

Community rallies around injured Great Dane

BY COURTNEY HUGHETT
Martin County Journal Publisher

While browsing the internet one day Levi and Lindsey Brown, of Loogootee, came across a two-year-old Great Dane named Maggie that needed a new home in Kentucky. The Browns already own three Great Danes and felt Maggie would be a great addition to their family. According to Lindsey, the owner of Maggie worked construction and hadn't found a stable place to settle down and didn't have time to spend with Maggie, so he decided to find her a new home. After a few weeks of communicating, the family drove two and a half hours to Kentucky to pick her up on December 17.

Lindsey said Maggie's owner informed them that she was afraid of being put on a leash. The Browns did not know the extent of that fear however and when they arrived back home in Loogootee and were getting Maggie out of their car, she pulled her head from her collar and darted. The Browns immediately put a call out to family and friends and contacted the Martin County Humane Society to post on facebook. The Browns and

their friends searched for Maggie for hours with no luck.

The next morning, on Thursday, December 18, one of the Browns' neighbors said they spotted Maggie. When Lindsey arrived, Maggie was lying in a field across from the neighbor's house, she had been hit by a car. When Lindsey tried to approach, the 110-pound dog would growl and try and get up and leave. Having just picked her up the day before, Maggie didn't know the family nor her surroundings. That combined with being in pain, put Maggie on the defense to anyone who approached.

Lindsey put out a plea for help on facebook. One of the volunteers of the Martin County Humane Society saw the post and contacted Humane Society President Josh Hughett and another volunteer, Theresa Abney, both who left their paid jobs to go help. When Hughett and Abney arrived, they found Lindsey and Greg Taylor waiting with Maggie. Maggie was lying in the field covered in blankets and it was bitterly cold that day. Maggie didn't try to get up when Josh and Theresa approached but she was scared, (See 'GREAT DANE' cont. on page 2)

Martin County's jobless rate at 5 percent for November

BY COURTNEY HUGHETT
Martin County Journal Publisher

Martin County's jobless rate rose slightly in November to 5 percent, up from 4.5 percent in October. The county stood in 14th place in the state for lowest jobless rate, tied with eight other counties.

In November, the county had 5,256 residents in the workforce with 263 of them without jobs. In October, there were 5,227 residents able to work and 234 of them unemployed.

In November of last year, Martin County's jobless rate was 5.7 percent with 5,147 residents in the workforce and 292 of them without jobs.

Daviess County also saw a slight bump in their jobless rate from October to November moving from 4.3 percent to 4.6 percent. The county had the fourth lowest jobless rate in Indiana for November.

In November, the county had 15,486 residents in the workforce with 713 of them unemployed. In October, there were 15,267 residents able to work and 650 of them without jobs.

In November of 2013, Daviess County's unemployment rate was 5.2 percent with 14,996 residents in the workforce and 776 of them without jobs.

Dubois County's unemployment rate too rose just a bit to 4.1 percent in November, up from 3.8 percent the month before. The county had the lowest jobless rate in the state for November however.

In November, the county had 21,930 residents in the workforce with 905 of them without jobs. In October there were 21,951 residents able to work and 833 of them unemployed. In November of last year, Dubois County's unemployment rate was 4.9 percent with 21,539 residents able to

work and 1,052 of them without jobs.

Orange County's jobless rate moved from 5.7 percent in October to 6.3 percent in November giving them the 23rd highest jobless rate in the state, tied with Blackford, Newton, Porter and St. Joseph counties.

In November, the county had 9,819 residents in the workforce with 616 of them without jobs. In October, there were 10,037 residents able to work with 570 of them unemployed. In November of 2013, Orange County's unemployment rate was 7.3 percent with 9,986 residents in the workforce and 733 of them without jobs.

Lawrence County's unemployment rate barely moved from October to November, going from 6.8 percent to 6.9 percent. The county had the 10th highest jobless rate of the 92 Indiana counties, tied with Starke County.

In November, the county had 21,380 residents in the workforce with 1,477 of them without jobs. In October, there were 21,639 residents able to work with 1,474 of them unemployed. In November of last year, Lawrence County had a jobless rate of 8.5 percent with 21,194 residents in the workforce and 1,811 of them without jobs.

The top ten counties with the lowest jobless rate in the state for November were Dubois at 4.1 percent, Hamilton and Bartholomew at 4.4 percent, Daviess at 4.6 percent, Warrick and Boone at 4.7 percent, and Wells, Kosciusko, Jackson and Hendricks at 4.8 percent.

The top ten counties with the highest jobless rate in the state for November were Fayette and Lake at 7.9 percent, Sullivan at 7.7 percent, LaPorte at 7.5 percent, Vermillion and Vigo at 7.4 percent, Jasper at 7.3 percent, Fountain and Miami at 7 percent, (See 'RATE' cont. on page 2)



-Photos provided
In the photo at the top is Martin County Humane Society President Josh Hughett (at left) and Greg Taylor (at right) loading Maggie into the Browns' SUV after she was found lying in a field near Alfordsville, after being hit by a car. In the photo on the left is Maggie after Dr. Scott Wallace stabilized her leg for the ride to the vet in Boonville. The photo above is Maggie, when the Browns first picked her up in Kentucky on December 17.

Merry Christmas
from The Hughett Family
(Josh, Courtney, Wyatt and Alex)
and the Martin County JOURNAL

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Reason for the season

-Photo by Courtney Hughett

Students in Mrs. Angie Callison's fifth grade class at Loogootee Intermediate gave up their class Christmas gift exchange to instead buy gifts for the dogs and cats in the Martin County Humane Society Animal Shelter. The class is shown above with Mrs. Callison and "Sunny" an adoptable dog available at the shelter, and the donations they collected. The students also brought in a total of \$85.

GREAT DANE

(Continued from page one)

cold and in pain. She had been lying in that field for hours and shook from the cold of the ground.

Trying to figure out a way to get the 110-pound dog out of the field and loaded into the back of Lindsey's SUV proved to be a challenge. Greg Taylor had brought his ATV and backed it up to where Maggie lay. Josh and Theresa got a blanket under Maggie after several tries and used it as a makeshift gurney and loaded her in the back of the ATV. Maggie tried to get up and leave but Josh climbed into the back of the ATV to hold her down and calm her. Greg drove the ATV from the field to the driveway where Maggie was then transferred into Lindsey's vehicle. Maggie's leg was severely swollen and her foot was crushed. She had several open wounds.

Lindsey called Loogootee Vet Scott Wallace who said he did not have the capability to fix Maggie's leg, which was going to need surgery and pins. He told Lindsey that he would give Maggie medicine for the pain and stabilize the leg with a cast but referred her to a vet in Louisville, Kentucky. Lindsey called the Louisville vet who said the estimated cost of treatment would be \$4,000 and it would have to be paid up front. The Browns were at a loss of what to do. Lindsey said they called around to every vet in Indiana and beyond to find someone who would take payments. Finally, a vet in Boonville agreed to take a down payment with the bal-

ance due once Maggie was ready to go home.

The Browns put down \$1,100 and dropped Maggie off for treatment. The vet cleaned and dressed Maggie's wounds the first night and she went in for surgery on her leg the next morning. The surgery went well and now she will begin the long recovery. She was scheduled to go home today, Christmas Eve.

The total cost for Maggie's vet visit topped out at around \$4,000. After Maggie's story was posted on the humane society's facebook page, the Browns received an outpouring of support, people wanting to help. Lindsey said it felt wrong taking people's money but she was assured by many on facebook that they wanted to help, to save Maggie's leg. Lindsey set up an account on youcaring.com to accept donations. Within a few days, almost \$1,000 was donated by 25 people.

Lindsey said she is blown away at the support of the community and how many people instantly cared about Maggie, even without having met her. She said that once they get back on their feet financially, they plan to help out the animal shelter as a way of saying thank you.

If you would like to donate toward Maggie's vet bills, visit www.youcaring.com/pet-expenses/save-maggie-s-leg-/280391. Checks can also be mailed to Lindsey Brown in care of the Martin County Humane Society, 507 N Oak Street, Loogootee IN 47553.

RATE

(Continued from page one)

and Lawrence and Starke at 6.9 percent.

The Hoosier State grew 15,800 private sector jobs in November, the most in a one-month period in 15 years. Last month, the rate of private sector growth in Indiana was double that of the United States (0.6% versus 0.3%). Private sector gains spanned nearly every sector, with larger increases concentrated in Professional & Business Services, (+6,400) Trade, Transportation & Utilities, (+3,400) and Manufacturing, (+2,300). Indiana has experienced private sector job growth 17 of the past 23 months, with gains averaging 4,500 per month during that period. Since July 2009, the low point of employment in Indiana, the Hoosier State has added 264,800 private sector jobs, with the Manufacturing sector accounting for more than one-third of the total (+94,700).

Indiana's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate held steady in November at 5.7 percent, due mainly to the addition of 12,300 individuals to the Hoosier labor force. Over the past year, Indiana's labor force has increased by more than 75,000. November also marks the 11th consecutive

month Indiana's unemployment rate has been below the national average.

"Indiana's private sector job growth in November, when taken in historical context is quite remarkable," said Steven J. Braun, Commissioner of the Indiana Department of Workforce Development. "Equally impressive is the fact that the Hoosier State has added more than 75,000 individuals to our labor force over the past year alone."

Braun also noted 63.6 percent of Hoosiers are participating in the labor force, which is nearly a full percentage point higher than the national average. November marked the eighth month in a row Indiana has exceeded the national rate.

Employment by Sector
Sectors showing gains in November include: Professional and Business Services (6,400), Trade, Transportation & Utilities (3,400), Manufacturing (2,300), Financial Activities (1,900), Private Educational & Health Services (1,800), and Construction (1,500). The Leisure and Hospitality (-1,500) sector was the only to experience declines in November. Total nonfarm employment increased in November (15,100).

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OBITUARIES

Wednesday, December 24, 2014 ~ Martin County Journal

ALMA WALKER

Alma Rose Walker passed away Saturday, December 20, 2014 at Loogootee Health Care and Rehabilitation. A resident of Loogootee, she was 91.

She was born November 8, 1923 in Loogootee; the daughter of the late James and Anastasia (Hopkins) O'Neal.

She was a member of St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church.

She is survived by son, Doug Walker of Indianapolis; daughter, Mary Leila Livengood and husband, Charles, of Indianapolis; four grandchildren, two great-grandchildren, one great-great grandchild, sisters, Anne F. O'Neal of Loogootee and Marge Reising of Kokomo; and brother, Dr. Joseph O'Neal of Longport, New Jersey.

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated Tuesday, December 23, 2014 at St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church, officiated by Very Reverend J. Kenneth Walker. Burial followed in St. John Catholic Cemetery.

Brocksmith-Blake Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

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

DOROTHY ACKER

Dorothy Emma O'Brien Hart Acker passed peacefully Tuesday, December 16, 2014 at the Hospice House in Bloomington surrounded by family.



She was born August 5, 1923; the daughter of the late Michael and Mary Rose (Moore) O'Brien. She married Paul Bernard Hart in 1951. Together they

had nine children, Marianne, Thomas, Michael, James, Patricia Shinness, Marie Reed, Paul K. and twins David and Diane Hart-Dawson. In 1967, Paul Bernard Hart passed away followed by her son Paul K. in 1995. She married Michael Wayne Acker in 1973 and welcomed three children into her life, David, Deborah Wagler, and James.

She was first a loving wife, mother, grandmother and great grandmother. Dorothy loved being with family and friends, playing cards, shopping, dancing, crafts and collecting angels. She enjoyed visiting homebound. Mrs. Acker retired from Loogootee Elementary School. She owned and managed a farm her entire life.

She is survived by her husband, 11 children and their spouses, 19 grandchildren, Brittany, Conrad, Erica, Paul B, Prestin, Phillip, Beth, Ashley, Anna, Katie, Melissa, Miranda, Stevan, Jesse, Jenae, Jennifer, Joshua, Zachary, and Kirsten; 15 great grandchildren, Jordan, Emmalynn, Hart, Aria, Taryn, Ethan, Declan, Aidan, Emma, Hazel, Ava, Gabrielle, Willow, Stella, and Daniel; and her beloved Shih Tzu, Peanut.

She was greeted at Heaven's gate by her parents, her siblings, Francis, Thomas, Joseph, Lawrence, Mary, and Harry; as well as her first husband and son.

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated by Very Reverend J. Kenneth Walker, Concelebrant Reverend Leo C. Kiesel and Concelebrant Reverend Raymond A. Breener at Saint John the Evangelist Catholic Church Saturday, December 20 in Loogootee. She was interred at St John's Catholic Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations to be made to St. John's Catholic Church, Bloomington Hospice House, American Cancer Society, American Heart Association, Daughters of Isabella or your charity of choice.

Brocksmith-Blake Funeral Home in Loogootee was in charge of arrangements.

DOROTHY L. "DOTTIE" TUCKA

Dorothy L. "Dottie" Tucka passed away Wednesday December 3, 2014 at Grande Prairie Nursing and Rehab Center in Pleasant Prairie, Wisconsin. A resident of Bristol, Wisconsin, she was 80.



She was born February 25, 1934 in Loogootee; the daughter of the late George and Laverne (Walton) Cooley. On

August 25, 1976 she married Wayne Tucka in Grand Island, Nebraska.

She grew up in Indiana, later living in Chicago, Waukegan, and Round Lake Beach before settling in Bristol in 1998. Before her retirement, Dottie had worked as a beautician for Max Factor, and later owned and operated a Merle Norman Store in Highland Park and Deerfield for 15 years. She enjoyed: flower gardening, shopping, and fashion.

Survivors include: her husband of 38 years, Wayne; four grandchildren, Laura (Patrick) Troutman of Shoals, Jeremiah (Amanda) Stevens of Odenton, Maryland, Heidi Patterson of Owensboro, Kentucky; and Damien (Cassie) Cooley of Greenwood; several great-grandchildren; and many friends.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by three daughters, Lisa Lents, Denise and Renee Robinson, and her step mother, Zola Cooley.

Family will receive friends from 1-3 p.m. Friday, January 2, 2015 at the Lee Funeral Home in Loogootee. Committal services will follow at the Goodwill Cemetery in Loogootee.

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

JAMES "KENT" ERVIN

James "Kent" Ervin passed away, Friday, December 19, 2014 at his home surrounded by his family. A resident of Loogootee, he was 59.



He was born on April 14, 1955; son of the late Jim and Judy Ervin.

He was a graduate of the Loogootee High School Class of 1973. He was in the Army and served his country for 20 years; he was deployed during Desert Storm. He enjoyed hunting, fishing, the Chicago Bears, NASCAR, any sport, music, attending concerts and gardening.

He is survived by his wife of 31 years, Irene Ervin; daughters, Nessa Friedel and husband, Steffen; and Jessica Edwards and husband, James; son, Jeremia Ervin; grandchildren, Jonas Friedel, Timothy Friedel and Hayden Edwards; sisters, Karla Cooper and husband, Gerald; Mary Ellen Baker and husband, Billy Dean; Melissa Graber and husband, Brian; brother, Kevin Ervin and

wife Vicki.

He is preceded in death by his parents.

A Celebration of Life was held Tuesday, December 23 at Brocksmith-Blake Funeral Home. Burial followed in Goodwill Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers memorial contributions may be made to the Wounded Warrior Project.

Brocksmith-Blake Funeral Home in Loogootee is in charge of arrangements.

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

JOSEPH RAYMAN

Joseph L. Rayman passed away Wednesday, December 17, 2014 at Loogootee Nursing Center. A resident of Loogootee, he was 94.

He was born December 4, 1920; the son of the late Harry and Stella Rayman.

He was an Army veteran and served his county during World War II. He was a lifetime member of the VFW Post #1114 in Evansville. He retired from Texaco where he was a transport driver. He also was the past president of Marion Outreach. He was a member of St. Martin Catholic Church.

and served in a reserve deputy status an



additional 20 years. He is survived by daughters, Brenda Loschen and Debbie (Lee) Christmas; son, Larry Rayman; grandchildren, Pam Bond, Belinda Rennie, Angela Delancy, Melissa Loschen, Danny Christmas and Brad Christmas and 13 great-grandchildren.

He is preceded in death by his wife, Marie (Allen) Rayman; parents; granddaughter, Maureen Loschen; sister, Theresa Willis; brothers, Charles Rayman, Ivan Rayman, Ernie Rayman, Richard Rayman and Nick Rayman; son-in-law, Larry Loschen.

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated by Very Rev. J. Kenneth Walker and concelebrant Rev. Joseph Erbacher on Monday, December 22 at St. Martin Catholic Church in Loogootee. Burial followed in St. Joseph Cemetery in Evansville.

Brocksmith-Blake Funeral Home in Loogootee was in charge of arrangements. Condolences may be made online at brocksmithblakefuneralhomes.com.

Krannert tax expert offers end-of-year tips

BY JUDITH BARRA AUSTIN
Purdue University News Service

It may be the busy holiday season, but it's also the season to carve out some time for last-minute tax preparations.

Jason Stanfield, a lecturer in Purdue University's Krannert School of Management, has some tips for anyone hoping to reduce a 2014 tax bill.

They include:

* Make charitable contributions before the end of the year. He points out that the contribution must be paid in the tax year. So making a commitment this year for a contribution paid next year won't be deductible until 2015 taxes are paid.

* Start or make additional contributions to a traditional IRA account. This is separate from contributions to a 401k retirement account and is subject to income restrictions. But these contributions may be deductible.

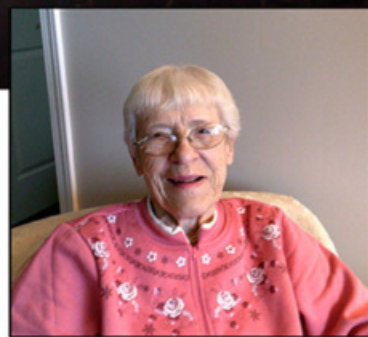
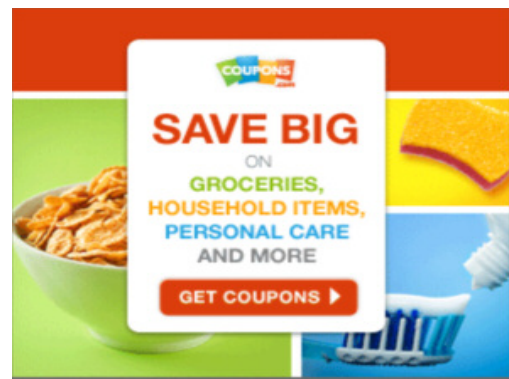
* Consider education expenses for next year. Any expenses for education beginning in the first three months of next year and

paid by the end of this year might be eligible for 2014 tax benefits.

* Sell unwanted investments that are worth less than the amount paid for them. The losses can be used to offset capital gains on other investments.

* Consider pulling big medical procedures into the same year. Only medical expenses in excess of 10 percent of adjusted gross income are deductible.

A video of Stanfield discussing his year-end tax tips is available at www.youtube.com/watch?v=ShooUn_5DCM



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Martin County Sheriff's Department log

MONDAY, DECEMBER 15

7:05 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County EMS transported to Memorial Hospital, Jasper.

10:00 a.m. - Chief Deputy Dant transported one inmate to court.

1:30 p.m. - A subject came to the Martin County Sheriff's Department to report a missing person. Sergeant Keller completed the report.

3:00 p.m. - Chief Deputy Dant transported two inmates to court.

4:27 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County EMS responded.

5:30 p.m. - Received a request for a welfare check east of Shoals. Deputy Baker completed the detail.

6:03 p.m. - Received a request for a vehicle unlock in Shoals. Deputy Baker completed the detail.

8:09 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County EMS transported to Memorial Hospital, Jasper.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 16

3:48 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County EMS transported to Daviess Community Hospital, Washington.

6:00 a.m. - Chief Deputy Dant on transport from Bloomington to Dubois County Courthouse.

6:51 a.m. - Received a report of texting harassment east of Loogootee. Sergeant Keller was advised.

1:00 p.m. - Sergeant Keller transported one inmate to court.

3:59 p.m. - Received a report of a possible violation of a restraining order. Ser-

geant Keller was advised.

4:28 p.m. - Received a request for a welfare check in Shoals. Sergeant Keller completed the detail.

5:27 p.m. - Received a report of a vehicle crash with no injury at US 50 and Capital Avenue. Sergeant Keller, the Shoals Fire Department, and ATM Wrecker responded.

6:14 p.m. - Received a report of a vehicle crash with no injury at the Jay C Store parking lot in Shoals. Sergeant Keller responded.

10:35 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County EMS and the Loogootee Fire Department responded.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 17

12:42 a.m. - Received a report of a possible prowler at the Katydid Trailer Court. Town Marshal Eckert and Deputy Baker were notified.

5:00 a.m. - Received a report of a road rage incident on US 231 south of Loogootee. Deputy Baker responded.

5:12 p.m. - Received a report of a reckless driver on US 231 near 200 S. All on-duty officers were advised.

11:09 p.m. - Received a report of a vehicle crash with no injury on Beard Road. Corporal Greene and G&M Wrecker Service responded.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 18

1:51 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Shoals. Martin County EMS and the Shoals Fire Department responded. Martin County EMS transported to IU Health, Bedford.

6:24 a.m. - Received a report of a drive off from Chuckles gas station. All on-duty

officers were advised.

8:45 a.m. - Chief Deputy Dant transported one inmate to court.

11:30 a.m. - Chief Deputy Dant transported three inmates to court.

12:29 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County EMS transported to Memorial Hospital, Jasper.

1:00 p.m. - Chief Deputy Dant transported one inmate to the prosecutor's office.

5:25 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance north of Shoals. Martin County EMS and the Shoals Fire Department responded.

5:50 p.m. - Corporal Greene transported a subject to Good Samaritan Hospital, Vincennes.

8:25 p.m. - Received a report of a possible prowler in Shoals. Corporal Greene responded.

10:18 p.m. - Received a report of a possible shot fired in Shoals. Corporal Greene and Trooper Beaver responded.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 19

1:00 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County EMS transported to Daviess Community Hospital, Washington.

8:40 a.m. - Received a report of an employee making threats east of Loogootee. Major Burkhardt, Chief Deputy Dant, and Chief Rayhill responded.

8:50 a.m. - Received a report of a possible theft in progress in Bramble. Major Burkhardt responded.

2:00 p.m. - Major Burkhardt transported two inmates to court.

3:00 p.m. - Major Burkhardt transported two inmates to court.

4:33 p.m. - Received a report of a reckless driver eastbound on US 50 entering Loogootee. All on-duty officers were advised.

6:28 p.m. - Received a report of vehicle stuck in the roadway on Bear Hill Road. Deputy Baker and G&M Wrecker responded.

8:30 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Shoals. Martin County EMS transported to Daviess Community Hospital, Washington.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 20

5:45 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County EMS responded.

11:28 a.m. - Received a report of a trespasser in Shoals. Reserve Deputy McBeth responded.

4:12 p.m. - Received a report of trash burning north of Loogootee. Reserve Deputy McBeth responded.

4:20 p.m. - Received a report of a possible impaired driver northbound on US 231 from 650S. All on-duty officers were advised.

4:50 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County EMS and the Loogootee Fire Department responded.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 21

12:33 a.m. - Received a report of a reckless driver on US 50 between Shoals and Loogootee. All on-duty officers were advised.

6:10 a.m. - Received a report of a verbal dispute in Padanaram. Sergeant Keller responded.

9:53 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance north of Shoals. Martin County

EMS and the Shoals Fire Department responded. Martin County EMS transported to IU Health, Bedford.

10:39 a.m. - Received a report of a two subjects fighting along US 50 near Lynwood Street. Sergeant Keller responded.

10:54 a.m. - Received a report of a residential burglar alarm south of Shoals. Sergeant Keller responded.

11:55 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County EMS transported to Memorial Hospital, Jasper.

5:28 p.m. - Received a report of a vehicle crash with no injury on US 231 at Brooks Bridge Road. Deputy Harmon and Loogootee Officer Greene responded.

9:18 p.m. - Received a report of a reckless driver westbound on US 50 from the Lawrence County line. All on-duty officers were advised.

Jail bookings

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 16

11:40 a.m. - Darren B. Stone, 47, of Shoals, was arrested for possession of a firearm by a serious violent felon, possession of methamphetamine with a firearm, illegal possession of a syringe, maintaining a common nuisance, possession of paraphernalia, and possession of marijuana. Stone is being held without bond and was arrested by Trooper Lents.

11:40 a.m. - Julie E. Lents, 32, of Shoals, was arrested for possession of methamphetamine with a firearm, illegal possession of a syringe, visiting a common nuisance, possession of paraphernalia, possession of marijuana, and false informing. Lents is being held without bond and was arrested by Trooper Lents.

11:40 a.m. - Katie D. Stone-Payne, 20, of Shoals, was arrested for possession of methamphetamine with a firearm, illegal possession of a syringe, maintaining a common nuisance, possession of paraphernalia, and possession of marijuana. Stone-Payne is being held without bond and was arrested by Trooper Lents.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 18

1:00 p.m. - Holly Norris, 32, of Bedford, was arrested for a Martin County warrant. Norris is being held without bond and was arrested by Sheriff Street.

2:45 p.m. - Ashley Harris, 29, of Shoals, was arrested for escape. Harris is being held without bond and was arrested by Sheriff Street.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 19

2:00 p.m. - Rocky Baker, 37, of Loogootee, was arrested on a Martin County warrant. Baker is being held without bond and was arrested by Trooper Lents.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 20

2:25 p.m. - Adam Gibson, 33, of Shoals, was arrested on a Martin County warrant. Gibson is being held without bond and was arrested by Trooper Lents.

5:04 p.m. - Sean Hunt, 48, of Montgomery, was arrested for operating while intoxicated and possession of a controlled substance. Hunt is being on \$20,000 or 10% bond and was arrested by Trooper Lents.

7:35 p.m. - Larry J. Jones, 43, of Loogootee, was arrested by Loogootee Police after a traffic stop. Jones was wanted on a warrant out of Dubois County and was also cited for driving while suspended. Officer Nolan was the arresting officer.


7:35 p.m. - Melanie F. Stepanek, 32, of Cannelburg, was arrested by Loogootee Police after a traffic stop. Stepanek was wanted on a Daviess County warrant. Officer Nolan was the arresting officer. Sunday, December 21

8:24 p.m. - Baltazar Garzona, 46, of Loogootee, was arrested for public intoxication and false government. Garzona is being held on \$20,000 or 10% bond and was arrested by Loogootee Officer Greene.

Accident reports

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 16

3:30 p.m. - Mark L. Taylor, of Loogootee, was operating a 2012 GMC and backing from a private drive on East Main Street when he backed into a 1998 GMC owned by Douglas Cannon, of Loogootee. Chief Rayhill investigated.



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Martin County Court News

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

CRIMINAL SENTENCING AND JUDGMENTS December 2

Tabitha Porter, convicted of battery, a Class B Misdemeanor. Sentenced to serve 180 days in the Martin County Security Center with 180 days suspended. Defendant received 6 months of probation.

Carl E. Rush, convicted of operating a vehicle with an ACE of .15 or more, a Class A Misdemeanor. Sentenced to serve 1 year in the Martin County Security Center with 1 year suspended. Defendant received 11 months of probation.

December 11

Phillip R. Fellers, convicted of theft, a Class D Felony. Sentenced to serve 1 year in the Indiana Department of Corrections with 0 days suspended and credit for 182 actual days previously served and 182 good time credit days. Defendant received no probation.

April D. Hotz, convicted of operating a vehicle as an habitual traffic violator, a Class D Felony. Sentenced to serve 3 years in the Indiana Department of Corrections with 1 year suspended and credit for 90 actual days previously served plus 90 good time credit days and 119 days of credit through pretrial home detention with a total of 299 days credit. Defendant received 1 year of probation.

CRIMINAL CHARGES DISMISSED December 1

Gina M. Bryson, possession of marijuana, a Class A Misdemeanor, dismissed.

December 2

Carl E. Rush, operating a vehicle while intoxicated endangering a person, a Class A Misdemeanor, dismissed.

Brian L. Connerly, driving while suspended, a Class A Misdemeanor, dismissed.

December 9

Joseph A. Kellams, theft, a Class D Felony, dismissed.

December 11

April D. Hotz, neglect of a dependent, a Class D Felony, dismissed; operating a vehicle while intoxicated endangering a person with a passenger less than 18 years of age, a Class D Felony, dismissed.

December 15

Gregory K. Sanders, maintaining a common nuisance, a Class D Felony, dismissed; cultivating marijuana less than 30 grams, a Class A Misdemeanor, dismissed; two counts of theft, Class D Felonies, dismissed.

Martin County real estate transfers

James A. Grewe and Mary Jane Grewe, of Jefferson County, Kentucky to **David Yoder and Lillie Mae Yoder**, of Daviess County, Indiana, a part of the southwest quarter of the northwest quarter of Section 12, Township 3 North, Range 5 West, Martin County, Indiana containing 0.243 of an acre, more or less.

Mark Taylor and Dawn Taylor, of Martin County, Indiana to **Michael J. McAtee**, of Martin County, Indiana, part of Lots Number 15 and 16 in the Original Town of Loogootee, Martin County, Indiana.

Delbert L. McDonald and Christina M. McDonald, of Daviess County, Indiana to **Rutilla Ayres**, of Martin County, Indiana, a part of the west half of the southwest quarter of Section 11, Township 2 North, Range 3 West, located in Halbert Township, Martin County, Indiana containing 1.64 acres, more or less.

Doris Houghland and Bertina Houghland, of Boulder County, Colorado to **Stephen C. LaFree**, of Daviess County, Indiana, Lot Number 87 in the Original Town of Crane also the east half of Lot Number 88 in the Original Town of Crane.

Trena G. Truelove, of Martin County, Indiana to **Robert J. Potts and Leanna G. Potts**, of Martin County, Indiana, the east one half of Lots Numbered 118, 119, and 120 in Chenoweth's Addition to West Shoals now Shoals, Indiana.

CIVIL COURT New Suits Filed December 4

Cavalry SPV I, LLC vs. Timothy Rogers, civil collection.

December 15

Midland Funding, LLC vs. Thomas Truelove, civil collection.

Nicole D. Wade vs. Chad M. Wade, petition for dissolution of marriage.

CIVIL COURT JUDGMENTS December 9

Judgment in favor of the plaintiff Deutsche Bank National Trust and against the defendant Carl D. Brassine for mortgage foreclosure in the amount of \$62,698.76.

December 16

Judgment in favor of the plaintiff Midland Funding, LLC and against the defendant Amber Ross in the amount of \$865.88.

SMALL CLAIMS COURT New Suits Filed December 10

Kevin R. Boyd vs. Jeremiah and Jessica Jackson, complaint.

Deanna Bauernfiend vs. Betty Edmondson and Monty Murphy, complaint.

James Crawford vs. Justin Phelps and Kristen May, complaint.

SMALL CLAIMS JUDGMENTS December 8

Judgment in favor of the plaintiff Hoosier Accounts Service and against the defendant Kevin Neace in the amount of \$1,273.70.

December 9

Judgment in favor of the plaintiff Arley Arthur and against the defendant Mark Parker in the amount of \$169.

December 16

Judgment in favor of the plaintiff Crane Federal Credit Union and against the defendant Brittany N. Langley in the amount of \$734.28.

MARRIAGE LICENSES December 11

Landon Casey Lingenfelter of Loogootee and Allyson A. Arvin of Loogootee.

James H. Raetz of Loogootee and Gretchen M. Harbison of Loogootee.

December 12

Jared L. Wathen of Loogootee and Alexandra N. Loughmiller of Loogootee.

December 19

Rigoberto Gonzalez Castillo of Loogootee and Penny F. Hunter of Loogootee.

Joseph G. Turano of Loogootee and Jennifer L. Mesarosh of Loogootee.

December 22

James Timothy Epperson of Shoals and Leia Daniella Greene of Shoals.

Blake & Brocksmyth Realty, LLC, of Martin County, Indiana to **Stewart E. Blake and Mary Ellen Blake**, of Martin County, Indiana, Lot Number 72 in the original plat of the Town, now City of Loogootee, Indiana.

Chris A. Woods, of Martin County, Indiana to **Nathan K. Cox**, of Orange County, Indiana, part of the northeast quarter of Section 4, Township 1 North, Range 3 West, Second Principal Meridian, Lost River Civil Township, Martin County, Indiana containing 3.05 acres, more or less.

Martin County Redevelopment Commission 2015 Meeting Schedule

Each meeting will begin at 5:15 p.m. prior to the commissioners' meetings at the Martin County Courthouse, 129 Main Street, Shoals.

Tuesday, January 20

Tuesday, April 28

Tuesday, May 27

Tuesday, July 21

Tuesday, October 27

Loogootee Police Department log

MONDAY, DECEMBER 15

7:10 a.m. - Caller reported a suspicious male on Cedar Street. Male was located and transported to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

9:20 a.m. - Caller requested an officer assist her with a civil complaint.

3:00 p.m. - Female came on station to report a traffic complaint.

3:40 p.m. - Male came on station to report harassment.

4:00 p.m. - Male caller requested a welfare check.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 16

8:05 a.m. - Female caller reported a reckless driver on Broadway Street. Chief Rayhill located and spoke with the driver.

2:00 p.m. - Caller requested a vehicle check on a trailer.

2:04 p.m. - Caller reported harassment.

3:00 p.m. - Caller reported a dog complaint on Norris Street.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 17

3:07 p.m. - Male came on station to report harassment.

6:30 p.m. - Caller reported a reckless vehicle on US 231.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 18

8:00 a.m. - Received a report of child neglect.

10:45 a.m. - Caller reported a suspicious person on Church Street.

1:12 p.m. - Loogootee Fire was paged out to Stoll's Lakeview for smoke in the building.

3:30 p.m. - Chief Rayhill assisted Chief Deputy Dant with an emergency detention.

6:42 p.m. - Loogootee Fire was paged out to a stove fire on West Washington Street.

7:05 p.m. - Caller reported a stop sign down in Sunset Trailer Court.

9:27 p.m. - Caller reported a domestic dispute on East Broadway Street.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 19

8:45 a.m. - Chief Rayhill assisted the Martin County Sheriff's Department with a domestic dispute.

10:08 a.m. - Caller reported a missing Great Dane dog.

4:08 p.m. - Caller reported a mail scam.

4:34 p.m. - Caller reported a possible intoxicated driver on US 50. Officer were unable to locate.

4:50 p.m. - Female caller reported a possible theft.

9:36 p.m. - Caller reported possible suspicious activity on Cedar Street. Officer Nolan responded and everything checked out fine.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 20

12:25 a.m. - Caller reported a noise complaint on East Broadway Street.

1:08 p.m. - Caller reported a possible theft.

4:22 p.m. - Officer Nolan assisted Trooper Lents with a traffic stop on US 231.

4:51 p.m. - First responders were requested on Park Street for a medical call.

10:13 p.m. - Officer Nolan responded to a business alarm on Broadway Street.



-Photo provided

Indiana Supreme Court Chief Justice Loretta Rush administered the Oath of Office to the new Indiana State Troopers.

74th Indiana State Police Recruit Academy graduates

Yesterday, December 23, the 74th Indiana State Police Recruit Academy held their graduation ceremony in the south atrium of the Indiana State Capitol Rotunda.

Indiana State Police Superintendent Doug Carter addressed the graduating recruits, followed by a keynote address from William Westfall, a nationally recognized law enforcement trainer. After the keynote address the oath of office for the 42 new state police officers was delivered by the Honorable Loretta H. Rush, Chief Justice of the Indiana Supreme Court. Each new trooper was then presented their state police badge.

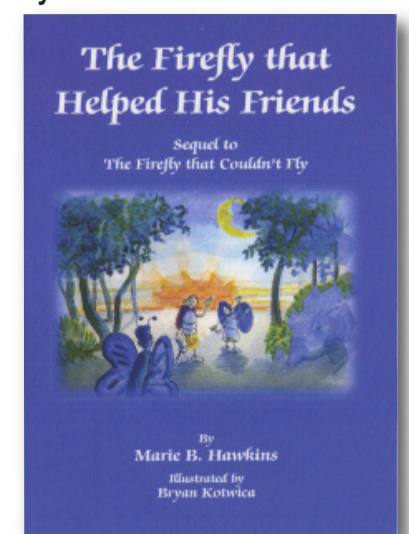
Yesterday's graduation was the culmination of 23 weeks of intense training totaling 929 hours. Some subject areas of training included criminal and traffic law, crash investigations, emergency vehicle operations, defensive tactics, firearms, and a host of other subjects related to modern policing.

The next step for each graduating officer will be reporting to one of the 14 state police posts across Indiana. Once at their assigned post the new troopers will work with a series of experienced Field Training Officers over the next three months. The purpose of the field training is to put to practical application the training received over the past six months.

Upon successful completion of field training, the new troopers will be issued their state police patrol vehicle and will begin solo patrol. Joining the Jasper Post will be Samuel Gillespie, of Bedford; Justin

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In the Garden

By Ralph Purkhiser
Purdue University Master Gardener

Plants have always been a part of Christmas celebrations. Who could imagine the holiday without holly, mistletoe, poinsettias, Christmas cactus and evergreen trees? However, the plants of the first Christmas were the sources of two of the gifts the wise men brought to the Christ Child.

Both frankincense and myrrh are resins acquired by tapping trees and collecting the sap.

Several species in the genus *Boswellia* yield frankincense, with the *Boswellia sacra* being the most common. While there is some difference of opinion of the source of the Biblical myrrh, the most likely source is trees in genus *Commiphora*. These source trees are found on the Arabian peninsula and in north Africa.

Both frankincense and myrrh are mentioned in the Old Testament incenses used in worship. They were fitting gifts for a king. Frankincense points to the deity of Christ, while the bitter myrrh was a reminder of the reason Christ had come into the world. The oil distilled from myrrh resins was used to prepare bodies for burial.

Both frankincense and myrrh have had medicinal uses through the years. The oil of frankincense has been used both internally

and externally. The resin may also be chewed as a gum. It has been used to treat digestive problems, healing wounds and strengthening the female hormone system. The smoke of the burning incense has shown promise in treating depression and anxiety. Even today, the healing powers of frankincense have been studied in the treatment of cancer and arthritis.

Myrrh has been used to treat ailments of the heart, liver and spleen. It is used to treat gum disease, and is often an ingredient in toothpaste and mouthwash. It has also shown promise in the treatment of diabetes and cancer, and has been shown to lower levels of LDL cholesterol.

While uncommon, both frankincense and myrrh plants may be grown as houseplants. They will become scrubby trees, but may be grown inside by using bonsai techniques to keep them small. However, finding the plants may be difficult and the price may be pretty high.

Plants may play a part in decorations and celebrations, but it is people that really are the important part of Christmas. After all, Christ came into the world for people. Spend time with the ones you love and celebrate the greatest gift ever given to this world.

Herd management strategies top beef cattle seminar agenda

BY DARRIN PACK
Purdue University News Service

Extension specialists from Purdue University, the University of Kentucky and the University of Tennessee will share strategies for profitable beef herd management at the annual Cow/Calf Improvement Seminar.

The seminar, called "Developing a Reproductively Sound Cow Herd," is scheduled for 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. January 17 at the Orange County Community Center, 1075 N. Sandy Hook Road, Paoli.

This year's seminar is especially timely as many producers are looking to take advantage of higher beef prices and lower feed costs by expanding their herds, said Levi Berg, Purdue Extension educator in Orange County.

"This program was specifically developed to help producers increase income by improving reproductive efficiencies, develop-

ing and managing for better cows and making sound reproductive decisions," Berg said.

Topics include:

- * The potential use of EPDs for heifer selection.
- * The role of fetal programming and epigenetics in herd management.
- * Managing young cows to maximize performance.
- * Keeping records for improved reproductive performance.
- * Breeding soundness.

Panelists are Kara Stewart, assistant professor of animal sciences and specialist in reproductive physiology at Purdue; Byron Fagg, a retired Purdue Extension educator; Les Anderson, beef cattle extension professor and specialist in reproductive physiology at the University of Kentucky; and Justin Rhinehart, assistant professor of animal science and beef cattle specialist at the University of Tennessee.

Cost is \$30 or \$20 for those who register before January 9. Lunch, provided by the Orange County Cattleman's Association, is included.

For more information, contact Berg at 812-723-7107, berg31@purdue.edu.

2015 state parks schedule is online

When you start thinking about your new year's recreation, make sure you plan for every month so you don't miss out.

Use the DNR's special events calendar, StateParks.IN.gov/3282.htm, which shows what's planned for 2015 at state parks and reservoirs throughout Indiana as your guide.

You'll find everything from First Day Hikes on January 1, to Christmas in July at Salamonie Lake, to December's 2015 Christmas Bird Count at Indiana Dunes State Park. Some changes are bound to occur during the year, so check in often.

For camping reservations as much as six months in advance, visit Camp.IN.Gov (available 24 hours) or call 1-866-6CAMPIN (1-866-622-6746) between noon-8 p.m.

For reservations at Indiana State Park Inns, visit IndianaInns.com or call 1-877-LODGES1 (1-877-563-4371).

To view all DNR news releases, please see dnr.IN.gov.

HRI expands with recent land purchases

The Department of Natural Resources announces the addition of more than 650 acres in two project areas of the Healthy Rivers Initiative (HRI).

HRI completed the purchase of approximately 380 acres in Vigo County in the Wabash River Conservation Area. The land consisted of three parcels under separate ownership.

Another 287 acres were purchased along the Muscatatuck River in the Austin Bottoms Conservation Area—a total of 170 acres from three landowners in Scott County and 117 acres from one landowner in Jackson County.

"These newest additions build on HRI's steady progress toward protecting 70,000 acres of riverside corridors in these two areas," said Mark Reiter, director of the DNR Division of Fish & Wildlife. "We are grateful to the conservation-minded landowners who share in our goal to balance forests, farmed lands and natural resources in ways that ben-

efit wildlife, improve water quality and flood protection, and provide open land for public recreational activities."

HRI is a partnership of resource agencies and organizations working to secure permanent protection for 70,000 acres along Sugar Creek, the Wabash River, and the Muscatatuck River.

The DNR, Indiana State Department of Agriculture, The Nature Conservancy of Indiana, the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, and the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Natural Resources Conservation Service are HRI project partners.

Since its launch in 2010, HRI has purchased 12,454 acres and permanently protected almost 31,800 acres through newly acquired land, previous DNR ownership, or federal Wetland Reserve conservation programs.

For more information, see www.healthyivers.IN.gov.

Purdue energy economist: Gasoline prices could continue to fall

BY KEITH ROBINSON
Purdue University News Service

How low can they go? We're talking gas prices here.

Plummeting gasoline prices over the past couple of months are expected to remain low through at least the spring, signaling generally good fortunes for the nation's economy, said Purdue University energy economist Wally Tyner.

The national average price for regular unleaded gasoline was \$2.61 per gallon as of December 12. That is 59 cents lower than a year ago. Indiana prices were averaging about \$2.52, and prices in the Lafayette area were even lower, averaging \$2.32.

How much more prices will fall is difficult to predict; it will depend on the cost of a barrel of crude oil. Running about \$105 for the past couple of years, it was below \$59 last week.

"And it is likely to go even lower," Tyner said. "On balance, this decrease in gasoline prices is quite good for the economy."

He noted that crude oil prices have fallen \$45 over the past few months - enough to increase the U.S. gross domestic product about 1 percent. That is significant considering the GDP - the value of the nation's goods and services - is increasing by a rate of 3 percent annually.

"That's a huge boost to the economy," Tyner said. "It is providing consumers extra income they can spend on other goods and services, which stimulates the economy."

On the other hand, Tyner said crude oil prices have fallen to the point that the oil

industry, including exploration companies, will be cutting their investment budgets for 2015, likely leading to some job losses in that industry. Still, he expects that refining will continue to be profitable.

Gasoline prices have been falling primarily for several reasons:

* OPEC decided in late November not to cut production, a decision that sent crude oil prices tumbling further.

* U.S. crude oil production has increased by 1 million barrels per day in each of the past three years, Tyner said. "This U.S. supply increase is a major part of the current price story."

* Production also has increased in North Africa and the Middle East. "Libya, for example, is now producing a lot more, but it is not clear how long that will last," Tyner said.

* While the U.S. economy is doing well, the economies of the rest of the world are not. Europe and Japan are growing at less than 1 percent per year, and China and India are growing more slowly than normal. Russia is in recession. Tyner said that because oil demand is driven by economic growth, when the growth slows so does global demand for crude oil and products.

"So it is the combination of slow growth in demand and the rapid growth in supply that has led to the current plunge in oil and gasoline prices," Tyner said.

The wild card to gasoline prices always is the element of the unforeseen, such as an unexpected interruption of supply from a disaster or world events. Tyner said there is no planned maintenance at refineries that would reduce output for the rest of 2014.

Renowned cattle-handling expert to lead February 7 seminar in Indianapolis

Indiana beef producers and veterinarians are invited to attend a beef cattle handling seminar taught by cattle-handling expert, veterinarian Lynn Locatelli of Cattlexpressions.

Locatelli will present the Cattlexpressions Low-Stress Cattle Handling workshop on February 7 as part of the Indiana Veterinary Medical Association's annual meeting, which runs February 5-8 at the Marriott Indianapolis East. IVMA and the Purdue University College of Veterinary Medicine's beef Integrated Resource Management program are coordinating the seminar.

The workshop focuses on how human interactions with livestock can have negative or positive effects on animal health, performance and subsequent handling ease. Locatelli

will explain how to reduce stress on animals and their handlers during several critical points, including cow-calf, backgrounding, stocker and feedlot operations.

To register for the program, call the IVMA, 317-974-0888, or sign up online at www.invma.org. Registration is \$40 per person and due by January 16.

Locatelli began her veterinary career in Nebraska after graduating from the University of California -Davis College of Veterinary Medicine. She has 19 years of experience in large-animal veterinary practice and consultation. She educates through private consultation and as a national and international speaker at veterinary seminars and cattleman's conferences.

Eagle Watch at Patoka Lake is January 10

Experience eagles in Indiana with indoor and outdoor programs at Patoka Lake Visitors Center on Saturday, January 10, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. EST during the annual Eagle Watch.

The event will feature a live bald eagle and other raptors. Patoka Lake interpretive naturalist Dana Reckelhoff will explain the life of eagles. Todd Eubank, Patoka Lake wildlife specialist, will lead a car caravan to hot spots for eagle viewing. Guest presenter Rex Watters, wildlife specialist at Monroe Lake, will share his experiences from the 1980s Eagle Reintroduction Program and more. Light snacks and refreshments will be provided. Participants are welcome to bring a sack lunch.

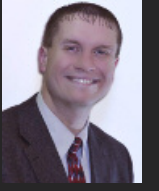
Activities and crafts for kids will be available from 11 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Advance registration is required with a \$5-per-person program fee. Participants age 5 and younger are free. Participants should dress for the weather and bring binoculars, spotting scopes, and cameras if they have them.

For more information, call (812) 685-2447. Patoka Lake (stateparks.IN.gov/2953.htm) is at 3084 N. Dillard Road, Birdseye, IN 47513.

The Mayor's Den

By Loogootee Mayor Noel Harty



November started with sunny skies and cool temperatures and a promise of sustaining fall weather, which didn't last long. On the first, I attended the 2014 IHSAA Volleyball Semi-State Tournament at Jack Butcher Arena. Bloomfield and Hauser squared off in the first round and Hauser advanced to the final game of the tournament after three great sets of play. The second round was Barr-Reeve vs. Christian Academy with Christian Academy also pulling out a win in three games. After the first round, I headed to Vincennes to attend the VIP Dinner for the new Steak and Shake location. A special "thank you" to Michelle Jones for the inviting me! The food and service were both equally great! Then, I headed back to Jack Butcher Arena for the final round of semi-state volleyball play. Christian Academy won over Hauser for the semi state title and they're going to Muncie for the state.

Sunday, November 2nd was the always much anticipated annual 4-H turkey dinner at the Martin County Community Building. As usual, everyone who came out to support this cause enjoyed great food and fellowship. Monday the 3rd, I attended the annual RSVP Appreciation Dinner at the Gasthof. Congratulations to this year's RSVP "Volunteer of the Year," Beth Franklin. That evening was the annual Martin County Community Foundation Dinner, which turned out to also be a special event for Martin County's own Wanda Harding and Fred Woods, who were honored for their many years of philanthropy. In addition, a great talk was given to record crowd number of 240 people by Steve Zeller with Dystinction. Tuesday the 4th first thing in the morning, I drove the high school band to South Knox for the "Festival of Bands." After delivering the band members to the school, I came back to Loogootee Elementary to do document duplication. That evening, I went back to South Knox to watch the Festival of Bands with schools participating from Loogootee, Shoals, Mitchell, Barr-Reeve, North Daviess, North Knox and South Knox and featuring music from many composers and the movie "Frozen." After the event, I headed back home to listen to the Election Day returns. I would like to commend everyone who placed his/her name on the ballot this year; you are all winners and I applaud your commitment to serve your community!!!

Most of Wednesday the 5th was spent in the office. Thursday the 6th started a sad note as I assisted with the funeral of Bertha Bruner at St. John Catholic Church. Mrs. Bruner was a life-long resident of Martin County who was known for her generosity of both her time and talents; and she will be missed by all. In the evening, I attended the premier opening of Indiana Theater in Washington. With over 300 in attendance, it was a huge success. We were treated to a talent show, news reel, and the timeless movie, "Hoosiers." Friday the 7th, I spent most of the day in the office. That evening, we celebrated my mother's birthday and also viewed items from the Houghton House at the Jasper VFW Hall. Saturday the 8th I assisted with the auction held at the former residence of Jack and Kathy Collins in Shoals. After that, I attended the wedding of Matthew and Lindsay (Wininger) Burch at St. John. The ceremony was beautiful and there was barely a seat left open in the church. In the evening of Sunday the 9th, I took in the final 3rd and 4th grade basketball championship games at Lee Kavanaugh Gym. The first round was both Loogootee teams squaring off for the championship title, which in the end resulted in a two-point difference for the title. In the 4th grade round of action, it was Jasper and Loogootee with Loogootee winning by a nice margin.

On Monday the 10th was the first organizational meeting for the "First Annual City of Loogootee Festival of Lights Parade," followed by the board of public works and safety and common council of the City of Loogootee meetings. Highlights included:

the hiring of a part-time police officer, Luke Harmon; the first reading of the bond ordinance for the pool project, discussion of storm water drainage problems, the codification of city records, and the new scheduled meeting time for both meetings. Tuesday the 11th, Veterans Day, I attended the Veterans Day Program at LHS with the high school band performing the National Anthem, Taps performed by Jon Kreznsniak, and My Country 'Tis of Thee, sang by the high school choir. Special guest speakers for the event were Louis Caprino and Bill Gollmitzer with the Homeland Security Program at Vincennes University. Following the program, I attended the Veteran's Day program at our American Legion Post. Commander Joe Mattox led the program with Phil Todd fulfilling his role as Chaplain and Paul Truelove as Adjunct. Guest speakers were Sheriff-Elect Travis Roush and Stan Hodges. Then, in the evening, was the first home 7th and 8th grade basketball games of the season squaring off with longtime rival Barr-Reeve at Lee Kavanaugh Gym. In the end, although both teams showed a lot of effort and determination, Barr-Reeve prevailed.

Wednesday the 12th, is a day none of us will ever forget. I was at Loogootee Elementary doing my weekly volunteering when I received word about 10:15, that Rosie's Shirt Shop was on fire. I immediately hurried downtown to assess the situation at hand. As you all know, the fire was raging and Rosie's and Laurie's Flower Shop were both in flames. As the fire raged on, His and Hers Beauty Shop also succumbed, and The Cartridge Depot, Ippolitti Law, and Englert's all received extensive damage before it was all over. Six fire departments worked tirelessly battling the blaze, getting it under control and making sure fire did not break out again - all under extreme conditions. Our community rallied to support the firefighters: Martin County Video provided a place for the firefighters would warm up and have something to eat or drink provided by our local restaurants, stores, and community; citizens stood in the cold at different intersections and directed traffic away from the site, and many people gathered around the scene to provide support and comfort to those business owners whose businesses were burning in front of their eyes. It was a hard day for everyone, and although the damage was extensive and so heartbreaking to watch, at least no one was hurt; and we are very thankful for that. I spent much of the next day, Thursday the 13th with media from throughout the southern part of the state coming to our city to report on the tragedy, including Channels 2, 8, and 10. All reports equally focused on the depth of our community's support. That evening was the fall 2014 chorus concert featuring Alex Graber, Marina Lents, Jake Simmons, Mariah Bridgewater, Kylie Hall, Matty Jones, Carly Combs, and Ariel Jones at the LHS Auditorium - a great performance! Friday the 14th, I spent much of the day conversing with service providers to coordinate a time for them to meet with local business owners affected by the downtown fire. That afternoon, State Senator-Elect Eric Basler and Washington Mayor Joe Wellman came to assess damages and offer any assistance they might be able to provide.

Saturday 15th was the "Ugly Cake" contest at the Martin State Forest. Congratulations to the winner, Alex Adams. Following the contest, I went to the funeral visitation of Thelma Cox at the Poindexter-McClure Funeral Home in Odon. Mrs. Cox is city employee Tom Telford's mother. She will be dearly missed by both family and friends and we offer Tom our sincere condolences. On Monday the 17th, due to the frigid weather conditions, our schools were on a two-hour delay. Unfortunately, due to the delay and weather, I was not able to attend the funeral of Hank Swartzentruber. Mr. Swartzentruber was a lifelong resident and businessman in the area; and he and his family were in my thoughts and prayers. In the evening, the park

board met in regular session and the ongoing pool project was the highlight of the meeting. Tuesday the 18th, I started the day at Loogootee Elementary doing my volunteer duties and then back to the office for the remainder of the day. In the evening, I attended the Loogootee Elementary School Chili Supper and Book Fair and enjoyed the great chili and fellowship at the event. After the chili supper, I attended the regular monthly meeting of the Loogootee School Board. Among the many issues discussed were: the resignation of LHS Principal John Mullen, approval of volunteer coaches, and the renewal of school bus contracts. After that meeting, I headed to Jack Butcher Arena to watch the JV and varsity Lady Lions take on the Mitchell Blue Jackets. Our JV won easily and varsity struggled but did not overcome. Wednesday the 19th I attended the Martin County Chamber of Commerce meeting held at the home of Marie Hawkins and Rodney Foster. Special thanks to Marie and Rodney for graciously hosting the meeting and Deanna Bauernfiend for the delicious soup. The main topic of the meeting was the hiring of a new office manager. Congratulations to Johnette Payne for accepting the post. That evening, the city common council met in special session to discuss the animal ordinance in place and blighted property issues. After much discussion from patrons and the council, it was decided that chickens would be allowed in our city with stipulations in place.

On Thursday the 20th was the "Battle of Martin County" junior high girl style at Shoals with our Lady Lions taking on the Lady Rox. Both teams played hard with our Lady Lions coming out on top. Friday the 21st, the city hosted an informational meeting for those business owners affected by downtown fire. Approximately 30 people attended, with many honored guests including Former Lt. Governor Becky Skillman, State Senator Elect Eric Bassler, State Representative Elect Mark Messmer, Larry Ordner from Congressman Buschon's office, and Brenda Groff with U.S. Senator Dan Coats' office. A wealth of knowledge permeated the room with many ideas and thoughts exchanged about the future of our downtown area. In the afternoon, Congressman Larry Buschon came to assess fire damages and to offer any federal funding that might be available. That evening, I was off to Shoals for the "Battle of Martin County" as the Lady Lions Varsity took on the Lady Jug Rox, with our Lady Lions coming out with the win. Saturday the 22nd I headed to Jack Butcher Arena to watch the Lady Lions host the Forest Park Lady Rangers. The Lady Lions played hard during both games, but unfortunately did not win either match. On Sunday the 23rd I headed to St. John's Lutheran Church for a delicious Thanksgiving Dinner. A special "thank you" to St. John's Lutheran Church for inviting fire victims and me as guests. In the evening, I attended the annual "Hanging of the Greens" celebration at Loogootee United Methodist Church. As it is each year, the service was beautiful and reminded us all

the real meaning of the season. Monday the 24th was the bi-monthly meeting of the Martin County Alliance for Economic Growth at the Martin County Learning Center. Following that meeting, I headed to Jack Butcher Arena to take in the annual "Soap and Towel" game, which we all enjoyed. Tuesday the 25th I started the day doing my weekly volunteer duties at Loogootee Elementary. Then, I attended the funeral of Paulie Jeffers at Brocksmith-Blake Funeral Home. Mr. Jeffers dedicated most of his life trying to make a difference; and he did just that by dedicating a lot of days, weeks, months, and years to the Martin County Sheriff's Department. Many officers he worked with were present at the service and reflected about all of the good times they had working together, and Mr. Jeffers' many accomplishments. In addition to Mr. Jeffers working for the department, he was also employed for over 25 years by Jefferson Trucking. He will be greatly missed by all who knew him. In the evening, I met with department heads of the Loogootee Fire Department to discuss the department as a whole and to commend them on all of the great effort they always put forth. On Wednesday the 26th, I spent most of the day at the office, working on day-to-day operations.

Thursday the 27th, Thanksgiving Day, after church and dinner with family and friends, I took in some early Black Friday sales. Friday the 28th I visited some of the local stores right here in Loogootee to do a little Black Friday shopping. Saturday the 29th, Brent Courter and I went to Trinity Lutheran Church in Evansville to attend the wedding of Jim and Cleon Sturtevant. Mr. Sturtevant is a former math teacher of mine who has been retired for a number of years and a longtime friend of both of us. Congratulations to the happy couple! In the evening, I was back at Jack Butcher Arena to take in the consolation and championship game of the "Loogootee Tribune Classic". South Spencer came out on a top by a nice margin over Irvington Prep in the first game, and after a heart-felt battle with our Lions, Rock Creek came away victorious. I would like to take this opportunity to wish each and every one of you a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!!!

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-Photo provided

Theresa Showalter, Daviess-Martin County REMC administrative assistant presents a \$2,500 Operation Round Up Grant to Warren Crawford, vice president of the board of Capstone Ministries/ReGeneration Thrift Store located in Mitchell.

Operation Round Up awards another \$7,000 in grants

Once again, Daviess-Martin REMC members participating in the Operation Round Up program can see where rounding up their electric bills to the nearest dollar every month makes a huge impact on the community.

The Daviess-Martin REMC Community Fund, Inc. recently granted \$7,700 to organizations helping make Daviess, Martin and Lawrence counties better places to live. A total of \$365,368.17 has been given to the community since the inception of the program in 2004.

The committee encourages civic organiza-

tions to apply for funding. The first quarter applications are due in the REMC office by 4 p.m. on February 27. Applications can be downloaded from www.dmremc.com or picked up at 12628 E 75 N, Loogootee.

Most recent Operation Round Up grants awarded

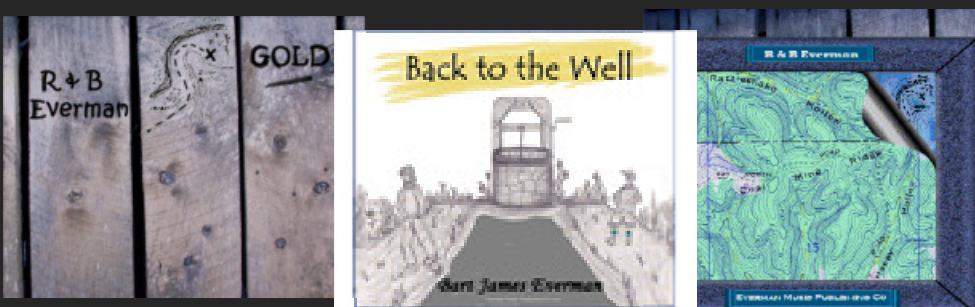
- Capstone Ministries, Inc. - \$2,500
- Retired Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) of Daviess and Martin Counties - \$2,000
- Cannelburg Volunteer Fire Department - \$1,700
- Boy Scout Troop 348 - \$1,000
- Barr-Reeve Band Boosters - \$500



-Photo provided

Theresa Showalter, left, Daviess-Martin County REMC administrative assistant presents a \$2,000 Operation Round Up grant to Kim Herbertz, Executive Director of the Retired Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) of Daviess and Martin Counties.

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Calendar of Events

SAT prep class

SAT prep class will be held January 7, 14, 21, and 28 at the Martin County Learning Center from 7-9 p.m. Cost is \$25. Please see your high school counselor to register before Christmas vacation. Or call Karen Whorrall 812-388-6639. Class is sponsored by the high school guidance departments and Martin County SOAR, the adult education group.

Talk to a lawyer clinic

The next talk to a lawyer telephone hotline will take place on Thursday, January 8 from 4:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. CST and 5:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. EST. Talk to a lawyer allows the general public to ask legal questions and receive legal advice and guidance - FREE! Anyone can use the hotline, as long as the questions relate to Indiana law. To access the hotline, the telephone numbers are: (812) 618-4845 and 888-594-3449. These telephone numbers are only accessible during the time the clinic is open. Talk to a lawyer is co-sponsored by Evansville Bar Foundation, Volunteer Lawyer Program of Southwestern Indiana and Indiana Bar Foundation. Each year, hundreds of calls and callers are assisted through the hotline and by the volunteer attorneys who donate their time and expertise.

Boy Scouts

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

Cub Scout meetings

Cub scout meetings are held at Loogootee United Methodist Church on the first, third, and fourth Monday of each month from

6:30 to 7:30 p.m. For more information, contact Bryan Adams at 812-854-7837.

SOAR Tutoring

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

Solid waste board

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

Humane society meetings

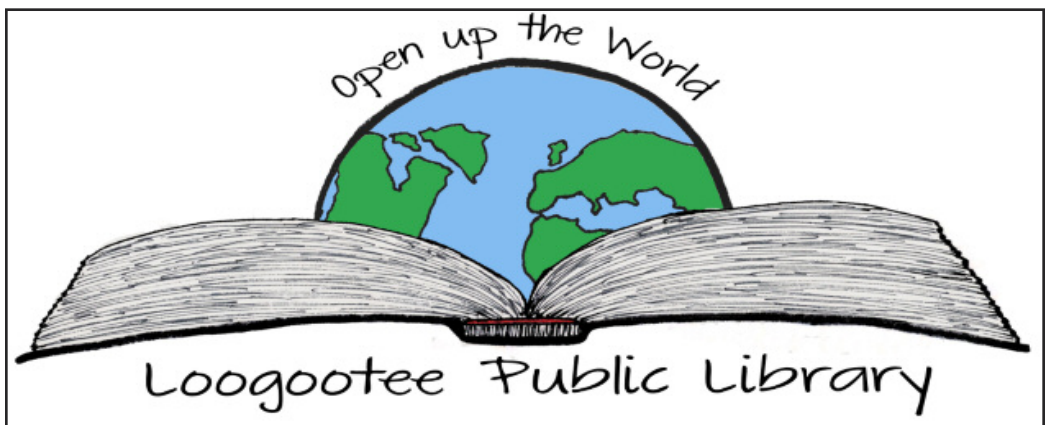
The Martin County Humane Society meets on the third Friday of the month at the animal shelter at 507 N Oak Street in Loogootee, at 7 p.m. Members of the humane society are invited to attend. To find out how to become a member, call the shelter at 812-295-5900 or email mchs@frontier.com.

Tourism meetings

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

Soil and Water meetings

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



BY DARLA WAGLER
Librarian, Loogootee Public Library

Wondering what to do over the kids Christmas break? The library has new DVDs, juvenile and young adult book series plus different hands-on activity stations for kids to explore. Bring the kids and check out "what's happenin'" at your local library.

The library hours are Monday and Tuesday 10-7, Wednesday closed, Thursday and Friday 10-5 and Saturday 9-1. The phone

number is 812-295-3713. Check out the website www.loogootee.lib.in.us or like us on Facebook.

New Books:

Mystery Fiction: "Murder, Plain and Simple" by Isabella Alan.

Inspirational Fiction: "Blessings from Acorn Hill" by Judy Baer, "Hallowed Halls" by Hannah Alexander, and, "A Path Made Plain" by Lynette Sowell,

New DVDs: "Paw Patrol: Winter Rescues" and "Guardians of the Galaxy"



Christmas Story time

-Photo provided

The Loogootee Public Library recently held Christmas Story Time for kids ages 3-5 years old. Children that participated are shown making mouse ears to go along with the Christmas Mouse theme.

AG Zoeller, Sen. Merritt propose legislation to protect Hoosiers from identity theft, data breaches

In response to growing concerns about on-line privacy and data protection, Indiana Attorney General Greg Zoeller Monday announced a legislative proposal to provide greater safeguards of Hoosiers' personal and financial information online.

Zoeller's proposal has three main components aimed at providing stricter requirements for the safe storage of sensitive data, reducing harm to consumers in case of a data breach and increasing transparency of online privacy policies.

So far in 2014, the Indiana Attorney General's Identity Theft Unit has opened 1,310 identity theft-related complaints, including complaints about 375 separate data breaches.

"The amount of sensitive, personal data that is stored online is growing every day, and the risks are obvious as more people are impacted by massive corporate data breaches or individual identity theft that can imperil a consumer's good name and credit rating," Zoeller said. "Our existing laws are proving inadequate to address this global crime, and we must sharpen our legal tools and take action to keep Indiana on the forefront of protecting consumers."

Zoeller was joined Monday by State Sen. Jim Merritt (R-Indianapolis), who plans to sponsor the legislation during the 2015 session of the Indiana General Assembly.

"Identity theft and data breaches are serious crimes and can have life-altering consequences for victims," Merritt said. "Consumers should feel confident and secure when purchasing items online. Protecting Hoosiers has always been one of my top priorities, and this legislation is vital."

The proposed legislation would include the following provisions to tighten Indiana's laws that govern data collection and guard against identity theft:

Safe data storage: Online operators that store personal or financial data would be required to:

Store the data securely.

State creates free county travel status mobile app

The State of Indiana has created a free mobile app to provide Hoosiers with county travel status updates and alerts directly to their mobile devices.

"This new app will be a great on-the-go resource for citizens and visitors to Indiana," said Governor Mike Pence. "The travel advisory map has been one of the most popular pages on the State of Indiana website, particularly during times of inclement weather. The app will be even more convenient, and we hope many people will use this as a resource to make informed travel decisions."

In addition to weather, the app will also include notifications with regard to flooding, hazardous materials spills and other events that could affect travel.

Last winter, the Indiana Department of Homeland Security (IDHS) County Travel Status Map was the most visited page on IN.gov, generating nearly 5 million unique visitors between December 1, 2013, and March 31, 2014.

The Indiana Office of Technology and IDHS collaborated on the project. The Indiana Travel Advisory app is available to download for iPhone

Delete it and not retain data beyond what is necessary for business purposes/processes.

Share or sell it only when authorized by law or when consumers are informed in advance.

Inform consumers by conspicuous notice when data must be collected and how long it will be stored.

Data breach harm reduction: Indiana's Disclosure of Security Breach Act would be enhanced to facilitate prompt and more informative notification to affected consumers so they can take action to protect themselves in case of a data breach. The proposal would also expand the Act to cover breaches of paper and handwritten records, as current law covers electronically generated records only.

Privacy policy transparency: Website operators and online entities that collect personal or financial information from Indiana residents would be required to conspicuously post their privacy policies online. These policies also must identify what personal information the operator collects from site visitors and whether the operator shares or sells any of that information, and with whom. If an operator profits off of selling user data and does not disclose that information, it would be considered a knowing misrepresentation.

The Attorney General's Identity Theft Unit was created in 2008 to help victims of identity theft, assist law enforcement in the investigation and prosecution of identity theft suspects, and review data breaches that impact Indiana consumers.

In 2014, the Identity Theft Unit helped to return \$679,154 to Hoosiers harmed by identity theft or a data breach.

For tips to protect yourself from identity theft, such as signing up for a credit freeze, visit www.in.gov/attorneygeneral/2853.htm. To file an identity theft complaint with the Attorney General's Office, visit www.IndianaConsumer.com or call 800-382-5516.

(<https://appsto.re/us/QHVw4.i>) in the App Store, and (<https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=gov.in.traveladvisory>) in the Google Play Store.

Features include:

Ability for users to set alerts for any county or counties they choose, up to every county in the state. When the travel status in a selected county is changed, the user will receive an alert notification.

Weather conditions for each county. Tapping on a county will display the temperature and an icon with the current conditions.

Contact information for county emergency management agencies, which are responsible for the status updates.

The app is meant to be used as part of a system to stay aware of changing travel conditions. Other sources include local news, travel, weather and social media sites and apps.

Indiana Travel Advisory is part of the IN.gov family of apps. The state has developed 12 different mobile apps to help serve citizens, including the IN.gov app (Apple and Android), which is a hub to access all the apps from the State.

Strategic planning committee hears updates on priority initiatives

The State Board of Education's (SBOE) Strategic Planning Committee met last Thursday to continue its focus on implementing priority initiatives aligned with the SBOE's strategic plan goals of student achievement, supports for educators, and community engagement. The Committee reviewed recommended metrics for these strategic priorities and heard updates regarding on-going stakeholder engagement efforts.

Following collaborative work by the Department of Education (DOE) and SBOE staff, the Committee reviewed new data inputs to the Balanced Scorecard (BSC), which is critical to the strategic management of the Board's goals. The BSC will provide a data "dashboard" that will allow the SBOE and the public to monitor Indiana's progress toward achieving its educational goals.

"The Balanced Scorecard is designed to guide the work of the Board and Department of Education," said at-large SBOE member Gordon Hendry. "The scorecard enables us to determine if we are making progress toward meeting the overarching goals of the Strategic Plan."

Hendry and Dr. Brad Oliver, District 6 SBOE representative, recommended that the SBOE set aside biannual public meetings for the Board to focus specifically on educational results as it relates to the BSC.

Leroy Robinson, DOE's new Director of Family and Community Engagement (FACE), reported that the DOE has begun surveying stakeholders as part of its new outreach efforts. The DOE indicated it plans to create and share a statewide framework for family and community engagement, and said 48 schools have applied this fall for its new "Family Friendly" designation. Robinson said DOE is looking for additional ways to reach out to families to gain perspectives on improving engagement within schools.

The SBOE committee encouraged DOE to work with institutions of higher education, such as Ball State and Indiana University, to assist in the design of a scientifically valid survey instrument. BJ Watts, District 8 SBOE member, also suggested the DOE seek guidance from the National Association of State Boards of Education (NASBE), which is currently evaluating best practices nationwide as they relate to community and stakeholder engagement.

Ongoing stakeholder outreach by the SBOE regarding teacher evaluations is currently being conducted by the SBOE and TNTP, a national consultant, to assess the state's alignment to national best practices for teacher evaluation and collect stakeholder feedback on implementation challenges. TNTP is currently

midway through its study of the state's alignment to national best practices and collection of feedback from educators around the state on implementation challenges. They are working closely with stakeholders to identify areas where Indiana's teacher evaluation law, regulations and state models can be improved.

"We reached out to superintendents, administrators and teachers to get as complete a sample as possible," said Jessica Conlon, from TNTP. "We're asking for first-hand experience and have been intentional that there have been plenty of follow-up questions."

TNTP will come back to the Committee in late January with policy recommendations reflecting stakeholder feedback. Final recommendations will then be presented to the full SBOE in February.

"The board engaged TNTP in response to the serious concerns the USDOE had with Indiana's (ESEA flexibility) waiver as it related to teacher evaluations," said Mr. Hendry. "We are being responsive to (the USDOE's) concerns and want to build an evaluation system that stands out as a national model."

Dr. Oliver added he expects Board and DOE staff to work closely together as it relates to Indiana's waiver renewal submission in March 2015. He said evaluations is an area where the Board has to lead in order to meet the legislative intent behind the teacher evaluation process.

He also expressed his eagerness to learn how stakeholder feedback is integrated into the Board's final recommendations on teacher evaluation policy.

Danielle Shockey, DOE's Deputy Superintendent for Public Instruction, responded to Dr. Oliver's request with an affirmation that DOE would work with the Board and SBOE staff prior to the renewal submission.

Ongoing collaboration between the DOE and SBOE includes work on assessments and A-F school accountability rulemaking, with an overarching goal of increased input from across the state, both from educators and the communities in which they serve.

"Of the Strategic Plan's three priority initiatives, stakeholder engagement may be the most important," said Dr. Oliver. "The majority of our goals are relational in nature. Stakeholder engagement can most improve and affect the other two initiatives and lead to serious conversations about why people feel the way they do about their schools."

The next Strategic Planning Committee meeting is scheduled for January 26, 2015 at 1 p.m. (EST) in Indianapolis. More information about the Committee, including presentations and materials from last Thursday's meeting, can be found at <http://in.gov/sboe/2597.htm>.

Governor Pence calls revenue forecast encouraging, urges caution

The State Budget Committee last Thursday released the December revenue forecast, which projects modest growth over the next three fiscal years.

"This revenue forecast confirms the growth we are seeing across our state and should be an encouragement to every Hoosier," said Governor Mike Pence. "While the December revenue forecast projects economic growth for our state, Hoosiers may be assured that our Administration will continue to exercise caution as we finalize our recommended budget for the next two years."

The state revenue forecast comes on the

heels of the Indiana Economic Outlook 2015 Forecast, published by the Ball State University Center for Business and Economic Research, which predicts an increase in the state's gross domestic product of 3.4 percent and an increase in personal income of 3.3 percent. It also follows solid revenue growth year over year in the current fiscal year.

The Governor sounded a note of caution following flat revenue in fiscal year 2014 and the downward revision of the fiscal year 2015 estimate by \$129 million from the December 2013 estimate.

The 2015-2017 Revenue Forecast can be found here: <http://in.gov/sba/2648.htm>.



Companies to add 2,000+ jobs, growing operations across Indiana

Governor Mike Pence and executives from 16 companies announced last Thursday new investments across Indiana expected to create a combined 2,153 new jobs over the next few years.

"Indiana's strong economy, fiscal responsibility and pro-growth policies make days like this possible," said Pence. "Today's announcement includes some of the nation's fastest growing companies, and they have all either launched in Indiana or are choosing to move here. From tech developers to manufacturing powerhouses, the collective energy of these Hoosier businesses will help power our economy into 2015, creating jobs, promoting opportunities and investing in our future."

Last Thursday's news comes amidst the state's record-breaking year of economic development results. In 2014, the Indiana Economic Development Corporation (IEDC) secured job commitments from 285 companies from across the country and around the world, an increase from 261 companies in 2013 and more than any other year on record. The 285 companies anticipate investing \$4.38 billion in their Indiana operations and creating 25,317 new jobs in the coming years. The new positions, which companies anticipate to hire over the next five years, pay an expected hourly wage of \$21.75, above the state's current hourly wage of \$20.17.

"Looking through the numbers, I see another promising year in Indiana's future," said Pence. "Following last year, when we implemented the largest state tax cut in history, this year our corporate income tax began its decline. Meanwhile, companies here at home, across the nation and around the world are committing at record levels to locate their new jobs here. Indiana's unemployment is dropping, showing some of the largest declines in the nation even while our labor force is growing. It's a great time to be a business in Indiana and an even better time to be a Hoosier."

Heavy-equipment parts manufacturer AMI Industries, Inc. will invest \$4.2 million to equip and expand its agricultural component production at a 100,000 square-foot facility in Plymouth, creating up to 250 new jobs by 2015. The company also plans to invest \$4.35 million to equip and renovate its automotive manufacturing lines, creating up to 225 additional new jobs by 2017. Currently operating out of its main facility and satellite sites, the expansion will allow AMI Industries to bring satellite operations in house, providing the opportunity to expand into new customer markets.

With more than 100 years' experience as a manufacturer of custom-designed AC and DC fractional horsepower motors, this year Bluffton Motor Works is launching more than 30 new motor ratings for the pool and spa industry. This growth is projected to generate an increase of nearly 100,000 additional motors manufactured at the company's headquarters in Bluffton, creating up to 70 new jobs by 2017. Investing \$3.6 million into its 400,000 square-foot Bluffton operations, the company currently employs more than 400 full-time associates, including 325 Hoosiers.

Headquartered in Dublin, Ohio, health care services company Cardinal Health

(NYSE: CAH) will construct and equip a 64,000 square-foot facility in Indianapolis, creating up to 85 new jobs by 2017. Dedicated exclusively to manufacturing Bayer Healthcare's Xofigo®, the new facility is expected to be complete in 2017. The \$91-billion health care services company operates two medical products distribution centers and several radiopharmacies in Indiana, which employ more than 240 Hoosiers. Cardinal Health will begin hiring specialized manufacturing roles, chemists, engineers and other professional positions when construction on the facility is complete.

A wholly-owned subsidiary of Ingram Micro (NYSE: IM), CloudBlue will invest \$3.74 million to lease, renovate and equip a 110,000-square-foot processing center in Indianapolis, creating up to 50 new jobs by 2017. Providing enterprise information technology asset disposition, onsite data destruction and e-waste recycling services, CloudBlue has more than 100 locations and more than 1,000 customer organizations across the globe.

Deister Machine Company, which specializes in the manufacture of vibrating equipment for the mining, quarrying and aggregate industries, plans to invest \$2.8 million to equip its 250,000 square-foot facility in Fort Wayne, purchasing two CNC lathes and a 750 ton press brake, which will be largest in the area. With the new equipment expected to be installed by March 2015, the 102-year-old, family-owned company has already begun hiring for machining and fabricating positions, creating up to 110 new jobs by 2018 to grow the company's workforce beyond its current team of 198 Hoosiers.

Founded in 2012, Middlebury-based Grand Design RV is a manufacturer of fifth wheel trailers and travel trailers, recognized as the fourth largest manufacturer of towable recreational vehicles in the industry with 2014 sales of more than \$200 million. To meet the need for more manufacturing capacity, the company will invest \$6.9 million to add 48 acres and infrastructure improvements to its current 67-acre campus, creating up to 330 new jobs over the next few years. Grand Design currently employs 548 full-time associates at its Elkhart County campus.

Indiana Limestone Company, the largest Indiana Limestone quarrier in North America, plans to invest \$9.37 million to equip its combined 4,500-acre quarries in Oolitic and Bloomington, creating up to 75 new jobs by 2017. Indiana Limestone Company anticipates expanding its quarry capabilities by more than 40 percent in 2015, allowing it to supply builders with a limestone mix to support growth of Indiana Limestone as a key building material, which today can be seen on structures including the Empire State Building, the Pentagon and more than one third of the U.S. state capital buildings. Indiana Limestone Company, which currently employs more than 130 associates, plans to begin hiring by March.

Homegrown-Hoosier company iSALUS is a provider of a fully-unified electronic health records and practice management cloud-based platform. Expanding upon its 15 years of experience in the healthcare in-

dustry, iSALUS plans to invest \$485,100 to lease and equip its 5,280 square-foot office at the Stutz Business Center in downtown Indianapolis, creating up to 136 high-wage jobs by 2023. Hiring software engineers and members for its customer service, sales and administrative staffs, iSALUS currently employs 26 full-time Indiana associates and plans to begin hiring next year.

Indianapolis-based Kite Realty Group is a full-service, vertically-integrated real estate investment trust focused on the ownership, operation, management, leasing, acquisition, construction, redevelopment and development of neighborhood and community shopping centers. Following the company's merger with Illinois-based Inland Diversified Real Estate Trust earlier this year, Kite Realty plans to invest \$205,000, expanding its corporate offices by 5,865 square feet in June and creating up to 69 new jobs by 2018. Now one of the largest real estate investment trusts in the nation, Kite Realty employs more than 140 associates, with 115 based in Indiana.

Memory Ventures, a portfolio of direct-to-consumer e-commerce brands, plans to relocate its headquarters from Los Angeles, California to Fishers, creating up to 134 new jobs by 2018. Memory Ventures will launch Indiana operations next year in a 2,500 square-foot temporary office, with plans to be fully operational by 2016 in a 10,000 square-foot office for Memory Ventures' portfolio brands. Memory Ventures was originally founded in 2007 with its first brand, ScanDigital, and has been featured on the Inc. 500 and Deloitte's Technology Fast 500 lists. The company's new headquarters in Indiana will allow it to increase its service capacity, decrease shipping costs and expand its customer base across the country, which currently includes more than 50,000 consumers a year as well as large clients such as Rubicon Project and Google. In addition, the company is launching a business incubator called Eureka!, where it seeks to partner with entrepreneurs who wish to create new businesses under Memory Ventures' platform.

Named earlier this year one of the 5,000 fastest growing private companies in the United States by Inc. Magazine, Midwest Automotive Designs converts vans and trucks into luxury vehicles, specializing in the Mercedes Benz Sprinter platform. With plans to create up to 80 new jobs by 2017, the company operates in a 65,000 square-foot facility in Elkhart and will expand by more than 25,000-square feet within the next 36 months. Midwest Automotive Designs currently employs approximately 100 full-time associates.

An email marketing solutions provider, nimblejack plans to invest \$555,000 to lease and equip its current 4,000-square-foot of-

fice space in downtown Indianapolis, creating up to 185 new jobs by 2019. Providing consulting, campaign management, automation, custom coding and systems integration and reporting and analytics, nimblejack has locations in New York and Phoenix, Arizona serving customers across the country and was recently presented with the Salesforce Marketing Cloud Services Partner of the Year award.

Indianapolis-based Probo Medical purchases, repairs and resells refurbished medical equipment to the healthcare industry. The company, which launched operations earlier this year, plans to invest \$835,000 into its business, creating up to 62 new jobs by 2018. Its north side facility is located at 9855 Crosspoint Blvd. Probo Medical was founded by David Trogden, the former president of Ultra Solutions, a California-based ultrasound equipment business with 55 employees when the company was sold in 2013. Probo is currently hiring for positions in sales and technical roles.

Ryno Strategic Solutions is a full-service nationwide Internet marketing company, primarily serving the HVAC, plumbing and other service industries. Formally known as Brickyard Marketing, the company plans to expand its national sales headquarters in a 20,000-square-foot office facility in central Indiana, creating up to 127 new jobs by 2023. Offering services such as search engine optimization, content management, website and app development, call tracking and monitoring, the company is currently hiring for sales, marketing, programmers and client services positions.

SmartIT, an information technology firm delivering staffing and technology solutions for some of the largest companies in the country, plans to invest \$4.5 million to expand into a new 40,000-square-foot headquarters facility in Zionsville, creating up to 85 new jobs by 2018. With plans to be operating in the new offices by its 10th anniversary in June, the company currently employs 160 Hoosiers.

South Bend Modern Molding, a manufacturer of custom molded rubber products founded in 1942, plans to make significant investments to expand production capacity and add new product lines at the company's 100,000-square-foot facility in Mishawaka, nearly doubling employment by creating up to 80 new jobs by 2023. The company, which was named a 2014 Indiana Company to Watch, is currently experiencing exponential growth from its new products using recycled rubber materials, with up to 50 percent of its sales coming from these product lines. South Bend Modern Molding currently employs approximately 100 full-time Indiana associates and plans on expanding employment more than 50 percent over the next three years.



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