

Martin County JOURNAL

Year 12, Issue 32

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 11, 2021

Eight pages

City council approves raises for employees

BY COURTNEY HUGHETT
Martin County Journal Publisher

The Loogootee City Council discussed raises at their meeting Monday night, August 9. At last month's meeting, Mayor Noel Harty had requested a 75-cent increase for employees however a decision was tabled. Council Member Teresa Nolley made a motion to give a two percent increase across the board. Her motion didn't pass, however. Council Member Rick Norris made a motion to give a \$500 raise per year to all full-time employees. That motion passed with Council Members Norris, Ron Gilbert and Carroll Rayhill voting in favor and Council Members Nolley and Tim Lawrence voting against. The council then approved a 25-cent increase for all part-time employees.

After more discussion, Council Member Norris said he didn't mean to only give \$500 a year to full-time employees. It was noted that the previous motion was already approved.

City Attorney Isha Wright-Ryan said that another motion could be made. Norris made another motion to approve \$1,040 a year for all full-time workers and keep the 25-cent increase for part-time. The rest of the council approved.

Don Greene, who is on the city's park board, talked to the council about increasing the wages for the lifeguards at the city pool. He said they struggled finding workers this year because other pools in surrounding cities pay so much more. He said next year they will have to close the pool unless something is done.

The park board's recommendation was to increase the pool manager's pay to \$12 per hour, the assistant manager to \$11, the lifeguards to \$10 and the concession workers to \$9.

Council Member Nolley said all other cities are paying \$10 for lifeguards and

COVID cases ticking back up

BY COURTNEY HUGHETT
Martin County Journal Publisher

Public Health Nurse Julia Albright gave the Martin County Commissioners an update on COVID at their meeting Tuesday night, August 10. Albright said there have been 13 new positive cases of COVID in the county in the past week. She expects positive cases to slowly increase, especially now that school is back in session. "It's going to get much worse before it gets better," she said. She said the county will move to yellow status this week due to the increase in cases. She urged residents who are sick to stay home and said the health department has masks to share if anyone is in need. Albright said 4,400 Martin County residents have been vaccinated, to date.

Commissioner Paul George asked if employees should go back to wearing masks in the courthouse. Albright replied that if social distancing isn't possible, it's not a bad idea. She said it's up to commissioners along with whether courthouse visitors should be required to wear a mask.

(See 'COMMISSIONERS' on page 2)

made a motion to increase the lifeguards' wages to \$10. The mayor asked about the pool manager who currently makes \$11, and the assistant manager who makes \$10. He said the assistant manager would make the same as the lifeguards and the manager would only be a dollar more per hour. Nolley again made a motion to increase only the lifeguards' pay. The council approved with Council Member Ron Gilbert opposed. The manager and assistant manager will get the 25 cent raise next year along with other part-time city workers.

Fire Chief JD Flynn had asked in a previous meeting to double the fire department officers' pay. Norris made a motion to approve. Council Member Rayhill seconded, and the motion passed.

Police Chief Jim Floyd requested permission to hire a new officer to cover Kelly Rayhill who is now the school resource officer. He also asked to change Rayhill's rank to captain from assistant chief. The board of works and council approved both requests. There are currently six officers in the city police department.

Council Member Tim Lawrence asked if \$20,000 for sidewalk repair could be added to the budget for next year. Mayor Noel Harty said that could be done. Lawrence said he feels there are some areas that need to be fixed.

City Superintendent Bo Wilson said the council will have to put a policy in place because they will be bombarded with calls for sidewalk repairs. Lawrence agreed saying \$20,000 wouldn't fix all the sidewalks. Mayor Harty said they will come up with something. The council approved Lawrence's recommendation.

Jay Mcneece, with Benefits 7, talked to the council about the city employees' insurance. The city was with United Healthcare up until last year when they moved to Anthem, which saved the city \$16,000. Mcneece said the health insurance cost will increase 13 percent for next year. He presented alternative plans with higher deductibles and out-of-pocket costs to reduce the increase by half, if the council wanted to go that route.

(See 'COUNCIL' on page 2)



LAST LIGHT
By Sarah Greene

Loogootee woman wins Indiana Agriculture photo contest

Last week, Lt. Gov. Suzanne Crouch and the Indiana State Department of Agriculture announced the winners of the 2021 Indiana Agriculture photo contest. The winning photographs will be displayed in the lieutenant governor's Family of Business office in Indianapolis.

"As I travel across our state I am always awestruck by the beauty of our state's agricultural landscape from round barns to wildlife and so much more," Crouch said. "These photos are a wonderful addition to my business office's walls and serve as a wonderful reminder of the strength and beauty of Indiana agriculture."

The winning photos were chosen from hundreds of entries in the following four categories: Agritourism, Conservation, Faces of Agriculture and On the Farm. Two winners were selected from each category, along with two winners overall.

To be considered, the photo had to be taken in the state by an Indiana resident. The photos were evaluated by a panel of independent judges based on creativity, composition and category representation.

"I am so grateful for each of the photographers who submitted their photos in this year's contest," said Bruce Kettler, director of the Indiana State Department of Agriculture. "Each of the submissions truly captured the essence of rural life

and the important role agriculture plays in our state. Thank you for using your talent to showcase Indiana's agriculture industry."

The following list includes the photo contest winners for 2021:

Agritourism Category
"Pollination" by Amber Beams from Roachdale

Conservation Category
"Last Light" by Sarah Greene from Loogootee

"The Coneflower Bee" by Sarah Sands from Pierceton

Faces of Agriculture Category
"4-H" by Andi Pollert from Seymour
"Farmer Frank" by Beth Legge from Moores Hill

On the Farm Category
"Among the Flowers" by Cecile Dreyer from Sellersburg

"Bushels of Fire" by Tom Jones from Star City

Overall Category
"Nature's Unicorn" by Kyle Doles from Indianapolis

"Newborn" by Ross Waitt from Sheridan

To view the winning photos, visit isda.in.gov.



Vision grant

The Martin County Community Foundation recently presented a \$100,000 Vision Grant to the City of Loogootee for community development/infrastructure. Shown above, from left to right, are MCCF Board Members Jerry Braun, Dan Gregory and Angie Risacher; CFP CEO Hope Flores, CFP Grants Officer Lisa Starr, City of Loogootee Mayor Noel Harty, MCCF Board Member Annette Taylor, MCCF President Alan Lagree, and MCCF Director Curt Johnson.

-Photo provided

Alumni establishing Ed Hamilton Memorial Scholarship and commissioning a piece of music

The Loogootee community lost a cherished citizen on May 29, 2021. Longtime band director, Ed Hamilton, passed away. His wife, Maryann, is also in poor health and unable to receive visitors so Ed wanted to spare her the stress of a funeral. On August 1, a memorial in honor of Mr. Hamilton's legacy was held at Loogootee Community Schools Auditorium. Mr. Hamilton meant so much to the LHS schools, band students, and community. The memorial was in honor of his many accomplishments in the LHS band program and all the lives that he touched in the process.

Ed began his teaching career at Loogootee in the fall of 1959. After one year he left to teach at Hymera and Jasonville for a combined three years then returned to Loogootee in the fall of 1963. He spent the rest of his career at Loogootee retiring at the end of the 1989-90 school year. At one point in Mr. Hamilton's career, he had 41 consecutive Division I Golds. In 1975, he had a high school band of 120 members with grades 10-12. All of his bands were large during his years at LHS, and they played at a very high level.

Ed Hamilton Memorial Scholarship
The alumni are establishing an Ed Hamilton Memorial Band Scholarship in memory of Mr. Hamilton. This will be awarded to band students each year with the hopes that the fund will grow enough to use the interest as the scholarships. If anyone is interested in making a donation, you can contact Amy Hamm at LHS Schools ahamm@loogootee.k12.in.us, Stephanie O'Brian at sobrian@barr.k12.in.us, or Kim Chattin at LHS.band.memories@gmail.com

Loogootee Bands CD and Memorial DVD Ordering
Richard Indahl also helped the alumni convert several LHS records into CDs. They have recorded the following to CDs: 1967-68, 1968-69, 1970-71, and 1977-78. The 1970-71 has the Battle Hymn of the Republic included on the recording. They are asking for a donation of \$10 per CD to cover all costs as well as postage. Order forms can be emailed to you and then you can mail payment and form to LHS band

director, Amy Hamm at LHS Schools, PO Box 282, Loogootee, IN 47553. The email to get the forms is LHS.band.memories@gmail.com

DVD of Memorial
Richard Indahl is also working on a DVD of Mr. Hamilton's memorial and as it becomes available it will be loaded on the Loogootee website and facebook.

Ed Hamilton Memorial Concert Band Piece

The Festival of Bands committee of directors met several times this summer to discuss the upcoming festival at Loogootee High Schools. During the meeting, Stephanie O'Brian presented the committee with the idea to have a piece of music commissioned in honor of Mr. Hamilton. The committee voted to do this for the 2022 Festival. Alex Tedrow, a Shoals High School graduate and an Indiana University Graduate in Music Composition, will be writing the piece. Mr. Tedrow is very excited about doing this piece in honor of Mr. Hamilton and for the Festival of Bands which he attended in high school. His band director was Mr. Joel Weitkamp. Mrs. MaryAnn Hamilton will also be giving creative suggestions for the piece in honor of her beloved husband.

Many thanks to all that were involved in the memorial. The alumni band consisted of Melissa Williams on tuba, Jeff Colvin on Euphonium, Amy Hamm on trombone (she had Mrs. Hamilton at WHS), Carla Downey on trumpet, Stacey Bowling on saxophone, Mary Linville on clarinet, Bev Hamilton on flute, Stephanie O'Brian on flute, and Connie Walker leading the cheer after the school song. Thanks to Mayor Noel Harty, Alan Williams, Kim Chattin, Rae Greene, Brady Taylor, Lindsey Walton, Misty Mosby, Mariah O'Brian, Aaron Bridgewater, Phyllis Panko, Brenda Smith, Fred Robberts, Keith Hamilton and family, Tom McClanahan, The Shoals News, Martin County Journal, Hometown Flowers, and Loogootee Community Schools and Administration. Thanks to all who sent in memories and came to the event. If you have any questions, feel free to contact LHS.band.memories@gmail.com.

COUNCIL

(Continued from page one)

Alyssa Kerns, with Kerns Insurance, asked if they could provide a quote before the council made a decision. The mayor decided to table a decision on the insurance until the next meeting.

Clerk-Treasurer Roger Downey told the council that highlighted changes to the employee handbook were handed out. Council Member Nolley asked about a holiday being added to the paid holidays that the council didn't approve. It was noted that it was the Juneteenth holiday, which is now a federal holiday. Nolley again said the council didn't discuss the addition.

The council decided to table the handbook changes and form a committee to review them.

Clint Roos, with Midwestern Engineers, talked to the council about bids for water and wastewater improvements associated with the bond the city took out.

The water improvements include a new standby generator at the water treatment plant, a new transfer switch, and electrical upgrades at the well field. Midwestern had estimated the improvements would cost \$462,000. Two bids were received were from Striegel Design and Construction for \$495,000 and Graves Construction for \$558,158. He recommended the council approved Striegel Design & Construction. He said the bids were over the estimate, however they were pleased with them anyway based on current material prices. The council approved going with Striegel.

Roos also presented bids for the wastewater project which includes a new chemical feed building at the wastewater treatment plant and six lift station electrical improvements. Midwestern's estimate was \$720,000. Bids received were \$932,700 from Striegel Design & Construction and \$721,721 from Graves Construction.

Roos said they got an alternate bid on the main lift station that was not a part of the bond. He said the main lift station is the lifeline of the sewer system and is in need of repairs. Superintendent Wilson said the main lift station is 18 years old and is breaking down due to wear and tear. The city applied for a grant from the state water fund for \$2 million however a decision has not been announced. Roos said he thinks the city has a good chance of get-

ting some funding from that grant.

Manhole realigning and replacement was also a planned project not in the initial bond that Roos recommended be added to the work.

Roos recommended awarding Graves Construction the main bid for \$721,721 and the two alternate projects.

District 63 State Representative Shane Lindauer presented a plaque to two residents who pulled an individual, who was their family member, from a truck that was on fire. Without their intervention, the individual would not have survived, according to Fire Chief Flynn.

Clerk-Treasurer Roger Downey said the public hearing for the 2022 budget will be Tuesday, October 12 at 5:30 p.m. and the adoption will be Monday, October 25 at 5:30 p.m.


COMMISSIONERS

(Continued from page one)


The commissioners decided to leave things as is for the next few weeks. Commissioner George told Albright to notify them if something changes prior to their next meeting.

Dena Held, Purdue Extension Educator, reported that 60 of 9,000 state fair entries are from Martin County residents. Results will be available on the state fair website soon.

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OBITUARIES

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MARTIN COUNTY JOURNAL

Wednesday, August 11, 2021

MARY PADGETT

Mary L. Padgett went to Heaven, with loved ones by her side, on Thursday, August 5, 2021, at her home. A resident of Washington, she was 84.



She was born December 20, 1936, in Epsom, Indiana; daughter of Ernest R. and Esther Berniece (Fielder) Myers. Mary married the love of her life, Edwin 'Leroy' Padgett on March 12, 1953.

Mary was a member of the Epsom United Methodist Church until it closed and then attended Shiloh Church of God. She loved being a homemaker, taking care of her home and raising her family gave her much joy. In her later years, Mary enjoyed driving for the Amish.

Family left to cherish the memory of Mary include two sons, Marty (Marilyn) Padgett of Plainville and Terry (Shelly) Padgett of Washington; three daughters, Sherry (Mark) Willis of Petersburg, Marsha Myers of Washington and Aleta (Bob) Baker of Elnora; 16 grandchildren; 46 great-grandchildren; four great-great-grandchildren; two brothers, Rudy Myers of Washington and Marlin Myers of Thorntown; three sisters, Eleanor Johnston of Loogootee, Carol (Jim) Britton of Montezuma and Myrna (Kenneth) Crum of Indianapolis.

Mary was preceded in death by her parents; her husband, Leroy Padgett; son, Edwin Padgett; daughter, Winetta Webster and great-granddaughter, Jordan Beaman.

Funeral services were held Saturday, August 7 at Meng Family Funeral Home in Odon with Pastor Steve Sims officiating. Mary was laid to rest in Plainville Cemetery in Plainville.

Arrangements have been entrusted to Meng Family Funeral Home in Odon. Condolences and memories may be sent to www.mengfuneralhome.com.

ELIZABETH JANE CROWE

Elizabeth "Jane" Crowe entered into eternal rest on August 6, 2021 at Jewish Hospital in Louisville, Kentucky. A resident of French Lick, she was 63.



She was born in Shoals on May 13, 1958; daughter of Samuel Roscoe and Minnie Viola (Probasco) Butler. Jane married Roger Dean Crowe on May 14, 1976, and he survives.

She was preceded in death by her parents; three sisters, Betty Jean Salmon, Fern Taylor and Elsie Butler; and one brother, Roscoe Lavern Butler.

Jane was a member of Fairview Christian Church in Shoals and had worked as a manager at Midwest Inn in Paoli and Masterbrand Cabinets in Jasper.

She enjoyed walking, baking, being with family, helping others and socializing.

Jane is survived by her husband, Roger Crowe of French Lick; one son, Jeremy Dean Crowe of Chicago, Illinois; two brothers, Samuel Lester Butler of French Lick and Leroy Eugene Butler of Cleveland, Tennessee; and one sister, Ruth Holman of Shoals.

A funeral ceremony will be conducted by Pastor Brian Combs on Thursday, August 12 at 1 p.m. at Brosmer-Kemple Funeral Home with burial to follow at Butler Cemetery in Shoals.

Visitation for friends will be Wednesday, August 11 from 5-7 p.m. and Thursday,

August 12 from noon until the time of service at the funeral home.

Arrangements are in the care of Brosmer-Kemple Funeral Home in French Lick, Indiana 47432. Condolences may be made on their Facebook page at Brosmer-Kemple Funeral Home or at their website, www.brosmer-kemplefuneralhome.com.

ROY PIELEMEIER

Roy Hubert Pielemeier passed away at 8:10 a.m. Friday, August 6, 2021, at Northwood Retirement Community. A resident of Loogootee, he was 90.

He was born October 18, 1930, in Loogootee; son of the late Herman and Emilie (Albaugh) Pielemeier.

Roy served his country proudly in the Korean War from 1952 to 1954 in the United States Army. He always put his faith in God and served as a member of the Loogootee United Methodist Church since a teen. Roy loved God, Margie, his family, farming, IH tractors and his gold-en retriever, Teddy.

He was preceded in death by his loving wife of 50 years, Margaret; parents, Herman and Emilie Pielemeier; siblings, Bob (Jean) Pielemeier, Helen and Hazel Pielemeier and Bill (Jeanette) Pielemeier.

Roy leaves his children, Bob Pielemeier, Annette Bohnert and Marlene Pielemeier; six grandchildren and 13 great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted Tuesday, August 10 at the Loogootee United Methodist Church.

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

ROBERT MULLINS

Robert Wayne Mullins age 66, of Loogootee, passed August 6, 2021, at The Timbers in Jasper. A resident of Loogootee, he was 66.

He was born February 25, 1955, in Vincennes; son of Robert P. and Delores (Brawdy) Mullins. He married Phyllis Roller on June 24, 1978, and she survives.

Robert was a graduate of Vincennes High School, attended Vincennes University, was a veteran of the United States Army and a member of the Loogootee Christian Church.

He was a former City of Loogootee Street Commissioner and worked 20 years at Masterbrand Cabinets as a forklift operator.

Survivors include his wife, Phyllis; one son, Thomas (Valerie) Mullins; grandchildren, Evalyn and Zailey Mullins; step grandson, Chase Crowder; one brother, Donald Mullins; and several nieces and nephews.

He is preceded by his parents, one brother, Joseph Mullins and step grandson, Blayze Crowder.

A graveside service will be held 11 a.m. Thursday, August 12, at the Mt. Union Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Martin County Humane Society.

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

The Queen-Lee Chapel of Thorne-George Family Funeral Homes has been entrusted with the arrangements.

MELISSA WAGLER

Melissa "Missy" Anne (Guthrie) Wagler passed away in the early morning hours of August 3, 2021. A resident of Clifton, Virginia, she was 39.

She was born July 21, 1982, in Dallas, Texas; daughter of Steven M. Guthrie and Susan M. (Volkman) Guthrie.

The most important thing in life to Missy was her family. She leaves behind her loving husband of 12 years, Derrick M. Wagler, and sons, Grayson (7), Pierson (5), and Lawson (3). She is



MELISSA WAGLER

also survived by her father, Steven Guthrie of Cedar Hill, Texas; mother, Susan (Volkman) Guthrie and step-father John Vagasky of Carrollton, Texas; sister, Sabrina (Guthrie) and Drake Holbrook and nephews Hayden and Hunter of Frisco, Texas; in-laws, Fred and Rita (Smith) Wagler of Loogootee; brother-in-law, Mitchell and Trisha (Lannan) Wagler and nephews, Kash and Gunnar of Loogootee; brother-in-law, Tyler and Devon (Lantz) Wagler and nephews, Griffin and Quintin of Loogootee; aunt, Carolyn (Volkman) Huggins and John of Dallas, Texas; aunt, Margaret (Volkman) Winkle and Greg of Carrollton, Texas; uncle, Craig "Bo" Guthrie of Cedar Hill, Texas; cousin, Aaron Winkle and family, Rachele, Paxton, and Everett of Crossroads, Texas; cousin, Andrew Winkle and Ashlee of Fort Worth, Texas; cousin, Jessica (Dulworth) Warick and family, Jerad, Emma, and Cillian of Montrose, Colorado; step-grandfather, Edwin Roberts of Cedar Hill, Texas; family nanny, Laura Avila of Clifton, Virginia; dozens of Wagler, Smith, and Leach family members throughout the Midwest, and Volkman family members in Germany.

Missy is preceded in death by grandparents, Henry and Janet (Leach) Volkman (Dallas, Texas); Ralph Guthrie and Carol Guthrie Roberts (Dallas, Texas); and aunt, Ravis Guthrie (Dallas, Texas).

Missy was honored to be a Unit Chief with the FBI Cyber Division where she spent 14 years serving our country and receiving prestigious awards throughout her career in the National Intelligence Community. She received dual bachelor's degrees in Psychology and Marketing from the University of Evansville in Evansville in 2004 and dual master's degrees in Forensic Psychology and Community Counseling at Marymount University in Arlington, Virginia in 2007. She was a 2000 graduate of The Colony High School in The Colony, Texas. Missy was an active community volunteer and leader, serving on boards and volunteering even with a distinguished and demanding job, a wonderful husband, and three fabulous little boys. She was an extremely proud member of the Zeta Tau Alpha (ZTA) sorority and continued to be very involved in local alumni chapters (NOVA & Loudoun County). She was also a faithful member of Junior League of Northern Virginia and was an active member of the Union Mill Elementary PTA.

Missy was an exceptional mother, wife, daughter, sister, friend, and colleague. From an early age, she dedicated her time to volunteering and helping others. She made everyone feel deeply welcome, valued, and loved, and her sense of humor brightened the lives of many. She was devoted to her husband and three boys and loved them more than anything in the world. Missy was an incredible person who will be missed dearly by all who had the opportunity and privilege to have known her.

A service was held Monday, August 9 at Centreville United Methodist Church (6400 Old Centreville Rd, Centreville, VA 20121), where Missy and family were members. A second visitation will be held in Loogootee on August 12, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. followed by a service at 2 p.m. at the Loogootee United Methodist Church (208 Main Street, Loogootee, IN 47553) with burial following at St. Mary's Catholic Cemetery in Loogootee where all friends, family, and loved ones are welcome. A final memorial service

will be held in Dallas, Texas at a later time.

In lieu of flowers or gifts, the family requests memorial donations be made to the Melissa "Missy" Guthrie Wagler Endowment Scholarship Fund through the Zeta Tau Alpha Foundation (<https://give.zetataualpha.org/mwagler>). Missy was committed to service and scholarship and received multiple ZTA scholarships throughout her collegiate years.

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

Blake Funeral Home in Loogootee, Indiana is honored to serve the family of Melissa "Missy" Wagler.

JAMES ARMSTRONG

James "Reid" Armstrong passed away at 7:50 p.m. Wednesday, August 4, 2021, at the Kindred Hospital North, in Indianapolis. A resident of Plainfield, he was 90.



He was born October 16, 1930, in Burns City; son of Reid Andrew and Alma (Queen) Armstrong.

Survivors include his wife, Olive (Simmons) Armstrong of Plainfield; children, David Armstrong and wife, Nancy, of Bedford; Ann (Armstrong) Rutherford and husband, Bob, of Longview, Washington; and Loland Armstrong of Mitchell; stepchildren, Laura Hazlett of Nashville, Lisa (Hazlett) Zehrung and husband, Marco, of Indianapolis; Patsy (Divine) Foster of Louisville, Kentucky; and Janet (Divine) Hardy and husband, Mike, of Louisville, Kentucky; and many grandchildren, great grandchildren, great-great grandchildren, nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents, sister, Martha Sue (Armstrong) Tinchler; brothers, Jack L. Armstrong and Kenneth L. Armstrong; and beloved dog, Trixie.

Reid was a 1948 graduate of Shoals High School. He had retired from the Army and the United States Postal Service. He was a 32 Degree Master Mason, a member of the Masons (Boaz Lodge), Louisville Kentucky, the Murat Temple Shriners, the American Legion, 101st Airborne, Jefferson Commander #52 Knights Templar, The Sojourners, and the Southwest Church of the Nazarene.

Reid loved Shoals and making daily calls to longtime friends, old classmates and family members. He looked forward to the Shoals Alumni Banquet, Catfish Festival and the Hindostan United Methodist Church Ice-cream Social.

A funeral service was conducted Saturday, August 7 at the Queen-Lee Chapel in Shoals with Pastor Marty Evans officiating. Burial followed at the Spring Hill Cemetery in Shoals.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Martin County Humane Society or the Disabled Veterans of America.

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

The Queen-Lee Chapel of Thorne-George Family Funeral Homes has been entrusted with the arrangements.

TONY DOWNEY

Anthony William Downey passed away at 6:35 p.m. Sunday, August 8, 2021, at Loogootee Healthcare and Rehabilitation Center. A resident of Shoals, he was 61.

He was born June 14, 1960 in Jasper; son of the late William Paul Downey Jr. and Jo (Taber) Collett.

He worked his whole life as a tradesman in HVAC, plumbing and construction, including work at Kennedy Space (See 'OBITUARIES' on page 4)

Martin County Sheriff's Department log

MONDAY, AUGUST 2

12:29 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Shoals. Shoals Fire and Martin County Ambulance responded. The subject was transported to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

3:48 a.m. - Received a report of a prowler in Shoals. Captain Reed responded.

9:59 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Ambulance responded but did not transport.

10:52 a.m. - Received a report of a theft in Loogootee. Sergeant Gibson and Deputy Shaw responded.

11:45 a.m. - Received a report of property damage east of Loogootee. ISP responded.

11:52 a.m. - Deputy Shaw took one inmate to court.

2:00 p.m. - Received a request for a welfare check near Shoals. Deputy Shaw responded and all was okay.

3:16 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance just west of Loogootee. Martin County Ambulance, Loogootee Fire, Sergeant Gibson, and ISP Trooper Beaver responded. The subject was transported to Daviess Community Hospital.

6:08 p.m. - Deputy Wells assisted a motorist south of Loogootee with a vehicle identification check.

9:52 p.m. - Received a report of an accident in Loogootee. Martin County Ambulance, Loogootee Fire, Deputy Wells, Reserve Deputy Harmon, and Loogootee Sergeant McBeth responded. No one was transported.

10:18 p.m. - Received a report of a stolen vehicle in Loogootee. Loogootee Sergeant McBeth and Reserve Deputy Harmon responded.

11:05 p.m. - Received a report of a prowler near Loogootee. Loogootee Sergeant McBeth, ISP Nolan, and Captain Reed responded.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 3

6:50 a.m. - Received a request for lift assistance in Loogootee. Martin County Ambulance and Loogootee Fire responded. No one was transported.

9:57 a.m. - Town Marshal Eckert assisted a motorist in Shoals with a vehicle identification check.

10:54 a.m. - Received a report of an altercation in Shoals. Sergeant Gibson responded.

2:00 p.m. - Deputy Seymour took one inmate to court.

2:44 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance near Shoals. Martin County Ambulance, Shoals Fire, and Deputy Seymour responded. The subject was transported to Daviess Community Hospital.

2:47 p.m. - Deputy Seymour took one inmate to court.

2:56 p.m. - Town Marshal Eckert assisted the department of child services with a home visit in Shoals.

5:54 p.m. - Received an alarm call in Loogootee. Loogootee Sergeant McBeth responded. All was secure.

7:15 p.m. - Received an alarm call in Shoals. Deputy Wells responded and all was secure.

8:12 p.m. - Received a dog complaint in Shoals. Deputy Wells responded.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 4

6:32 a.m. - Received a report of a car-deer accident on US 231, south of Loogootee. Captain Reed responded.

8:41 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Ambulance and Loogootee Fire responded. The subject was transported to Daviess Community Hospital.

12:37 p.m. - Received a rabbit complaint in Shoals. Town Marshal Eckert responded.

5:57 p.m. - Received a report of an accident on SR 150, east of Shoals. Sergeant Gibson responded.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 5

8:50 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance south of Loogootee. Martin County Ambulance responded but did not transport.

11:27 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Shoals. Martin County Ambulance and Shoals Fire responded. The subject was transported to Daviess Community Hospital.

12:22 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Ambulance and Loogootee Fire responded. The subject was transported to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

1:48 p.m. - Received a medical alarm call southeast of Shoals. Lost River Fire and Orange County Ambulance responded.

1:55 p.m. - Deputy Seymour took one inmate to court.

2:17 p.m. - Deputy Seymour took one inmate to court.

3:03 p.m. - Received a report of a reckless driver near Loogootee. Loogootee Captain Hennette responded.

3:07 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Shoals. Martin County Ambulance and Shoals Fire responded. The subject was transported to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

6:31 p.m. - Received a report of a reckless driver southeast of Shoals. Deputy Seymour and Reserve Deputy Dorsey responded.

7:05 p.m. - Received a report of a reckless driver near Loogootee. Deputy Flanagan responded.

11:55 p.m. - Received a report of an impaired driver in Loogootee. Loogootee Officer Means, Deputy Shaw, and Reserve Deputy Dorsey responded.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 6

7:54 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Crane. Crane Fire and Martin County Ambulance responded. The subject was transported to IU Health in Bloomington.

10:50 a.m. - Received a report of a domestic dispute in Shoals. Sheriff Roush, Chief Deputy Greene, and ISP Trooper Beaver responded.

11:32 a.m. - Received a report of a truck fire near Shoals. Corporal Seymour and Shoals Fire responded.

3:17 p.m. - Received a report of a suspicious person north of Shoals. Chief Deputy Greene responded.

3:46 p.m. - Received a report of a domestic dispute near Loogootee. ISP

Trooper Beaver responded.

6:39 p.m. - Received a medical alarm call north of Loogootee. Martin County Civil Defense, Loogootee Fire, and Martin County Ambulance responded. No one was transported.

9:11 p.m. - Received a report of a structure fire in Shoals. Shoals Fire responded.

9:14 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance near Shoals. Martin County Ambulance, Shoals Fire, Deputy Shaw, Reserve Deputy Ochs, and Air Evac responded.

9:15 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. Deputy Shaw and Martin County Ambulance responded. No one was transported.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 7

11:18 a.m. - Received a report of a break-in south of Loogootee. Reserve Deputy Harmon responded.

1:20 p.m. - Received a report of a disturbance north of Loogootee. Reserve Deputy Harmon and Loogootee Officer Seymour responded.

5:16 p.m. - Received a request for a welfare check north of Loogootee. Reserve Deputy Harmon, Loogootee Officer Seymour, and Martin County Ambulance responded.

7:53 p.m. - Received a report of a disturbance north of Shoals. Deputy Shaw and Loogootee Sergeant McBeth responded.

Martin County real estate transfers

Ronald B. Lannan, of Monroe County, Indiana; **Rhonda L. Laakso**, of Beaufort County, South Carolina; and **Michael L. Lannan**, of Lake County, Illinois to **Patrick J. Sinnott and Judith M. Sinnott**, of Martin County, Indiana, a part of the southwest quarter of the northwest quarter of Section 25, Township 3 North, Range 5 West, containing 8/100 acre, more or less.

George Baker, Jr., of Martin County, Indiana to **Racquel A. Baker**, of Martin County, Indiana, a part of the west one-half of the northwest quarter of Section 1, Township 3 North, Range 4 West, containing 1 acre, more or less.

Timothy L. Guy, by Christine M. Barone, power of attorney, of Martin County, Indiana to **Timothy L. Guy**, of Martin County, Indiana and **Christine M. Barone**, of Howard County, Maryland, a part of the northwest quarter of the southeast quarter of Section 13, Township 3 North, Range 5 West, containing 2 acres, more or less. Also, that part of the northwest quarter of the southeast quarter of Section 13, Township 3 North, Range 5 West, containing 1 acre, more or less.

Kyle S. Byers, of Martin County, Indiana to **Kyle S. Byers and Myrissa Payne**, of Martin County, Indiana, a certain tract of land being described as beginning at the northeast corner of the northwest quarter of the southeast quarter of Section 24, Township 3 North, Range 4 West, containing 1.26 acres, more or less.

Billy Walker, of Martin County, Indiana to **Bailey S. Davis and Tyler W. Davis**, 55 feet of even width off the northwest end of Lot Number 44 in the Town, now City of Loogootee, Indiana. More commonly known as 302 NE 3rd Street, Loogootee IN 47553.

Patrick J. Sinnott and Judith M. Sinnott, of Martin County, Indiana to **Nathan D. Stevens and Telesa R. Stevens**, of Martin County, Indiana, being part of Section 20, Township 3 North, Range 3 West, Martin County, Indiana, containing 1 acre, more or less.

Troutman Farms, of Martin County,

9:40 p.m. - Received a request for a welfare check in Loogootee. Deputy Shaw, Loogootee Sergeant McBeth, and Martin County Ambulance responded. No one was transported.

10:56 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. Deputy Shaw, Loogootee Sergeant McBeth, and Martin County Ambulance responded. The subject was transported to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 8

7:50 a.m. - Received a report of cows out on US 231, north of Loogootee. Reserve Deputy Harmon responded.

3:25 p.m. - Received a request for a welfare check near Shoals. Sergeant Gibson and Reserve Deputy Harmon responded. All was okay.

7:04 p.m. - Received a report of reckless driving near Shoals. Sergeant Gibson responded.

8:25 p.m. - Received a report of an altercation near Shoals. Sergeant Gibson and Loogootee Sergeant McBeth responded.

9:20 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Ambulance responded and transported the subjects to Daviess Community Hospital.

10:25 p.m. - Received a report of a tree down south of Loogootee. Loogootee Sergeant McBeth and Martin County Civil Defense responded.

Indiana to **Joseph M. Troutman and Kristina Troutman**, of Martin County, Indiana, that portion of Section 4, Township 2 North, Range 4 West of the Second Principal Meridian, Center Township, Martin County, Indiana, containing 5.971 acres, more or less.

OBITUARIES

(Continued from page 3)

Center. Tony loved music, especially Pink Floyd, the Indianapolis Colts and his dog, Rocky. He enjoyed sharing in-



TONY DOWNEY his children.

Tony was preceded in death by his parents; stepmother, Lois (Lannan) Downey; grandparents, William Paul and Ethel (Franklin) Downey and Roscoe and Evelyn (Cox) Taber.

He is survived by his children, Tabatha (Abraham) Duran of French Lick, Tyberius, Alexander and Colton Downey of Loogootee; grandson, Diego Duran; sisters, Melanie Downey of Jasper and Stacey Hornaday of Mobile, Alabama; brother, Roger (Carolyn) Downey of Loogootee; honorary brothers, Randy (Donna) Bateman of Loogootee and Randy (Tracy) Archer of Washington; several nieces, nephews, aunts, uncles and cousins.

Funeral services will be conducted at 2 p.m. Friday, August 13 at Blake Funeral Home in Loogootee.

Visitation will be held Friday, August 13 from 12 p.m. until the time of service at the funeral home.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions can be made to Blake Funeral Home.

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

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COURT NEWS

CRIMINAL CONVICTIONS AND SENTENCING

July 18

Jennifer L. Bauernfiend, convicted of battery, a Class B Misdemeanor. Sentenced to serve 22 days with 0 day suspended and credit for 11 actual days previously served plus 11 Class A credit days.

Waylon S. Winger, convicted of sexual battery, a Level 6 Felony. Sentenced to serve 730 days with the Indiana Department of Corrections with 0 days suspended and credit for 117 actual days previously served plus 117 Class A credit days. Also convicted of unlawful possession of a syringe, a Level 6 Felony. Sentenced to serve 730 days with the Indiana Department of Corrections with 0 days suspended and credit for 137 actual days previously served plus 137 Class A credit days.

July 29

Colton B. Webb, convicted of child solicitation, a Level 5 Felony. Sentenced to serve 1,460 days with the Indiana Department of Corrections with 1,456 days suspended and credit for 3 actual days previously served plus 1 Class B credit day. Defendant received 40 months of probation.

July 30

Robert E. Blanton, convicted of burglary, a Level 5 Felony. Sentenced to serve 1,460 days with the Indiana Department of Corrections with 1,279 days suspended and credit for 136 actual days previously served plus 45 Class B credit days. Defendant received 43 months of probation.

CRIMINAL COURT DISMISSED

July 28

Jennifer L. Bauernfiend, criminal trespass, a Class A Misdemeanor, dismissed; interference with the reporting of a crime, a Class A Misdemeanor, dismissed.

Waylon S. Winger, two counts of cruelty to an animal, Class A Misdemeanors, dismissed; possession of methamphetamine, a Level 6 Felony, dismissed; possession of marijuana, a Class B Misdemeanor, dismissed; possession of paraphernalia, a Class C Misdemeanor, dismissed.

July 29

Colton B. Webb, possession of child pornography, a Level 6 Felony, dismissed; inappropriate communication with a child, a Class A Misdemeanor, dismissed.

July 30

Robert E. Blanton, theft, a Level 6 Felony, dismissed.

August 2

Shawn M. Brown, invasion of privacy, a Class A Misdemeanor, dismissed.

Thomas James Ehrman, driving while suspended, a Class A Misdemeanor, dismissed.

CIVIL COURT New Suits Filed

July 28

LVNV Funding, LLC vs. Sherri Camp-

bell, civil collection.

Courtney L. Laurent vs. Sidney J. Laurent, petition for dissolution of marriage.

August 3

Venita A. Barley vs. Douglas M. Barley, petition for dissolution of marriage.

CIVIL COURT JUDGMENTS

July 28

Judgment in favor of the plaintiff LVNV Funding, LLC and against the defendant Julie Poole in the amount of \$1,154.70.

July 29

Judgment in favor of the plaintiff Unifund CCR, LLC and against the defendant Janet Limbach in the amount of \$734.82.

Judgment in favor of the plaintiff LVNV Funding, LLC and against the defendant Joseph Barrera in the amount of \$2,968.60.

Judgment in favor of the plaintiff Midland Credit Management, Inc. and against the defendant Jason Wathen in the amount of \$4,072.81.

Judgment in favor of the plaintiff Cavalry SPV I, LLC and against the defendant Michael Hopkins in the amount of \$1,543.79.

August 2

Judgment in favor of the plaintiff Capital One Bank and against the defendant Mary Walton in the amount of \$3,067.68.

SMALL CLAIMS COURT New Suits Filed

July 30

Hoosier Accounts Service vs. Joseph M. Davis, complaint.

Hoosier Accounts Service vs. Matthew S. Clark, complaint.

Hoosier Accounts Service vs. Gregory A. Braun, complaint.

Hoosier Accounts Service vs. Lisa A. Jones, complaint.

SMALL CLAIMS JUDGMENTS

July 30

Judgment in favor of the plaintiff Hoosier Accounts Service and against the defendant Kevin L. Stewart in the amount of \$3,838.99.

MARRIAGE LICENSES

Joshua W. Sneed of Loogootee and Stephanie J. Marsh of Loogootee.

Karissa Field of Shoals and Mareo Dunn of Shoals.

ARRESTS

MONDAY, AUGUST 2

3:03 p.m. - Cody Staats, 27, of Shoals, was arrested by Deputy Shaw on a Martin County warrant and is being held without bond.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 8

5:05 p.m. - Tabitha Porter, 35, of Loogootee, was arrested by Sergeant Gibson and charged with possession of methamphetamine, possession of marijuana, possession of paraphernalia, driving while suspended, and operating a vehicle while intoxicated refusal. She is being held without bond.

Loogootee Police log

MONDAY, AUGUST 2

8:05 a.m. - Chief Floyd checked a vehicle reported to have been in the city park for several days.

3:16 p.m. - First responders were dispatched to a medical call on County Road 250 North.

9:53 p.m. - First responders were dispatched to a vehicle accident on East Broadway Street.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 3

2:50 p.m. - Chief Floyd and Assistant Chief Rayhill responded to an alarm at Old National Bank.

5:53 p.m. - Assistant Chief Rayhill responded to an alarm at a local business.

9:25 p.m. - Sgt. McBeth spoke with a complainant regarding a possible theft.

11:43 p.m. - Sgt. McBeth completed a welfare check on North Line Street.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 4

8:40 a.m. - First responders were dispatched to a medical call at a local business.

9:12 a.m. - Assistant Chief Rayhill assisted the department of child services on a case.

10:11 a.m. - Assistant Chief Rayhill completed a vehicle check.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 5

9:18 a.m. - Chief Floyd and Captain Hennette checked on a report of a suspicious person on Indiana Avenue.

10:43 a.m. - Captain Hennette assisted a stranded motorist on US 50 East.

12:22 a.m. - First responders were dispatched to a medical call on South Kentucky Avenue.

3:02 p.m. - Received a report of a possible impaired driver westbound on Broadway Street.

4:28 p.m. - Chief Floyd completed a vehicle check.

7:06 p.m. - Officer Means responded to a report of a possible impaired driver on West Broadway Street.

8:23 p.m. - Officer Means completed a welfare check.

8:55 p.m. - Officer Means completed a welfare check.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 6

Unknown time - Sgt. McBeth completed a welfare of check.

6:42 p.m. - First responders were dispatched to a medical call on St. Joseph Road.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 7

12:20 a.m. - Sgt. McBeth spoke with a complainant regarding possible illegal drug activity.

1:20 p.m. - Officer Seymour assisted the Martin County Sheriff's Department on a report of possible shots fired.

5:16 p.m. - Officer Seymour assisted the Martin County Sheriff's Department with a report of a suspicious subject on US 231 North.

7:00 p.m. - Sgt. McBeth spoke with a complainant regarding unauthorized dumping in a personal dumpster.

7:51 p.m. - Sgt. McBeth assisted the Martin County Sheriff's Department with assisting a homeowner who had requested individuals removed from their residence.

8:00 p.m. - First responders were dispatched to a medical call at West Boggs Park.

9:38 p.m. - Sgt. McBeth responded to a report of a person with a knife in the area of a local business.

10:55 p.m. - Sgt. McBeth assisted with a medical call in Sunset Trailer Court.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 8

6:05 p.m. - Sgt. McBeth spoke with a complainant regarding a custody issue.

8:38 p.m. - Sgt. McBeth assisted the Martin County Sheriff's Department with a stranded motorist on Butler Bridge Road.

9:17 p.m. - Sgt. McBeth assisted with a medical call on North Line Street.



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COMMUNITY & EVENTS

More Neat Stuff



By Ann Ackerman



There once was a woman who woke up one morning, looked in the mirror, and noticed she had only three hairs on her head. "Well," she said, "I think I'll braid my hair today." So, she did and she had a wonderful day.

The next day she woke up, looked in the mirror and saw that she had only two hairs on her head. "Hm...mm..." she said, "I think I'll part my hair down the middle today." So, she did, and she had a grand day.

The next day she woke up, looked in the mirror and noticed that she had only one hair on her head. "Well," she said, "Today I'm going to wear my hair in a pony tail." So, she did, and she had a fun, fun day.

The next day she woke up, looked in the mirror and noticed that there wasn't a single hair on her head. "YAY!" she exclaimed. "I don't have to fix my hair today!"

Attitude is everything. Be kinder than necessary, for everyone you meet is fighting some kind of battle. Live simply, Love generously, Care deeply, Speak kindly. Be Grateful!

THOUGHTS

*Scientists say that the world is made up of protons, neutrons, and electrons, but they forget to mention morons.

*I'm pretty sure my Guardian Angel just sits here watching me as she paints her nails, rolls her eyes, and mutters under her breath... "How did I get stuck with THIS one?"

*I thought I was a good person, but the way I react when people drive slowly in

the left lane would suggest otherwise.

*Who called it your foot falling asleep and not coma toes?

*Kid: Mom, if you could have any power, what would you want?

Mom: Sleep through the night.

*Sorry I haven't gotten anything done today. I've been in the produce department trying to open this stupid plastic bag.

*I got my wife to help me put some posts in the ground for our new fence. I gave her the new hammer and I said, "When I nod my head, you hit it." I don't remember much after that.

*If the person who named walkie-talkies named everything would:

Stamps be lickie-stickies?

Hippos be floatie-bloaties?

Pregnancy tests be maybe-babies?

A state trooper pulled alongside a speeding car on the freeway.

Glancing at the car, he was astounded to see that the elderly woman behind the wheel was knitting.

The trooper cranked down his window and yelled to the driver, "Pull over!"

"No!" the woman yelled back. It's a cardigan!"

During recess, I sat on the bench with my first-grade girls as they whiled away the time playing with my long ponytail.

"Mrs. Rudiak, you are so beautiful" one of them said.

She then followed with the ultimate compliment: "You look just like a horse."

Make someone smile today!

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Shoals School Board meeting

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

Technology classes for seniors

Do you sometimes struggle with your phone or tablet and wish you knew more about it? The RSVP Volunteer Center at Eastside Park in Washington holds weekly sessions for older adults to learn more about technology and its benefits. On Tuesday afternoons from 1 p.m. to 2 p.m., volunteers are available to work one-on-one with people who may have questions about their cellphones, tablets, laptops, or technology in general. You may bring your own device or borrow one of theirs. People have received help with email, texting, saving and sending photos, security, and more. The service is free, but reservations are required. Give RSVP a call at 812-254-1996 if you'd like to take advantage of this great opportunity.

Jones Reunion

The 48th Annual Jones Family Reunion for descendants of James and Rachel (Gallagher) Jones will be held Saturday, August 14, 2021, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. (Eastern Daylight time) at "The Church" at Powell Valley, located at 11502 Anderson Road, Shoals, Indiana 47581. The building will be open at 11 a.m. with lunch at noon (Eastern Daylight time). Masks may be worn but are not required. Please bring a covered dish. Plates, tableware, napkins, tea, lemonade, coffee, and hand sanitizer will be furnished. Please feel free to bring any family heirlooms, genealogy records, pictures, etc. for display as well as an item to be included in the silent auction. A driving tour to Anderson Cemetery and the Rusk area will follow.

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 8 a.m.-noon and 1-4 p.m.

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.

Mental Health Task Force

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

Celebrate Recovery meetings

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

Local recovery meetings

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

Free lunch for kids

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

Solid waste board

The Martin County Solid Waste Board holds their monthly meetings on the third Wednesday of each month at 5:30 p.m. at the recycling center located at 500 Industrial Park Drive in Loogootee. The meetings are open to the public and anyone is invited to attend.

Soil and Water meetings

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

~LETTER TO THE EDITOR~

'Martin County is very lucky'

To the editor of the *Martin County Journal*,

I hope you can print this. I have been going to Greenwell's Hardware store for almost 50 years now. They never failed to have what I was looking for. I can't say that about any other store. Martin County is very lucky to have a REAL hardware store and one where you can get assistance from knowledgeable people. That is a VERY rare thing nowadays.

Bill Whorrall
Shoals, Indiana

CLASSIFIED ADS

HELP WANTED

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT POSITION

The Martin County Highway Department is accepting applications for a

FULL-TIME OPERATOR

Applicants must either possess a valid CDL license or be able to obtain one within a reasonable amount of time.

A pre-employment drug screen will be required.

Applications can be picked up and submitted to the

Martin County Highway Department,

10753 Sherfick School Rd, Shoals.

Martin County is a drug-free, equal opportunity employer.

Making A Difference



By Curt Johnson
MCCF Director



-- THANKS TO DONORS --

Within Martin County there are many people who choose to support the quality of life of the community through gifts to the Martin County Community Foundation (MCCF). Many of those people allow the MCCF to publicly recognize their giving. We appreciate the opportunity to tastefully thank donors for their generosity because donors make it possible for the MCCF to fulfill its grantmaking mission, and we want to express our gratitude.

-- QUIET ONES TOO --

The MCCF also strives to faithfully maintain the confidentiality of donor information. For some donors, this includes protecting their anonymity. There are various reasons why a person may prefer to give anonymously. Some may be shy by nature and dislike attention, whether it is in their giving or other facets of life. Others are wary that, should their giving become visible, they may have to deal with solicitations from a variety of causes or organizations in which they may not be interested, or which they may not have the capacity to support.

Just the reverse can be true as well. Some favor anonymous giving because it shields the benefiting organization or people from feeling the need to put on a show for the donor. Still others, in the Biblical tradition of secret almsgiving, wish to keep their egos out of their giving, and feel that anonymity may help preserve the purity or sincerity of their

selflessness.

-- GIVING OPTIONS --

Donors who prefer anonymity have all the same giving options as others. Any of the fund types may be established or they can give to any existing fund that meets their interests. All donors, whether anonymous or not, may give in memory or honor of a loved one. Confidentiality is always protected regardless of whether the gift comes via a check, an IRA, or a bequest in a will.

-- WE'RE HERE TO HELP --

Whether a donor permits personal acknowledgment or requests anonymity, the MCCF is always pleased to help connect a donor's concern and resources with the community needs. We've seen that when the people of Martin County see a genuine need, and they have confidence that the need will be effectively addressed, they give generously as their situation allows. That speaks volumes about you, our community, and the spirit of concern and desire to make a difference. So again, we thank each one of you, those who quietly and anonymously give, and those who give and let themselves be an example for others to follow.

-- MORE INFORMATION --

If you have questions about the MCCF or ways that you can make a difference in our community, please contact any Board member or the MCCF Director, Curt Johnson, at 812-295-1022 or mccf@cfpartner.org.



In the Garden

By Ralph Purkhiser,
Purdue University Master Gardener

This past week, I had a new experience at Sandhill Gardens. I was walking around the gardens and heard a buzz coming from the area of the moon garden. I have heard the buzz of bees in a blooming apple tree, but this was much louder. I wondered what could possibly be causing the bees to gather in such numbers. As I came closer, it looked like a cloud surrounding feathery blooms. A closer look confirmed that honey bees were responsible for the hum, but the cloud included many other species, all hungering for sweet nectar. In addition to the honey bees, there were bumble bees, carpenter bees, mason bees and other solitary native bees. I also observed at least three different species of butterflies joining in the feeding frenzy.

The flowers causing this hubbub were not any of the ones I have planted in the moon garden, but they do fit in well. The white panicles are themselves like great clouds floating above the tall stems of devil's walkingstick. Botanically known as *Aralia spinosa*, the native plants rise above two huge rocks that make up the seating area of the moon garden. The rocks are about eight foot high, and the stems of these plant stick up above the rocks and give viewers a level view of the flowers and their busy visitors.

One must beware of the stems if invading the territory of this native plant. The stems and even the compound leaves are covered with sharp thorns, responsible for the common name, devil's walkingstick. Also called Hercules's club, many people have suffered the misfortune of grabbing the thorny stems when looking for a convenient stem to steady oneself while hiking. The nectar-rich flowers will be followed by shiny black drupes. They are

not poisonous, but they are not good for eating. However, the birds do not seem to mind the bitter taste and will pick them clean quickly.

I have never seen *Aralia spinosa* in a nursery, but they may be started from the seeds or from root cuttings. As long as one plans for the thorns, they may be included in a pollinator garden. They will grow in shade to partial sun and need moist, but not soggy, soil. Few pests bother the plants, and they are generally deer resistant. As this week's spectacle demonstrated, they are a great pollinator plant and a wonderful addition to native plant gardens.

There are about 70 species of *aralia* found in the Americas and Asia, and some are grown as ornamental plants. *Aralia racemosa* is known as American spike-nard and is often grown as a shrubby herbaceous perennial. Japanese *aralia* is often used as a bonsai specimen, especially popular for bonsai forest plantings.

I have had several readers who have contacted me lately about the flower stems on hostas. If you do not want to collect the seeds, it is fine to go ahead and cut off those stems. In fact, some people do not let the hostas bloom at all, cutting off the stems before the flowers appear. Removing the stems will allow the plant to put more into the leaves and roots instead of forming seeds. One may also cut the flower stems out of daylilies. Doing so may trigger more flowering in the varieties that form a second round of flowers.

As summer winds down, remember that pollinators and other wildlife will be preparing for the coming winter. Give them a little help by planting good pollen-producing plants in your garden.

Indiana farmland prices hit record high in 2021

The Purdue Farmland Value and Cash Rents Survey suggests farmland prices across Indiana have risen to all-time highs in June of 2021. Statewide, top-quality farmland averaged \$9,785 per acre, up 14.1 percent from the same time last year. The high growth rate for top quality farmland was closely followed by the growth in average and poor-quality farmland prices, which increased by 12.5 percent (to \$8,144) and 12.1 percent (to \$6,441), respectively. Across all land quality classes, 2021 per acre farmland prices exceeded the previous records set in 2014.

"A unique combination of economic forces including net farm income, expected income growth, crop and livestock prices, interest rates, exports, inflation, alternative investments, U.S. policy, and farmers' liquidity, all played a major factor in the price increase we're experiencing," said Todd H. Kuethe, Purdue associate professor and Schrader Endowed Chair in Farmland Economics and survey author.

According to Kuethe, that's rare. "Normally we'll see positive price pressure from one or two market forces; however, this June, survey respondents indicated that all ten forces we asked them about were putting upward pressure on land values."

Statewide cash rental rates increased across all land quality classes in 2021. Average rental rates increased by 3.9 percent for top quality land, from \$259 to \$269 per acre. The cash rental rates for average and poor-quality lands both increased by 4.6 percent to \$227 and \$183, respectively. At the regional level, the largest rental rate increases for top and average quality land were both in the Southeast region (11.5 percent and 6.4 percent), and the largest

rental rate increases for poor quality land were in the North region (5.5 percent). Across all three land quality classes, the highest per acre cash rent was observed in the West Central region.

Rent as a share of June land value decreased slightly in 2021, suggesting that cash rental rates appreciated slower than farmland prices. Some portion of the difference in appreciation rates between farmland values and cash rents may reflect changes in expectations between fall 2020, when 2021 rents were negotiated, and the 2021 growing season.

The department of agricultural economics conducts the Purdue Farmland Value and Cash Rent Survey each June and publishes it in the Purdue Agricultural Economics Report at <https://ag.purdue.edu/commercialag/home/purdue-agricultural-economics-report/>. The survey is produced through the cooperation of numerous professionals knowledgeable of Indiana's farmland market. These professionals provided an estimate of the market value for bare poor, average, and top-quality farmland in December 2020, June 2021, and a forecast value for December 2021.

For more in-depth analysis on the survey, the Purdue Center for Commercial Agriculture will host a free webinar Friday, August 20, 2021, from 12:30-1:30 P.M. EDT. Join Purdue agricultural economists Todd Kuethe, James Mintert and Michael Langemeier as they break down the Purdue Farmland Values Survey and USDA Land Values report, discuss marketing strategies for 2021 corn and soybean crops, and make projections for 2022 corn and soybean returns. Register for free at <https://purdue.ag/webinar082021>.

As producer sentiment holds steady, farmers weigh in on rising input prices and farmland values

BY KAMI GOODWIN

Purdue University News Service

The Purdue University/CME Group Ag Economy Barometer leveled off after two months of sharp declines, down just 3 points to a reading of 134 in July. Both producers' sentiment regarding current and future conditions also dropped. The Index of Current Conditions was down 6 points to a reading of 143, primarily as a result of weakened principal crop prices. The Index of Future Expectations was down 2 points to a reading of 130. The Ag Economy Barometer is calculated each month from 400 U.S. agricultural producers' responses to a telephone survey. This month's survey was conducted July 19-23.

"This month's sentiment index marks the lowest barometer reading since July of 2020 and actually marks a return to sentiment readings observed from much of 2017 through 2019, when annual average barometer readings ranged from 131 to 133," said James Mintert, the barometer's principal investigator and director of Purdue University's Center for Commercial Agriculture. "Producers' sentiment regarding their farms' financial condition was more optimistic when prices for corn, soybeans and wheat were surging last fall, winter and early spring. Still, recent sentiment readings suggest farmers remain cautiously optimistic about financial conditions on their farms."

There was a modest improvement in the Farm Financial Performance Index, which asks producers about expectations for their farm's financial performance this year compared to last year. The index improved 3 points from last month to a reading of 99 and remains 43 percent higher than in July 2020 when the index stood at 69.

The Farm Capital Investment Index declined for the fourth consecutive month, down 4 points to a reading of 50. Weakness in the investment index was primarily attributable to more producers indicating they plan to reduce their farm building and grain bin purchases in the upcoming year. Two-thirds of July's respondents said their construction plans were lower than a year earlier, compared with 61 percent who indicated that in June. Plans for farm machinery purchases were also somewhat weaker, with a shift of more respondents planning to reduce their machinery purchases compared with last year instead of holding them constant.

Producers were also asked about their expectations for farm input prices. Just over half (51 percent) of the producers in the July survey expect input prices to rise 4 percent or more over the next year, 30 percent expect costs to rise 8 percent or more, and nearly one out of five (18 percent) expect input prices to rise by 12 percent or more.

"It is important to point out that these expectations are markedly higher than the rate of 1.8 percent per year that input prices rose over the last decade," Mintert said.

Farmers remain optimistic about farmland values, although recent value increases could make some producers more cautious about where land values are headed in the next one to five years. The Short-Term Farmland Values Expectations Index weakened this month to a reading of 142, down 6 points from June, and the long-term index weakened to a reading of 151, down 4 points from a month earlier. While both indices remain near all-time highs, Mintert suggests recent declines in the farmland indices could be more of a reflection of the rapid increase in farmland values over the last year, leading producers to be cautious about the likelihood of further price increases. For example, Purdue University's annual Farmland Values and Cash Rent Survey, conducted in June and published in late July, indicated that Indiana cropland values rose 12%-14%, depending on land quality, compared with the June 2020 survey results.

Finally, both the June and July barometer surveys included questions on leasing farmland for solar energy production. The percentage of all respondents who have engaged in solar energy leasing discussions ranged from 6 percent (July survey) to 9 percent (June survey). New to the July survey, producers were also asked if either they or one of their landlords had signed a solar leasing contract, with 4% indicating an agreement had been signed. In a follow-up question on both surveys, producers were asked about the lease rates being offered by solar leasing companies. In July, more respondents reported lease rates being offered that were greater than \$1,000 per acre than on the June survey. However, Mintert noted that more information is needed, as the number of respondents reporting lease rates remains quite low and the rates are variable.

Read the full Ag Economy Barometer report online at <https://ag.purdue.edu/commercialag/ageconomybarometer/>. This month's report includes additional insight into producers' thoughts on farmland cash rental rates and the Executive Order on Promoting Competition in the American Economy signed in early July by President Biden. The site also offers additional resources – such as past reports, charts and survey methodology – and a form to sign up for monthly barometer email updates and webinars.

Each month, the Purdue Center for Commercial Agriculture provides a short video analysis of the barometer results, available online. For even more information, check out the Purdue Commercial AgCast podcast. It includes a detailed breakdown of each month's barometer, in addition to a discussion of recent agricultural news that affects farmers.

The Ag Economy Barometer, Index of Current Conditions and Index of Future Expectations are available on the Bloomberg Terminal under the following ticker symbols: AGECBARO, AGECCURC and AGECFTEX.

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National jobless rate drops to 5.4 percent in July

Total nonfarm payroll employment rose by 943,000 in July, and the unemployment rate declined by 0.5 percentage point to 5.4 percent, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported last week. Notable job gains occurred in leisure and hospitality, in local government education, and in professional and business services.

This news release presents statistics from two monthly surveys. The household survey measures labor force status, including unemployment, by demographic characteristics. The establishment survey measures nonfarm employment, hours, and earnings by industry.

Household Survey Data

The unemployment rate declined by 0.5 percentage point to 5.4 percent in July, and the number of unemployed persons fell by 782,000 to 8.7 million. These measures are down considerably from their highs at the end of the February-April 2020 recession. However, they remain well above their levels prior to the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic (3.5 percent and 5.7 million, respectively, in February 2020).

Among the major worker groups, the unemployment rates declined in July for adult men (5.4 percent), adult women (5.0 percent), Whites (4.8 percent), Blacks (8.2 percent), and Hispanics (6.6 percent). The jobless rates for teenagers (9.6 percent) and Asians (5.3 percent) showed little change over the month.

Among the unemployed, the number of persons on temporary layoff fell by 572,000 to 1.2 million in July. This measure is down considerably from the high of 18.0 million in April 2020 but is 489,000 above the February 2020 level. The number of permanent job losers declined by 257,000 to 2.9 million in July but is 1.6 million higher than in February 2020.

The number of long-term unemployed (those jobless for 27 weeks or more) decreased by 560,000 in July to 3.4 million but is 2.3 million higher than in February 2020. These long-term unemployed accounted for 39.3 percent of the total unemployed in July. The number of persons jobless less than 5 weeks increased by 276,000 to 2.3 million.

The labor force participation rate was little changed at 61.7 percent in July and has remained within a narrow range of 61.4 percent to 61.7 percent since June 2020. The participation rate is 1.6 percentage points lower than in February 2020. The employment-population ratio increased by 0.4 percentage point to 58.4 percent in July and is up by 1.0 percentage point since December 2020. However, this measure is 2.7 percentage points below its February 2020 level.

In July, the number of persons employed part time for economic reasons, at 4.5 million, was about unchanged. There were 4.4 million persons in this category in February 2020.

These individuals, who would have preferred full-time employment, were working part time because their hours had been reduced or they were unable to find full-time jobs.

In July, the number of persons not in the labor force who currently want a job was 6.5 million, about unchanged over the month but up by 1.5 million since February 2020. These individuals were not counted as unemployed because they were not actively looking for work during the last 4 weeks or were unavailable to take a job.

Among those not in the labor force who currently want a job, the number of persons marginally attached to the labor force, at 1.9 million, was little changed in July but is up by 435,000 since February 2020. These individuals wanted and were available for work and had looked for a job sometime in the prior

12 months but had not looked for work in the 4 weeks preceding the survey. The number of discouraged workers, a subset of the marginally attached who believed that no jobs were available for them, was 507,000 in July, down by 110,000 from the previous month but 106,000 higher than in February 2020.

Household Survey Supplemental Data

In July, 13.2 percent of employed persons teleworked because of the coronavirus pandemic, down from 14.4 percent in the prior month. These data refer to employed persons who

teleworked or worked at home for pay at some point in the last 4 weeks specifically because of the pandemic.

In July, 5.2 million persons reported that they had been unable to work because their employer closed or lost business due to the pandemic—that is, they did not work at all or worked fewer hours at some point in the last 4 weeks due to the pandemic. This measure is down from 6.2 million in June. Among those who reported in July that they were unable to work because of pandemic-related closures or lost business, 9.1 percent received at least some pay from their employer for the hours not worked, little changed from the previous month.

Among those not in the labor force in July, 1.6 million persons were prevented from looking for work due to the pandemic, essentially unchanged from June. (To be counted as unemployed, by definition, individuals must be either actively looking for work or on temporary layoff.)

These supplemental data come from questions added to the household survey beginning in May 2020 to help gauge the effects of the pandemic on the labor market. The data are not seasonally adjusted. Tables with estimates from the supplemental questions for all months are available online at www.bls.gov/cps/effects-of-the-coronavirus-covid-19-pandemic.htm.

Establishment Survey Data

Total nonfarm payroll employment rose by 943,000 in July, following a similar increase in June (+938,000). Nonfarm payroll employment in July is up by 16.7 million since April 2020 but is down by 5.7 million, or 3.7 percent, from its pre-pandemic level in February 2020.

In July, notable job gains occurred in leisure and hospitality, in local government education, and in professional and business services.

In July, employment in leisure and hospitality increased by 380,000. Two-thirds of the job gain was in food services and drinking places (+253,000). Employment also continued to increase in accommodation (+74,000) and in arts, entertainment, and recreation (+53,000). Despite recent growth, employment in leisure and hospitality is down by 1.7 million, or 10.3 percent, from its level in February 2020.

In July, employment rose by 221,000 in local government education and by 40,000 in private education. Staffing fluctuations in education due to the pandemic have distorted the normal seasonal buildup and layoff patterns, likely contributing to the job gains in July.

Without the typical seasonal employment increases earlier, there were fewer layoffs at the end of the school year, resulting in job gains after seasonal adjustment. These variations make it more challenging to discern the current employment trends in these education industries. Since February 2020, employment is down by 205,000 in local government education and 207,000 in private education.

Employment in professional and business services rose by 60,000 in July. Within the industry, employment in the

professional and technical services component rose by 43,000 over the month and is 121,000 above its February 2020 level. (Professional and technical services includes industries such as accounting and bookkeeping services, management and technical consulting services, and scientific research and development services.) By contrast, employment in the administrative and waste services component (which includes temporary help services) changed little over the month (+20,000) and is 577,000 lower than in February 2020. Employment in the management of companies and enterprises component was also little changed over the month (-3,000) but is 100,000 lower than the level in February 2020. Employment in professional and business services overall is down by 556,000 since February 2020.

Transportation and warehousing added 50,000 jobs in July. Job growth occurred in transit and ground passenger transportation (+19,000), warehousing and storage (+11,000), and couriers and messengers (+8,000). Employment in transportation and warehousing has grown by 534,000 since April 2020; the industry has recovered 92.9 percent of the jobs lost during the February-April 2020 recession (-575,000).

The other services industry added 39,000 jobs in July, with gains in membership associations and organizations (+17,000) and in personal and laundry services (+15,000). Employment in other services is 236,000 lower than in February 2020.

Health care added 37,000 jobs in July. Job gains in ambulatory health care services (+32,000) and hospitals (+18,000) more than offset a loss of 13,000 jobs in nursing and residential care facilities. Health care employment is down by 502,000 since February 2020.

Employment in manufacturing increased by 27,000 in July, largely in durable goods manufacturing. Within durable goods, job gains occurred in machinery (+7,000) and miscellaneous durable goods manufacturing (+6,000). Manufacturing employment is 433,000 below its February 2020 level.

Employment in information increased by 24,000 over the month, with three-quarters of the gain in motion picture and sound recording industries (+18,000). Employment in information is down by 172,000 since February 2020.

Employment in financial activities rose by 22,000 over the month, largely in real

estate and rental and leasing (+18,000). Employment in financial activities is down by 48,000 since February 2020.

Employment in mining increased by 7,000 in July, reflecting a gain in support activities for mining (+6,000). Mining employment has risen by 49,000 since a trough in August 2020 but is 103,000 below a peak in January 2019.

Employment in retail trade changed little in July (-6,000), following large increases in the prior 2 months. In July, job gains in gasoline stations (+14,000), miscellaneous store retailers (+7,000), and nonstore retailers (+5,000) were more than offset by a loss in building material and garden supply stores (-34,000). Since February 2020, employment in retail trade is down by 270,000.

In July, employment showed little change in construction and wholesale trade.

In July, average hourly earnings for all employees on private nonfarm payrolls increased by 11 cents to \$30.54, following increases in the prior 3 months. Average hourly earnings for private-sector production and nonsupervisory employees also rose by 11 cents in July to \$25.83. The data for recent months suggest that the rising demand for labor associated with the recovery from the pandemic may have put upward pressure on wages. However, because average hourly earnings vary widely across industries, the large employment fluctuations since February 2020 complicate the analysis of recent trends in average hourly earnings.

In July, the average workweek for all employees on private nonfarm payrolls was unchanged at 34.8 hours. In manufacturing, the average workweek increased by 0.2 hour to 40.5 hours, and overtime was unchanged at 3.2 hours. The average workweek for production and nonsupervisory employees on private nonfarm payrolls was unchanged at 34.2 hours.

The change in total nonfarm payroll employment for May was revised up by 31,000, from +583,000 to +614,000, and the change for June was revised up by 88,000, from +850,000 to +938,000. With these revisions, employment in May and June combined is 119,000 higher than previously reported. (Monthly revisions result from additional reports received from businesses and government agencies since the last published estimates and from the recalculation of seasonal factors.)

Purdue@WestGate hosts first Midwest AI Day at WestGate Academy

Purdue@WestGate at the WestGate@Crane Technology Park teamed up with Semiring, Inc. and Dioltas to host Midwest AI Day on Tuesday August 3 at the WestGate Academy. The full-day, in-person event featured industry and academic experts, panel discussions, demos and displays. In attendance were over 20 company booths, individuals from Indiana University, Purdue University, Notre Dame University, NSWC, Crane and representatives from Senator Braun's office.

The schedule included an array of speakers and three panels focused on AI: cybersecurity, healthcare and education and workforce. Attendees were encouraged to network and had the opportunity to view IN3's latest opening of their Cy-Phy Lab. The event ended with a social hour provided by S2MARTS.

Midwest AI Day has a three-fold goal:

- Create opportunities and collabora-



Midwest AI Day Entrance to ManTech Conference Center at WestGate Academy

tions between NSWC Crane, universities and Indiana businesses

- Promote startup technologies and capabilities within the Artificial Intelligence and Cybersecurity industry

- Support the development of talent pipelines for careers in Artificial Intelligence and Cybersecurity

View the full list of company booths, sponsorships and a special message from Senator Mike Braun at www.westgate-academy.com/midwest-ai-day-westgate-academy.