

# Martin County JOURNAL

Year 13, Issue 48

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 2022

Eight pages



-Photos provided

Members of the ROBOROX Team are shown above. In the front is Isaiah Sullivan. In the second row, from left to right, are Jett Hoffman, Trayvin Montgomery, Steven Douglas, Levi Holt, USI Screaming Eagle, Isaac McNabb, Josiah Sullivan, Ava Turpen, and Ayden Rasico.

## Shoals Robotics compete at USI

On Saturday, November 19th, three teams from Shoals Community School traveled to the University of Southern Indiana to compete in FIRST Lego League qualifying tournament. Each team performed well and were outstanding in representing the community. Thank you to all those who contribute to the success of the robotics program.

RoxBots brought home the Core Value Award for their demonstration of ex-

cellent behavior, support for other teams and sportsmanship,

RoboRox finished the day in 2nd place in a tough three rounds of robot games and advanced to state competition at Indianapolis.

RoxStars captured the Robot Design trophy for their explanation and design work on their robot. RoxStars also advanced to state competition in December at University of Indianapolis.



Members of the ROXBOTS are shown above. In the first row, from left to right, are Ryden Clark, Elizabeth Douglas, Alexis Greene, Ida Butler, and Lydia Erwin. In the second row are Levi Douglas, Colton Downey, Eli Holt, Jasmine Jones, Bryson Keller, and student coach Brooklyn Greene



Members of the ROXSTARS team are shown above. In the front row, from left to right, are Kyle Winger, Tritt Rutledge, Bentley Smith, and Ian French. In the second row are Jonathan Kreidler, Jaxon Mullis, Emmalyn McNabb, Abbi Rollins, Remi Lake, and Mason Lake.

## Commissioners hold work session to discuss salaries

The Martin County Commissioners held a work session on Monday, November 21 to discuss salary and benefit recommendations that will be presented to the county council at their December 5 meeting.

Sheriff Josh Greene was asked to speak about positions he would like to see increased. Deputy Auditor Teresa Winger stated Sheriff Greene had inquired about increases for the cooks and animal control officer. She said the cooks are currently making \$13 per hour. Sheriff Greene stated the cooks have interaction with inmates when serving food. The department is down to one full-time cook and has been trying to fill the part-time cook position for two years with zero applications. Sheriff Greene asked if the cooks can be included in the raise to \$15 per

hour. There is always one cook who has to take a senior role with managing inventory and ordering. Sheriff Greene asked if there could be a differential between the senior cook and the other cooks. The commissioners agreed to ask that the cooks be raised to \$15.60 per hour with a differential of \$.50 between the head cook and the other cooks.

Sheriff Greene stated the animal control officer is at \$12.50 per hour. There is money in the animal control officer line left over every year. Deputy Auditor Winger stated the animal control officer has turned in an average of 400 hours per year. The budgeted amount is \$8,000 per year. If the animal control officer were increased to \$15 per hour at 400 hours per year the amount would still come under budget at \$6,000.

Deputy Auditor Winger stated there is money in the general fund for a part-time cook/janitor that has been spent this year. In 2021, about \$4,000 was spent. If \$15.60 per hour times 32 hours a pay period \$12,979. There is \$5,500 in in fund 1175 that could go towards the increases and also money in part-time maintenance line. Sheriff Greene stated the part-time maintenance position has been advertised at \$15 per hour. He would be willing to use the part-time cook money or some of the maintenance money if it could be

(See 'SALARIES' on page 2)



The annual Loogootee Christmas Stroll will be held Saturday, December 3 and Sunday December 4 in downtown Loogootee. Dozens of vendors will be set up in the Loogootee United Methodist Church Family Life Center and inside the JFK Gymnasium on Saturday from 12-4 p.m. and Sunday from 4-8 p.m. Downtown businesses will also be open throughout the Stroll.

The Loogootee Public Library will also be holding a soup supper and silent auction on Sunday, December 4 from 2-6 p.m. at the Loogootee United Methodist Church.

This year's Stroll is being sponsored and organized by CALL (Community Action Leading Loogootee).

On Sunday, at 2 p.m., the Loogootee Choir will present "It's the Most Wonderful Time of the Year" at the Loogootee High School Auditorium. Tickets are \$5 at the door.

A gingerbread house competition, with proceeds benefiting CALL, will be held during the stroll. The winner will be the gingerbread house with the most "votes", or money in their jar, by Sunday at 6 p.m.

The annual Christmas parade will be held downtown on Sunday at 6 p.m. Rita Butcher will be the grand marshal.

## County insurance to increase by 22 percent next year

BY COURTNEY HUGHETT

Martin County Journal Publisher

The Martin County Commissioners met Tuesday night, November 29. Commissioner Aaron Summers was not present due to attending a conference.

Deputy Auditor Teresa Winger said Marilyn McCullough, with Thompson's Insurance, said the increase for next year's health insurance will be 22.74 percent. She provided a breakdown of different deductible and out-of-pocket limits if the commissioners wanted to change those to save money. Commissioner George said they are working to get raises for county employees and if they change the deductibles, that will take away from those increases. Winger said they have a really good plan, with good rates and if they can keep it, they need to promote the benefit with new hires because most employers don't offer such a good plan.

The commissioners voted to stay with the current plan. Commissioner George said they can get with McCullough in June to see what it's looking like as far as increase for next year.

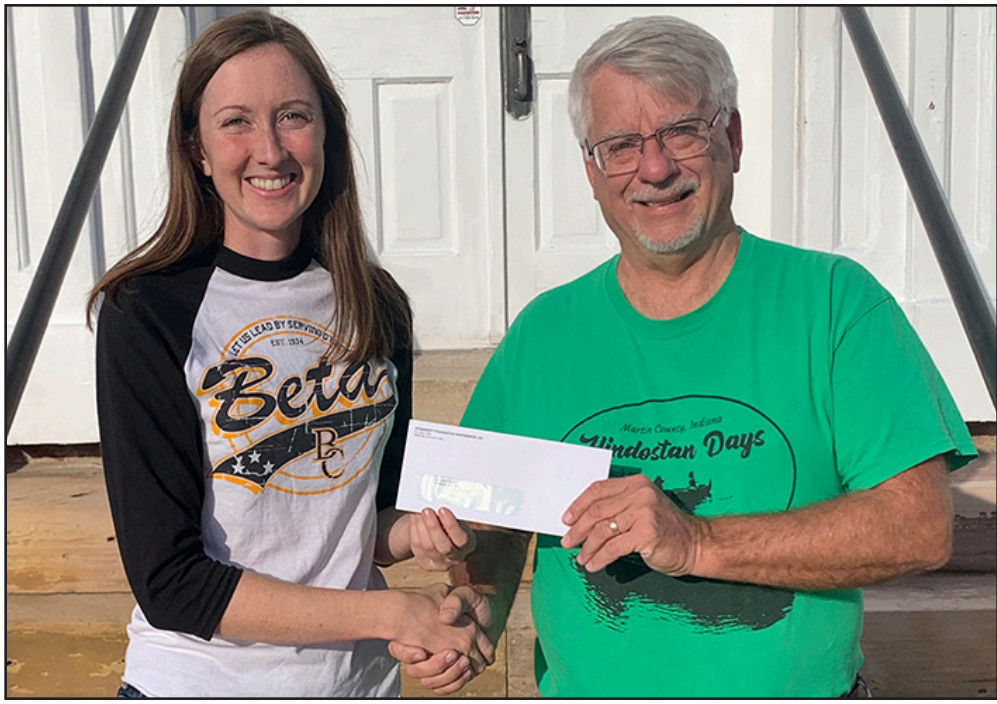
Ambulance Director Jeramey Osborn reported they are waiting any day now to hear from Daviess Community Hospital on becoming the county's medical sponsor.

The commissioners approved USI to take over the county's applications for the Community Crossings grant. HWC Engineering has been the firm the county has used for the last several years. "We felt it

(See 'COMMISSIONERS' on page 2)

## Steiner files for recount

Mike Steiner has filed for a hand recount of the 2022 General Election ballots, in his race for Martin County Prosecutor. The recount will take place next Monday, December 5. Three people will be appointed to do the recount – one by Steiner, one by Aureola Vincz and one by the clerk's office. There are 3,606 ballots to count by hand so it is unknown how long it will take to be completed. Vincz, a Republican, defeated Steiner, who ran as an Independent, in the election by 183 votes, 1,816 to 1,633. The recount cost Steiner \$900.



-Photo provided

## Make My Day grant

Shown above is Martin County Community Foundation (MCCF) Board member Megan Hawkins presenting a \$500 Make My Day grant to Martin County Historical Society President Bill Greene. The grant will be used to help support the Historical Society's Hindustan Days event next fall. The MCCF always likes to make someone's day.

## COMMISSIONERS

(Continued from page one)

was time to move on for a little while," said George about the change from HWC. USI's contract is for \$16,000 for the grant application for 2023 and an hourly rate for updating the road evaluation plan.

Becky Sellers talked to the commissioners about INDOT closing Highway 450 from May 2023 to November 2023. She said she is concerned about residents being cut off from ambulance service and the sheriff's department for that many months. She said the route around the closure would take a very long time to get to residents. She asked the commissioners and county attorney if they could appeal the closure.

Commissioner Cody Roush agreed with Sellers. He suggested Sellers reach out to the state representatives. Sellers said she would like to see if the commissioners could talk to the state because they hold more authority than she does. She said she would like to see a negotiation with INDOT to limit the complete closure to less time or put in a runaround.

Commissioner George said they can have the county attorney send a letter to INDOT and see what can be done. "We'll definitely try," he said.

Attorney Dave Lett told the commissioners he looked into the mileage reimbursement issue brought up at last meeting. The surveyor's office had submitted mileage reimbursements for \$3,000. He said the commissioners are required to pay the claims of mileage submitted but they can put forth a policy to require month-

ly or quarterly submissions as opposed to annually. He said they can also have the employee submit odometer readings or a Google map of the driving route. He said the policy change would have to be done in the employee handbook.

The commissioners approved two payments to Core Facilities from ARPA (American Recovery Plan Act) funds. The first was a second payment for the door controls and intercoms in the jail for \$80,427.50. The second was a down payment for the windows in the courthouse for \$19,067.19. They also approved two claims from the ambulance service for various supplies for \$1,752.98 and \$877.59, to come from ARPA funds.

Auditor Michelle Norris told the commissioners that the county is required to report all their capital assets. She said this is not being done. She had a company reach out to offer assistance with getting it all updated. Commissioner George asked Norris to get a rough estimate of what this would cost.

Norris also reported that the county website is down. She said they have currently received two quotes for a new county website and are expecting a third. She said she will bring those quotes to the next meeting but wanted the commissioners to know the website is currently not in operation.

The commissioners approved closing the courthouse on December 9, from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. for employees' annual Christmas dinner.

## SALARIES

(Continued from page one)

transferred over.

Deputy Auditor Winger said when comparing salary and wages, \$15 for cooks versus \$15 for office staff is not the same. The cooks work 80 hours a pay period and the office staff work 75 hours a pay period. That is a difference of about \$2,000 per year. A cook at \$13 and an office worker at \$13.75, the cook makes more in take home pay. When the office staff was converted to hourly from salaried, the wage was so low that the hours needed to be reduced to make a wage the county could get an employee for. If office staff worked 80 hours per pay period, the wage would be at \$12.89 per hour. There have been fourteen office staff leave in the last year, with most being full-time.

Sheriff Greene pointed out that a lot of employees have been taking second and third jobs in order to make ends meet and stay with the county. Deputy Auditor Winger said there are also several people in the courthouse who have second jobs. She said she needed this meeting with the commissioners because she has to prepare the salary and wage ordinance. She has to go through every single job and make the calculations for wage increases. There have been several salary changes in the last year, and she needs to make sure the salaries are correct.

Commissioner George asked Sheriff Greene if he would like a higher wage for the senior cook. Sheriff Greene responded it would be nice if there was a differential. Commissioner Roush responded that now would be a good time to set the differential, since there is only one cook right now. Deputy Auditor Winger stated the goal is to set up a differential with most positions so that there is flexibility with the wage. The auditor's office lost someone this year not only because the wage was low, but they were making the same wage after 10 years as someone new who started employment. Deputy Auditor Winger asked the commissioners if they would consider a salary range in the salary and wage ordinance. For example, instead of listing \$15 per hour, state \$13-\$15 per hour.

Deputy Auditor Winger stated the budget was prepared so that office staff can be raised to \$15 per hour with a 4 percent raise with the exception of the Soil and Water position because she had specifically asked the council for a different amount. The custodian was included because he was less than \$15 per hour. Elected officials were also increased by \$1.25 based on 80 hours.

Trish McKibben, IV-D Administrator with the prosecutor's office, informed the commissioners the IV-D claims clerk does receive an additional amount per hour from state incident money for work performed for child support cases. The criminal side gets additional money from one of the prosecutor funds which is not county general money, IV-D nor criminal additional amounts per hour come from the county general fund.

Deputy Auditor Winger asked McKibben about the pay differential between the administrator and caseworker in the IV-D and criminal departments of the prosecutor's office. There is currently a 41-cent pay differential. In the 2023 budget there is no differential. Deputy Auditor Winger will follow up with Prosecutor Vincz about the differential.

A discussion ensued regarding starting pay for employees. Currently all office deputies are paid the same amount regardless of seniority. After discussion, Commissioner George recommended the starting pay for office employees be set at \$14.50 and after 90 days it can be raised to \$15 per hour. The raise after 90 days can be adjusted based on supervisor discretion up to the 50 cents per hour.

Clerk-Elect Julie Fithian asked that part-time employee highest range amount be raised from \$13 per hour to \$15 per

hour. The amount paid to an employee would be based on supervisor discretion. The current range is \$7.25 to \$13 per hour. The commissioners were in agreement to recommend to the council a pay range for part-time employees from \$7.25 to \$15.

Deputy Auditor Winger stated she would like to explore the possibility of the county hiring interns. The school currently allows students to participate in intern programs, but most interns expect to be paid. The county has never been able to budget for interns. She sees this could be a program in which students could be trained and then funneled in as future employees once the internship is completed.

Commissioner George stated that Soil and Water has asked for approval to hire a secretary to replace Teresa Harder who is retiring at the end of the year. A motion was made by Commissioner Roush to approve the recommended new hire, seconded by Commissioner Summers. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Commissioner George asked about time off benefits. Deputy Auditor Winger stated 3.125 hours per month are accumulated the first year. On the first January after hired, an employee gets two weeks of vacation and two weeks of personal time. The second January the amount of time goes to three weeks of vacation and two weeks of personal time. The next increase is at year ten of employment, in which vacation increases to four weeks and personal time is two weeks. The commissioners agreed to change vacation hours accrued monthly in the first year from 3.125 to a half a day, depending on the work schedule. Such as, 3.75 hours per month for employees working 75 hours per pay period and four hours per month for employees working 80 hours. These hours discussed do not include EMS or the sheriff's department. These departments vacation and personal time are configured differently per their policies.

HR Director Kristie Skees informed the commissioners there is currently not a policy in place regarding unpaid time off. At this time, it is at the discretion of the supervisor. Director Skees stated there should be a policy put in place. Deputy Auditor Winger stated there are employees who work less than a full schedule that do not take personal time. These employees would get more than the normal amount of time off because there is no policy stating personal time has to be used if available.

Deputy Auditor Winger informed the commissioners that she had spoke with Marilyn at Thompson's Insurance regarding the health insurance increase for next year. Marilyn stated the insurance wanted to increase the rate by 30 percent but agreed to only increase by 24 percent based on the county's longevity with the carrier. Thompson's Insurance stated a typical increase would be 13-18 percent. Deputy Auditor Winger is waiting to hear from Thompson's Insurance regarding more details of the increase and if an HRA can be used. If the deductible were raised, a HRA could be used to reimburse the employees the amount of the raised deductible, while lowering the overall rate to the county.

Commissioner George said the last time an insurance raised the rate by 20 percent two years in a row, the county shopped for new insurance and switched carriers, which lowered the rate. Deputy Auditor Winger asked the commissioners if they wanted her to shop for a different carrier. Deputy Auditor Winger stated the worst time to shop is when the claim rate is high. Thompson's Insurance is waiting on additional details, but they think a high claim amount is why next year's rate is high. Deputy Auditor Winger stated there is no time to shop for new insurance for the upcoming year. Commissioner George responded that may be something to look into next year.

### TOY'S AUTO PARTS, INC.

<b>Loogootee</b> (812) 295-2312	<b>Shoals</b> (812) 247-3321	<b>Jasper</b> (812) 634-2222	<b>Washington</b> (812) 254-2540
<b>Sullivan</b> (812) 268-5252	<b>Martinsville</b> (765) 342-6623	<b>Linton</b> (812) 847-4494	
<b>Jasonville</b> (812) 665-3969	<b>Bicknell</b> (812) 735-3545	<b>Bloomfield</b> (812) 384-4453	

## Letters to Santa!

November 22nd - December 23, Santa's Mailbox will be in front of Queen-Lee Chapel in Shoals.

Please feel free to let your child use this to mail their letters to Santa!

QUEEN-LEE CHAPEL

GEORGE FUNERAL HOME, LLC  
431 High Street  
Shoals, Indiana 47381  
812.247.3101

# OBITUARIES

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MARTIN COUNTY JOURNAL

Wednesday, November 30, 2022

## HEATHER FOX

Heather Anne Fox passed away on Sunday November 27, 2022, at her home. A resident of Washington, she was 45.



She was born December 14, 1976, in Hammond; daughter of the late Tim Fox and Roxanne Lents.

Heather was a member of the Catholic Faith. She was the glue that held her family together. Heather was a kind soul that took care of her family and everyone she met. She will be deeply missed by all that knew her.

Heather is preceded in death by her parents, Tim Fox and Roxanne Lents.

She is survived by her loving companion of 22 years, Elvin Yoder; her children, Haylee Dawn Sims of Cannelburg, Anna Marie Fox of Washington, and Emma Rochelle Yoder of Washington; her stepmom, Kim Fox of Washington; her sister, Gretchen (James) Harbison – Raetz, her brothers, Jacob Fox of Washington, and Logan Fox of Mooresville; her grandfather, John C. Lents of Loogootee, and several nieces and nephews.

A funeral service was held this morning, Wednesday November 30 at Blake Funeral Home in Loogootee. Burial followed in St. John's Cemetery.

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

Arrangements provided by Blake Funeral Home in Loogootee, Indiana.

## MARY O'CONNOR

Mary Catherine (McAtee) O'Connor departed from this world on Saturday, November 26, 2022, while residing with family in Ellenton, Florida. She was 97.

She was born in Indianapolis on September 29, 1925; daughter of Herschel McAtee and Katherine (Schuck) McAtee. The family moved to Bramble when Mary was a child.

Mary graduated from St. John's high school in 1943. She worked at the Railroad Office on Crane Naval Base for a short time during World War II. She married Robert (Bob) O'Connor in 1949 and was married for 31 years until his death in 1980. After raising seven children, she later accepted employment at MedCo Nursing Center and retired in 1988. During that time, Mary served on the Board of Directors for Daviess-Martin County Red Door facilities as well as Four Rivers Rehabilitation Board of Directors. She spent the rest of her years living in Colorado, Ohio, and later Florida.

Mary will be remembered for her uncanny ability to memorize poetry, grow African Violets, bake delicious cinnamon rolls, and her proficiency in playing the harmonica at family gatherings. She was also an avid reader, and taught herself how to upholster, lay tile and linoleum, and hang wallpaper. Mary's mastery of the game Scrabble eventually intimidated even the best of her challengers.

Mary imparted to her children a desire to become self-sufficient and shared many tidbits of knowledge through the years. Some of her famous quotes are "Rub it, soak it, figure it out!"

Mary was preceded in death by her son, Edward O'Connor; grandson, Justin Hunter O'Connor, and an infant granddaughter; brothers, John, Joseph and Lawrence McAtee; and son-in-law, Frank Gervase.

She is survived by a brother, Robert McAtee of Maynor, Texas; brother-in-law, Daniel (Louise) O'Connor of Greenfield; sister-in-law, Dorothy O'Connor of Mooresville; son, Kenneth O'Connor of Bramble, and daughters, Kathryn King of Bedford, Paula (Mike) Hilton of El-

lenton, Florida; Linda (Mike) Krueger of Mishawaka, Bonnie O'Connor (Anthony Povinelli) of Indianapolis, Cheryl (Brian) Shelley of Carmel, and bonus daughter, Carol Perkins of Bedford. Mary has 10 surviving grandchildren, a number of bonus grandchildren, and a growing number of great-grandchildren.

Cremation was chosen per Mary's wishes. Ashes will be interred at St. Joseph's Catholic Church, Bramble, at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be sent to the Daviess-Martin County Red Door (now called the Arc).

## MARILYN WAGNER

Marilyn J. Wagner passed away at 4:10 a.m. Saturday, November 26, 2022, at Poplar Care Strategies. A resident of Loogootee, she was 80.



She was born October 22, 1942, in Alfordsville; daughter of the late Ralph Doyle and Mickey (Lett) Edwards. She married Donald R. Wagner on December 23, 1960 and were married for 50 years before his death.

She graduated from Alfordsville High School. She was of the Christian faith. Marilyn loved life and people. She worked for the Larkin Department Store and the Loogootee IGA. Marilyn loved to decorate her porches for every holiday, make crafts and sewing for her family and grandchildren. She loved her children and grandchildren. They were very special gifts from God. She loved spending time with them and tried to attend their special events at school and church.

Marilyn was preceded in death by her husband, Donald R. Wagner; parents, Ralph and Mickey Edwards; granddaughter, Chelsie Wagner; and siblings, Gail Foster, Doyle Edwards Jr., Joe Edwards and Marlin Edwards.

She is survived by her children, Bob Wagner of Zionsville, April (Greg) Clark of Loogootee and Lynn (Trevor) Keller of Mariah Hill; grandchildren, Cassie (Sam) Nusbaum, R.J. Wagner, Josh Wagner, Miranda Keller, Grace Keller and Annie Keller; brothers, Paul Edwards of Washington and John (Susan) Edwards of Louisiana; sisters, Patty Small of Washington and Carolyn Sue (Larry) Peyton, both of Washington; and several nieces and nephews.

Funeral services will be conducted at 11 a.m. Friday, December 2, at Blake Funeral Home in Loogootee. Burial will follow in Goodwill Cemetery.

Visitation will be held Friday, December 2, from 9 a.m. until the time of service at the funeral home.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions can be made to the charity of your choice.

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

Blake Funeral Home is honored to serve the family of Marilyn J. Wagner.

## JAMES BUECHLEIN

James A. "Jim" Buechlein passed away at 4:59 p.m. Friday, November 25, 2022, at Memorial Hospital and Health Care Center in Jasper. A resident of Jasper, he was 66.

He was born in Jasper on August 25, 1956; son of Urban and Bertha (Englert) Buechlein. He married Judy Herbig on August 19, 1978, in St. Joseph Catholic Church.

He was owner and operator of Buechlein's Kwik-Strip/Custom Furniture and Designs for over 41 years. He designed and built the church altar for Precious



JAMES BUECHLEIN

He enjoyed boating, going on Jeep rides, watching Gunsmoke and Bonanza, and spending time with friends and family, especially his grandchildren.

Surviving are his wife, Judy Buechlein of Jasper, two sons, Blake (Lydia) Buechlein of Shoals and Branon (Autumn) Buechlein of Jasper; five grandchildren, Arie Buechlein, and Tapanga, Nalanie, Brynn, and Urban Buechlein; two sisters, Carol Maxey of Huntingburg, and Darlene Cunningham of Petersburg, and one brother, Ronnie Buechlein (Mag) of Jasper.

Preceding him in death was one grandchild, Hadlye Buechlein; his parents, and one brother, Denny Buechlein.

A Mass of Christian Burial for James A. "Jim" Buechlein will be held at 11 a.m. Thursday, December 1, in Precious Blood Catholic Church in Jasper, with burial to follow in Fairview Cemetery in Jasper.

A visitation will be held from 9 a.m. until the 11 a.m. Mass time at the church on Thursday.

Memorial contributions may be made to Precious Blood Catholic Church, or to a favorite charity.

Online condolences may be made at [www.becherkluesner.com](http://www.becherkluesner.com).

## CHARLES BUTCHER

Charles M. Butcher passed away at 8:10 p.m. Saturday, November 26, 2022, at Poplar Care Strategies. A resident of Loogootee, he was 72.

He was born February 12, 1950, in Washington; son of the late Everett A. and Zella M. (Hawk) Butcher.

Charles was a United States Army veteran (1970-1972) and served in the Vietnam War. Charles worked a NSWC Crane, drove a truck, and was as a general laborer. He had a Harley Davidson motorcycle he loved to ride. It was his pride and joy. Charles had many friends who he enjoyed being with over the years. He was a member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars - Post 9395, American Legion - Post 120 and the Abate Motorcycle Organization. He was a past member of the Knights of Columbus - Council 732.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Everett A. and Zella M. Butcher; infant sister, Virginia Sue Butcher; and sister-in-law, Jane Butcher.

Charles is survived by his siblings, Bernard Butcher of Crane, Lawrence (Charlene) Butcher of Beech Grove, Elizabeth (Leroy) Bateman of Plainfield, Rosemary Harder of Loogootee, Dorothy (Don) Striegel of Indianapolis, Brenda (David) Harder of Loogootee, Karen (David) Willis of Washington, Connie Hulsbeck of Jasper and Gary Butcher of Loogootee; and many nieces and nephews and great-nieces and great-nephews.

Funeral services will be conducted at 11 a.m. Thursday, December 1 at Blake Funeral Home in Loogootee. Burial will follow in St. Martin Catholic Cemetery.

Visitation will be held Thursday, December 1, from 9:00 a.m. until the time of service at the funeral home.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions can be made to the St. Martin Catholic Cemetery or the American Legion - Post 120.

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

Blake Funeral Home is honored to serve the family of Charles M. Butcher.

## BARBARA HILLENBURG

Barbara Hillenburg died Friday, November 25, 2022, at her home. A resident of Bedford, she was 87.

She was born April 28, 1935, in Martin County; daughter of Beryl J. and Frances Elizabeth (Owens) Pruett. She married



BARBARA HILLENBURG

Charles Hillenburg on May 3, 1953.

Barbara's first job was working for Walls and Walls Insurance in Bedford, she then went to work at the Fayetteville School where she worked many years as a teacher's aide, she later retired from the Dollar General Store on the Bedford Square where she was the manager. She attended the Fayetteville Baptist Church.

Survivors include her husband of 69 years, Charlie of Bedford; a daughter, Debbie Emmons and her husband, Stephen Lopp, of Bedford; two grandchildren, Amanda Wright, and her husband, Chad, of Bedford; Michael Emmons, and his wife, Lorie, of Bedford; five great grandchildren, Kody Emmons and Ashlyn Bender, Ellie Emmons and her fiancé Allen Huffman, Levi Wright and his wife, Sadie; Larissa Wright and Bradley Crane, and Logan Wright and his fiancé, Laney Hayes; a great-great grandson, Grayson Laine Wright; a sister, Mary Lou Thompson, and her husband, Harold, of Bedford.

She was preceded in death by her parents, a son, Steven E. Hillenburg; three brothers, Robert D. Pruett, and James G. Pruett, Glen D. Pruett; and one sister, Marilyn Jean Conrad.

Funeral services will be conducted at 11 a.m. Thursday, December 1 in the Elmwood Chapel of the Day & Carter Mortuary with Pastor Kenny Walden officiating. Burial will follow in the New Union Christian Church Cemetery.

Visitation will be from 4 p.m. until 8 p.m. Wednesday, November 30 and from 9 a.m. until the hour of service on Thursday at the Day & Carter Mortuary.

## ELIZABETH STAHL

Elizabeth I. "Betty" Stahl passed away Friday, November 25, 2022. A resident of Loogootee, she was 89.

She was born June 23, 1933, in Ruthersford Township; daughter of the late Robert Elsworth and Catherine Otella (Preusz) Sutton.

Betty was a homemaker. She worked hard her whole life and took pride in raising her family. In recent years, Betty lived with her sister, Catherine, and they enjoyed playing cards and watching television.

She was preceded in death by her first husband, Norbert Crays; second husband, Rodney Stahl; parents, Robert and Catherine Sutton; five sisters, Holletta (Forrest) Hembree, Mildred (Alvin) Hembree, Alceretta (Kenneth) Sutton, Maxine (Bernard) Breidenbaugh, and twin, Lena Louise Sutton; and seven brothers, Luther Sutton, Delbert Sutton, John Sutton, Walter Sutton, Ed Sutton, Eugene "Bud" Sutton and twin, William Sutton.

Betty is survived by her sons, Dennis Crays and Edward Crays, both of Loogootee; sister, Catherine Sutton of Bedford; grandchildren, Brett (Summer) Crays, Daniel Crays and Nick Crays; and great-grandson, Barrett Wilson Crays.

A memorial service will be held at 11 a.m. Monday, December 5 at Blake Funeral Home in Loogootee. Burial will follow in Goodwill Cemetery.

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

(See 'OBITUARIES' on page 8)

## Martin County Sheriff's Department log

### MONDAY, NOVEMBER 21

1:38 a.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance southeast of Loogootee. Corporal Wells, Loogootee Officer Erwin, Martin County EMS, Daviess County EMS and Martin County Coroner responded.

2:09 a.m. - Received a 911 call from a Daviess County address. Transferred call to Daviess County 911.

3:15 a.m. - Received a 911 call reporting a suspicious person southeast of Shoals. Corporal Wells and Loogootee Officer Erwin responded.

8:50 a.m. - Received a report of a stalled vehicle east of Shoals. Chief Deputy Keller responded.

9:50 a.m. - Received an accidental 911 call.

10:09 a.m. - Received a report of a reckless driver heading west on US 50. All Martin County Law Enforcement was advised.

10:39 a.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance to Crane Village. Martin County EMS, Sergeant Gibson and Martin County Coroner responded.

10:53 a.m. - Received an accidental 911 call.

2:26 p.m. - Received a report of a verbal domestic dispute in Loogootee. Loogootee Chief Means, ISP Trooper Beaver and Sergeant Gibson responded.

2:30 p.m. - Received an accidental 911 call.

3:21 p.m. - Received a 911 call reporting an accident north of Loogootee. Loogootee Chief Means, Martin County EMS, ISP Trooper Beaver, Sergeant Gibson and Loogootee Fire Department responded. No transport was needed.

3:49 p.m. - Received a report of a fire southeast of Shoals. Shoals Fire Department, Martin County EMS, Martin County Civil Defense and Sergeant Gibson responded. No transport was needed.

5:11 p.m. - Received an animal complaint southeast of Shoals. Animal Control Deputy Hughett was notified.

5:53 p.m. - Received a report of a fire southwest of Shoals. Shoals Fire Department responded.

5:57 p.m. - Received an accidental 911 call.

6:44 p.m. - Received an accidental 911 call.

6:53 p.m. - Received a report of a suspicious person in Loogootee. Loogootee Officer Sims responded.

9:32 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance northeast of Shoals. Martin County EMS and Shoals Fire Department responded. Martin County Medic 1 transported one patient to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

### TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 22

12:46 a.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance in Loogootee. Loogootee Officer Sims and Martin County EMS responded. No one was transported.

1:52 a.m. - Received a call from Emergent Security reporting a commercial burglar alarm in Crane Village. Corporal Wells and Loogootee Officer Sims responded.

2:16 a.m. - Received a call from Emergent Security. Advised caller officers were on scene.

6:00 a.m. - Received a report of a car-deer accident south of Shoals.

7:36 a.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County EMS and Loogootee Chief Means responded.

8:20 a.m. - Deputy Pressley transported one inmate to court.

9:39 a.m. - Deputy Pressley transport-

ed two inmates to court.

10:58 a.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance south of Loogootee. Martin County EMS and Haysville Fire Department responded. Martin County Medic 1 and 3 transported one patient to Bloomington Hospital.

12:10 p.m. - Received an animal complaint north of Shoals. Chief Deputy Keller responded. Animal Control Deputy Hughett was notified.

12:19 p.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County EMS and Loogootee Fire Department responded. Martin County Medic 2 transported one patient to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

12:57 p.m. - Deputy Pressley transported one inmate to court.

1:01 p.m. - Received an accidental 911 call.

1:36 p.m. - Received three 911 test calls from T-Mobile.

1:39 p.m. - Received a call from Crane Dispatch requesting a 911 check.

2:00 p.m. - Deputy Pressley transported one inmate to court.

3:33 p.m. - Received a call reporting a trespasser in Shoals. Sergeant Gibson responded.

5:06 p.m. - Received a report of a controlled burn south of Loogootee.

5:30 p.m. - Received a report of an injured dog southeast of Shoals. Animal Control Deputy Hughett responded.

5:35 p.m. - Received an accidental 911 call.

6:49 p.m. - Received a 911 call from a Daviess County address. Transferred call to Daviess County 911.

6:52 p.m. - Received a report of a car-deer accident north of Loogootee. Reserve Deputy Dorsey responded.

7:20 p.m. - Received multiple calls reporting a stalled vehicle east of Shoals. Reserve Deputy Dorsey, Loogootee Officer Sims, Shoals Fire Department and Big John's Towing responded.

8:22 p.m. - Received a report of a domestic dispute in Loogootee. Loogootee Officer Sims, Sergeant Gibson and Reserve Deputy Dorsey responded.

9:40 p.m. - Received a 911 call reporting a trespasser northeast of Shoals. Sergeant Gibson, Reserve Deputy Dorsey and Loogootee Officer Sims responded.

### WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 23

7:18 a.m. - Received a 911 call from an Orange County address. Transferred call to Orange County 911.

8:07 a.m. - Received a report of reckless driver south of Loogootee. Loogootee Officer Seymour responded.

8:17 a.m. - Received an accidental 911 call.

12:26 p.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance east of Shoals. Martin County EMS responded and transported one patient to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

3:13 p.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance in Shoals. Shoals Fire Department, Martin County EMS and Sergeant Gibson responded. Martin County Medic 1 transported one patient to IU Health Bedford.

4:11 p.m. - Received an accidental 911 call.

4:40 p.m. - Received a request for a vehicle unlock in Shoals. Sergeant Gibson responded.

6:00 p.m. - Received a call from Medical Monitoring Company reporting a medical alarm in Shoals. Sergeant Gibson, Indiana Conservation Officer Mann, Martin County EMS and Shoals Fire Department responded. No one was transported.

6:03 p.m. - Received a report of reck-

less driving south of Shoals. Sergeant Gibson responded.

6:53 p.m. - Received a report of a possible gas leak in Shoals. Shoals Fire Department responded.

7:45 p.m. - Received a report of laser activity in Shoals being reported by pilots. Sergeant Gibson responded.

9:00 p.m. - Received a report of possible drug activity in Loogootee. Loogootee Officer Erwin and Sergeant Gibson responded.

11:17 p.m. - Received an accidental 911 call.

### THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 24

1:07 a.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance east of Loogootee. Martin County EMS, Loogootee Fire Department and Corporal Wells responded. Martin County Medic 1 transported one patient to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

6:14 a.m. - Received a report of an animal in the roadway west of Shoals. Corporal Wells responded.

8:27 a.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an officer north of Shoals. Deputy Hawkins, Deputy Pressley, Loogootee Officer Seymour and ISP Trooper Beaver responded.

9:06 a.m. - Received a report of property damage south of Loogootee. Deputy Hawkins and Deputy Pressley responded.

10:54 a.m. - Received an accidental 911 call.

1:13 p.m. - Received a report of a controlled burn south of Shoals.

3:20 p.m. - Received a report of a young juvenile walking alone in Shoals. Deputy Hawkins and Deputy Pressley responded.

4:42 p.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County EMS responded. No one was transported.

5:16 p.m. - Received a 911 call requesting a welfare check in Shoals. Deputy Hawkins responded.

6:57 p.m. - Received a 911 call at a Lawrence County address. Transferred call to Lawrence County 911.

8:50 p.m. - Received a report of suspicious items in Shoals. Deputy Branham responded.

9:03 p.m. - Received a 911 call reporting harassment in Shoals. Deputy Branham responded.

9:39 p.m. - Received a report of ATVs and motorcycles driving recklessly in Shoals. Loogootee Officer Seymour and Deputy Branham responded.

### FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 25

2:29 a.m. - Received a 911 call reporting an accident with no injuries on US 50 east of Shoals. Deputy Branham and Big John's Towing responded.

3:42 a.m. - Received a report of a reckless driver on US 50, heading East. Deputy Branham responded.

4:24 a.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County EMS, Loogootee Fire Department, Loogootee Officer Erwin and Deputy Branham responded. No transport was needed.

5:07 a.m. - Received a report of the traffic light in Loogootee not working correctly. INDOT was notified.

7:27 a.m. - Received a report of a controlled burn in Loogootee.

11:23 a.m. - Received a request for a vehicle unlock south of Shoals. Deputy Hawkins responded.

11:40 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Crane. Martin County EMS, Crane First Responders and Crane EMS responded. Martin County Medic 1 assisted with transport to Greene

County Hospital.

12:30 p.m. - Received a report of someone burning in Shoals. Deputy Hawkins responded.

3:29 p.m. - Received a report of several people shooting bottles in the state forest. Deputy Hawkins responded.

9:48 p.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County EMS, Loogootee Fire Department, Loogootee Officer Sims and Deputy Branham responded. Martin County Medic 1 transported one patient to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

10:40 p.m. - Received a request for a security check north of Loogootee. Deputy Branham responded.

### SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 26

9:00 a.m. - Received a report of an abandoned vehicle east of Loogootee. Deputy Hawkins responded.

10:08 a.m. - Received a report of trespassers northeast of Loogootee. Indiana Conservation Officer Mann, ISP Trooper Lents and Deputy Hawkins responded.

10:25 a.m. - Received a report of a controlled burn east of Shoals.

2:47 p.m. - Received a report of a controlled burn south of Loogootee.

2:54 p.m. - Received a report of a tree down northeast of Shoals. Martin County Highway department was notified.

3:45 p.m. - Received a report of a water leak south of Shoals. East Fork Water was notified.

4:00 p.m. - Received an animal complaint south of Shoals. Animal Control Deputy Hughett was notified.

5:54 p.m. - Received a report of a controlled burn south of Loogootee.

7:18 p.m. - Received a report of a car-deer accident north of Loogootee. Deputy Branham and Big John's Towing responded.

### SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 27

2:22 a.m. - Received a call from Koorsen Fire and Security reporting a commercial burglar alarm in Loogootee. Deputy Branham responded.

5:02 a.m. - Received a call from Lawrence County requesting an ambulance in Bedford. Martin County Medic 1 responded and transported one patient to IU Health Bedford.

6:25 a.m. - Received a report of a tree down south of Loogootee. Deputy Branham responded.

6:34 a.m. - Received an accidental 911 call.

8:40 a.m. - Received an animal complaint in Shoals. Animal Control Deputy Hughett was notified.

9:44 a.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County EMS and Loogootee Fire Department responded. Martin County Medic 1 transported one patient to Daviess Community Hospital.

3:11 p.m. - Received a request for a vehicle identification number check north of Shoals. Deputy Hawkins responded.

3:46 p.m. - Received a report of cows out by the Shoals Community School. Owner was notified.

3:50 p.m. - Received a report of a low hanging tree limb in Lawrence County. Contacted Lawrence County with information.

5:50 p.m. - Received an accidental 911 call.

6:09 p.m. - Received a 911 call reporting an accident southeast of Shoals. Martin County EMS, Deputy Hawkins, Shoals Fire Department and Lost River Fire Chief responded. No transport was needed.

6:55 p.m. - Received a report of a tree down south of Shoals. Shoals Fire Department responded.

# COURT NEWS

## CRIMINAL CONVICTIONS AND SENTENCING

November 17

Gabreilla E. Guerra, convicted of driving while suspended, a Class A Misdemeanor. Sentenced to serve 2 days with 0 days suspended with credit for 1 actual day previously served plus 1 Class A credit day.

November 18

Riley L. Hutson, convicted of resisting law enforcement, a Class A Misdemeanor. Sentenced to serve 365 days with 363 days suspended and credit for 1 actual day previously served plus 1 Class A credit day. Defendant received 12 months of probation.

Carlos Omar Ramos Roque, convicted of operating a motor vehicle without ever receiving a license, a Class C Misdemeanor. Sentenced to serve 2 days with 0 days suspended and credit for 1 actual day previously served plus 1 Class A credit day.

Alejandro Morales, convicted of operating a motor vehicle without ever receiving a license, a Class C Misdemeanor. Sentenced to serve 2 days with 0 days suspended and credit for 1 actual day previously served plus 1 Class A credit day.

## CRIMINAL CHARGES DISMISSED

November 18

Riley L. Hutson, resisting law enforcement, a Level 6 Felony, dismissed.

November 21

Carol A. Henness, possession of marijuana, a Class B Misdemeanor, dismissed; possession of paraphernalia, a Class C Misdemeanor, dismissed.

## CIVIL COURT

New Suits Filed

November 18

Capital One Bank vs. Danielle Korve-la, civil collection.

## CIVIL COURT JUDGMENTS

November 21

Judgment in favor of the plaintiff Citizens Bank and against the defendant Colin J. Padgett for mortgage foreclosure in the amount of \$97,067.64.

November 15

TD Bank USA vs. Terrin Ball, civil collection, dismissed.

## SMALL CLAIMS JUDGMENTS

November 22

Judgment in favor of the plaintiff Isha Wright-Ryan and against the defendant Joshua D. Fox in the amount of

\$1,303.03.

## SMALL CLAIMS DISMISSED

November 22

Property Sure vs. Madison Roush and Spencer Byers, eviction, dismissed.

Ricky Heckard vs. Michael Jerry Cross, complaint, dismissed.

## MARRIAGE LICENSES

Edward Lee Seals of Loogootee and Lisa Catherine Muench of Loogootee.

Darrell Allen Levi of Shoals and Susan Lynn Reedy of Shoals.

# ARRESTS

## TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 22

9:15 p.m. - Clifford Edmondson, 49, of Loogootee, was arrested by Reserve Deputy Dorsey and charged with for domestic battery in the presence of a minor. He is being held on \$15,000 10% bond.

9:18 p.m. - Sadie Edmondson, 19, of Loogootee, was arrested by Loogootee Officer Sims and charged with domestic battery in the presence of a minor. She is being held on \$15,000 10% bond.

## THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 24

12:46 a.m. - Westly Coleman, 30, of Evansville, was arrested by Loogootee Officer Erwin and charged with operating while intoxicated-endangerment. He is being held on \$15,000 10% bond.

9:45 a.m. - Teiara Hanes, 37, of Shoals, was arrested by ISP Trooper Beaver and charged with domestic battery in the presence of a minor and false informing. She is being held without bond.

11:28 p.m. - Travis Gruber, 25, of Shoals, was arrested by Loogootee Officer Erwin and charged with possession of methamphetamine and possession of paraphernalia. He is being held on \$15,000 10% bond.

## FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 25

11:25 a.m. - Tabitha Porter, 36, of Jasper, was arrested on a Martin County warrant. She is being held without bond.

## SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 26

2:49 a.m. - Brian Clifton, 48, of Shoals, was arrested by Deputy Branham and charged with public intoxication. He is being held on a \$5,000 10% bond.

## SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 27

7:26 p.m. - Edward Sheetz, 57, of French Lick, was arrested by Deputy Hawkins and charged with operating a vehicle while intoxicated-endangerment. He is being held on \$15,000 10% bond.

# Loogootee Police log

## MONDAY, NOVEMBER 21

2:21 p.m. - Chief Means responded to a verbal argument on Southwest First Street.

3:24 p.m. - Chief Means, along with the Loogootee Fire Department, responded to a traffic accident on US Highway 231.

4:12 p.m. - Chief Means and the Loogootee Fire Department responded to a traffic accident.

4:41 p.m. - Chief Means provided a property check on East Broadway Street.

4:46 p.m. - Chief Means completed a vehicle check on Queen Street.

6:51 p.m. - Officer Sims attempted to locate an individual walking around without a shirt but was unable to locate.

9:32 p.m. - Officer Sims responded to a medical call on Red School Road.

## TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 22

12:17 p.m. - Chief Means and the Loogootee Fire Department responded to a medical call.

5:16 p.m. - Chief Means was dispatched to an item causing a traffic hazard in the roadway on US Highway 231.

7:18 p.m. - Officer Sims responded to a vehicle vs. deer accident.

7:27 p.m. - Officer Sims responded to a domestic dispute on Third Street.

## WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 23

11:28 p.m. - Officer Seymour assisted the Martin County Sheriff's Department.

12:09 p.m. - Officer Seymour responded to a 911 dropped call at a local business. Everything checked clear.

2:58 p.m. - Officer Seymour provided a welfare check at a local business.

3:29 p.m. - Officer Seymour responded to a traffic accident at a local business.

## THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 24

9:27 a.m. - Officer Seymour responded to a domestic dispute on East River Road.

11:42 p.m. - Officer Seymour responded to a traffic accident at a local business on the public square.

8:34 p.m. - Officer Erwin was dispatched to a traffic hazard on Highway 50.

## FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 25

10:59 a.m. - Chief Means assisted the Martin County Sheriff's Department at a local business.

8:23 p.m. - Officer Sims assisted the Shoals Fire Department on a medical call on Main Street.

9:43 p.m. - Officer Sims and the Loogootee Fire Department responded to a medical call.

## SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 26

9:37 p.m. - Officer Erwin assisted the Martin County Sheriff's Department at the Loogootee Park for drug activity.

## SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 27

9:48 a.m. - The Loogootee Fire Department responded to a medical call on Bellgrade Avenue.

## Real estate transfers

**Nicole E. Erwin**, f/k/a Nicole E. Harder, of Martin County, Indiana to **Theresa K. Fuhrman**, of Martin County, Indiana, Lot Number Six in McCormick's Subdivision of Lot Number 103 in Chenoweth's Extension to the Town of West Shoals, now Shoals, Indiana.

**Rose A. Lyon to Indiana Match, LLC d/b/a LandHat**, that portion of the southeast quarter of the northeast quarter of Section 7, Township 3 North, Range 4 West, of the Second Principal Meridian lying in Perry Township, Martin County, Indiana, containing 14.075 acres, more or less.

**Diana Lynn Key, Shelley Rose Allbright and Bryant S. Trambaugh**, of Martin County, Indiana to **Ernest Lewis and Jill Lewis**, of Martin County, Indiana, a part of the southwest quarter of the southeast quarter of Section 24, Township 2 North, Range 4 West, Lost River Township, Martin County, Indiana, containing 4.61 acres, more or less.

## Spacious home in Shoals

Spacious home on 2.36 acres, in Shoals! The main floor has 3 bedrooms & 2 full baths! The full walk-out basement has the potential for 2 additional bedrooms/1 full bath with plenty living space! 3,804 square feet. \$259,000



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## More Neat Stuff



\*A recent study found that the average golfer walks about 900 miles a year. Another study found golfers drink, on average, 22 gallons of alcohol a year, which means, on average, golfers get about 41 miles to the gallon. Kind of makes you proud. I almost feel like a hybrid.

An Airbus 380 is on its way across the Atlantic. It flies consistently at 800 km/h at 30,000 feet when suddenly a Eurofighter with a Tempo Mach 2 appears.

The fighter jet's pilot slows down, flies alongside the Airbus and greets the pilot of the passenger plane by radio: "Airbus, the boring flight, isn't it? Now have a look here!"

He rolls his jet on its back, accelerates, breaks through the sound barrier, rises rapidly to a dizzying height, and then swoops down almost to sea level in a breathtaking dive. He loops back next to the Airbus and asks, "Well, how was that?"

The Airbus pilot answers: "Very impressive but watch this!"

The jet pilot watches the Airbus, but nothing happens. It continues to fly straight at the same speed. After 15 minutes, the Airbus pilot radios, "Well, how was that?"

Confused, the jet pilot asks, "What did you do?"

The Airbus pilot laughs and says, "I got up, stretched my legs, walked to the back of the aircraft to use the washroom, then got a cup of coffee and a chocolate fudge pastry."

The moral of the story is: When you're young, speed and adrenaline seem great.

But as you get older and wiser, you learn that comfort and peace are more important.

This is called S.O.S.: Slower, Older and Smarter.

It is dedicated to all my friends who, like me, as seniors, now realize that it's time to slow down and enjoy the rest of the trip.

### THOUGHTS

\*Current relationship status: Made dinner for two. Ate both.

\*Don't even want to human. I wanna goat. Jump around randomly, eat what I want, and head butt anyone who annoys me.

\*A day without coffee is like ... Just kidding. I have no idea.

### SERIOUSISMS

\*Remember, we all stumble, every one of us. That's why it's a comfort to go hand in hand.

\*One day you will wake up and there won't be any more time to do the things you've always wanted. DO IT NOW!

--

We are all going to eventually leave this world one day; everything will stay behind. So, while we're here, let's spread love, let's be kind and let's try our best to not torment others.

Let's make a positive impact in our communities. Let's be humble and treat others with respect, because in the end, what will matter the most is how we lived and made others feel.

Make someone smile today!

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### Aluminum Can Drive

The Daviess Right to Life will have their Aluminum Can Drive on Saturday, December 3 from 9 a.m. to noon at the Tractor Supply in Washington. No newspaper will be accepted. Martin County Right to Life will have their Newspaper/Aluminum, also on Saturday, at the Martin County Recycling Center.

### Loogootee Zoning meeting

The Loogootee Zoning Board of Appeals will meet Monday, December 12 at 5 p.m. in the council meeting room of the municipal building, prior to the monthly city council meeting. The item for review by the board is the placement of two tiny rental homes at 102 Park Street. The meeting is open to the public.

### Mental Health Task Force

The Martin County Mental Health Task Force meets via Zoom. If interested in being a part of the tax force, email echristmas@youthfirst.org or toddamy@iu.edu.

### Celebrate Recovery meetings

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

### St. Vincent Food Pantry

The St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry, on Park Street in Loogootee, is open the fourth Thursday of the month except November and December when they are open the third Thursday. The hours are 9 a.m.-noon and 1-3:30 p.m.

### Free lunch for kids

New Beginnings Community Church will be offering a free lunch to all school age children every Saturday. Lunches can be picked up at the fellowship hall of the church, located at 105 Wood St, Loogootee no later than 10:30 a.m. Deliveries will begin between 10:30 and 11 a.m. Saturdays.

### SOAR Tutoring

Need Skills? SOAR tutors can help! Free and confidential. Call or text Karen at 812-709-1618 to learn more. Located in the Martin County Community Learning Center Improve Your Skills, Improve Your Life!

### LUMC Food Pantry

The Loogootee United Methodist Church Food Pantry is open every Thursday (except the fourth Thursday) from 11 a.m.-1 p.m.

### Solid waste board

The Martin County Solid Waste Board holds their monthly meetings on the second Wednesday of each month at noon 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](http://www.martinswcd.com) or call at 295-3149.

### 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.

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

The Shoals Adult Booster Club would like to thank the following businesses and individuals for their donations and support of this year's Fall Festival: Chicago's Pizza, Children's Museum of Evansville, West Boggs Park, Kentucky Kingdom, Crane Credit Union, WonderLab, Los Bravos, Midwestern Engineers, Knights of Columbus #732, Fast Eddies, United States Gypsum, Shoals High School Media Class, German American Bank, Kizior & Young Orthodontics, Bedford Walmart, Brittany Fuhrman, Kevin Fuhrman, Andrea Lemond, Shoals Public Library, Loughmiller's/Southern Indiana Steel, Hen Pecked, Full Circle Photography, Hilltop Photography, Pizza Junction, Bo-Macs, Faytastic Pizza, The Shoals News and the Martin County Journal.

A special thanks to Mathew Sullivan and all of the coaches, athletes, staff, parents and community volunteers who helped make this year's festival a great success.

Thank you to everyone who attended and helped to support the Shoals Athletic program.

Shoals Adult Booster Club

## ANIMAL SHELTER Pet of the Week



**BLUE** is a male bluetick coonhound, around 3-5 years old. He would make an excellent hunting companion. He is a large dog and would need room to run. An approved adoption application is required to set up an appointment. Adoption fee is \$50 and includes spay/neuter and vaccinations. For more info or to apply to adopt, visit [www.humanesocietyofmartincounty.org](http://www.humanesocietyofmartincounty.org).

# SOUP SUPPER

• LOOGOOTEE PUBLIC LIBRARY FUNDRAISER •

## DECEMBER 4TH, 2-6PM

DURING THE LOOGOOTEE CHRISTMAS STROLL  
AT THE LOOGOOTEE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

DONATIONS ACCEPTED FOR FOOD

CHILI, CHICKEN NOODLE, TACO, POTATO, AND  
VEGETABLE SOUPS WITH HOT DOGS AND  
DESSERTS!

THERE WILL ALSO BE A SILENT AUCTION!

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With Thanksgiving behind us, the attention of most people turns to preparations for Christmas. One of the most important of these preparations is getting a Christmas tree. Many people, myself included, choose to use artificial trees, at least indoors, but others choose to put up a live tree. Actually, calling a cut tree “live” is a bit of a misnomer. While evergreen trees will remain green for several weeks after being cut, they are no longer living. They also are drying out and becoming fire hazards. Steps must be taken for safety.

Water is the basic need to keep a tree in good shape for a few weeks, and trees need a lot of water. Make certain that your tree stand will hold enough water to keep the tree hydrated. Check the water level and add water as needed.

Just before placing your tree in the stand, saw a slice off of the base, exposing fresh wood. Once a tree has been cut, it tries to preserve moisture by sealing its wound. Exposing fresh wood will allow it to more easily take up moisture. Plenty of fresh water is really all the tree needs. Purdue University researchers have determined that adding preservatives do not really keep the tree fresh longer. Site the tree away from heat sources to further retard desiccation.

The other bit of advice I would offer is to get a freshly cut tree. The trees trucked in from other areas may have been cut weeks ago. They probably were sprayed with antitranspirants to slow moisture loss, but they will still have lost significant moisture. Buying from a local tree farm or cutting your own tree is the best way to ensure your tree is fresh.

When I was in college, a fellow student came by my home on his way to visit relatives near-by. I remember that he laughed that we had a red cedar tree decorated on the front porch of the house and made a comment that he had never seen a cedar Christmas tree. For me, that was the most

natural thing in the world. The red cedar is actually the only evergreen conifer that is native to all 92 counties of Indiana. Our tree was always on the porch. There simply was no room for a tree in our four-room house. Presents were generally placed on a table, on which a small artificial tree was displayed.

That cedar on the porch was Christmas for us. It was not decorated with fancy ornaments. Most were either homemade or cheap plastic ornaments from the dime store. There were a couple of strands of the old-time Christmas lights and a star for the top. The base was an old hub sitting in a tub. A great bonus was the scent of the red cedar each time we went out the front door.

Actually, the eastern red cedar is not a cedar at all. It is really a juniper. That aromatic scent repels many insects. That is the reason the red wood is used for cedar chests for storing clothing. The wood is also rot-resistant, making it ideal for fence posts and natural siding. The beautiful red color of the heartwood is valued, but if not sealed, the wood will turn a soft gray in time. Junipers are dioecious, meaning that the male pollen-supplying cones and the female seed cones occur on separate trees. The cones actually look like blue berries. They are a valuable food source for birds, squirrels and other wildlife.

Eastern red cedar is considered a pioneer tree. It is one of the first trees that will grow along roadways or in a fallow field. A mature tree may top 60 feet, but trees that size are not common. Because the cedar does not compete well with large deciduous trees, the rich soil and abundant moisture of Indiana favors the deciduous forests.

While most Christmas tree farms favor non-native spruce, pine and firs, I will always associate the red cedar with Christmas. It is the very reason I have left some cedar seedlings to grow at Sandhill Gardens.

## Holiday light shows to shine at five DNR destinations

On-site holiday light shows will shine in the Campground on December 17 from 6 to 9:30 p.m. The event will include a drive-through Christmas display and holiday activities in the Forest Education Center. The center is also where visitors can vote for their favorite campsites. A \$5 donation is suggested for this event.



O u a b a c h e State Park in Bluffton will host its ninth annual Wonderland of Lights nightly, December 2-31, from 6 to 9 p.m. in its campground and throughout the park. The presentation features more than 40 light displays and a synchronized music and light show at the Civilian Conservation Corps fire tower. Cost is \$5 per vehicle.

Mounds State Park in Anderson will host its second Nights of Lights celebration December 2-January 1 on Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays only from 6 to 9:30 p.m. This year, 60 light displays will be featured in the campground along with decorated buildings throughout the park. Cost is \$5 per vehicle.

Lieber State Recreation Area in Cloverdale will host its second Lieber Winter Lights celebration December 2-4 and 9-11 from 6 to 9 p.m. Donations will be accepted for the drive through the light display in the park and campground. There will be a photo opportunity available by the camp gate as you leave.

Spring Mill State Park in Mitchell is holding a drive-through holiday lights event in its campground on December 2 and 3 from 6 to 9:45 p.m., the same weekend as its Holiday in the Village. Cost is \$5, and visitors can vote on the best-decorated site. The winner of the competition gets two nights of free camping in 2023. The campground is full for this event.

Starve Hollow State Recreation Area in Vallonia will host its first Christmas

Patoka Lake will host its 35<sup>th</sup> annual eagle watch event on January 7 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. The event will include both indoor and outdoor activities.

## Patoka Lake to host eagle watch

Indoors, see Patoka’s resident bald eagle and other raptors as interpretive naturalists Dana Reckelhoff and Wade LeHue share the birds’ story. There will be children’s activities from 12:40 to 2:30 p.m.

Outdoors, join wildlife specialist Brian Finch on a driving tour of sites bald eagles frequent. Finch will talk about the history of the bald eagle reintroduction program in the 1980s, and lunch will be provided.

The cost for this event is \$25 per person. Advance registration is required by calling the Patoka Lake Nature Center at 812-685-2447. All reservations are final. No cancellations will be accepted. Dress for the weather and remember to bring binoculars, spotting scopes, and cameras. Make sure your car’s gas tank is full for the driving tour. This event is limited to the first 65 registered participants.

Patoka Lake ([on.IN.gov.patokalake](http://on.IN.gov.patokalake)) is at 3084 N. Dillard Road, Birdseye, IN 47513.

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# Daviess/Martin Indiana Retired Teachers Association meeting

The Daviess/Martin Indiana Retired Teachers Association met at the Gasthof restaurant on Friday, November 18. President Ramona Lennen led the members in the pledge of allegiance and conducted the meeting. She extended a welcome to guest, Denise Walden and to the program presenter, Mr. Kevin Frank, superintendent of Washington Community Schools. The minutes of the September meeting, submitted by Nancy Adams, were approved as read. The treasurer's report was given by David Lennen and

Lawana Hand gave the community service report and asked members to bring the record of their service hours to the January meeting.

Ten members attended the September fall workshop at the Gasthof with a total of 55 in attendance. The workshop collected the most money for the IRTA Foundation out of all the workshops in the state. Molly Smith, from North Daviess, was the winner of the new teacher monetary award. She was presented a check by Pat Brochin and Peg Nei-

digh. Valerie Clark and Rita Eblin, from WHS, won this area's active teacher grants. Members were given a link to contact their legislators regarding the importance of the 13<sup>th</sup> check. The website is [www.retiredteachers.org](http://www.retiredteachers.org). Scroll down to Advocacy and it will say "Find Your Legislator." There will be a Connecting Virtually workshop on January 25. Registration will be December 1-15 on the retired teachers' website.

Kevin Frank, superintendent of Washington Community Schools, presented

a very informative program. He gave a little of his background saying that he is from Lowell, Indiana, but his heart has always been in southern Indiana because both his parents are from Paoli. A graduate of IU, he taught math at Eastern Greene, and he was also an assistant principal there. He met Dr. Roach at Eastern Greene and in 2015 became the assistant superintendent here. He worked seven years under Dr. Roach and this year when Dr. Roach retired, he became the new superintendent. He told of some of the things going on in WCS, the biggest change this year being the grade level centers. He said there have been some challenges, but things seem to be working. At the high school level, in the Pathways college and career program they are trying to create more work experience with a variety of businesses. They are also having dual education courses with VU so that they will be able to grow their own teachers. This fall, they will be implementing the Dual Language Immersion Program at the kindergarten level. Mr. Frank also told of the renovations that will be occurring at Hatchet Hollow.

Lawana Hand and Nancy Adams provided the door prizes for the meeting, and they were won by Donna Keller, Marian McCracken and Nancy Adams. Attending the meeting were Ruth Frette, Ramona Lennen, David Lennen, Marian McCracken, Rosie Winger, Vicky Bauernfiend, Marilyn Read, Donna Keller, Peg Neidigh, Arlene Owens, Lawana Hand, Pat Brochin, Nancy Adams and guests, Denise Walden and Kevin Frank.

The next meeting will be Friday, January 13, 2023, at 11:30 a.m. at the Gasthof. All retired teachers living in Daviess and Martin counties and the surrounding areas are invited to attend. After the blessing was sung the meeting was adjourned for lunch.

# CLASSIFIED ADS

## HELP WANTED

## JOB OPPORTUNITY

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You must be able to analyze and process data entry for Real Property, Personal Property, Sales Disclosures and Real Estate transfers.

For more information, please contact the assessor's office for an application at 812-247-2070 or email [cmcguire@martincounty.in.gov](mailto:cmcguire@martincounty.in.gov).

## Recreation Program Director

**Position:** Full-Time Recreation Program Director, 50 hours minimum summer, 40 hours minimum winter/week; flex hours. Wage rate \$42,000-\$46,000 annually.

**Essential job duties:**

- Collaborate with leadership team to develop and market programs, special events, promotional offers, and community outreach programs.
- Hiring, scheduling, and managing staff to facilitate programs and ensure customer service representation
- Coordinating associated needs for the implementation of programs and customer service with maintenance and housekeeping personnel
- Prepare evaluations to assist with further development of programs, events, activities, promotional incentives, and visitor activity
- Develop and facilitate volunteer programs
- Procuring necessary inventory for implementation of quality management and service levels for both activities and campstore
- Coordinate financial and personnel record keeping

**Job requirements:**

Education: Bachelor's degree in Parks & Recreation Management, Business or Public Administration, Marketing or any related field is preferred but not necessary. Programming and personnel management is also a plus. A minimum of 3 years cumulative professional work experience that is relevant to the position may be substituted for a degree.

Certification/training: Be qualified by training or experience in the field of parks and recreation. Must be willing to become CPR certified. Must have a valid Indiana driver's license. Must be willing to continue training through various approved sources.

Knowledge: In project development, funding management and evaluation, traditional and modern marketing concepts to promote programs and events.

For more information and/or to apply, please contact the West Boggs Park office or email [brooke@westboggs.com](mailto:brooke@westboggs.com)



## OBITUARIES

(Continued from page 3)

### JOAN HYSLOP

Joan Wade Hyslop was at home with her daughters and granddaughter, Celia, on November 21, 2022, when she went into cardiac arrest. She was 91.

Joan Wade Hyslop was born in Shoals on February 19, 1931.

She was a member of the Fortune Road Church of Christ in Kissimmee, Florida.

Joan is survived by her two daughters, Janine Armstrong and Margaret Gibson. She was known and loved by many as "Grammy" but none more dear than her grandchildren. She is survived by seven grandchildren, Ted, Amber, Celia, Kenneth, Tabbatha, Joshua, and Valerie. In addition, there are nine great grandchildren, Kadence, Weston, Amiyah, Elyjah, Jon, Izayah, Grace, Jaydah and Janea.

Joan is also survived by a younger sister, Mary Mae Sherfick and a younger brother, John William Wade, in addition to many nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her husband of 72 years, Billy Franklin Hyslop on May 28, 2022; and her daughters, Viki Le and Jennifer; and her son, Thomas; as well as four brothers and a sister.

Billy was her very VBFF (Very Best Friend Forever) and she wanted to be laid to rest next to him and to hear the Lord and Savior say "Well done my good and faithful servant."

Visitation was held Tuesday, November 29 at the Osceola Memory Gardens, in Kissimmee.

Burial will be made in the Roselawn Memorial Park, in Terre Haute.



JOAN HYSLOP

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- Ability and willingness to work a variety of shifts, including evenings, weekends and some holidays

**To be considered for an open position, interested candidates are encouraged to pick-up an application at the Martin County Sheriff's Office: 318 Capital Avenue, Shoals, IN 47581 (812) 247-3726. Resumes may be sent to [mbeaver@martincounty.in.gov](mailto:mbeaver@martincounty.in.gov).**