

The circus is coming to town

Thanks to the sponsorship of The Martin County Chamber and Loogootee Little League, Culpepper & Merriweather Circus is coming to Loogootee on Monday, April 28 at the Little League Field, with two scheduled performances at 5 and 7:30 p.m.

Bring your friends and family out circus morning to watch as a familiar place in your town is transformed into a bustling Circus City. Activity swirls around the grounds as animals are unloaded, the Big Top is erected, and rigging is prepared for performances later in the day.

Between 9:30 and 10 a.m. come watch the raising of the Big Top, then stay for the free tour. This presentation offers a unique face-to-face opportunity for families,



schools, and interested community members to meet and learn all about the Culpepper & Merriweather Circus family and includes a walking tour of the circus grounds. Learn interesting facts about performers, the history of the show and the different species of animals in the circus family. In this presentation they will also address topics such as hygiene, grooming and the veterinary care all of their animals receive. In recent years the tent raising and morning tour has become a popular program for families and interested community members. It is presented in a way everyone, young and old can learn many interesting facts about the Culpepper

& Merriweather Circus Family and now they have a brand new tent! On circus day, performers bring the magic of the circus to life in each 90-minute performance. This year's lineup includes an all-star group of performers and entertainers that include: Miss Simone and her breath taking single trapeze, Miss Paulina's proud "Big & Little" prancing ponies, The Arlise Troupe on their wild and crazy unicycles, Natalie's American Eskimo Escapades, and back by popular demand Miss April and her on the edge of your seat Rola Bola. This year they have Miss Gorgia displaying flexibility to the extreme and for the first time, the Wheel of Destiny & Tight Rope by The Los Moralitos. But, let's not forget the favorite performing jungle cats, Solomon, Delilah and Francis, presented by Mr. Trey Key, that will certainly have you on the

(See 'CIRCUS' continued on page 3)

Woman's body found in river

On April 2, 2014 at approximately 10 p.m., the Martin County Sheriff's Department was contacted about a missing person, Christine Wright, of Shoals. Family members advised that they last seen Christine at approximately 1:30 p.m. on April 2 leaving her residence. Family members believed Christine to be in harm and an active missing person's case was initiated. After following up on leads and searches of the area that Christine was last seen, the sheriff's department was unable to locate Christine. Christine was then entered into IDACS and NCIC through the Martin County Sheriff's Department as a missing person.

On April 20, 2014 at 10:27 a.m., the Martin County Sheriff's Department received a 911 call about a body that had been located in the White River just south of the Houghton Bridge. Martin County Sheriff's Deputy Damon Baker and Loogootee Police Captain Jason Hennette responded to the area of Houghton Lane and met with the individual who had located the body. Officers were taken by boat to the area that the body was located and confirmed the body to be that of a female. Indiana Conservation Officer's Eric Doane and Tony Mann were contacted for assistance in recovering the body.

The female was identified as 41-year-old Christine Wright, of Shoals. An autopsy was conducted and the cause of death was consistent with that of drowning. The manner of death will be determined at a later date. Foul play is not suspected.

(See 'BODY' continued on page 2)

Cancer survivors sought for annual dinner

Martin County always celebrates cancer survivors with a dinner which will be held this year on May 28 at the Martin County Community Building. Every cancer survivor is welcomed to attend and bring a guest. This dinner was donated and will be catered by Carla's Catering.

In order to send out invitations, the survivor committee must know who the survivors are and need to update their list. Please send your information to Survivor Chairman Paula Ringwald at 3799 US Highway 50 Loogootee, or email her at paularingwald@gmail.com or co-chair Shelly Ringwald at 3867 US Highway 50, Loogootee, or e-mail her at timothy.ringwald@gmail.com. All survivors are also urged to attend the Relay for Life event and walk the Survivor Lap if possible. After the survivor lap you will once again be joining the committee, team captains, and participants in a meal served at Loogootee High School where the Relay for Life Event will be held on May 30-31 starting at 6 p.m. This year the event will be held inside the gymnasium with air-conditioning so weather will not be an issue.

Please send your name, address, shirt size, cancer diagnosis date, and type of cancer as soon as possible to Paula or Shelly.

County had 20th lowest jobless rate in state for March

BY COURTNEY HUGHETT
Martin County Journal Publisher

Martin County's unemployment rate dropped from 6 percent in February to 5.5 percent in March. The county had the 20th lowest jobless rate in the state last month.

In March, the county had 5,207 residents in the workforce with 285 of them without jobs. In February, there were 5,137 residents able to work and 310 of them unemployed.

In March of last year, the county had a jobless rate of 6 percent with 5,120 residents in the workforce and 306 of them without jobs.

Dubois County's jobless rate fell from 4.9 percent in February to 4.4 percent in March. The county had the second lowest jobless rate in the state last month. In March, there were 21,241 residents in the workforce with 941 without jobs. In February, there were 21,536 residents able to work and 1,057 of them unemployed.

In March of last year, Dubois County's jobless rate was 5.7 percent with 21,134 residents in the workforce and 1,214 of them without jobs.

Daviess County's unemployment rate also dropped in March to 4.5 percent, down from 5.1 percent in February. The county had the third lowest jobless rate in the state for March.

In March, the county had 14,997 residents in the workforce with 675 of them without jobs. In February, there were 14,886 residents able to work and 755 of them were unemployed.

In March of last year, Daviess County had a jobless rate of 5.9 percent with 14,731 residents in the workforce and 869 of them without jobs.

Orange County also had a drop in their jobless rate from February to March, moving from 7.8 percent to 6.9 percent. The county had the 32nd highest jobless rate in the state

last month.

In March, Orange County had 10,081 residents in the workforce with 694 of them without jobs. In February, there were 10,167 residents able to work and 792 of them were unemployed.

In March of last year, the county's unemployment rate was 9.4 percent with 10,061 residents in the workforce and 946 of them without jobs.

Lawrence County's unemployment rate moved from 10 percent in February to 8.3 percent in March. The county had the fourth highest jobless rate in the state last month, tied with Jasper and Fayette counties.

In March, the county had 21,457 residents in the workforce with 1,790 of them without jobs. In February, there were 21,395 residents able to work with 2,140 residents unemployed.

In March of last year Lawrence County (See 'UNEMPLOYMENT' cont. on page 2)



Easter morning sunrise

-Photo by Bill Whorrall, www.billwhorrall.com

On Easter Sunday, at the morning sunrise service, anyone looking up was pleasantly surprised with the gorgeous sky. A rainbow decided to come up with the sun. Can't imagine a better way to bring in the Easter morning.

West Boggs
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Daviess-Martin Joint County Parks & Recreation Dept.
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UNEMPLOYMENT

(Continued from page one) had a jobless rate of 10.7 percent with 21,151 residents in the workforce with 2,263 of them without jobs.

The top ten counties with the lowest jobless rate in the state for March were: Hamilton at 4.3 percent, Dubois at 4.4 percent, Daviess at 4.5 percent, Bartholomew at 4.7 percent, Knox at 4.8 percent, Hendricks at 4.9 percent, LaGrange, Kosciusko and Jackson at 5 percent; and Boone at 5.1 percent.

The top ten counties with the highest jobless rate in the state for March were: Vermillion at 9.8 percent, LaPorte at 8.6 percent, Lake at 8.4 percent, Fayette, Jasper and Lawrence at 8.3 percent; Starke at 8.2 percent, Newton and Vigo at 8.1 percent, and

Crawford and Owen at 7.9 percent.

Indiana's seasonally-adjusted unemployment rate continued to drop further below the national rate in March. At 5.9 percent, the rate of unemployment in the Hoosier State is now at its lowest point since July 2008 and has declined by 2 percent over the year,

	March 2013	Feb. 2014	March 2014	Monthly Change
Indiana	7.9%	6.1%	5.9%	-0.2%
U.S.	7.5%	6.7%	6.7%	0.0%
Illinois	9.2%	8.7%	8.4%	-0.3%
Kentucky	8.3%	7.8%	7.9%	0.1%
Michigan	8.8%	7.7%	7.5%	-0.2%
Ohio	7.3%	6.5%	6.1%	-0.4%

which was the third largest decline in the nation.

Indiana's labor force increased again in March, marking the sixth straight month of labor force increases. The Hoosier labor force has grown by more than 25,000 in the first quarter of 2014.

The Hoosier State added 3,200 private sector jobs in March. Indiana ranks eighth in the nation in total private sector job growth since July, 2009, the low point of employment in

the state. During that time, Indiana has grown 215,500 private sector jobs. Over the past year, Indiana's manufacturing job growth of 12,700 leads the nation, solidifying its position as the state with the largest percentage of manufacturing jobs as a portion of the private sector in the country.

"Indiana's unemployment rate is now below six percent for the first time since July of 2008," said Scott B. Sanders, Commissioner of the Indiana Department of Workforce Development. "Our rate has dropped by two percentage points in one year, which is the third largest decline in the nation. The Hoosier labor force has grown by more than 25,000 in the first quarter of 2014 alone, which is also remarkable."

Sanders also noted claims for state unemployment insurance in March were nearly 10,000 below March 2013 levels and are at their lowest since 2007. Initial claims for unemployment insurance are at their lowest levels since 2000.

Employment by Sector

Sectors showing gains in March include: Leisure and Hospitality (3,300), Construction (700), Private Educational & Health Services (500), Manufacturing (300) and Professional & Business Services (300). Sectors showing decline in March include: Trade, Transportation & Utilities (-2,700), and Financial Activities (-600). Total non-farm employment increased in March (4,600).

BODY

(Continued from page one)

Assisting Corporal Josh Greene in the investigation were Shoals Town Marshal Todd Eckert, Martin County Sheriff's Department Sgt. Keith Keller and Deputy Damon Baker, Indiana Conservation Officers Eric Doane and Tony Mann, Loogootee Police Captain Jason Hennette, Martin County Coroner's office and Martin County Ambulance Service.

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OBITUARIES

Wednesday, April 23, 2014 ~ Martin County Journal

GORDON "PIKE" BOUGH

Gordon D. "Pike" Bough went to be with his Lord and Savior at 6:30 a.m. Sunday, April 20, 2014 at his home. A resident of Shoals, he was 74.

He was born December 10, 1939 in Martin County; the son of the late Claude and Lucy (Jewell) Bough. He married Judith Diane Brassine in Dover Hill on September 18, 1959 and she preceded him in death on June 27, 2000.

He retired from logistics at United States Gypsum in Shoals, and faithful member of the Shoals Christian Church.

He is survived by one daughter, Misty Hightower of Trinity Springs; two sons, Robert Bough of Trinity Springs and Mike and Penny Bough of Dubois; one granddaughter, Hillary Jones; one grandson, Hunter Hightower; one great-grandson, Bentlee Witt; his companion, Wanda Cooper of Shoals; two sisters, Linda Melton of Yuma, Arizona and Loria Mae Wilson of Shoals; one brother, Joseph Bough of Martinsville; and numerous nieces and nephews.

He is preceded in death by his parents, wife, one sister, Velma Tharp, and two brothers, Bernard Bough and Doyle Bough.

Visitation will be on today, Wednesday, April 23 from 4-8:00 p.m. at the Queen-Lee Funeral Home in Shoals. The funeral will be held on Thursday at 11 a.m. at the funeral home. He will be laid to rest in Trinity Springs Cemetery.

Condolences may be made to the family at

www.queenlee.com.

MARCELLA RUSSELL

Marcella S. Russell passed away at 5:55 a.m. Thursday, April 17, 2014 at the IU Health Hospice House in Bloomington. A resident of Shoals, she was 74.

She was born on September 20, 1939 in Martin County; the daughter of Donald Freeman and Evelyn (Richardson) Stewart. She married Donald W. Tedrow and he passed away in 2002.

She retired from R.C.A. in Bloomington. She is survived by her companion, Lester Gammon of Shoals; two sons, William K. Tedrow of Bedford and Warren B. Tedrow of Sioux Falls, South Dakota; two grandsons, William Tedrow and Robert Tedrow both of Mitchell; five great-grandchildren; two brothers, Donald Richard Stewart of Jasper and Terry Lee Stewart of Otwell; two sisters, Mary Skobel of Benton, Illinois and Carolyn Stewart of Otwell.

She is preceded in death by her parents, a granddaughter, Trisha Tedrow; and one sister, Sheila.

A funeral service was held Saturday, April 19 at Queen-Lee Funeral Home. Burial followed in Spring Hill Cemetery in Shoals.

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

MERTON TOW, JR.

Merton Tow, Jr. passed away at 9:35 p.m. April 19, 2014 at the Garden Villa in Bedford.

A resident of Shoals, he was 80.

He was born January 7, 1934 in Shoals; the son of Merton and Letha (Earl) Tow, Sr. He married Mary Jane Bledsoe on September 3, 1960 in Palmaria, Indiana, and she survives.

He retired as an ammunition worker from NWSC Crane, was a member of the West Shoals Church of Christ, and a veteran of the United States Air Force during the Korean War.

He is survived by his wife of 53 years, Mary Jane Tow of Shoals; one daughter, Kristy Gee of Shoals; two sons, Merton Timothy Tow of Shoals and Sheldon Tow of Bedford; one granddaughter, Shelby Venters of Shoals and one grandson, Devin Venters of Shoals.

He is preceded in death by his parents; two sisters; Zelma Tow and Ruth Thimling; eight brothers, Jesse, Carl, Harold, Roy, Virgil, Oral, Nelson, and Merton's twin brother, Martin Tow.

A funeral service was conducted this morning, Wednesday, April 23 at Queen-Lee Funeral Home. Burial followed in Spring Hill Cemetery. American Legion Post #61 accorded military graveside rites.

Condolences may be made to the family at www.queenlee.com.

JONATHAN HESHELMAN

Jonathan David Heshelman died Friday, April 18, 2014 at Riley Hospital in Indianapolis. A resident of Odon, he was just seven months old.

He was born August 28, 2013 in Washington; the son of Joshua Heshelman and Melissa Hall. He went to sleep and met Jesus in his mother's loving arms. He was a very fun and loving little seven month old; he was full of life and would smile. Every time you would see him he would be smiling.

He is survived by his parents, Joshua Heshelman and Melissa Hall of Odon; two brothers, Isaac Dewayne Heshelman of Odon and Jacob Henry Heshelman of Plainville; two sisters, Dakota Heshelman of Plainville and Mia Heshelman of Worthington; paternal grandparents, John and Donna Heshelman of Odon; and maternal grandfather, Jack Hall of Odon.

He is preceded in death by his maternal grandmother, Brenda Hall.

Graveside funeral services were conducted Tuesday, April 22 at Fair Haven Mennonite Church Cemetery in Montgomery.

Brocksmith-Blake and Wagler Funeral Home in Montgomery was in charge of arrangements.

Online condolences may be made at www.brocksmithblakefuneralhomes.com.

ORA TAYLOR

Ora (Hembree) Taylor died at 1:05 a.m. Friday, April 18, 2014 at Memorial Hospital in Jasper. A resident of Loogootee, she was 88.

She was born September 15, 1925, in Martin County; the daughter of Orian and Ora (Parsons) Hembree.

A retiree from RCA, she attended the Revival Center Church in Loogootee.

Her first husband, David Gale Hotz, preceded her in death. In 2002, she married David A. "Henry" Taylor and he survives.

Also surviving are two daughters, Sandy Hotz of Washington and Rita Harsha of Jasper; two brothers, Orian Hembree of Iowa and Norman Hembree of Carlisle; three sisters, Delphie Sendelwick of Jasper, Lucille Fuhrman of Loogootee and Edith Ziegler of Washington; five grandchildren; 18 great grandchildren; and three great-great grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents; a son, Larry Hotz; two daughters, Nancy and Sheila Hotz; six sisters; and three brothers.

Funeral services will be at a later date. There will be no visitation.

Online condolences may be made at www.brocksmithblakefuneralhomes.com.

CIRCUS

(Continued from page one)

edge of your seats! All accompanied by original music written by the talented, Matt Margucci from Los Angeles, California.

For more information visit the circus Facebook page with videos, photos and comments from past sponsors and patrons. For a direct link you can go to www.cmcircus.com and click on the fb link.

Save money by purchasing your tickets in advance at these locations: Old National of Loogootee, Martin County Chamber of Commerce and the Loogootee Mayor's Office. Prices for advance tickets are \$6 for children ages 2 to 12, children under 2 are always free, and \$10 for adults. On show day tickets will be \$13 for adults and \$7 for children. For more information or to purchase discount tickets with a credit card call 866-BIG TOP 6. Discount tickets will be available even on show day but, only at this number till 4 p.m. Monday - Friday, Central Time.

Now in its 30th edition, C&M Circus has become internationally known for quality family entertainment. This authentic One-Ring, Big Top Circus has been featured on National Geographic's Explorer TV series, Entertainment Tonight, The Los Angeles Times, The Chicago Tribune, Arizona Highways Magazine.

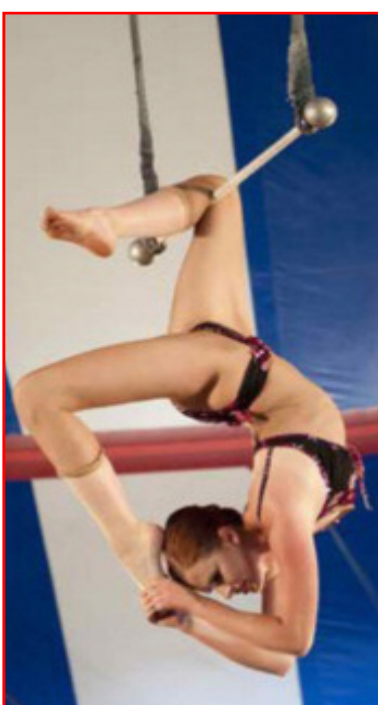
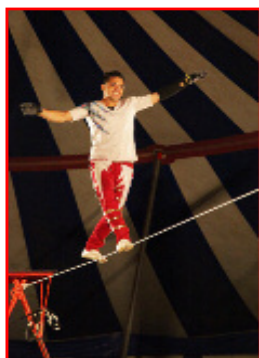


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Martin County Sheriff's Department log

THURSDAY, APRIL 10

10:35 a.m. - Received a report of an injured cat on U.S. 150.

11:08 a.m. - Received request for an ambulance in Shoals.

1:50 p.m. - Received a report of a vehicle on fire in Shoals.

5:05 p.m. - Received report of a tree down and across the roadway on State Road 450.

5:20 p.m. - Received a report of a tree down and across the roadway on Davis School Road.

6:00 p.m. - Received a report of a young child walking along U.S. 50, east of Dover

Hill Road. A concerned citizen stayed with the child until officers arrived and returned the child home.

6:34 p.m. - Received a report of a trespass in Shoals.

8:31 p.m. - Received a report of a neighboring dog on a homeowner's porch in Shoals.

FRIDAY, APRIL 11

7:30 a.m. - Received a report of a deceased animal on a porch in Shoals.

8:00 a.m. - Received a report of a moved dog, stolen lawn mower and stolen underwear in Shoals.

9:50 a.m. - Received a report of a road rage on U.S. 231 South.

11:38 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Crane.

2:33 p.m. - Received a report of a suspicious vehicle on Asbell Road.

5:00 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Shoals.

7:10 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Shoals.

8:33 p.m. - Received a report of a fire on U.S. 150. Shoals Volunteer Fire Department responded and determined it was a controlled burn.

8:35 p.m. - Received a report of telephone harassment.

SATURDAY, APRIL 12

12:19 p.m. - Received a report of a property damage accident on State Road 450. Deputy McBeth responded to scene.

1:52 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Shoals.

2:06 p.m. - Received report of a property damage accident on Stiles Road. Deputy McBeth responded to scene.

5:15 p.m. - Received a dog complaint in Shoals.

SUNDAY, APRIL 13

11:41 a.m. - Received a report of a theft in Shoals.

1:29 p.m. - Received a report of a dog complaint in Shoals.

MONDAY, APRIL 14

8:17 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee.

8:35 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee.

10:15 a.m. - Received a report of a dog complaint in Shoals.

11:20 a.m. - Received a report of vandalism in Shoals.

1:30 p.m. - Received a report of a theft in Shoals.

2:22 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee.

3:38 p.m. - Received a report of trespassing in Shoals.

4:26 p.m. - Received a report of child abuse in Loogootee.

11:47 p.m. - Received a report of a tree down and across the roadway on Fred Sims Lane. Martin County Civil Defense responded and removed the debris from the roadway.

TUESDAY, APRIL 15

11:42 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee.

12:45 p.m. - Received a report of a civil dispute in Shoals.

1:52 p.m. - Received a report of a property damage accident on U.S. 50, west of Shoals.

5:33 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee.

7:21 p.m. - Received a report of a domestic dispute in Shoals.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 16

7:55 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Shoals.

6:50 p.m. - Received a report of a domestic dispute in Loogootee.

7:51 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee.

THURSDAY, APRIL 17

9:46 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee.

10:41 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee.

4:16 p.m. - Received a report of a fire in Shoals.

10:24 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Shoals.

FRIDAY, APRIL 18

12:25 p.m. - Received a report of a property damage accident on U.S. 50 near State Road 450.

1:10 p.m. - Received a report of vandalism in Indian Springs.

3:04 p.m. - Received a report of a property damage accident in Shoals.

3:52 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee.

4:16 p.m. - Received a report of a property damage accident on U.S. 231 North.

4:43 p.m. - Received a report of a structure fire on Gun Shop Road. Shoals Volunteer Fire Department responded.

4:50 p.m. - Received a report of a property damage accident on U.S. 50 in Shoals.

SATURDAY, APRIL 19

1:21 p.m. - Report of a burglar alarm on Spout Springs Road. Martin County Deputy Keller responded.

1:30 p.m. - Report of a theft on Broadway Street in Loogootee. Loogootee Officer Hennette responded.

3:29 p.m. - Received a report of an accident on US 231. Deputy Keller responded.

3:41 p.m. - Received a report of a brush fire on East River Road. Shoals Fire Department responded.

5:55 p.m. - Received a report of an alarm on Church Street. Loogootee Police Department responded.

10:23 p.m. - Received a report of someone trying to break in a business in Loogootee. Loogootee Police Department responded.

9:29 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance on SR 450. Subject was transported to Queen Lee by Martin County Ambulance.

9:42 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Shoals. Subject was transported to Bloomington Hospital by Martin County Ambulance.

3:18 p.m. - Received a report of a dog problem on McCormick Street. Deputy Baker responded.

10:24 p.m. - Received a report of an alarm on Church Street. Loogootee Police responded.

MONDAY, APRIL 21

12:24 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance on the Public Square in Loogootee. Martin County Ambulance transported subject to Daviess Community Hospital.

5:11 a.m. - Received a report of a car-deer accident on Highway 231.

5:48 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Doane Trailer Park. Subject was transported to Jasper Memorial Hospital by Martin County Ambulance.

6:33 a.m. - Received a report of a car-deer accident on Hwy 50.

7:31 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Redwing Trailer Court. Subject was transported to Jasper Memorial Hospital by Martin County Ambulance.

3:05 pm - Received request for an ambulance in Shoals.

4:02 p.m. - Received a report of vandalism in Shoals.

5:50 p.m. - Received a report of a dog complaint in Shoals.

9:23 p.m. - Received a report of a prowler in Shoals.

11:23 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee.

Loogootee Police Department log

MONDAY, APRIL 14

4:48 a.m. - Caller requested an officer conduct a security check on a residence at NE 3rd Street.

11:04 a.m. - Received a report of a female causing problems in a local business. Chief Rayhill responded.

7:23 p.m. - Captain Akles responded to a business alarm.

10:57 p.m. - Caller reported a theft.

TUESDAY, APRIL 15

6:55 a.m. - Caller requested a welfare check on a male.

11:42 p.m. - Received a report of a 911 hang-up on Vine Street.

5:52 p.m. - Caller reported a person refusing to leave a business.

6:09 p.m. - Caller reported a suspicious vehicle on Hwy 231.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 16

4:02 p.m. - Captain Hennette assisted with an emergency detention.

7:00 p.m. - Received a report of a business alarm.

7:53 p.m. - First responders were requested on JFK Avenue for a medical problem.

THURSDAY, APRIL 17

10:41 a.m. - Received a battery complaint.

4:02 p.m. - Captain Akles responded to a residential alarm.

7:17 p.m. - Officer Nolan responded to a residential alarm.

8:05 p.m. - Caller reported property damage.

8:53 p.m. - Caller reported a theft of medication.

FRIDAY, APRIL 18

5:50 a.m. - Caller requested an officer check on a suspicious vehicle.

4:14 p.m. - First responders were requested on US 231 for a vehicle accident.

5:42 p.m. - Caller reported a possible intoxicated driver.

SATURDAY, APRIL 19

11:04 p.m. - Caller reported a battery complaint.

SUNDAY, APRIL 20

10:27 a.m. - Captain Hennette assisted the Martin County Sheriff's Department with a body located in the river near Houghton Bridge.

10:28 p.m. - Sgt. Norris responded to a business alarm.

Accident report

FRIDAY, APRIL 18

6:45 p.m. - Carl W. Graber, of Montgomery, was operating a 2010 Chevy on Hwy 50 when he merged into the right lane and into the path of a 2010 Subaru operated by Jason Greene, of Loogootee. Officer Nolan investigated.

Jail bookings

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 16

6:50 p.m. - Charles E. O'Connor, 50, of Loogootee, was arrested by Loogootee Police and charged with battery and public intoxication. O'Connor was transported to the Martin County Security Center.

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Martin County Court News

Persons listed on criminal charges are innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

CIVIL COURT New Suits Filed

April 9

LVNV Funding, LLC vs. Sharon Craft, civil collection.

April 10

Stephen T. Shout vs. Sabine B. Shout, petition for dissolution of marriage.

Deanna R. Dedrick vs. Jason M. Dedrick, petition for dissolution of marriage.

April 14

Midland Funding, LLC vs. Allman Wright, civil collection.

Portfolio Recovery Associates, LLC vs. Stephen Hammock, civil collection.

Portfolio Recovery Associates, LLC vs. Julia Sanders, civil collection.

SMALL CLAIMS New Suits Filed

April 11

Crane Federal Credit Union vs. Rachel E. and Patrick M. Phillips, complaint.

Crane Federal Credit Union vs. Tera L. Trambaugh, complaint.

Crane Federal Credit Union vs. Jarrod A. Zins, complaint.

Crane Federal Credit Union vs. Ame M. Zins, complaint.

Crane Federal Credit Union vs. Trinkia S. and Brian Wildman, complaint.

Crane Federal Credit Union vs. Kimberly S. Barker, complaint.

Crane Federal Credit Union vs. Angel C. Royer, complaint.

Crane Federal Credit Union vs. Terese Bishop, complaint.

April 14

Hoosier Accounts Service vs. Sheryl Steiner, complaint.

Hoosier Accounts Service vs. Paul Steiner, complaint.

Hoosier Accounts Service vs. Lisa M. Lindsey, complaint.



If you are a disabled veteran, or a surviving spouse, you could qualify for a tax deduction on your property and/or vehicle if any of the following apply.

-If you are/were a veteran that served on active duty during one of the wartime service dates, received an honorable discharge and have a service-connected disability of 10 percent or more.

-If you are/were a veteran that served on active duty during any period for at least ninety (90) days, received an honorable discharge and has a 100 percent disability or is at least 62 years of age and at least 10 percent disabled.

If you don't own property you can still receive the excise credit on up to two vehicles. If you think you are eligible for the Disabled Veteran Tax Deductions please contact me at the number below.

DRIVERS NEEDED for the veteran van. I am aware that we all have very busy lives and very little free time which is why I am looking for drivers to add to my call list. I am looking for VOLUNTEERS that would be willing to transport a veteran possibly one trip a week to medical appointments in the surrounding area. This is not a paid position but I am able to provide \$10 a trip as long as there is money in the "thank the driver fund". You must have a clean driving record and an Indiana license. If interested please contact me at the number below.

The Martin County Veteran Van is available by appointment for transportation to surrounding VA clinics and hospitals. Travel can't be claimed when you use the county-funded veteran van. For assistance, contact Linda Evans-Dillon, county veteran service officer, at 247-2450 or martincountvsvs2013@yahoo.com.



SOME Thoughts On - HELPFUL

A Scout is Helpful, the third point of the Scout Law. You know the old scouting story, helping the little old lady across the street. Being helpful seems simple enough but if we look a little deeper, you have to wonder. Being helpful is merely giving or rendering aid or assistance. To the individual scout or the entire troop, being helpful means providing some form of individual or community service that is useful assistance. In this day and age rendering assistance to cross the street seems to have gone by the wayside. Nevertheless, I am sure given the chance one of my boys would gladly take care of business.

Sadly, we live in a world of legality and liability that tends to negate helpfulness. Rarely do we hear a Good Samaritan story but they are out there. More times than not we hesitate to help. Nonetheless, we also live in a world of need. Stand on any street corner, look around and you will see evidence of need. We have friends, family members and neighbors that could use kindly, helpfulness. So how do we make that connection of seeing the need and moving into action.

Through service projects, the scouting movement teaches the need to provide service to others; however, even we are limited on what we can do to assist. Service projects are good citizenship. Locally the troop has been involved in helping with bingo at the nursing home, cleaning the city park and veterans memorial or assisting with the Feed My Sheep Program. These are just a few of the useful projects the troop has become actively involved to rendering helpful service.

Annually, one project that provides service and a useful teaching opportunity is the annual citywide spring clean-up. Through careful planning and partnership, the troop has turned something as simple as hauling off junk into an "environmental" service project. This effort assists the homeowner in the removal of unwanted items, assists the city in beautification efforts, assists the city in limiting tons of scrap material deposited in the local landfill, and finally teaches the scout the value of recycling scrap and precious metal returning it to

service. The added bonus is this project turns service into cash that ultimately provides valuable operating funds for the troop. This is win-win for all involved. But, there has to be more, so again, how do we comfortably move from need to mutual helpfulness?

Ultimately, people feel upset when they see a person in need. There is an unpleasant arousal that motivates us to do something. The scouting movement encouraging a helpful attitude at an early age is important. Creating an attitude of service and a helping behavior benefits the giver as well as the receiver. In reality, these are human interactions and transactions that aim to maximize one's rewards and minimize one's costs. In the long run, we exchange not only material goods but also social goods - love, pride and accomplishment.

As I have taken the time to breakdown and expand on the 12 Points of the Scout Law something dawned on me with Helpful. In a world, moving at digital speed that becomes overwhelming, exhausting, and indifferent to helping maybe each of us should put down our iPhone one day a week and find that individual or organization we could help, seeking nothing in return. Studies show people are more likely to help others if they have just observed someone else modeling that specific helping behavior. Examples include drivers offering help to a female driver with a flat tire, Christmas shoppers dropping money in a Salvation Army kettle or local blood drives.

So how do we increase Helping? Scouting will continue to teach and coach the spirit of service building the next generation of young men willing to give selflessly to the needs of others. For the rest of us there may be a little work to do to move us from reducing ambiguity - to increasing responsibility. It is clearly a matter of personal choice. First to see the need... then reacting with action. I hope you take the time this week to find someone in need and reach out with a spirit of helpfulness.

If you would like to learn more about the scouting opportunities in your local area, give me call (812) 295-8417 and I will help you make contact with a local scouting unit. Yours in scouting, Scoutmaster Mike

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By Bill Whorrall

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Hundreds of photos and interviews covering the last Mom and Pop stores in 35 southern Indiana counties, 222 Pages depict a vanishing way of life.

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Good Morning Martin County
By Bill Whorrall

\$39

The Amish Community Daviess County, Indiana A Photodocumentation
By Bill Whorrall

\$39

This book covers Amish life in Daviess County, Indiana to a depth never captured before. 358 pages of photos, interviews, and explanatory text.

To see Bill's website for books and art go to www.billwhorrall.com

Bill Whorrall's photos and text go beyond the surface, he has spent the time and energy to produce in-depth documentations of Indiana life.

Available by mail (add \$5 S/H) Bill Whorrall 13669 Rama Dye Rd. Shoals IN 47581.

Also, G&R Variety and the Martin County Historical Society Museum in Shoals

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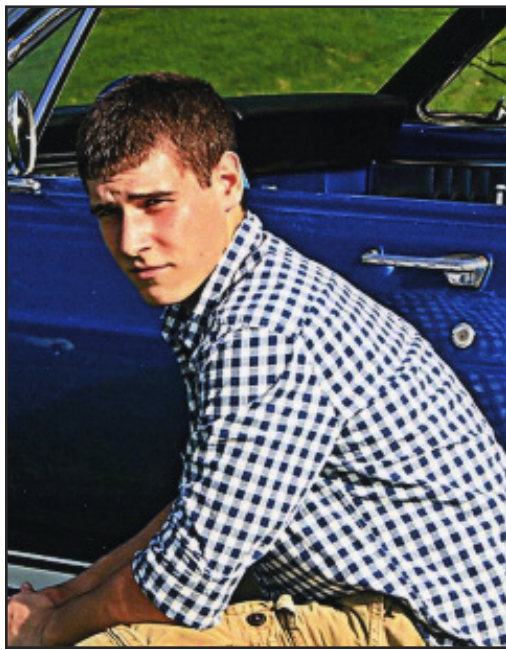
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Shoals High School 2014 SENIOR Spotlights



KRISTEN WAGGONER

Kristen Elizabeth Waggoner was born on May 25, 1996. She is the daughter of William and Sue Waggoner. Kristen has one sister, Mallory. While in high school, she participated in softball, volleyball, band, dance, IMPACCT, SADD, and pep club. Her favorite song is "Bottoms Up" by Brantley Gilbert. Her favorite teacher is Ms. Asbell. Kristen plans to attend Vincennes University to study Radiology.



DAMON ROACH

Damon Ray Roach was born on January 28, 1996. He is the son of Nathan and Rachel Roach. While in high school, Damon participated in basketball, baseball, boccer, pep club, Spanish Club, IMPACCT, and SADD. His favorite pastime is playing golf with Cody and Josh. Damon's favorite song is "Bottoms Up" by Brantley Gilbert. His favorite teacher is Ms. Asbell. Damon plans to attend Vincennes University, major in business management, and take over the family business.

Loogootee and Shoals SCHOOL MENUS

LOOGOOTEE ELEMENTARY

Breakfast

Thursday, April 24

Waffle sticks, ham patty, mixed fruit

Friday, April 25

Egg patty, sausage patty, wheat toast, orange

Monday, April 28

Mini pancakes, ham patty, banana

Tuesday, April 29

Biscuit and gravy, mixed fruit

Wednesday, April 30

Cereal, string cheese, applesauce

Lunch

Thursday, April 24

Chicken strips, peas, salad, oranges, milk

Friday, April 25

Alfredo noodles, salad, breadstick, oatmeal bar, applesauce, milk

Monday, April 28

Chicken nuggets, French fries, green beans, pears, milk

Tuesday, April 29

Hamburger, corn, salad, pineapple, milk

Wednesday, April 30

BBQ rib, baked beans, cottage cheese, peaches, milk

LOOGOOTEE INTERMEDIATE AND JR.-SR. HIGH SCHOOL

Lunch

Thursday, April 24

Chicken strips or pizza, peas, salad, oranges, salad plate, milk

Friday, April 25

Alfredo noodles or pizza, salad, tomatoes, pineapple, mixed vegetables, breadstick, salad plate, milk

Monday, April 28

Chicken nuggets or pizza, French fries, peas, peaches, salad plate, milk

Tuesday, April 29

Hamburger or pizza, corn, salad, pineapple, salad plate, milk

Wednesday, April 30

BBQ rib or pizza, baked beans, cottage cheese, peaches, salad plate, milk

SHOALS SCHOOLS

Breakfast

Thursday, April 24

Cereal, graham cracker snack, fruit, juice, milk

Friday, April 25

Bagel, fruit, juice, milk

Monday, April 28

Chocolate chip muffin, banana, juice, milk

Tuesday, April 29

Cereal, granola bar, fruit, juice, milk

Wednesday, April 30

Cinnamon biscuit, fruit, juice, milk

Lunch

Thursday, April 24

Whole grain soft taco, corn, lettuce and cheese boat, pineapple, milk; choice 4th-12th grades: beef and bean burrito or chef salad

Friday, April 25

BBQ rib sandwich with whole grain bun, baked beans, orange slices, frozen fruit smoothie, milk

Monday, April 28

Chicken strips, California blend vegetables, salad boat, pretzels, peaches, milk

Tuesday, April 29

Chicken and noodles, mashed potatoes, mixed vegetables, applesauce, whole grain bread, milk; choice 4th-12th grades: turkey and cheese sandwich or chef salad

Wednesday, April 30

Chili, cheese and crackers, cooked carrots, mandarin oranges, juice cup, milk; choice 4th-12th grades: corn dog or chef salad

Loogootee Golf Team starts season

On Thursday, April 17, the Loogootee Golf Team played South Spencer, Southridge, and Forest Park at Huntingburg Country Club. Loogootee finished second in the match shooting a 185. Loogootee was led by Jess Divine with a 43, Josh Lampert with 46, Jordan Clark with 47, and Jordan Berry with a 49. The finishing order was South Spencer with 164, Loogootee with 185, Forest Park and Southridge with 188. Forest Park finished third due to fifth man score. Coach Jason Hennette stated he was very excited about their finish. "We played three really good teams and came out with a good result. The kids never gave up on themselves and the finish proved that."

LOOGOOTEE HIGH SCHOOL



2014 Senior SPOTLIGHTS



KELSY SEALS

Kelsy Ann Seals is the daughter of Mike and Sheri Seals. While in high school, she has been in band, PEERS, and Lionettes all four years. She was on the student council her freshman and sophomore years. She played softball and volleyball all four years. Kelsy plans to attend ISU and study math.



ELIZABETH TRUELOVE

Elizabeth Jayd Truelove is the daughter of Robin Truelove, Timothy Clark and Warren and Connie Johnson. While in high school, she was in band, SADD, and pep club all four years. She job shadowed in 9th, 10th, and 11th grades, and served as an intern her senior year. Elizabeth plans to attend VU and study industrial engineering.

Classified ADS

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YARD SALES

2ND ANNUAL BELLGRADE Yard Sale – Saturday, April 26, 8:00-12:00. Fifteen houses and 20+ families participating!

YARD SALE Saturday 7:30 to 2, 300 Bloomfield Road. Girls' clothing, printer, misc.

HELP WANTED



Jasper Rubber Products, Inc. has immediate openings for the following positions:

Maintenance Technicians Manufacturing Positions

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Calendar of Events

Relay fundraiser

Martin County Relay for Life team, "Crusading for a Cure", will be hosting a nine-pin bowling tourney this Friday, April 25 at Strike Zone Bowling Center in Loogootee. The tournament starts at 7 p.m. and the cost is \$20 per person.

Church mission presentation

Ever wanted to go on a church mission? On April 30, at New Beginnings Community Church, Dave and Deb Wilson along with Jim Shields, team leader, Highland Lakes Baptist Camp/State Convention of Baptists of Indiana, will speak about international mission trips and how they were changed forever. Dave and Deb have made trips to Ecuador and will be coordinating mission trips with Jim and his wife, Lana. Come hear how you can be involved in international missions. The presentation will begin at 7 p.m. The church is located at 200 W. Main Street in Loogootee. For information, contact Pastor Ernie Canell at 812-709-0258.

Head Start preschool classes

Head Start is now taking applications for the fall preschool classes. Head Start is a kindergarten readiness program at no-cost for qualifying families. Please call 812-295-4700 to enroll your child.

Loogootee Comprehensive Plan meeting

The next meeting of the Loogootee Comprehensive Plan Committee will be May 12 at 6:30 p.m. in the council meeting room of the municipal building. There is no meeting tonight; due to conflicts it was rescheduled. The public is encouraged to attend.

Talk to a lawyer clinic

The next scheduled talk to a lawyer telephone clinic is set for Thursday, May 1 from 4:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. CST, 5:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. EST. Volunteer lawyers will be available to answer general legal questions asked by the public. This service is free and is available to anyone. To access the telephone clinic, the numbers are: (812) 618-4845 and toll free (888) 594-3449. This service is in collaboration with the Volunteer Lawyer Program of Southwestern Indiana, Inc., Indiana Bar Foundation and the Evansville Bar Foundation.

Loogootee School Board meeting

The Loogootee School Board will meet Tuesday, April 29 at 5:30 p.m. in the meet-

ing room off the superintendent's office. Some items on the agenda include a first reading of the 2014-15 student handbook, opening proposals for Elementary East, and a first reading of the facility use policy. The meeting is open to the public.

Boy Scouts

Boys interested in Boy Scouts, please call 295-6652 or 854-7837 for information on joining.

GED exam fees

Catholic Charities is happy to announce that they will be sponsoring GED exam fees. If you are ready to take your GED exam, give them a call at 812-423-5456 or email us at ccordovilla@evdio.org.

SOAR Tutoring

Need Skills? SOAR tutors can help! Free and confidential. Call or text Beverly at 812.709.1618 to learn more. Located in the Martin County Community Learning Center Improve Your Skills, Improve Your Life!

Solid waste board

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

Humane society meetings

The Martin County Humane Society meets on the third Friday of the month at the animal shelter at 507 N Oak Street in Loogootee, at 7 p.m. Members of the humane society are invited to attend. To find out how to become a member, call the shelter at 812-295-5900 or email mchs@frontier.com.

Tourism meetings

The MCCC Tourism Committee meets on the second Wednesday of each month at 7 p.m. in the Martin County Community Learning Center on the fairgrounds.

Soil and Water meetings

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

First annual family 5K run and walk

Hawkins Health Center will host the first annual 5K run/walk and half-mile fun run to help support the Loogootee Girls' & Boys' Run Club. The race will take place Saturday, May 10 at the former Loogootee Elementary East, 510 Church Street, Loogootee.

The route will be held within city limits on paved roadways and no dogs will be allowed.

Participants may register by sending a check and shirt size to Hawkins Health Center 211 SE First Street Loogootee, IN 47553. Make checks payable to Hawkins Health Center.

The price is \$18 per individual or \$25 per family (family is considered all participating members in one household) for runners/walkers who register prior to Monday, April 28. Early registration guarantees you

a complimentary t-shirt. Family fee includes one shirt, additional shirts are \$10 each. The price for registration after April 28 is \$20 per individual & \$30 per family. The Fun Run is free for participants 11 years old and younger, if they would like a shirt there will be a \$10 shirt fee that must be turned in before April 28.

All proceeds will benefit The Loogootee Girls & Boys Run Clubs. There will be a Mother's Day gift for all mothers crossing the finish line!

For more information on how to pre-register for the 5K run/walk, participants may call Hawkins Health Center 295-3346.



Confirmation

-Photo provided

Seven youth were confirmed at Loogootee United Methodist Church on Palm Sunday and were joined in full membership of the church. These youth accept Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior and promise to serve with their prayers, presence, gifts, service and witness. Those in the photo are, from left to right, Pastor Joseph Seger, Kirk Bratton, Jarod Waggoner, Keaton Napier, Sydney Davis, Rikki Wetter, Ella Donnersberger, Jacob Hollihan, and Pastor Greg Davis.

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9 a.m.-4:30 p.m.
& Saturday, April 26,
8 a.m.-11:30 a.m.
for Martin County citizens
& businesses only
Questions? Call 295-4142

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In the Garden

By Ralph Purkhiser
Purdue University Master Gardener

Spring is a time of new beginnings and a perfect time for designing new garden beds. I share Sandhill Gardens with a wide variety of wildlife. That is not by accident. My garden has been planned to provide food and shelter for birds and butterflies. As a result, I am able to watch these beautiful creatures right in my own back yard.

In recent years, the Monarch butterfly has been experiencing a dramatic decline in population. While the reasons are many, loss of habitat ranks high among the reasons for the decline. The Monarch's mysterious migration has fascinated scientists and butterfly enthusiasts for many years. While some small populations overwinter in southern California, Florida and the Caribbean, the vast majority of the species somehow find their way to the mountains of central Mexico. Logging operations have resulted in a dramatic loss of habitat, and although the Mexican government has taken steps to stop the logging, only a small fraction of the original overwintering forest remains.

On the other end, the summer breeding grounds of the Monarch have also seen changes that present problems for the butterflies. The larval form of the Monarch feeds on only one plant genus—*asclepias*. Commonly called milkweeds because of the milky sap of plants in the genus, there are several species within the genus, including three common in southern Indiana. In the past, farms in the Midwest consisted of many small fields, separated by fence rows, where milkweed grew and Monarchs feasted. However, modern farming practices have resulted in removing the fence rows to make larger fields. The fields themselves are inhospitable for milkweed, as Round-up ready crops have resulted in fields that are nearly free of all weeds, including the *asclepias* genus. In urban areas, anything called by the name weed is suspect and often unwelcome. Many towns and cities have ordinances that require that lawns be cut short and weeds of all sorts are unwelcome.

Monarchs lay their eggs only on milkweeds. When the eggs hatch, the larva eat from the plant and eventually spin and attach a chrysalis to the plant, from which a beautiful butterfly emerges some two weeks later. The adult butterfly feeds on nectar, including the nectar of the milkweed flowers themselves. Actually, it is unfortunate that the *asclepias* genus has been labeled a weed. The

species known as butterfly weed has beautiful orange, yellow and red blooms that can make a statement in any garden. Even the blooms of common milkweed and swamp milkweed have a certain attraction.

Gardeners can certainly help provide help for the Monarchs by establishing butterfly gardens in their landscapes. To be effective, a butterfly station needs to be at least one hundred square feet. A ten foot by ten foot plot can offer the Monarch and other species of butterflies everything needed for life. Of course, the inclusion of host plants is central, so Monarchs must have milkweeds. The adults need nectar, which may come from blooming milkweeds, but may also come from a wide variety of plants. I would encourage using a combination of native flowers and nectar-rich garden flowers. A butterfly garden would not be complete without coneflowers, yarrow and phlox. Zinnias and marigolds are also rich in nectar and are favorites of many types of butterflies. There is some controversy about the popular butterfly bush. While it is rich in nectar and certainly attracts butterflies, some believe that it is becoming invasive in natural areas, so use it with caution. Butterflies also need water, but most prefer to drink from mud-holes. If keeping a patch of mud in your garden is not within your comfort zone, a watering station may be made by mounding stones in a birdbath of attractive dish and filling the dish with water. The butterflies will land on the stones to get a drink.

Perhaps the hardest part about establishing a Monarch garden is finding a source for the necessary milkweeds. Several plants are needed and I suggest using different species to ensure a long season of available food. The word is out and nurseries are starting to carry plants. Milkweeds have a long taproot and do not transplant well, so do not dig plants up from the wild. It is not likely they will survive. Nursery transplants stand a much better chance of survival. However, collecting seed pods in the wild is an acceptable alternative; one may also purchase seed for different types of milkweed. One may even grow tropical milkweeds and treat them as annuals.

To replace the loss of habitat would require millions of butterfly gardens, but each one established is a step in the right direction. I urge everyone to create a Monarch-friendly section in the gardens of southern Indiana.

Spring turkey hunting season started today

Indiana's 45th annual spring turkey hunting began today statewide, and DNR wildlife research biologist Steve Backs is expecting harvest results similar to last year.

Hunters can kill one male or bearded turkey in the spring season, which runs through May 11. A two-day youth season this past weekend gave young hunters a chance to bag a bird before the regular season opened.

In 2013, hunters harvested 11,374 birds in 89 of Indiana's 92 counties. Harrison County led the way with 512 birds.

"I expect hunters to take 11,000 turkeys, plus or minus a thousand," Backs said.

Indiana instituted turkey hunting in 1970. In 2010, a record 13,742 birds were taken.

In recent seasons, Backs said harvest numbers are trending slightly downward because the turkey population in Indiana and the entire eastern United States is stabilizing. Turkey populations have grown steadily over the last 50 years after states reintroduced the birds to areas where they had been eliminated by loss of habitat and unregulated subsistence hunting.

"We're still going to have a good turkey season, but after a few decades of ever increasing harvests, our turkey population growth is stabilizing with a lower level of annual production, something seen in many other states" Backs said.

Wild turkeys were eliminated from Indiana by the early 1900s. A reintroduction program from 1956 to 2004 released almost 3,000 wild-trapped birds throughout the state.

Now natural disease and predators are catching up with those restored turkey populations, Backs said. Turkey eggs and poults are vulnerable to predators that range from blue jays to coyotes.

"Predators eventually learn there's something new on the menu," Backs said.

Weather could also play a role in harvest numbers. The especially frigid winter may have killed more turkeys than normal. And

the slow start to spring will mean there is less vegetation in the woods than normal, making it easier for turkeys to see an approaching hunter.

"Hunters are going to hear turkeys from a longer distance," Backs said. "But turkeys are going to see hunters coming from a longer distance also."

Roughly 60,000 hunters pursue turkeys in Indiana.

To hunt wild turkeys, a valid turkey hunting license (regular or apprentice) and a valid game bird habitat stamp are required. Hunters who have a lifetime comprehensive hunting license, a lifetime comprehensive hunting/fishing license, or a resident youth hunt/trap license do not need to purchase the game bird habitat stamp because it is included with those license types.

An apprentice license is available to anyone, including hunters born after December 31, 1986, who have yet to complete the requirement of hunter education. All persons, regardless of age, are limited to three apprentice licenses in their lifetime.

Legal turkey hunting equipment includes 10-, 12-, 16-, or 20-gauge shotguns loaded with No. 4, 5, 6, 7 or 7½ pellets; muzzleloading shotguns not smaller than 20-gauge nor larger than 10-gauge; bow and arrow; or crossbow.

Turkeys may be hunted one-half hour before sunrise to sunset, except at all DNR fish and wildlife areas and at Mississinewa and Salamonie lakes, where legal hunting hours are one-half hour before sunrise until 1 p.m. EDT (noon CDT).

All turkeys must be properly tagged and checked-in at an official turkey check station or through the DNR's CheckIN Game program (CheckINgame.dnr.IN.gov or 1-800-419-1326). A list of check stations is available in the 2013-2014 Hunting and Trapping Guide or at wildlife.IN.gov. The phone-in option of CheckIN Game includes a \$3 service charge.

Patience is key for farmers ready to till, plant fields

BY JENNIFER STEWART
Purdue University News Service

Farmers who are antsy to get into their fields to complete tillage operations and plant corn should do their best to stay patient, two Purdue Extension agronomists say.

Brutally cold, snowy winter months throughout Indiana have given way to a cold, wet spring. Farmers who try to till wet fields or plant corn into mud risk a host of soil problems, including root-restricting compaction, which can have lasting effects on crop yields.

"We had a winter with enough freeze and thaw cycles to loosen the soils, but heavy rains have re-compacted it, meaning many farmers will feel the need to do some tillage this spring," said Tony Vyn, who specializes in tillage. "My worry is that farmers concerned about the calendar might get out when it's too wet. It's exceptionally wet right now. Exercise patience in doing that first tillage pass."

Some farmers completed fall tillage operations intending to do stale-seedbed planting in spring, but according to Vyn those fields might still need some attention this spring - especially fields that were strip-tilled in the fall.

"There isn't a great strip-till persist from fall, so while those fields looked good then, the loosened berms now might look flat. In that case, a grower might need to do a second, but shallower, spring pass," Vyn said.

Ponding from winter snow melt and

heavy rainfall also has left behind some areas of crop residue that planters won't be able to cut through without some tillage to break up the mat.

Vyn suggested looking at ponded areas on a case basis to decide what type of tillage is right for each situation.

"Minimum tillage is the word of the day, and it's important to delay it as much as possible to give soils a chance to dry out," he said.

Vyn suggested that farmers consider using some form of electronic or GPS guidance in their tractors to keep more precise traffic patterns in the field. Using the same traffic lanes can help farmers preserve seedbed soil quality.

Purdue Extension corn specialist Bob Nielsen said it's important that farmers remember that planting date isn't the only factor that determines crop yields.

"Planting date isn't the only predictor of yield," he said. "Growers can create a lot of compaction by planting too early. The worst-case scenario is mudding in a crop and creating both sidewall and surface compaction, which restricts root development, then having dry weather later in the season."



Foxy babies

-Photo by Bill Whorrall, www.billwhorrall.com

These red fox babies seemed wary but didn't scurry when photographed in Martin County last week. Pups first venture outside the den under guidance of parents when they are a month old. The next two months are spent with parents learning to survive on their own.

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New online platform provides access to thousands of historic Indiana newspapers

Three weeks after unveiling the new Indiana Memory, the Indiana State Library has now introduced the website's new Indiana Newspapers platform. Clicking on the "Indiana Newspapers" icon on Indiana Memory will take you to all of the newspapers digitized as part of the National Digital Newspaper Program.

This collection contains 14,214 issues comprising 95,455 pages and is continually growing. Many of these titles are also available at the Library of Congress' Chronicling America website. IDHNP provides free, online access to high quality digital images of Indiana's historic newspapers, links to online resources and assistance to other organizations in making their collections accessible. This online resource is funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities. This grant enabled the Indiana State Library, in partnership with the Indiana Historical Society, to digitize Indiana newspapers for the National Digital Newspaper Program.

"We are moving ahead with digitizing another 100,000 newspaper pages as a continuation of the NEH grant," said Chandler Lighty, Historic Newspaper Digitization Program Manager. "Over the coming months and year, historic digitized newspapers from South Bend, Evansville, and Vincennes will be available."

The content on the Indiana Newspapers platform is being displayed in Veridian software, which is operated by the Indiana State Library and funded by the U. S. Institute of Museum and Library Services under the provisions of the Library Services and Technology Act.

The crowd-sourcing component of Veridian allows you to register and make corrections to the Optical Character Recognition (OCR). For instance, if you find an individual's name garbled in the OCR, you can correct it yourself, so that future users can find that person's name in the newspapers easier.

"The software is really exciting because users like you can correct the OCR text," said Lighty. "If you researched with any digitized content in the past, you may have discovered that the search results you received were often only as good as the OCR."

Additionally, This week marks the one-year anniversary of the launch of the Digital Public Library of America (<http://dp.la>), a groundbreaking all-digital library that brings together millions of items from America's libraries, archives, and museums, and makes them freely available to the world. In celebration, DPLA announced the addition of six major new partners, including Indiana Memory. DPLA anticipates the new partners will strengthen the geographic, cultural, and intellectual diversity of DPLA's collections.

The Indiana Memory and DPLA partnership provides a built in mechanism for Indiana libraries, museums and historical societies to share their collections with the world. For the past five years, a growing number of organizations have contributed to Indiana Memory. Once the Indiana Memory content is uploaded to DPLA later this year, nearly 400,000 items relating to the history of Indiana will be able available through the broader lens of DPLA.

Follow the IDHNP blog to learn more about this project, newspaper histories, and interesting historic events.

INDOT reminds motorists to follow the posted work zone speed limit, use caution and consider worker safety when traveling through a work zone. For the latest news and information about INDOT, please visit www.in.gov/indot.

Progress continues on the Interstate 69 Corridor and with that in mind, motorists will begin encountering some oversize loads in rural Greene County.

Beams to be delivered for Interstate 69 bridges

Beginning on Monday, May 5, beams for bridges on the I-69 project will begin to be delivered in western Greene County. These loads will be extremely long and most likely will be delivered in pairs.

The anticipated route to be used will be S.R. 37, S.R. 58 and county roads to reach their destination. Escort vehicles will also be utilized to help guide the trucks and trailers through traffic and along narrow roadways.

Beams will continue to be delivered throughout the construction season.

The Messmer Report

By District 63 State Representative

Mark Messmer



Helping Hoosiers obtain a high school diploma

Obtaining a college degree, or even a high school diploma, was not always as critical to one's success as it is today. However, in order to succeed in today's workforce, a high school diploma is absolutely critical, and this is a realization facing Hoosiers of all ages. While we continue to encourage students to attend some sort of post-secondary education, it is important that we do not forget about the importance of high school as well.

Research shows that on average, a high school graduate earns \$8,400 more per year than someone who dropped out. For a Hoosier that is working 40 hours a week at minimum wage, that is more than half of their salary. The unemployment rate for individuals without a high school diploma is also about 5 percentage points higher.

We devoted a significant amount of time this session working to create an easier path to successful diploma completion for Hoosiers of any age. For instance, I was proud to support legislation that repeals the rule prohibiting the establishment of new charter adult high schools, we are increasing Indiana's ability to serve at-risk populations and providing an alternative to the GED program. This will afford a high school education to adults who would otherwise do without and will increase their chances for success.

I also supported a piece of legislation which deals with a variety of education-related subjects that each aim to encourage students to stay in school. Senate Enrolled Act (SEA) 330 allows instructional time to include college and career readiness training. This will enable schools to educate students in a way that will mold them into the type of highly skilled workers that busi-

nesses in Indiana desperately need. This will also allow students to study the fields that interest them most.

This legislation also allows attempts to attract high-quality high school and college students to the teaching profession, specifically in the areas of science, technology, engineering and math (STEM). Students who are in the highest 20 percent of their high school graduating class will now be eligible for loan repayment if they teach at an Indiana public school.

Schools are finding it harder and harder to find qualified teachers in STEM fields, and these are the fields in which Indiana's workforce is in desperate need of highly skilled workers. Businesses have testified that they have job openings but cannot find workers qualified enough in technology and engineering to fill their vacancies. By encouraging the best students to become teachers in STEM fields, we are ensuring that more students receive ample instruction in those fields and simultaneously strengthen Indiana's worker pool.

Indiana is currently ranked 29th in the percentage of adults with a high school diploma, so there is clearly a substantial need for programs that lead to successful high school diploma completion for adults. In order to maintain Indiana's strong economy, it is important that we allow a second chance to those who wish to go back to school and improve their quality of life. Ultimately, our goal is to make it easier for Hoosiers to succeed, regardless of the path they take to get there. The changes that we made this session will have a positive, long-lasting result for our state, and this is just another reason why I am so optimistic about Indiana's future.

Rep. Messmer (R-Jasper) represents portions of Daviess, Dubois, Pike and Martin counties.

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