,000 10% bond. Loogootee Reserve Officer Shaw assisted with the arrest.

9:34 p.m. - William Boyd, 20, of Loogootee, was arrested by Deputy Doane and charged with strangulation and battery. He is being held on \$15,000 10% bond.

1:50 p.m. - Karrie Deckard, 34, of Shoals, was arrested by Captain Gibson and charged with strangulation, domestic battery in the presence of a minor x4, and domestic battery resulting in injury to a minor. She is being held on \$30,000 10% bond.

1:50 p.m. - Anthony Burns, 38, of Shoals, was arrested by Sergeant Wells

and charged with strangulation, domestic battery in the presence of a minor x4, domestic battery resulting in injury to a minor and possession of a controlled substance. He is being held without bond.

TUESDAY, APRIL 9

8:24 p.m. - Charles Chatman Jr., 58, of Ramsey, was arrested by Sergeant Wells and charged with operating a vehicle while intoxicated and driving while suspended. He is being held on \$10,000 10% bond.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 10

11:05 a.m. - Timothy Troutman, 26, of Shoals, was arrested by Sergeant Wells on a petition to revoke bond. He is being held without bond.

12:33 p.m. - Waylon Winger, 36, of Loogootee, was arrested by Corporal Hawkins on a petition to revoke bond. He is being held without bond.

11:26 p.m. - William Ash, 65, of Cannelburg, was arrested by Deputy Erwin for possession of a handgun while possessing meth, possession of methamphetamine and possession of paraphernalia. He is being held on \$30,000 10% bond. Major Reed assisted with the arrest.

FRIDAY, APRIL 12

12:41 a.m. - Gregory Stroud, 59, of Shoals, was arrested by Sergeant Wagoner and charged with operating a vehicle while intoxicated- prior and operating a vehicle while intoxicated- endangerment. He is being held with no bond.

7:32 p.m. - Michael McLaughlin, 50, of Heltonville, was arrested by Deputy Erwin and charged with possession of

narcotic drug, possession of marijuana and possession of paraphernalia. He is being held on \$30,000 10% bond.

8:40 p.m. - Neil Sipes, 48, of Shoals, was arrested by Deputy Baumgart on a Martin County warrant. He is being held on \$2,500 10% bond.

SATURDAY, APRIL 13

2:56 a.m. - William Lucas, 56, of Loogootee, was arrested by Deputy Erwin and charged with dealing in methamphetamine, possession of methamphetamine, possession of a legend drug, possession of a narcotic drug, possession of marijuana and possession of paraphernalia. He is being held without bond.

3:04 a.m. - Kelli Odell, 27, of Indianapolis, was arrested by Deputy Baumgart and charged with possession of methamphetamine, possession of a narcotic drug, possession of a schedule 1 substance, possession of paraphernalia and obstruction of justice. She is being held on \$15,000 10% bond.

3:05 p.m. - Matthew Brown, 39, of Flora Illinois, was arrested by Loogootee Officer Stivers and charged with possession of methamphetamine, possession of a syringe, possession of marijuana and driving without ever being licensed. He is being held on \$30,000 10% bond. Deputy Branham assisted with the arrest.

SUNDAY, APRIL 14

2:58 p.m. - Ben Soloman, 21, of New York, was arrested by Deputy Branham and charged with resisting law enforcement with a vehicle. He is being held on \$30,000 10% bond.



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.



DERBY DAYS

Hosted by
American Legion Post #120
& Jolene's Decorating

Saturday, May 4th

Beer & Spirits Garden

Open to the Public

Food available for purchase:
Tenderloins, Brats with fixins', and Curly Fries

Garth's Famous Mint Juleps!

Live Music - "Major Danger"

6:00 PM - 9:00 PM

Derby Hat Contest for
the Ladies!

Prize for the best hat!



Disinger Jewelers
of JASPER

Buy an Engagement Ring
Get a Wedding Band 50% Off

Sale ends
April 20, 2024

Plus receive \$200 off a Wedding Gown at Beth Carter Bridal

3770 NEWTON STREET, JASPER
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More Neat Stuff



By Ann Ackerman



An elderly man rear-ended a guy driving an expensive European sports car. Enraged, the guy hops out and confronts the old man.

He yells, "Look what you did to my car! You're going to give me \$10,000 right now or I'm going to beat you to a pulp!"

"Oh my..." the old man said nervously. "I don't have that kind of money. Let me call my son." he said with hope. "He trains dolphins, and he will know what to do."

"Dolphins!" the other driver huffed, while rolling his eyes.

The old man pulled out his phone, dialed his son, and just as his son answered, the irate man snatched the phone away from the old man.

"So, YOU'RE a dolphin trainer, huh?" The irate man yelled, "Well, your old man here just rear-ended my car and I need TEN GRAND right now, or I'm going to beat you AND your old man to a pulp!"

"I'll be there in 10 minutes." says the voice calmly on the other end.

Exactly 10 minutes later, a Jeep pulls up and a guy hops out and proceeds to pulverize the bully, leaving him in a heap on the side of the road.

When he finished, he walked over to his father and said, "For the last time dad, I train Seals... Navy Seals. NOT dolphins!"

RIDDLES

1. What do you call a rude cow?
2. How do trains eat?
3. What do you call a moose with no name?
4. Where do cows go on dates?
5. What do you call a duck that likes the Fourth of July?
6. Where do birds go when they eat dinner out?

THOUGHTS

*I bet my mom looks at my posts and thinks, "I did all that I could."

*Living with a dog consists of 90% following each other around, watching each other go potty, and wondering what the other has in their mouth.

*When a cougar gets so old she needs a hearing aid, she becomes a def leopard.

*Kale tastes like I'd rather be fat.

*I talk an awful lot of smack for someone who tips over when putting on their

underwear.

*My toxic trait is knowing my body's "check engine" light is on and I'm still driving around like, "Nah, I'll be fine."

*I can't believe I wasted my childhood worrying about quicksand and the Bermuda Triangle and not the fact that I'd have to remember 127 different passwords.

*As far as I'm concerned, the perfect bra is a sweatshirt.

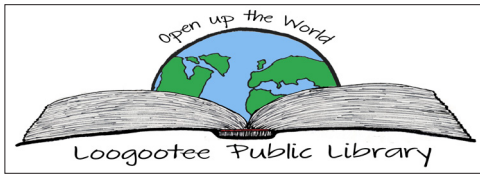
*I believe my house is haunted. Every time I look in my mirror a crazy old lady stands in front of me so I can't see my reflection.

*My friend thinks he's smart. He told me an onion is the only food that makes you cry, so I threw a coconut in his face.

ANSWERS:

1. beef jerky, 2. They choo-choo, 3. Anony-moose, 4. To the moo-vies, 5. A fire-quacker., 6. Someplace cheep.

Make someone smile today!



BY DARLA WAGLER
Librarian, Loogootee Public Library

Friends of Loogootee Library (FOLL) book sale is scheduled for Saturday, April 27 from 8-12. There will be a Book, Bake, and Yard Sale in May.

Dolly Parton's Imagination Library Kick-Off is April 19 from 3-5 p.m. This is for Martin County residents only. You need to live or own property in Perry or Rutherford Townships to register at Loogootee Public Library. Shoals Public Library will have sign-ups on April 26 from 4-6.

New Books:

Mystery: "It had to be you" by Mary Higgins Clark, "Pay Dirt" by Sara Paretsky, and "Feline Fatale" by Rita Mae Brown.

Young Adult: "Sacred Ground" by Rex A. Knight.

Library hours: Monday 10-6, Tuesday 10-5, closed on Wednesday, Thursday 10-6, Friday 10-5, and Saturday 9-1. The library phone number is 812-295-3713 and check out the website www.loogootee.lib.in.us or like us on Facebook. The library has free Wi-Fi service available for patrons.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Loogootee School Board meeting

The Loogootee School Board will meet Thursday, April 18 at 5 p.m. in the high school media center. The meeting is open to the public.

Loogootee City-Wide Yard Sales

Loogootee City-Wide Yard Sales, May 10 and 11. If you would like to be put on the list, contact Tracy Brown-Salsman 812-709-5772.

Dog/Cat Wellness Clinic

The next scheduled dog and cat wellness clinic at the Martin County Humane Society Spay/Neuter Clinic will be Friday, April 26 from 5-6 p.m. The clinic offers low-cost vaccines, testing, microchips, nail trims, etc. No appointment is required, first come first serve.

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.

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.



NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING

April 24, 2024

6:00 pm

Loogootee High School Auditorium

201 Brooks Ave., Loogootee, IN 47553

Jenny's Place

221 Nobles Ct. Loogootee

812-295-6549

Appointments Only
Same day if available
Closed Sundays



Richer Farms

Select cuts available of beef, pork and chicken at the farm stand located just north of Loogootee.

Seasonal produce also available!

Book your spot now for a quarter, half or full of butcher beef!

Blue ribbon beef on a blue collar budget!
Call: (812) 295-6842 or (941) 302-3140



It seems like every day now I get a package of plants delivered at Sandhill Gardens. Most are plants I have ordered, but some are plants sent to me to trial and report my findings. Several people have asked recently what to do when the plants arrive.

It really depends on the plant and how it was shipped. Our frost-safe date is still a couple of weeks away, so tender plants should not be planted outside. If you receive tender annual plants in pots, leave them in the pots, but remove the packaging that protects them during shipping. Check them to see if the soil is dry, and water them if needed. Keep them in the house in indirect light until May 10.

Most perennial plants, shrubs and trees can take some frost, so go ahead and plant them if the soil is not too wet. If you cannot get them in the ground, you may find a spot out of direct sun to set them until the soil is workable and you have the time to plant. Check them and water when the soil is dry. If you receive plants that are bare root, they need to be treated a little differently. Of course, if you are able, plant them as soon as you can. If you cannot plant them due to wet soil, I recommend planting them in a pot until they may be planted in their new homes. Place the pots in a shady location and keep them watered.

When it comes time to plant them outside, dig a hole the depth of the root ball and twice as wide. Build a cone of soil in the middle of the hole and spread the roots over that cone. Backfill with the soil that came out of the hole, removing any weed roots that you see. In the past, experts recommended amending the soil when planting, but most agree now that the native soil should be used to fill the hole. Amending the soil has been found to sometimes cause a vase effect. The roots of the plant will fill the hole with the amended soil but will not grow into the surrounding soil. Instead, now it is recommended to amend the soil in a larger area around the plant by adding a couple of inches of compost and any other amendments on top of the soil, allowing the worms to work the compost down into the soil.

Of course, if the plants you receive are meant to go into your containers, get them into their new homes as soon as possible. Several people have asked me if it is okay to re-use soil from last year's containers. If the plants in those containers last year suffered from any disease problems, discard the soil, as the pathogens that caused the problems last year could cause problems again. If there were no problems last year, there are uses for the soil, but not in the same containers. I usually dump the soil into raised beds and mix it in with the soil there. If you have some deep containers, you may use the old soil in the bottoms of the container, adding new soil in the planting zone at the top.

That brings to mind another planting situation. Some people add rocks or even

Free tree giveaway in celebration of Earth Day

Friends of the Patoka River National Wildlife Refuge will be giving away trees free of charge on Saturday, April 20. There will be several oak species as well as persimmon, pecan, and bald cypress. The trees can be picked up at the IGA's located in Princeton and Oakland City from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. CT and at the Jay C's in Petersburg from 11 a.m.- 2 p.m. ET. Plan to bring a bag or a bucket to take your bare root tree home with you. The tree give away is in support of conservation efforts. "TREET" the Earth on its special day by planting a tree!

empty plastic bottles to fill large containers. Research has shown that this does not increase drainage and may be detrimental to the plants. Even if the roots of the plants in the container are rather shallow, it is still better for the container to be filled with soil, which will store water and provide room for roots to grow. If you really need to fill a large container and do not want to buy that much potting soil, you may use some rotting wood. The wood will still hold some moisture and will break down into compost eventually.

Watch for those boxes in mailboxes and left on porches. It is important to open them and deal with those living contents as soon as possible. Happy planting.

Stream trout opener approaches

The Department of Natural Resources Division of Fish & Wildlife plans to stock nearly 63,000 rainbow and brown trout across the state this spring in preparation for inland trout fishing season, which, for inland streams, opens Saturday, April 27.

Thirty-five bodies of water across 21 counties are anticipated to receive fish before and after opening day.

Most of the lake stockings of rainbow trout were done last month, starting the week of March 11. Anglers don't have to wait to fish for those, as trout fishing on inland lakes is open year-round.

For streams, more than 23,000 rainbow trout are expected to be stocked in the days leading up to opening day. Several sites will get additional rainbow trout stockings until Memorial Day weekend.

In addition to the rainbow trout stock-

ings, 10 bodies of water will receive brown trout stockings in May.

To find a stocked stream near you, see this year's trout stocking plan at on.IN.gov/fish-stocking.

The bag limit for trout in inland waters other than Lake Michigan and its tributaries is five per day with a minimum size of 7 inches. No more than one of an angler's catch can be a brown trout. There is no size limit for trout on inland lakes except for harvested brown trout caught below the Brookville Lake tailwater or from Oliver, Olin, or Martin lakes, which must be 18 inches or larger. To fish for trout, anglers age 18 and older must have an Indiana fishing license and a trout/salmon stamp.

To purchase yours for this year, visit on.IN.gov/INHuntFish.

Congratulations to Our Team!

Memorial Hospital and Health Care Center has designated April as Caregiver Service Recognition Month. All month we are celebrating our caregivers and their years of special service at Memorial Hospital. Thank you to all these individuals and our entire team for all they do each and every day to provide quality and compassionate care!

55 Years of Service

Sr. Renée Cunningham

45 Years of Service

Donna Deen
Margaret Hochgesang

40 Years of Service

Tamara Billings

35 Years of Service

Lisa Hostetter
Darlene Pauw

30 Years of Service

Lauri Ackerman	Teresa Sorgius
Angela Day	Jody Stenftenagel
Dr. Stephen DeWitt	Charlotte Stephenson
Melissa Hawkins	Bobbie Yoder
Amy Hopf	
Angela Lengacher	

25 Years of Service

Patty Archer-Wahl	Allyson Hoffman
Rachel Beck	Genevia Rowe
Melissa Belcher	Cynthia Starling
Joni Blaker	Daniel Theising
Christine Gogel	Kelly Uebelhor
Micki Gress	Courtney Vaal
Renee Hentrup	

20 Years of Service

Donna Eckert	Brooke Nichter
Sarah Hellman	Dr. James Poirier
Linda Kuebler	Mark Recker
Rachel Lampert	Emily Schipp
Dr. Kevin Lusk	Abby Schmitt
Ronica Maki	Michelle Swartzentruber
Janalee May	Shawna Verkamp
Darlene Merkel	Donni Warren
Michele Messmann	

15 Years of Service

Kendra Albright
Michelle Ash
Brandie Beck
Heather Berg
Erica Bettag
Kimberley Blume
Sara Boehman
Erica Bolin
Jane Bauer
Brian Catt
Tammy Conkle
Trista Durcholz
Mary Enlow

Dr. Ryan Flamion
Deborah Giesler
Rachel Giesler
Gail Goodness
Laura Gutzell
Kelly Haaff
Lynnee Heichelbech
Alisa Hildenbrand
Dena Kamman-Rasche
Steven Kiser
Shauna Knepp
Linda Lechner
Rachelle Lechner

Laura Mizerak
Gregory Nicholson
Theresa O'Bryan
Jenna Schaeffer
Abby Seifert
Kayla Thackrey
Beth Uebelhor
Barbara Weisman
Gail Wendholt
Asha Werne
Rebecca Yoder

10 Years of Service

Spencer Barrett
Brandon Breidenbaugh
Rachelle Buffenbarger
Sarah Burger
Gabriel Cassidy
Stephanie Chambers
Kristina Collins
Jonathan Cropp
Amber Englert
Sharon Epple
Kendra Friedman
Abigail Guinn
Erin Gunselman
Marny Hammond

Sara Hardin
Wilbert Hauch
Brandi Hellman
Jessica Hitt
Kathryn Knies
Erin Kuczanski
Rebecca Lampert
Lawrence Langer
Sharon Livingston
Teresa Lowe
Stephanie McGuire
Tara McPherson
Amanda Merrimon
Alicia Nash

Dr. Gregory Pfister
Melanie Powell
Alice Pund
Brittany Rahman
Staci Roesner
Karen Scherzinger
Lyndsay Schueffer
Brent Schuler
Patricia Seitz
Samantha Stevens
Tori Sturgeon
Jaima Voegerl
Ashley Ziegler

5 Years of Service

Willa Alcantara
Michaela Anderson
Megan Archer
Paige Bastin
Madison Begle
Kathleen Begle
Karen Bettag
Erika Beyke
Lacey Braun
Olivia Burger
Michelle Catt
Jennifer Cave-Bauer
Ross Clerk
Sheila Cochren
Emily Condra
Leanna Cooper
Lyndsey Correll Eckert
Samantha Cunningham
Anthony Dant
Donna Denny
Catherine DeWitt
Michael Dilly
Kara Dorsam
Jenna Edwards
Linda Erny
Emily Ferguson

Brenda Figueroa
Kim Fleck
Cassidy Fromme
Misty Gogel
Terri Hamilton
Jessica Hilsmeier
Keylie Holding-Rojas
Sarah Hornaday
Kalen Jochum
Silence Keller
Natalie King
La'Kiegha Knies
Matthew Lacy
Hillary Lawyer
Meghan McKisson
Ethan Merkel
Laura Messmer
Alan Messmer
Carrie Mitchell
Alice Moesner
Bethany Mosier
Tyler Nelson
Allysia Overton
Dr. Ryan Phillips
Rebecca Quillen
Amanda Reed

Christopher Reed
Maria Rosales Valle
Samantha Rose
Emily Sander
Karen Sander
Benjamin Sanders
Travis Schilling
Kyla Schmidt
Sandra Schnaus
Landyn Schneider
Dr. Kyle Schroering
Emily Stoll
Mary Stoll
Rose Stoll
Teia Stolz
Meredith Voegerl
Sherrie Streeter
James Taylor
Amber Tempel
Jennifer Trujillo
Michaela Turner
Dr. Vishal Viswam
Lynetta Wagler
Rachel Wagner
April Welp
Remona Wright

IU to partner with rural Indiana organizations on public art and placemaking projects

This summer 13 rural Indiana organizations will work with Indiana University to create new placemaking and public art elements in their communities through the Rural Placemaking Studio initiative.

A partnership between the IU ServeDesign Center at the Eskenazi School of Art, Architecture and Design and the Center for Rural Engagement, the Rural Placemaking Studio connects IU faculty and students with rural residents who seek to enhance their communities through art and design. The Rural Placemaking Studio collaborates with communities to foster the development of vibrant, accessible public places that can be maintained and sustained for future generations. This can include the physical environment, like the design and aesthetics of buildings and public spaces, as well as the availability of amenities, cultural activities, recreational opportunities and a sense of community.

“Creative placemaking in a rural community is more than a painting a mural,” said Jon Racek, program director of comprehensive design and director of the ServeDesign Center at the Eskenazi School of Art, Architecture and Design. “Placemaking can make a physical marker to a sense of shared memories, and deep connection to a place. It is through placemaking that rural communities can cultivate their unique identity and turn their downtowns into vibrant hubs of cultural heritage and local pride.”

Selected community-identified projects include murals, wayfinding signage, architectural and park design and downtown revitalization efforts. The Rural Placemaking Studio will support community feedback sessions, develop a scope of work and create designs the community will implement on a timeline that fits the project. Students studying comprehensive design, creative placemaking and community arts engagement will work with communities through the summer months alongside Racek and the Center for Rural Engagement team.

The state of Indiana has identified quality of place as a key area of focus for state and federal support through programs like the Regional Economic Acceleration and Development Initiative (READI). Counties in the Indiana Uplands region, where IU Bloomington is located, have each

completed a quality of place and workforce attraction plan in collaboration with Regional Opportunity Initiatives. Creative placemaking promotes inclusive public spaces, cultivates a sense of belonging, preserves and enhances natural and cultural resources and supports economic development.

“A strong quality of place is critical to the vitality of our rural communities and our entire state,” said Denny Spinner, interim executive director at the Center for Rural Engagement. “Through the Rural Placemaking Studio, communities can leverage the creative strengths of IU students and faculty to revitalize their unique local assets that increase hometown pride and attract new visitors and residents.”

2024 Rural Placemaking Studio projects include:

Black Vulture Project (Orange County) is renovating the historic Tomato Products Company building along the former Monon Railway in Paoli and will create architectural designs to create a space for public events.

The City of Charlestown (Clark County) will create a pocket park alongside Short Street, which will include creative seating, lighting, and art. The pocket park will be across the street from City Square, which hosts events and fairs throughout the year.

The Daviess County Economic Development Corp. will create a photo-op station in front of the newly finished “Greetings from Washington” mural.

Discover Downtown Washington (Daviess County) will map and design renderings of wayfinding signage to help connect people to attractions throughout the cities and towns of Daviess County.

INergize Linton (Greene County) will activate an alley that will provide a walking path from 1st Street to Main Street, which will help connect the Linton Public Library and the Carnegie Heritage & Art Center to the downtown business district of Main Street.

The Martin County Alliance for Economic Development will design a splash pad along the riverfront and create cohesive signage and storefront branding for businesses, including innovative signage downtown to promote local business in Shoals, Ind. as well as a welcome sign for the Town of Crane.

The Pekin Community Betterment Organization (Washington County) will design a mural on the exterior walls of the shelter house in a local park.

Spencer Pride (Owen County) will create rooftop signage on its CommUnity Center building and a colorful mural on the building’s exterior.

The Town of Lynnville (Warrick County) will create town branding and wayfinding sign designs, including “Welcome to Lynnville” gateway signs off I-64, IN-68, and IN-61 and wayfinding signs in downtown Lynnville and at trail heads.

Warrick Trails (Warrick County) will conceptualize a design that will transform a parking lot on the corner of First Street

and Main Street in Elberfeld, Ind. into a pocket park.

Participating organizations were selected through a proposal process that included information about the project idea, implementation plans and partners involved. A future call for proposals is planned for winter 2025. The Center for Rural Engagement will launch a free, rural placemaking webinar series open to the public on May 31.

Community planning sessions in participating communities will begin in May. For a schedule of upcoming meetings and more information about the Rural Placemaking Studio, visit <https://rural.indiana.edu>.

~LETTERS TO THE EDITOR~

‘Many lives have been touched’

To the editor of the *Martin County Journal*,

Many thanks to all who came to donate at the April blood drives. The Shoals drive collected 39 units and the Loogootee drive collected 59 units for a total of 98 units. Many lives have been touched by your generosity. You are truly “lifesavers”.

You may now schedule appointments for the June 5 and 6 drives at the Shoals Christian Church and the Loogootee Methodist Church

God’s blessings to all of you,
Lynn Hawkins
American Red Cross Volunteer

‘We need 50 percent to stand firm and say no’

To the editor of the *Martin County Journal*,

A total eclipse of the sun! What a spectacle! What a wondrous sight to behold! We here in Martin County had some of the best seats in the world to experience this event. The day was perfect.

We had several members of the family and friends over, and we sat on our back porch and were in awe. Surrounded by spring freshness, the warm sun, the gentle breeze and quiet of the farms around

Attorney General lists products recalled in March

Attorney General Todd Rokita is alerting Hoosiers of important consumer protection concerns for products recalled in March. The office encourages consumers to take advantage of opportunities available for those who purchase recalled items that could be harmful to their families.

“The biggest concern of any parent is the safety and wellbeing of their children,” Attorney General Rokita said. “You might think you’re getting a good deal but if you invest in a flawed product, it could lead to a devastating disaster. If you have difficulty finding a solution for your recalled product, call my office immediately.”

According to the Consumer Product Safety Commission, the following consumer products were recalled in March:

Forias Pack and Play Mattresses Recalled Due to Suffocation Hazard for Infants; Violations of the Federal Safety Regulation for Crib Mattresses; Sold Exclusively on Amazon.com by Forias Direct

BJ’s Wholesale Club Recalls Berkley Jensen Citronella 72-inch Tiki Torches Due to Burn Hazard

Pure Brands of California Recalls Purefog Juice Liquid Due to Risk of Mold Exposure; Sold Exclusively on Amazon.com BRS and BULin Liquid Fuel Bottles

us. The next time something like this will happen will be in 2045 and those sitting on our back porch could be assailed by traffic noise, exhaust and dust. The Mid-States Corridor’s path is right next to our place. The farm on the other side of the fence could be gone, replaced by an unneeded and unwanted multi-lane highway. The experience will not be the same.

It will be through gatherings like this that we can show our solidarity against the Corridor. This isn’t the only way to show your opposition, any of us that receive letters, phone calls or even visits to our homes from people wanting to “inquire” about our land, in the proposed path of the Corridor, just need to politely say no, hang up the phone and throw the letters in the trash. We need 50 percent to stand firm and say no and we will stop the Corridor.

Don’t forget, David was able to defeat Goliath; and we can fight city hall and win.

Next Saturday, April 20 starting at 3:30 p.m., there will be a rally for Eric Doden at the McCoy Family Farm, 13706 550S, Loogootee. Come on out and meet and chat with a candidate for governor.

Jim Arvin
Rutherford Township
Martin County

Recalled Due to Risk of Burn and Poisoning; Violation of the Children’s Burn Prevention Safety Act; Sold Exclusively on Amazon.com by Tentock

Nestlé USA Recalls Metallic Mugs Sold with Starbucks-Branded Gift Sets Due to Burn and Laceration Hazards

Crown Boiler Recalls Home Heating Boilers Due to Carbon Monoxide Poisoning Hazard

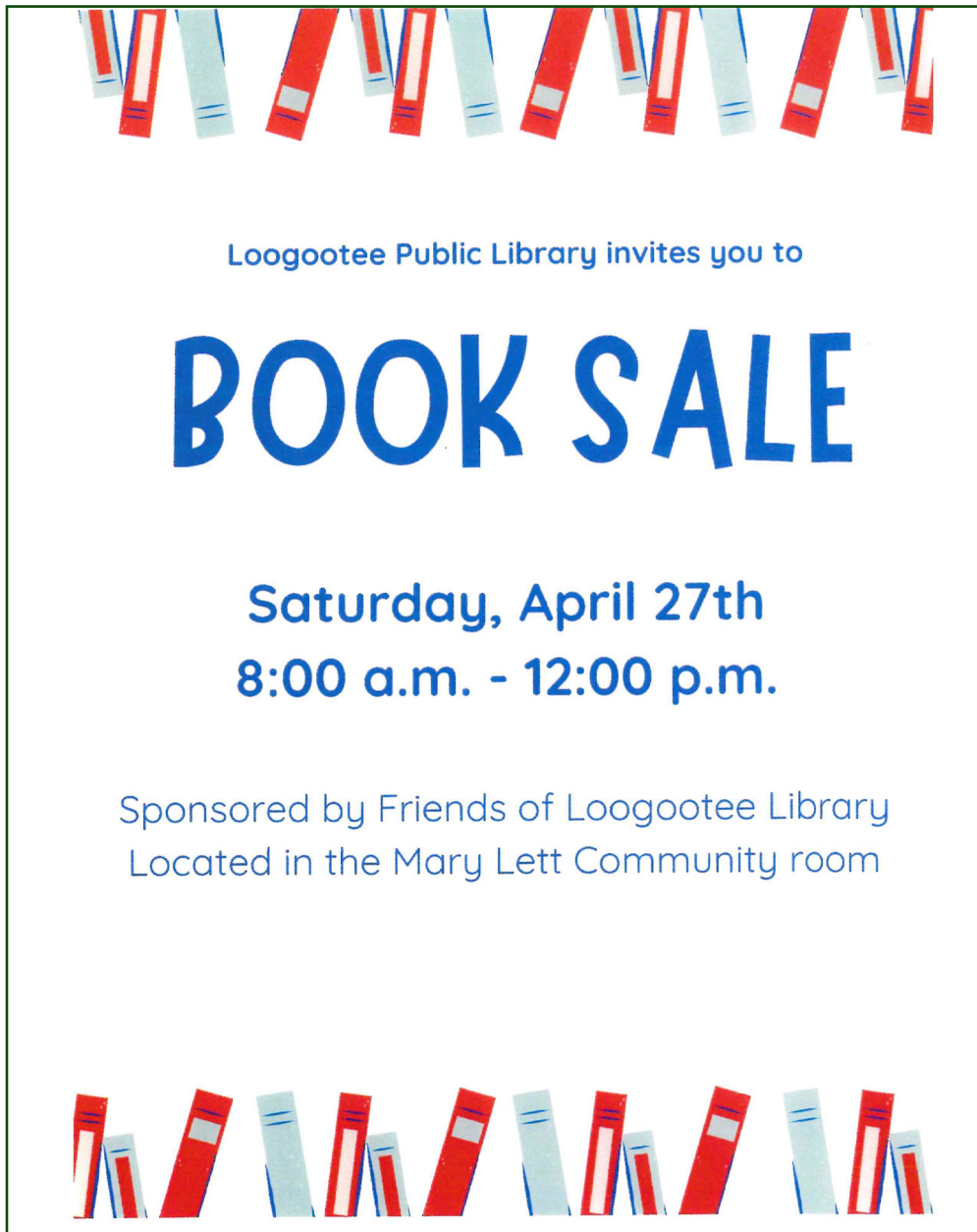
S. Boiler Company Recalls Gas-Fired Hot Water Residential Boilers Due to Carbon Monoxide Poisoning Hazard

Best Buy Recalls Insignia® Air Fryers and Air Fryer Ovens Due to Fire, Burn and Laceration Hazards

Anker EverFrost Lithium-Ion Battery Powered Coolers Recalled Due to Battery Fire Hazard; Manufactured by Anker Innovations

If you believe you recently purchased a recalled product, stop using it, and check its recall notice (linked above for all products). Then follow the notice’s instructions, including where to return the product, how to get the product fixed, how to dispose of the product, how to receive a refund for the product, or what steps must be taken to receive a replacement product.

To view recalls visit www.cpsc.gov/Recalls.



Loogootee Public Library invites you to

BOOK SALE

Saturday, April 27th
8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

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

ELECTION PREVIEW

Three vie for Commissioner District 3 seat

MCJ: Please tell the readers a little about yourself (family, job, volunteer work, education, etc.)

John Daniel: I have been married for 33 years to my lovely wife, Lori Daniel. We have three children: Shaylee Milligan, Mitchell Daniel and Kaleb Daniel, also three wonderful grandsons: Jeb, Daxon and Roean. I've been a resident of Martin County for 51 years and wouldn't want to live anywhere else. Formerly, I was a police officer and I went back to driving a semi. I was injured on the job and I'm currently on disability, which allows me to focus completely on Martin County as a commissioner. I'm a graduate of Shoals High School, a graduate of the Indiana Law Enforcement Academy. I also attended college for Psychology.

Dana Strange: Originally from Martin County, my parents David H. Strange (Bramble) and Janet Sue Gibson Strange (Loogootee) retired here in 1972. I retired from the Army and moved back to Indiana in 2019 with my wife, Cheryl; daughter, Madison and son, Dalton, retiring as a Colonel with a master's degree in management from Oakland City University. Since moving back, I have been involved in several boards, commissions, and groups for the benefit of all that live in Martin County: WestGate Authority, White River Military Coordination Alliance, Crane Regional Defense Group, Radius Indiana and Martin County Re-development Commission and lastly CALL.

Aaron Summers: I graduated from Loogootee High School in 1998 and at-



JOHN DANIEL

tended Vincennes University. I am manager of Toy's Auto Parts in Shoals. I have two daughters. My parents are Richard and Nancy Summers. I have served as commissioner of Martin County for the past 5 years.

MCJ: How do you feel about the wheel tax? Do you think the tax is something that Martin County needs to implement?

John Daniel: We have missed out on a lot of money that would only go to fixing and black topping roads without having the wheel tax. In the last 20 years on an average, we have missed out on around 4 million dollars just in the wheel tax and that's not counting the grants we can't get because we don't have it. I believe we



DANA STRANGE

need to give all the facts to residents and really consider it.

Dana Strange: If we ever expect to get our roads in any decent shape in Martin County the wheel tax is a must. We are a poor county and the funding provided by the state is not going to improve our county roads without us making a little more sacrifice.

Aaron Summers: The wheel tax is a very fragile issue, I get both sides. If it can be balanced and marginally enforced, especially with the farmers, it would be very beneficial to the county. It would be huge for our roads as hot mix is what is needed. We have a great team at our county highway department, and they do a great job with what they have



AARON SUMMERS

to work with.

MCJ: Where do you stand on the Mid-States Corridor? And would you like to see it go around Martin County or through Martin County if it happens?

John Daniel: We need to do everything possible to stop the Mid-States Corridor period. I believe it would be detrimental to our county.

Dana Strange: I believe the Mid-States Corridor is going to happen with the political powers that want it to happen. With the latest options of P1 (Bypass West), P2 (thru Loogootee), P3 (Bypass East) and P4 (Bypass Farther East) we have to come together with ONE VOICE to get what we need in Martin County. (See 'DISTRICT 3' on page 10)

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<div style="background-color: #006633; color: white; padding: 2px; text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">MOTORSPORTS</div> <div style="text-align: center; padding: 5px;"> <p>WRM Marine & Motorsports 812-444-9366</p> <p>Cody Roush, Sales & Service 212 Low Street, Shoals, IN 47581 Hours: Mon.-Fri. 8:30am-5pm</p> <p>info@WhiteRiverMarine.com White River Marine and Motorsports</p> </div>	<div style="background-color: #006633; color: white; padding: 2px; text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">MONUMENTS</div> <div style="text-align: center; padding: 5px;"> <p>MARTIN COUNTY MONUMENTS LLC EST. 2020</p> <p>Emma Letterman, Owner 812-709-2457 • emma.letterman@gmail.com</p> </div>	<div style="background-color: #006633; color: white; padding: 2px; text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">PHYSICIAN</div> <div style="text-align: center; padding: 5px;"> <p>Daviness-Martin Medical Clinic</p> <p>David Nibel, MD Daniell Summers, FNP</p> <p>Lab & X-ray Monday - Friday 8am - 5pm</p> <p>Call us today for an appointment! 812-295-5095</p> <p></p> </div>	<div style="background-color: #006633; color: white; padding: 2px; text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">SPAY/NEUTER</div> <div style="text-align: center; padding: 5px;"> <p>SPAY AND NEUTER!</p> <p>Martin County Humane Society Spay/Neuter Clinic</p> <p>Surgeries on Fridays only. Cats: \$55 Dogs \$100-\$120 Feral cats: \$40 Find out more information on the website</p> <p>Request an appointment at www.humanesocietyofmartincounty.org</p> </div>
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Commissioner District 1 candidates answer questions for voters

MCJ: Please tell the readers a little about yourself (family, job, volunteer work, education, etc.)

Kevin Boyd: Rescinded candidacy

Cody Roush: I have lived in Martin County for nearly my entire life and graduated from Shoals High School. I was a coal miner for 18 years, 10 of which were as a supervisor. Currently, I am running our family business, White River Marine and Motorsports. My wife, Michelle, of 24 years, and our three kids, Kaley, Ellie, and Collin, love to spend time together exploring all the opportunities that are in Martin County. We enjoy fishing and boating on the White River, hiking the DNR trail systems, eating at all the restaurants in the county, and attending all the local events, from West Boggs Lake events to Hindostan Days. I am proud to have raised my three children in Martin County, and I love watching my kids pursue their dreams in school and sports. Four years ago, I was blessed to be elected to serve as a member of a team representing Martin County. As a county commissioner, I have been tasked with addressing issues ranging from losing our ambulance service in the middle of the night to, at times, having the privilege and honor of representing and lobbying for Martin County interests on the floor of the Indiana Statehouse.

Retha Warner: I am a lifelong resident of Martin County and a graduate of Shoals High School. I am the mother of one daughter, Ariel, who was the 2013 Miss Martin County. I have been employed by Memorial Hospital and Healthcare at the Shoals office for 22 years. Prior to that I wore many hats such as working in a dental office, keeping birth and death records for the county under the supervision of Dr. Donald Beemblossom, and a pharmacy technician in Loogootee. I have previously been involved in Martin County Relay for Life, Psi Iota Xi and the Young Republicans. I have also enjoyed working on the elections as a poll worker.

MCJ: How do you feel about the wheel tax? Do you think the tax is something that Martin County needs to implement?

Kevin Boyd: Rescinded candidacy

Cody Roush: As a citizen, I am high-

ly skeptical about new taxes and some of the existing ones. Throwing money at problems doesn't necessarily fix them. There could be multiple reasons behind an issue, and sometimes, adding a tax doesn't fix a problem but further funds the behaviors or strategies that created the problem to begin with. As a commissioner, I see that something needs to change in the funding mechanism to improve roads. For example, the Community Crossings road grant has grown from 1 million to 1.5 million dollars, but we do not have the matching funds available for the additional 500,000 dollars. So, a wheel tax could be a solution to that issue. Blacktop costs around \$80,000 a mile, so we are roughly losing an extra 8 miles a year. Another example is a pending bridge project that requires a matching grant and is proving to be a financial struggle. Finally, a point to remember is that funding received from the gas tax is directly tied to only registered vehicles. Roads are significant contributors to the quality of life in Martin County. They affect housing and business opportunities and directly or indirectly impact all citizens. I truly understand how big of an issue this is for our citizens. Multiple conditions would need to be met before I could really support another tax on the citizens of Martin County. First, I would want to see a comprehensive plan presented by the county highway superintendent that designates how additional funding would be spent. People would be more agreeable to a tax if they were assured of a return on their investment. For example, if the cost of the wheel tax to the average household is less than \$100 a year, there would be an argument that the taxpayer could receive a significant return on that investment, especially if you consider the additional vehicle maintenance costs for Martin County drivers compared to other Indiana counties. For example, we spend more money on front ends and brakes from hitting and dodging potholes and buy more tires from constantly driving on gravel roads. Then, the intangible cost of safety issues is associated with driving on narrow roads. All these costs easily exceed \$100 a year. So, this sort of return-on-investment analysis is owed to the taxpayer before a wheel



RETHA WARNER



CODY ROUSH

tax is considered much less enacted. Another condition that I would insist on before supporting a wheel tax is additional public hearings—beyond what the law requires. Public input would be a must. Ultimately, though my fellow commissioners and I have voiced interest in the wheel tax, it's not our decision; the county council levies taxes. However, the final condition and the most important thing I think the public should demand is a sunset clause. In other words, after a set amount of time, the tax would automatically be terminated unless it was renewed by the council; it would have to go through all the procedures again, including public input, to be enacted again. Essentially, this added safeguard would prevent what usually happens with new taxes—they stay forever. I would propose a three-year window. One year is too short to determine if the taxpayer is getting a return on their investment. Three years would give enough time for the local government to prove or disprove that more money was the right solution. Most importantly, a sunset clause would ensure the biggest safeguard—the people—would have a voice in continuing or terminating a wheel tax.

Retha Warner: In regard to the wheel tax, I am opposed to any new taxes. However, I do feel it is a good tool if it is used properly and dedicated for a specific use, such as paving major connecting

roads using hot mix.

MCJ: Where do you stand on the Mid-States Corridor? And would you like to see it go around Martin County or through Martin County if it happens?

Kevin Boyd: Rescinded candidacy

Cody Roush: I believe that the direction of the Mid-States Corridor will be detrimental to Martin County and its citizens. That is why I supported the Redevelopment Commission Board in hiring engineering consultants to research the impact on our community. I am an active participant on the Mid-State Corridor steering committee because I know the importance of this issue to our county. I believe that most Martin County citizens do not want the Corridor; however, they are on board with an upgrade to US 231 through downtown Loogootee.

Retha Warner: If the Mid-States Corridor were to go through Martin County, my preference would be to use existing roads so no new terrain would be involved. I would support improvements being made to those existing roads to meet the new needs.

MCJ: Do you believe that an elected official should make decisions based on their own personal feelings or what the majority of their constituents want?

Kevin Boyd: Rescinded candidacy

Cody Roush: I think decisions should be made based on life experience and in an informed manner. There is no room for personal feelings regarding official duties and responsibilities. That's why laws, regulations, and policies are so important—a system of checks and balances must ensure equality. Constituent input is incredibly important. I know myself, and I think it's safe to say my fellow commissioners are always pleased when there is a strong community presence at meetings. At the same time, it is also important to conduct duties on a set of principles because it can sometimes be challenging to determine the real consensus on a particular issue. Often, the silent majority relies on the officials they elect to represent them and do the right thing despite the noise of the minority. I think that's a problem in our country. Too many local, state, and national politicians vote whichever way the wind blows to stay in office. They cave into the loud minority at the expense of the silent majority.

Retha Warner: I absolutely believe that as an elected official the decisions being made should focus on what the constituents want. We are working for them and what is best for the county.

MCJ: In your opinion, what should be the number one priority of the board of commissioners?

Kevin Boyd: Rescinded candidacy

Cody Roush: The priority cannot be only one thing. We cannot afford to suffer the consequences of tunnel vision for a few special projects. The commissioners need to be able to dedicate time and thought to multiple important issues that are affecting Martin County. Mid-
(See 'DISTRICT 1' on page 11)

DISTRICT 3

(Continued from page 9)

I believe that P2 (thru Loogootee) is the only solution that actually benefits the county. We would lose some parallel parking downtown but with all new infrastructure; storm drains, sidewalks, etc., we could concentrate our funding on other projects throughout Loogootee and Martin County. Of course, the P1 option seems to be the favorite, we would lose all the tax base here in Martin County when business starts migrating out to the bypass in Daviess County.

Aaron Summers: I firmly believe the Mid-States Corridor should be improving the existing Highway 231 going right through Loogootee, and NOT rerouting it and taking away valuable farming land and homes. Any other route will take away from Martin County!

MCJ: Do you believe that an elected official should make decisions based on their own personal feelings or what the majority of their constituents want?

John Daniel: I believe we should do what's best for our county and that lines up with what the majority of the people agree on most times, but we still can't always keep everyone happy.

Dana Strange: Decisions should always be based off the needs and wishes of the constituents. I can't say my own personal opinion won't have a little say in my thought process, but all my decisions will be on what's best for the entire county.

Aaron Summers: I feel that as an elect-

ed official, you are obliged to listen to the people that elected you, and then make the best decisions for what you feel is best for the county and those that live here.

MCJ: In your opinion, what should be the number one priority of the board of commissioners?

John Daniel: I believe it's hard to decide on just one priority when there are so many duties that the commissioners have to deal with on a daily basis. I feel the Mid-States Corridor and roads should be at the top of the list.

Dana Strange: Authorizing what little resources we have for the betterment of the entire county. Have a 5- and 10-year plan for preventative maintenance and improvement of infrastructure and facilities by prioritizing the greatest need.

Aaron Summers: In my experience as a commissioner, I feel you have to always try to stay ahead and keep the wheels rolling. We have to work ahead and be prepared for what is next. We are going to be seeing a lot of changes in Martin County with Westgate and Crane and we have to prepare for them now!

MCJ: What will be your number one priority if elected/re-elected?

John Daniel: Well I believe that we need to address the Mid-States Corridor and chip and seal or black our roads.

Dana Strange: Bringing the county together with ONE VOICE. We are all trying to do what's best for the county, but we need to work together to achieve the greatest we are capable of, county,

city, towns, schools, West Boggs, Crane NSA...ONE VOICE will get what we want and need.

Aaron Summers: My number one priority is to work to make our county prepared for the future jobs coming to Westgate and Crane with availability of lots of housing, good paved roads etc.

MCJ: Is there anything else you would like to say to the voters that I didn't touch on?

John Daniel: I want the residents of Martin County to know that I will always be upfront and honest. I believe everyone has a voice and should be able to express their opinions on matters as long as they are respectful in doing so. I also believe we have a housing problem in Martin County, and I would like to see some affordable housing whether in the means of tiny homes or apartment buildings.

Dana Strange: After 37 years in the Army one of my greatest achievements was liberating oppressed people and giving them the ability to vote. People die for your right to vote so let's get above 50% at the polls and do what needs to be done...VOTE.

Aaron Summers: One thing I am very proud of since I have been a commissioner, is that I have attended the Commissioners' Conference three out of the four years. I have been able to make contacts. That being said, I am proud to say using those contacts was instrumental in getting our own ambulance service started. I would appreciate your vote.

Five candidates running for three open county council seats

MCJ: Please tell the readers a little about yourself (family, job, volunteer work, education, etc.)

Warren Albright: I am a lifelong resident of Martin County. I graduated from Shoals High School in 1980. I am a member of the Weisbach Community Church. I am an employee of Country Pines, Inc., a local printing business which has been in business for 38 years. My parents are the late Robert (Bob) Albright and Wilma (Montgomery) Albright. My wife is Kimberly (Floyd) Albright and we have been married for 39 years. We have four children – Mylon (Ashley) Albright and Loren (Brittany) Albright of Shelbyville, Byron (Susanna) Albright and Amberly (Jonathan) Zeigler of Shoals, and 17 grandchildren. I currently am serving on the county council, and the Martin County Redevelopment Commission.



WARREN ALBRIGHT

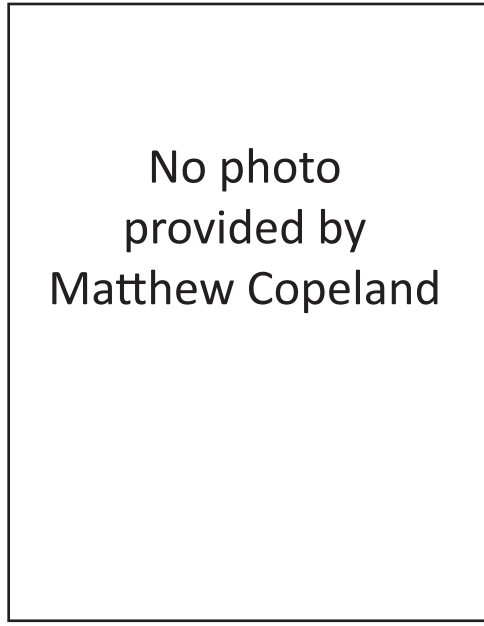
Matthew Copeland: Family- My name is Matthew Copeland, and I live in Halbert Township near Shoals. I moved to this area from Pike County 7 years ago and fell in love with Martin County. My wife Johanna, (12 years married this month!) and I enjoy the country living, and small-town family feel of this area. I have two brothers who also call Shoals home along with 10 beautiful nephews and nieces. Job- I am currently employed with the Town of Shoals and own my own small construction business. Volunteer work- I have had the privilege of serving on the Shoals Volunteer Fire Department for 7 years, and spent 4 years working full-time in EMS, with my full-time service being IU Health. Education- My education was homeschooling, (I was raised in the country of Mexico because my parents are Christian missionaries) and obtained my GED. I spent four trimesters in Bible college in Pennsylvania. Then obtained my pre basic certification as a reserve police officer in Washington, Indiana. After joining the fire department, I obtained FF1 FF2, and over a period of four years obtained my NREMT-B, NREMT-A, and finally in 2021 NREMT- Paramedic. I also had the privilege of training paramedics for



JIM WOODY

Pelham Training and am very honored to have been able to train multiple Indiana National Guard Soldiers to step up from 68whiskeys to be “dust off” flight paramedics!! And I still love learning something new every day, with my current interests being water and wastewater systems, and always more about Jesus!!

Gerald Montgomery: I am married to Exzelia Nelson Montgomery. We have



No photo provided by Matthew Copeland



No photo available for Steven Shout



GERALD MONTGOMERY

taxes. I promise to do the best that I can do, but I am only one vote out of seven on the council. We have to work together for the good of the county.

Matthew Copeland: I am specifically focused on public safety. I feel that the safety of our community is the most important thing on our agenda. I want to see the new county ambulance service be a great success and something that we as a community can trust in and be proud of. I want to be able to help the council with decisions as someone who has invested a massive amount of my life effort into that field and have the past experience to understand the problems that the service is going to face. I also intend to be an advocate for our local law enforcers and firefighters. Our public servants suffer unbelievable abuse by the 1% of lawless society, and we need to stand up like a stone wall against criminals, and the liberals who are trying to destroy our communities and republic at large.

Gerald Montgomery: I do not make many promises, as I'm a veteran in local government and realize there are many limitations on what can and cannot be done. I have much experience working in Martin County government, and I hope to bring that knowledge to the council table.

Steven “Tex” Shout: Chose not to respond.

Jim Woody: I believe that local government can make a real difference for local people. I also believe that those elected must be engaged and interested in working for the best interest of the county.

MCJ: Many departments in Martin County have been pressured over the last few years to make money including the sheriff's department, ambulance service, recycling center. Oftentimes the added work requires additional staffing and funding. In your opinion, should the county council concentrate on providing basic services to Martin County (See 'COUNCIL' on page 12)

DISTRICT 1

(Continued from page 10)

States Corridor, WestGate development, animal control officer, solid waste funding, housing issues, roads, and unsightly properties in the county all affect the quality of life for our current citizens. Hopefully, if these issues are addressed correctly, we will not only retain our current citizens but also attract new citizens to all that Martin County offers. The entire board needs to sustain and improve its engagement on local boards and committees. That's where an impact can be made. When outsiders (potential new businesses) see elected officials at meetings, it signals to potential investors and future stakeholders that Martin County officials are committed to Martin County.

Retha Warner: In my opinion, the number one priority of the board of commissioners is to serve the people in an honest and productive manner and ensure the decisions are based on what will help the county grow to the best of its ability.

MCJ: What will be your number one priority if elected/re-elected?

Kevin Boyd: Rescinded candidacy

Cody Roush: The Martin County economy is my number one priority. I feel that the Martin County Alliance is a vital tool for developing a strong Martin County economy. A strong or weak economy affects all our lives. It affects our overall quality of life, which can be measured by multiple things, such as the quality of our roads, how well our children's schools are funded, and our access to quality local services and products. I have the privilege of serving as the President of the Martin County Alliance. I

continue to be excited about that because it allows me to collaborate with others to effectuate the change we need.

Retha Warner: My number one priority, if elected, is to unite the county to make positive changes by focusing on transparent governance. This will help build a better community where all voices can be heard by encouraging citizens to take part in the meetings in person or by watching them on YouTube.

MCJ: Is there anything else you would like to say to the voters that I didn't touch on?

Kevin Boyd: Rescinded candidacy

Cody Roush: If I am fortunate enough to be re-elected, I will continue asking tough questions and holding people accountable for their actions. I will continue to endeavor to work as a team with my fellow commissioners, the county council, and all fellow elected officials. I will always strive to make Martin County better for the future. I ran four years ago because I believe the government should serve the needs of the entire community, not just a select few or special interest groups. I am now running for re-election to sustain and improve our changes. I would appreciate your support in the upcoming May primary election. God Bless Martin County! J. Cody Roush for Commissioner 2024

Retha Warner: Becoming a commissioner would provide me with a unique opportunity to directly impact my community's growth and development. This is my home, along with the people of our county, that I care about. I wish to be a voice of the people that I would serve.

three daughters, Jnell (Clark) Gray, Melinda (Rob) Fuqua, and Elizabeth (Ben) Caudill, eight grandchildren and one great grandson. I pastor the Southside Wesleyan Church in Bloomfield. I drive a school bus for the Shoals Community Schools. As far as volunteer work, I serve on the Board of Old Paths Tract Society, and Hoosier Uplands board. I've served on both boards for many years. I graduated from Shoals High School. I have taken many religious classes in regard to my ministry.

Steven “Tex” Shout: Chose not to respond.

Jim Woody: I was raised in Rutherford Township and graduated from Loogootee High School in 1989. Son of Pat and the late Gib Wininger. I am a lifelong resident of Martin County. My wife, Tammy, and I have two sons, a daughter and two grandchildren. I am a Group Manager with Amentum, a contracting company at NSWC Crane where I have been employed for 19 years. Tammy and I started Woody's Lawn Service, LLC in 2018. I am a member of the Shoals United Methodist Church and lifetime member of the VFW post 9395 Auxiliary, where I am a past president.

MCJ: Many who run for office make promises prior to being elected but then do not follow through with those promises. Is there anything specific you are running on that you will continue to advocate for once elected?

Warren Albright: I will try to use the revenue allocated to the various funds in the best way, so we don't need to raise

Kevin Boyd renounces candidacy for Commissioner District 1

To the residents of Martin County,

I am hereby renouncing my candidacy for Commissioner District 1 of Martin County. Having decided after great deliberation that I do not have the time to campaign as needed, I chose to no longer be a candidate for Commissioner. Once this decision was made, it was too late to have my name removed from the ballot of May 7th Primary Election.

I am asking that you do not vote for me on May 7th, 2024. I feel that Retha Warner would be a good choice as Commissioner and am asking any supporters for me to consider Retha Warner as their choice as well. I believe Retha Warner would be fair to all citizens of Martin County.

This renouncement does not affect my candidacy for Precinct Committeeman for the Town of Shoals, East Memphis District.

Thank You for all your past and future support.

-Ad paid for by Kevin Boyd.

COUNCIL

(Continued from page 10)

residents or continue to do whatever is possible to extend those services to other counties to make money?

Warren Albright: Several departments have done a GREAT job of generating additional revenue for the general fund which then helps with raises, additional personnel and equipment. Our job is to take care of Martin County taxpayers. If we are providing services outside of our county that are losing money, we need to stop doing it. The council does not get to dictate operating procedures, our job is allocating money.

Matthew Copeland: The main goal of county services is, by definition, to serve the county. However, when department leaders feel they have found a cost-effective way to bring additional revenue into their department, I support them in that. Obviously, one must look at the entire picture. For example, does the revenue offset staffing costs, vehicle maintenance, etc. and still leave enough profit to make it worth the effort? We should only extend services to other counties if it benefits our overall business plan and does not impede services to our citizens. Example: We should be willing to provide mutual EMS aid to counties who do the same for us when we have units available.

Gerald Montgomery: I feel it is more important to concentrate on Martin County. I fear that if we branch out too much to other counties, we may end up neglecting our own people, and the goals and duties of our departments.

Steven "Tex" Shout: Chose not to respond.

Jim Woody: The county council's first obligation should be to Martin County. We must continue to provide essential services to residents while staying within our budget. The county cannot afford a council that does not hold each department accountable for their own budget.

MCJ: Would you vote in favor of implementing a wheel tax?

Warren Albright: I have been against the wheel tax every time it comes up, but I represent the people and the majority of the people have been against it.

Matthew Copeland: Yes IF: 1. every penny must go to roads and 2. It is not excessive. I personally would be willing to part with some additional money to have better roads. I might even save more in vehicle maintenance for tires, tie rods, and ball joints than the additional tax!!!

Gerald Montgomery: I don't have enough information to vote in favor of a wheel tax. I do know the state and federal governments limit Martin County's ability to obtain some grants. Let me just say, I am not in favor of more taxes.

Steven "Tex" Shout: Chose not to respond.

Jim Woody: Martin County is long overdue for the wheel tax. Take a short drive to some of our neighboring counties. It's not difficult to see the difference in the quality of the roads. Even the main roads in Martin County are in desperate need of attention. A wheel tax would make it possible for better roads.

MCJ: Do you believe that an elected official should make decisions based on their own personal feelings or what the majority of their constituents want?

Warren Albright: I have strong moral beliefs that could affect how I vote, everything else will be what the majority of the constituents want.

Matthew Copeland: I believe that as representatives of the people, we should support the will of the people. However, when it comes to moral issues, I am a Bible believing, Christian conservative, and I will always be that way. That is who I am. If that is not what you want in office, then I would gently suggest you vote for someone else because I have no intentions of changing.

Gerald Montgomery: As an elected official we are representatives of the people of Martin County. It is our duty to do what is best to the best of our ability. Personal feelings should not be a part of our decision, although occasionally first-hand knowledge could play into our decision. What I would hope for is an informed people.

Steven "Tex" Shout: Chose not to respond.

Jim Woody: As an elected official, I believe decisions should be made in the best interest of the county residents. All of Martin County deserves better.

MCJ: What are your thoughts on the Mid-States Corridor? And would you like to see it go around Martin County or through Martin County if it happens?

Warren Albright: I don't believe that the Mid-States Corridor helps Martin County at all. If it happens it needs to stay on 231 and go thru Loogootee.

Matthew Copeland: I oppose the Mid-States Corridor because I don't believe it will be good for Martin County. I would support an improvement of the current Highway 231 and keep it running through Loogootee. I69 is close enough for those who want to bypass all the small towns. As to "around" or "through", if they run it through in spite of our opposition, then I suppose that it will be up to landowners

selling or not selling. But I want to see 231 improved and no corridor.

Gerald Montgomery: I do not want to see Martin County get left out of the commerce that this road would create, on the other hand I don't want to see the road take out Martin County farmland, thereby reducing our tax base in a county that already has too small of a tax base. With neither of these options being good for Martin County, I think it would be to our advantage to improve and enhance Highway 231.

Steven "Tex" Shout: Chose not to respond.

Jim Woody: I am not a supporter of the Mid-States Corridor. If the new route does include Martin County, my hope would be that it would follow the current 231 route and provide significant upgrades to local infrastructure along the way.

MCJ: Is there anything else you would like to get across to the voters?

Warren Albright: The number one focus of the county council should be to control spending. It has been a privilege to serve you and I would be honored to have your vote on May 7. If you want to contact me my phone number is 812-709-0099 e-mail albrightwd@gmail.com.

Matthew Copeland: Why do I think you should vote for me instead of another

candidate? Well, I think there are other great people on the ballot, and I intend to vote for two of them myself. But I ask for your vote as a young man who wants to provide the hope and energy of someone who wants to see this county thriving in 30 and 40 years from now. I want to make sure Martin County is a great place for my nephews and nieces to live, work, worship, and recreate for years to come. We need people with years of experience running government without a doubt, but we also need to include younger visionaries as well. Thank you to my friends in Martin County for everything you have done for me! I owe this community a debt of love that I will have to spend the rest of my life trying to repay. You truly are some of the most beautiful people on God's green earth, and I am proud to be one of your neighbors. God Bless.

Gerald Montgomery: I thank Martin County for the experience I have had as recorder and as clerk. I would like to bring my experience to the county council and ask for your vote on May 7th.

Steven "Tex" Shout: Chose not to respond.

Jim Woody: As a lifelong resident of Martin County, I want our county to move forward. I believe that starts at the local level. I would appreciate your vote for county council at-large.

Primary Election to be held on May 7

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.

In-office absentee voting started 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.

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)
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

Two 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 Humane Society

WELLNESS CLINIC

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