

Martin County JOURNAL

Year 11, Issue 1

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 1, 2020

Seven pages

A look back at headlines in 2019

The following are just some of the headlines in the Martin County Journal during 2019.

JANUARY

Traffic stop leads to search warrant and arrest of three
County council discusses new election equipment, 2019 appointments
Community Corrections Director concerned about illegal dumping
City council debates need for new water ordinance
Commissioners hear from West Boggs, Community Corrections Director
Commissioners hold special meeting to hire highway employee
Search warrant leads to large amount of methamphetamine and two arrests
Community Corrections Director initiates clean-up below Brickyard Road bridge
Martin County Toy Store gives to hospital children
Martin County's jobless rate at 2.7 percent for December
Officer Mann awarded state NWF Wildlife Officer of the Year
USG donate \$5,000 to MCCF
Puppy mill discovered in Rutherford Township

FEBRUARY

Humane society offers food pantry for those in need
County council hears from community corrections, prosecutor
Ice fishing accident results in death
Traffic stop results in meth and heroin arrest
Gov. Holcomb appoints Loogootee woman to state soil conservation board
City council debates speeding issue on Walker Street
Traffic stop results in arrest of two in Shoals
Bauer resigns from Shoals School Board
Wanted man rams deputy's vehicle leading to pursuit and shots fired
Jr Gee to be guest speaker at Lionbackers pre-sectional banquet
Governor Halcomb to be guest speaker at Chamber Dinner
Don Bowling honored by Crane
Patrons speak out in favor of coach, school board silent
State says highway departments must spend half their budget on roads
Braun replaces Bauer on Shoals School Board
Arrest of wanted man results in narcotics found

MARCH

Prosecutor wants extra help, sheriff wants new vehicles
Shoals Jug Rox Robotix advances to state tournament
Two arrested on meth charges
City drops issue of stop sign, purchases new truck
Commissioners change county's agent of record
Martin County's unemployment rate at 3.5 percent for January
Township coffers hold over \$1 million in unused funds
Martin County Humane Society awarded Chamber's first "Organization of the Year" award

Don and Patty Bowling honored with the Gene Shaw Citizen of the Year award
Linda Sherfick retires after 43 years with Shoals School
Highways 231 and 50 to be resurfaced by next spring
Two arrested on drug charges in Shoals
County receives a quarter of requested grant money for roads
Loogootee Public Library held ground-breaking ceremony
Commissioners get bad news on grant, agree to help with storage at museum
Martin County unemployment stands at 3.4 percent for February
Shoals Robotix team ends best season yet

APRIL

Saturday lunches feed 340 Martin County kids
Sheriff wants to give up new truck to help prosecutor
Two-county pursuit ends in arrest
Shoals works to beautify the town
Commissioners weigh whether to close Brooks Bridge permanently
Residents express concerns with old and new city problems
LHS to present The Little Mermaid this weekend
Harrison County man dies at West Boggs Lake
How area schools are graded, compare
Drug investigation leads to search warrant and cocaine charges
Shoals Town Council meets to close out stormwater project
Shoals Fifth Grade participate in I LEAD
\$7.4 million renovations ongoing at Loogootee Schools
How ISTEP scores compare
Commissioners close West River Road due to erosion
Dedication of the Nubbin Ridge Nature Trail in the Bluffs of Beaver Bend Nature Preserve
Martin County's jobless rate ticks down to 3.3 percent for March
Top 10 LHS Seniors honored at Tri Kappa Academic Dinner

MAY

LHS Royalty Loogootee High School Prom Royalty was crowned last Saturday night at Jack Butcher Arena (King Kirk Bratton, Queen Hope Fisher, Prom Princess Melaina Tippery and Prom Prince Niklas Mauer)
Middle Way House announces 2019 essay contest winners
Health Department, WIC move to new location
Falling tree causes fatal accident in Shoals
Mayoral candidates answer questions about city issues
Harty wins Primary for mayor
2019 Shoals High School Prom Royalty (Queen Lillian Thacker, King Clayton Tichenor, Princess Maggie Shaw and Prince Dalton Roush)
Prosecutor gets new attorney after long debate with council
Navy wants to test Burns City wells for contamination
Loogootee hires new basketball coach
(See 'HEADLINES' on page 2)



-Photo by Courtney Hughett

Martin County Sheriff Travis Roush presented a plaque to Commissioner Dan Gregory commemorating his 11 years served as a commissioner, along with the many boards Gregory has served on over the years.

Dan Gregory says goodbye at last commissioners' meeting before retirement

BY COURTNEY HUGHETT
Martin County Journal Publisher

Commissioner Dan Gregory was honored at his last meeting before retirement Monday night, December 30. Gregory was presented with a plaque from Martin County Sheriff Travis Roush and received kind words from Commissioner Paul George and members of the audience. Gregory's wife and daughter were also in attendance. Community Corrections Director Kathy Collins, Alliance Director Tim Kinder, and Auditor Bob-

bie Abel spoke of Gregory and what he has offered to the county over the past decade. Gregory choked up giving his goodbye speech noting that he tried very hard over the last 11 years to make Martin County a better place to live. He said that he hates the word politics and never felt he was serving for himself, he did it for the people he serves. Gregory's replacement, Aaron Summers, was in the audience and Gregory told him to always remember who he works for and he will be fine. Summers replied saying he has
(See 'GREGORY' on page 5)

~DEATHS OF 2019~ Gone but not forgotten

Timothy A. Nelson 7/2/51-1/2/19
Marjorie Louise Truelove 8/26/22-1/2/19
Randall "Porky" Asbell 7/12/56-1/3/19
Thomas R. Wagner 1/18/42-1/4/19
Martha Sue Tincher 6/26/36-1/10/19
Brandon Lee Baker 1/11/19
Kent B. Smith 6/25/58-1/13/19
Viola M. Cox 12/17/42-1/18/19
Thomas Edward Harder 2/13/29-1/20/19
Jimmie Ray Sergeant 7/26/49-1/24/19
Marjorie "Helen" Chestnut 10/5/37-1/25/19
Joseph A. Mullins 9/18/62-1/27/19
Linda K. Taylor 10/30/39-1/27/19
James R. Morrison 2/21/37-1/30/19
Roger L. Williams 9/27/63-2/1/19
Ralph Joseph Kidwell 2/23/29-2/2/19
William Eric Jones 11/9/51-2/4/19
Robert Scott Waggner 10/29/55-2/9/19
Susan Marie Tolbert 5/13/58-2/11/19
Mary Jeanette Albertson 6/17/42-2/13/19
Laura E. Wathen 3/17/39-2/17/19
James "Jim" Gordon Ragains 2/26/31-2/18/19
Jacob James Wathen 5/17/76-2/19/19

Lois Ilene Brassine 3/17/39-3/3/19
Burtis M. Gaither 2/4/22-3/4/19
Larry Gene McBride 9/27/43-3/4/19
Anne Arvin 8/10/40-3/7/19
Mable A. Akles 10/18/41-3/9/19
Mary Louise Lentz 3/13/17-3/9/19
Doyle Elliott 4/28/41-3/10/19
Jayma Sue (Larkin) Acton 2/18/65-3/11/19
Mary E. Phillips 1/6/50-3/11/19
Alice Lloyd Wildman 3/8/20-3/11/19
James William Ivey 8/10/37-3/12/19
Juanita Flick 1/31/27-3/16/19
Dale Oren Gallian 3/30/49-3/20/19
Roma Louise Sims 7/21/25-3/20/19
Hazel Gaddis Davis 5/16/27-3/22/19
Kyle Jordan Tarr 5/1/87-3/22/19
Kevin Lee Ashby 8/7/64-3/23/19
Thomas Buzan 9/16/29-3/26/19
Elizabeth "Betty" Wessell 12/24/26-3/27/19
James Johnson 8/12/37-3/29/19
Marilyn Hope (Garrett) Rollins 1/2/28-3/29/19

(See 'DEATHS' on page 2)

HEADLINES

(Continued from page one)

(Ryan Haywood)

First female deputy (Andrea Barnett)
Martin County 4-H Global Gateway Team awarded grant

Shoals Council talks about mobile homes, creates new position

Sheriff wants public input on remodeling the jail

Shoals Schools reaching for the stars with "COSMOS"

Commissioners hold work session to talk about Brooks Bridge

Martin County teens learn about hunger during trip to Ouachita Mountains

Board of Works talks trees, new hires, utility dispute

Shoals School Board makes staff changes, plans for end of school year

Loogootee to graduate 66 seniors, Shoals 49

Commissioners discuss jail, roads, West Boggs

Martin County's jobless rate at 2.5 percent for April

Sectional Champs (Loogootee Softball)

Loogootee approves dozens of athletic positions

Search warrant leads to seizure of methamphetamine, multiple arrests

Regional champs (Loogootee Softball)

JUNE

Cabin owners seek help to stop DNR Council not fond of wording on additional appropriations

One arrested and four injured in head-on collision on State Road 450

Man arrested for rape and child molestation

Loogootee Fifth Grade participate in I LEAD

Lady Lions win Regional (Softball)

Lady Lions bow out at Semi-State (Softball)

Council split on purchasing decisions

Shoals preps for Catfish Festival

Loogootee Summerfest starts tomorrow night downtown

Single-vehicle crash leads to one dead in Lost River Township

White River cabin owners again ask for the commissioners' help

Martin County benefits from Radius Indiana's Relending Program

Shoals School Board makes staff changes, preps for next school year

Summerfest Royalty (Brittany Potts (Summerfest Miss), Abigail Nonte (Summerfest Junior Miss), Chloe Ramsey (Summerfest Little Miss) and Fara Fisher (Summerfest Tiny Tot))

Shoals man's arrest leads to additional charges

Laura Albertson retiring, January Roush to take over as new solid waste director

Martin County's jobless rate stays at 2.5 percent for May

Humane society adopts out 18 animals at Indy Mega event

JULY

County council and commissioners now back cabin owners

Ann Ackerman resigns from Advisory Board

34th Annual Catfish Festival starts tonight in Shoals

4-H Fair to start Friday night

Shoals Council discusses Overlook project, grant

Woman airlifted after ORV accident

Shoals School Board makes staff changes, accepts multiple donations

Double structure fires on Boyd Hollow Road

Governor requests agricultural disaster designation for 88 counties, including Martin

Saint Vincent de Paul opening store in Shoals

Committee formed to oversee jail remodel

Martin County's jobless rate bumps up to 2.8 percent for June

House fire on Broadway Street

Crane losing WestGate from their tax

levy

Commissioners open bids for tractor, discuss road issues

Man arrested in connection to baby's death

AUGUST

Judge to county council: Do your job

Sheriff wants new security camera system for jail

One-vehicle accident kills Martin County man

Martin County launches new government website

Library asks city council for \$150,000 for new building

Shoals School, COSMOS receive \$590,576 ROI grant

Trail project will need easements from Loogootee property owners

Shoals Town Council discusses state audit, grants, beautification

Martin County Humane Society receives \$12,000 grant from Hoosier Uplands

Jug Rox start school year with increased enrollment, new ideas

Loogootee School Board approached about donating land to trail project

Martin County's unemployment rate unchanged for July

Public meeting to be held for proposed two-county trail

Commissioners discuss IU partnership, cyber security

Traffic stop leads to search warrant and arrests

SEPTEMBER

Unresponsive male found in Shoals home

4th Martin County Safe Community event planned

Budget, trail top discussion at county council meeting

New deputy prosecutor sworn in (Steven Teverbaugh)

Mayor recommends raises, library funding request tabled

Commissioners await results of Community Crossings grant cycle

Shoals Class of 1979 holds 40 Reunion

Shoals School Board approves staff changes, several requests

Traffic stop results in methamphetamine arrest

Commissioners discuss cyber security, phones

Loogootee partners with Special Olympics to bring flag football

Loogootee residents wanted for housing rehab funds

Annual tax sale brings in \$68,958

OCTOBER

Dan Gregory resigning as commissioner

Martin County's jobless rate unchanged for August

Sheriff still trying to get blessing for jail project

Martin County has a new logo

Shoals Town Council talks about trailers, resident complaints

LHS Boys' Tennis win sectional, fall at regional, take over school record

City council approves giving library \$35,000

Nearly \$100 million awarded in Community Crossing grants

Loogootee School Board approves teachers' contract

Shoals School Board makes personnel changes, accepts multiple donations

Chamber of Commerce to host annual Shop & Taste

One person injured in accident on US 50 in Martin County

Commissioners not sure on spending for cyber security

Martin County jobless rate drops to 2.3 percent

Lady Lions win Volleyball Sectional

Wininger Family honored as 2019 adoptive family

Loogootee man arrested for dealing methamphetamine

Lady Lions defeated in Regional last Saturday

(More 'HEADLINES' on page 6)

DEATHS OF '19

(Continued from page one)

Ruth L. Taylor 8/10/25-4/4/19

Talitha 'Karen' Aishe 12/11/43-4/5/19

B. Franklin Davis 2/23/28-4/7/19

Evelyn Jo Holmes 1/7/32-4/8/19

Edwin Gray Helms 4/9/19-4/9/19

Daniel J. Roush 2/7/77-4/12/19

Matthew James Hellums 3/8/80-4/13/19

Clark Dwayne Brown 6/27/44-4/15/19

Lola "Beulah" Fuhrman 12/13/24-4/17/19

Donald L. Rogers 2/2/37-4/19/19

Larry Peek 7/1/42-4/22/19

Mary Sherfick 9/17/23-4/25/19

Kenneth L. Brett 8/24/47-4/26/19

Dustin Shane Taylor 10/10/81-4/26/19

Donetta G. 'Jean' McRoberts Fesler 9/12/35-4/27/19

Jasper Pleze McIntosh, Jr. 9/26/53-4/30/19

Leroy Payne 1/18/55-4/30/19

Hazel Dickmann 11/6/22-5/1/19

Philip E. Strange 10/26/36-5/1/19

Joey Keith Walls 9/17/46-5/2/19

Jerry W. Maze 9/20/41-5/5/19

Lois Madge Britton Andis 4/18/25-5/9/19

Mary Elaine Arvin 3/19/46-5/9/19

Charles W. Needs, III 3/6/76-5/13/19

Charolette Ann Long 8/18/43-5/17/19

Ian Michael Martin 9/7/88-5/22/19

Mary Jo Jones 2/28/41-5/23/19

Beverly Baker 2/8/49-5/24/19

Susan Holt 7/25/53-5/24/19

Gelena "Jill" Arthur 10/15/38-5/26/19

Marilyn J. Arvin 2/5/33-6/1/19

Mary Louise Trego 10/21/36-5/1/19

Major Donald R. "Ben" Benjamin 1/13/30-6/1/19

David E. Yarnell 2/17/43-6/2/19

Waldo Harshaw 6/10/32-6/3/19

Betty J. Lindley 6/6/33-6/3/19

Ira G. Clark 1/12/35-6/4/19

Frances E. Matthews 7/3/21-6/10/19

Ronald Gene Collins 4/14/60-6/16/19

Donald "Falcon" Harris 8/4/59-6/17/19

Rita Giesler 3/5/32-6/18/19

Sarah Frances (Cummings) Steele 3/17/37-6/19/19

Jonas N. Schrock 5/11/27-6/20/19

Connie L. Jones 5/16/53-6/22/19

Jason A. Schmitt 9/15/73-6/24/19

George Bernard Patterson, Jr. 6/25/29-6/26/19

Carl Kent Burns 12/8/42-6/28/19

Janet L. Jones 4/2/38-7/2/19

Anna Luise Klasina Summers 2/25/34-7/3/19

Betty Wininger 3/23/41-7/3/19

Carla C. Hoffmann 1/28/43-7/4/19

Faith Dixie (Hilton) Enlow 9/26/98-7/5/19

Clarence Richard 'RJ' Brown 7/31/80-7/10/19

Shirley Jean Todd 10/9/38-7/11/19

Francis Dorsey 7/28/42-7/12/19

Eldena M. (Divine) Waggoner 9/15/26-7/17/19

Charles Edward "Ed" Engleman 9/10/43-7/22/19

Cheryl Anne Morgan 1/3/48-7/22/19

Alan J. Abel 1/22/45-7/25/19

Merle Edmund (Ed) Simmerman II 5/15/46-7/25/19

Kyson Tyler Tyrone Jones 6/6/19-7/26/19

Danny Gene Moody 4/2/45-7/28/19

James Cline 7/4/59-7/30/19

Donald Lee Lynch 7/14/37-8/2/19

Shannon Elaine Tharp 10/25/64-8/2/19

Susan Annette Hert 6/8/56-8/5/19

Grady Ethan Wayne Key 5/27/97-8/5/19

Mark Robert Risacher 3/7/58-8/5/19

Brenda Sherfick 7/9/50-8/6/19

Linda A. Denny 8/7/52-8/10/19

Brian "Buck" Pieper 7/30/73-8/11/19

Leland "Lee" Dale Lundy 2/26/48-8/13/19

Michael R. Dages 2/14/48-8/19/19

James M. Farrell 9/2/33-8/20/19

Ronald Dale Boyd 9/7/50-8/25/19

Hendley Diamond Jr. 2/9/51-8/25/19

Ronald G. Miller 7/5/43-8/25/19

Dorothy Maxine Riegel 1/28/31-8/27/19

Anna Lou (Farley) Meissner 4/16/30-8/28/19

Rebecca L. Jones 1/17/53-8/29/19

Dorothy Ann Flynn 7/4/29-9/1/19

Wayne Joseph Armstrong 11/14/45-9/2/19

Brenda J. Cooper 8/11/42-9/2/19

Charles E. Tharp 8/16/44-9/4/19

John William (Bill) Bowling 10/16/21-9/5/19

James E. Burch 12/5/35-9/10/19

Janet S. Strange 9/23/37-9/18/19

Marjorie Sue Leighty 7/11/23-9/19/19

Sally Marlene Davidson 9/7/50-9/21/19

Sarah Terry 11/28/48-9/21/19

Francis G. "Chick" Ross 4/8/50-9/22/19

William L. "Bill" Sanders 2/2/39-9/22/19

Aleva Lucas 3/20/42-9/24/19

Sharon Ruth 'Ruthie' Robinson 1/16/46-10/1/19

Eula Marie Cave 10/29/30-10/4/19

Brien "Beanie" Lagle 11/26/63-10/5/19

Oscar B. Allbright Jr. 2/22/30-10/9/19

Donald Sturgeon 2/18/39-10/9/19

Homer Kemp 1/20/36-10/10/19

Elfriede M. Jones 8/5/29-10/11/19

Mary R. Muir 4/14/28-10/15/19

Gary Mikel Hartman 10/25/51-10/16/19

Eugene Dillman 4/21/26-10/22/19

Neil F. Conover 6/21/41-10/25/19

Mary M. Knepp 8/20/25-10/29/19

Gary G. Norris 9/16/42-10/30/19

Louise Graber 10/15/34-10/31/19

David Michael 'Howie' Howard 4/24/72-10/31/19

Eva Mae Babrick 12/24/29-11/2/19

Jolene S. Yoder 3/3/74-11/10/19

Robert Kenneth Allbright 6/25/31-11/12/19

Mary Ellen (Graber) Bateman 10/22/46-11/18/19

Edgar A. "Ed" Lewis 10/19/27-11/18/19

Jerry L. Kemp 12/2/29-11/19/19

Michael Albertson 7/7/47-11/21/19

Raydies D. "Tater" Thimling 6/12/26-11/23/19

Mary Margaret Kautsky 3/27/24-11/25/19

Peggy "Lisa" Neeley 3/22/69-11/25/19

Kenneth Earl Pannell 2/2/40-11/28/19

Patricia R. "Patsy" Frye 4/13/32-12/6/19

Olive Bell Pruett 10/17/25-12/6/19

Clara B. Grafton 7/26/26-12/11/19

Anna Louise "Dude" Bradley 12/3/28-12/12/19

Thomas Francis Strange 3/20/37-12/12/19

OBITUARIES

PATTY BOWLING

Patricia A. (Gee) Bowling succumbed to ALS on Saturday, December 28, 2019.



A resident of Loogootee, she was 77.

She was born to the late Lloyd Sr. and Wilma (Martin) Gee on April 2, 1942 in Martin County. She married Donald F. Bowling on September 6, 1986 and he survives.

PATTY BOWLING

She was employed first by Mathias Restaurant for nearly 20 years and was one of the key people in charge of serving the many satisfied customers. She was also employed by St. Vincent De Paul Society for 20 years in the store where she never met a stranger and greeted them all as personal friends, which many of them soon became. She was an avid bowler and twice boasted a 600 series. She also, in later years, took up playing golf which seemed to be a natural for her as she became a pretty good golfer in no time at all.

Patty was a member of St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church. She also was a member of the Knights of Columbus Ladies Auxiliary.

Along with her husband, she is survived by five children, Dr. Frank (Mary Sue) Bowling of Washington, Ronnie (Julie) Wininger of Benton, Kentucky, Debbie (Dr. Brian) Harmon of Washington, Christine (Terry) Marley of Bloomfield, and Dr. Stacey Bowling and fiancée, Andrea Smith of Loogootee; also surviving are brothers and sisters, Lois (Jerry) Baxter of Clarksville, Junior Gee of Florida, Judy (Pat) Sinnott of Shoals, Brenda (Charlie) Rincker of Loogootee, Peggy (Bob) Swartz of Colorado, Donnie (Jeanne) Gee of Bloomfield; sister-in-law, Lynn Gee of Loogootee; daughter-in-law, Sharon Bowling of Vicksburg, Mississippi. Patty is also survived by many grandchildren and great-grandchildren who were the light of her life.

Patty was preceded in death by her stepson, Terry Bowling; infant sister, Carol

and brother, Paul E. "Joe" Gee.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated by Very Rev. J. Kenneth Walker at 10 a.m. Saturday, January 4 at St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church. Burial will follow in St. John Catholic Cemetery.

Visitation will be held Friday, January 3 from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. at Blake Funeral Home in Loogootee and Saturday, January 4 from 9 a.m. to 9:45 a.m. at the church.

Memorial contributions in Patty's name can be made to St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church or the St. Vincent De Paul Society in Loogootee.

Condolences may be made online at www.blakefuneralhomes.com. Arrangements were provided by Blake Funeral Home in Loogootee.

JOHN WAGLER

John D. Wagler Jr. passed away Wednesday December 25, 2019 in Loogootee. A resident of Loogootee, he was 46.

He was born January 17, 1973 in Daviess County; the son of John D. Sr. and Karen Ann (Davis) Wagler.

John was a hard worker and loved his family. He was a sports fan and liked the Indianapolis Colts.



JOHN WAGLER

He is preceded in death by his father, John D. Wagler Sr.

John is survived by his sons, Logan Wagler and Benjamin Blake Wagler; his mom, Karen Ann Wagler; his half-siblings, Mick Ross and DeeAnn Bynum, and several nieces, nephews, aunts, uncles, and cousins.

A memorial service will be held at 2 p.m. Sunday January 5 at Loogootee Revival Center Church with Pastor Debbie Davis officiating.

Online condolences can be made at www.blakefuneralhome.com. Arrangements provided by Blake Funeral Home in Loogootee.

REBECCA JACKSON

Rebecca Jane (Elliott) Jackson passed away peacefully from this earth into eternal life on Friday, December 27, 2019. A resident of Greenwood Village South in Indianapolis, she was 91.

Rebecca was one of eleven children born to the late Ora and Nelle (Huddleson) Elliott on August 23, 1928 in Washington County. She married her love of her life, Harold Ray Jackson, on May 25, 1946. Rebecca was a charter member of Christ United Methodist Church in Indianapolis and was a member of the Daughters of the American Revolution. She loved her family and church dearly and loved traveling early in life. Rebecca was the assistant to the Bursar at Indiana University Medical Center in Indianapolis. She was preceded in death by her parents, husband, Harold Ray Jackson; son, Elliott Kyle; great granddaughter, Hannah Gooch; five brothers, three sisters, two nephews and a niece.

She is survived by sons, Harold II (Linda) of Indianapolis, Stephen (Amy) of Greenwood, and Howard (Linda) of Shoals; brothers, Gene and Ward; 12 grandchildren; 14 great grandchildren, and two great-great grandchildren.

A visitation will be held on Friday,

January 3 from 4 to 8 p.m. at Wilson St. Pierre Funeral Service and Crematory, Greenwood Chapel 481 W. Main Street, Greenwood. Pastor David Lee will conduct a service at noon on Saturday, January 4 at the funeral home with a calling one hour prior. She will be laid to rest in Forest Lawn Memory Gardens Cemetery.

Memorial contributions can be made to Christ United Methodist Church 8540 US-31, Indianapolis, IN 46227.

MARGARET GUINN

Margaret "Peggy" Guinn passed away Tuesday, December 24, 2019 at Amber Manor Care Center. A resident of Montgomery, she was 82.

She was born September 1, 1937 in Indianapolis; daughter of Leo Patrick Granman and Margaret Catherine Brothers.

She retired from Wabash Valley Produce as a USDA Inspector. Margaret was very devoted in her Catholic faith and was a member of St. Peter's Catholic Church. She loved spending time with her family and was extremely proud of the accomplishments her children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren have made.

Margaret is survived by two sons, Michael Lee (Martha Jean) Guinn and Mark James (Jennifer) Guinn, both of Loogootee; seven grandchildren, Kerri (Kory) Boyd, Amber (Mike) DeCoursey, Travis (Gabrielle) Wagler, Jamie (Chad) Grishaw, Charity Wagler, Jordan (Jessica) Guinn and Alexander Guinn; 13 great-grandchildren; one great-great-grandchild and special niece, Myra Colbert.

She was preceded in death by her daughter, Mary Beth Waller; two grandsons, Joshua Wagler and Daniel Wagler; a great-grandson and son-in-law, Delbert R. Wagler.

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated Friday, December 27 with Father Sudhakar Bhasati, Father Frank Renner and Father Kenneth Walker as concelebrants. Burial followed at St. Peter's Cemetery.

Condolences can be made to the family online at www.edleemortuary.com. All arrangements have been entrusted to Ed Lee Mortuary.

A Proud Member of the Shoals Community Since 1937!

Stop by and see our newly renovated facility!

QUEEN-LEE CHAPEL
Thorne-George Family Funeral Homes, Inc.

At Your Service

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Martin County Sheriff's Department log

MONDAY, DECEMBER 23

12:30 a.m. - Deputy Seymour assisted a motorist near Shoals.

8:25 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Ambulance and Shoals Fire Department responded. Subject was transported to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

10:34 a.m. - Received a report of a two-vehicle accident near Shoals. Sheriff Roush, Shoals Fire Department and Martin County Ambulance responded. Big John's towed the vehicles.

11:02 a.m. - Received a request for assistance and an ambulance near Shoals. Deputy Lents, Martin County Ambulance and Shoals Fire Department responded. Martin County Ambulance transported one to Daviess Community Hospital.

12:28 p.m. - Received a report of a verbal argument in Loogootee. Loogootee Chief Rayhill responded.

12:44 p.m. - Received a request from Life Alert for an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Ambulance responded. Lift assist only.

2:05 p.m. - Received a request for an officer to the Loogootee High School referencing vandalism. Loogootee Chief Rayhill responded.

4:15 p.m. - Received a call reporting a traffic hazard on US 231 North. Deputy Barnett responded and was unable to locate any traffic hazard in the area.

6:13 p.m. - Received a report of a car versus deer accident near Shoals. Deputy Barnett responded.

7:25 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in the Shoals area. Martin County Ambulance responded and transported one female to Daviess Community Hospital.

9:57 p.m. - Martin County Dispatch was advised of a private call to Martin County Ambulance requesting an ambulance to the Shoals area. Martin County Ambulance, Deputy Barnett, Reserve Deputy Dorsey and Deputy Seymour responded. No patient was transported.

11:54 p.m. - Received a 911 call reporting a vehicle theft in progress in Williams. This call was transferred to Lawrence County for response.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 24

11:24 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Ambulance responded and transported one patient to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

12:47 p.m. - Received a 911 call reporting a possible fire in Crane. Crane Fire Department responded.

5:24 p.m. - Received a report of a reckless driver between Loogootee and Shoals. Sheriff Roush, Chief Deputy Greene, and Loogootee Sgt Floyd responded.

6:57 p.m. - Received a 911 call reporting a deer versus car accident near West Boggs Park in Loogootee. Loogootee Sgt. Floyd responded, and Big Johns Wrecker Service towed the vehicle.

7:09 p.m. - Received a call advising of a

noise complaint in Loogootee. Loogootee dispatch was notified.

9:10 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Shoals. Martin County Ambulance responded.

10:40 p.m. - Received a noise complaint in Shoals. Deputy Wells responded,

11:25 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Ambulance responded. Subject transported to the hospital by family.

11:35 p.m. - Received a noise complaint in the Hindostan Falls area. Deputy Wells responded.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 25

12:36 a.m. - Received a report of a physical argument in Shoals. Shoals Town Marshal Eckert, Deputy Wells and Loogootee Officer Allen responded.

1:39 a.m. - Received a request for an officer and an ambulance in the Loogootee area. Martin County Ambulance, Deputy Wells, Reserve Deputy Greene, Reserve Deputy Ochs, Reserve Deputy Dorsey and the Loogootee Fire Department responded. Martin County Ambulance transported to Blake Funeral Home.

3:41 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Shoals. Martin County Ambulance and Shoals Fire Department responded. Martin County Ambulance transported Jasper Memorial Hospital.

11:30 a.m. - Received a call requesting an officer for a domestic dispute near Loogootee. Loogootee Chief Rayhill, and ISP Trooper Beaver responded.

2:44 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Ambulance and Loogootee Fire Department responded. Martin County Ambulance transported one to Daviess Community Hospital.

4:58 p.m. - Received a request for a vehicle unlock near Shoals. Deputy Barnett responded.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 26

5:11 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Ambulance responded.

7:51 a.m. - Received a report of a suspicious vehicle in Loogootee. Loogootee Chief Rayhill responded.

1:20 p.m. - Received reports of shots fired in Shoals near town. Chief Deputy Greene and Deputy Lents responded.

2:14 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance near Shoals. Martin County Ambulance responded.

4:38 p.m. - Received multiple reports of a small grass fire near Loogootee. Loogootee Fire responded.

11:08 p.m. - Received a noise complaint from Crane. Deputy Seymour responded.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 27

4:10 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance north of Loogootee on US 231. Deputy Seymour, Loogootee Officer Floyd, Loogootee Fire, and Martin County Ambulance responded. The subject was transported to Daviess Community Hospital.

10:08 a.m. - Chief Deputy Greene assisted a motorist in Loogootee with a vehicle unlock.

12:28 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance near Shoals. Deputy Barnett, Shoals Fire, and Martin County Ambulance responded. No one was transported.

2:35 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Ambulance responded and transported the subject to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

3:42 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance north of Loogootee. Martin County Ambulance transported the subject to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

3:53 p.m. - Received a report of a theft in Loogootee. Loogootee Police responded.

7:00 p.m. - Received a report of an accident in Loogootee. Loogootee Police responded.

8:49 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance near Loogootee. Loogootee Sergeant Floyd, Martin County Ambulance, Loogootee Fire, and Corporal Reed responded. The subject was transported to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

10:48 p.m. - Received a report of a car-deer accident north of Loogootee on US 231. Corporal Reed responded.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 28

12:42 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Shoals. Martin County Ambulance responded and transported the subject to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

5:29 a.m. - Received a report of a break-in, in Loogootee. Loogootee Sergeant Floyd responded.

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

8:57 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Ambulance transported the subject to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

10:45 a.m. - Received a report of vandalism in Loogootee. Loogootee Officer Allen responded.

11:33 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Ambulance transported the subject to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

4:07 p.m. - Received a report of a possible fire near Shoals. Shoals Fire and Martin County Ambulance responded.

5:47 p.m. - Received a report of a car-deer accident near Shoals. Deputy Wright responded.

9:29 p.m. - Received an alarm call near Shoals. Deputy Seymour responded and all was secure.

9:36 p.m. - Received a report of a car-deer accident on US 50, east of Shoals. Deputy Seymour responded.

Real estate transfers

Cliff S. Goodman and Kari L. Goodman, of Martin County, Indiana to **Kent Slaubaugh**, of Martin County, Indiana, a part of the south half of the northwest quarter and a part of the northeast quarter of the southwest quarter of Section 2, Township 3 North, Range 3 West, Martin County, Indiana, containing 11.43 acres, more or less.

11:30 p.m. - Received a noise complaint in Loogootee. Loogootee Sergeant Floyd responded.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 29

6:28 a.m. - Received a report of a tree down east of Loogootee on SR 150. Shoals Fire responded.

8:32 a.m. - Received an alarm call near Loogootee. Loogootee Officer McBeth and Deputy Barnett responded. All was secure.

10:20 a.m. - Received a report of a tree down north of Shoals. Shoals Fire responded.

12:25 p.m. - Received a report of a theft in Loogootee. Loogootee Officer McBeth and Deputy Barnett responded.

12:53 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance near Shoals. Shoals Fire and Martin County Ambulance responded. No one was transported.

1:55 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance north of Shoals. Shoals Fire, Deputy Barnett, and Martin County Ambulance responded. The subject was transported to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

3:20 p.m. - Received a report of harassment in Loogootee. Loogootee Officer McBeth and Deputy Barnett responded.

4:29 p.m. - Received a report of a domestic dispute in Loogootee. Deputy Barnett and Loogootee Officer McBeth responded.

6:10 p.m. - Received a report of a tree down on US 50 near Shoals. Shoals Fire responded.

7:07 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Ambulance and Loogootee Fire responded. The subject was transported to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

10:31 p.m. - Received a report of a fight in Loogootee. Deputy Wells, Loogootee Officer McBeth, and Loogootee Officer Allen responded.

ARRESTS

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 25

1:37 a.m. - Pam Gammon, 45, of Shoals, was arrested by Deputy Wells and charged with domestic battery in the presence of a child, contributing to the delinquency of a minor, and disorderly conduct. Bond was set at \$25,000/10%.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 27

6:32 a.m. - Joshua Kiefer, 21, of Jasper, was arrested by Deputy Seymour and charged with operating while intoxicated and operating while intoxicated endangerment. He is being held on a \$25,000 10% bond.

7:00 p.m. - Daniel Jones, 65, of Loogootee, was arrested by Loogootee Sergeant Floyd and charged with operating while intoxicated and operating while intoxicated endangerment. His bond has been set at \$25,000 10%.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 28

3:39 a.m. - Robert Hawkins, 37, of Shoals, was arrested by Corporal Reed and charged with possession of methamphetamine, possession of marijuana, and possession of paraphernalia. He is being held without bond. Loogootee Sergeant Floyd assisted with the arrest.

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Vogler retires

-Photo provided

The Shoals Town Council presented Town Attorney Paul Vogler with a "Years of Service Award" at their year-end meeting held Monday, December 30. The meeting was Vogler's last as the attorney for the Town of Shoals as he is retiring. Vogler served a total of 25 years as the Town of Shoals attorney being first appointed in 1977. At the meeting Vogler stated, "This is the most enjoyable job I have ever had."

Reward offered for info on bald eagle shooting (Lawrence County)

Indiana Conservation Officers continue to request information regarding the shooting of a bald eagle in Lawrence County on or around December 20.

A \$500 reward is being offered for information leading to an arrest of a suspect.

A Lawrence County animal control officer and employees of Brown County Indiana Raptor Center were notified of an injured eagle in the area of the White River near Dixie Highway and took possession on December 20. The eagle, which was suffering from an apparent gunshot wound, was treated, but died shortly thereafter. ICO Ryan Jahn took possession of the carcass on December 21 and is investigating.

Anyone with information should call

GREGORY

(Continued from page one)

big shoes to fill and will do his best. Summers will serve on year and if he so chooses, will be up for election in 2020.

In other business, Highway Superintendent Leo Padgett presented the commissioners with a preliminary list of roads and two bridges to be included in the January application for the Community Crossings grant. The county will be applying again for \$1 million that comes along with a 20 percent match.

Tim Hunt, with HWC Engineering, applies for the grant on behalf of the county and said he doesn't expect too many applications for the January cycle. Hunt also presented his contract for 2020 for \$30,000, up from \$25,000 this year. Hunt noted that if the county is not awarded a grant in the first cycle for 2020, he will reapply at no cost. The cost to submit applications for the grant comes with additional charges not included in the base contract amount. The commissioners approved the 2020 contract. The county should know if the \$1 million is received by mid-April this year.

Hunt also told commissioners that the federal aid application for bridge 58, on Brickyard Road, has been submitted.

DNR Law Enforcement Central Dispatch at 812-837-9536 or the Turn in a Poacher, Inc. (TIP) hotline at 1-800-847-4367 (TIP-IDNR). TIP is a non-profit conservation organization that protects fish and wildlife resources by increasing public support and involvement in bringing violators to justice.

Several members of the public have asked about donating to the reward fund. Donations to the can be made by making checks payable to Turn in a Poacher, Inc. and sending it to ICO Central Dispatch Center, 4850 South State Road 446, Bloomington, IN 47401, and marking it c/o Lt. Col. Terry Hyndman. The reward will be adjusted accordingly as donations are received.

The estimated cost for that bridge's replacement is \$1.7 million. The county would be responsible for paying for 20 percent of that. Hunt said that once the application is approved, they can start requesting proposals for the bridge design and construction could start in the fall of 2021.

Council Member Buck Stiles, who was in the audience, asked if the bridges on Deep Cut Lake Road were used by school buses. Highway Superintendent Padgett replied that they are not. Stiles asked why the bridges need to be replaced if there are no residents or buses that use them. Padgett replied that the state mandates what bridges are in need of repair, regardless of traffic count. Commissioner George noted that bridges on Deep Cut Lake Road are not slated for repair for a few more years.

The commissioners approved the \$4,000 contract for Core Facilities to provide consulting and a maintenance plan for the jail. They also approved a contract for Josh Ausbrooks to provide maintenance of the generator at the fairgrounds for \$5,200 per year. It was noted that Ausbrooks checks the generator once a week.

Loogootee Police log

MONDAY, DECEMBER 23

8:25 a.m. - First responders were requested on Crane Street for a medical call.
 12:28 p.m. - Female reported a domestic dispute on Cedar Street.
 2:00 p.m. - Female reported juveniles messing around a bus on Mill Street.
 2:05 p.m. - Caller reported vandalism at the high school.
 6:09 p.m. - Caller reported a speeding vehicle on US 231.
 10:04 p.m. - Male reported a civil complaint.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 24

9:15 a.m. - Male requested a vehicle identification check.
 5:28 p.m. - Sgt. Floyd assisted the county with a possible intoxicated driver.
 7:08 p.m. - Sgt. Floyd assisted the county with a traffic accident.
 7:14 p.m. - Caller reported loud music on Walnut Street.
 7:45 p.m. - Loogootee Fire was paged out to a fire complaint at Shaded Estates.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 25

12:36 a.m. - Officer Allen assisted the county with a domestic dispute.
 1:39 a.m. - First responders were requested on Reinhart Road for a medical call.
 3:10 a.m. - Caller reported a slow-moving vehicle on US 231.
 11:30 a.m. - Caller reported a domestic dispute on SW 3rd Street.
 2:44 p.m. - First responders were requested in Sunset Trailer Court for a medical call.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 26

7:51 a.m. - Caller reported a suspicious vehicle on North Oak Street.
 8:43 a.m. - Male reported a lost or stolen wallet.
 11:07 a.m. - Male requested a vehicle identification check.
 4:42 p.m. - Loogootee Fire was paged out to a small field fire on US 231.
 9:45 p.m. - Sgt. Floyd assisted the county with an intoxicated driver.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 27

4:10 a.m. - First responders were requested on US 231 for a medical call.
 3:52 p.m. - Female requested extra patrol.
 3:53 p.m. - Female reported a theft of a handgun.
 6:22 p.m. - Caller reported a controlled burn.
 8:51 p.m. - First responders were requested at Scenic Hill for a medical call.
 9:41 p.m. - Caller reported a suspicious male on Broadway Street.

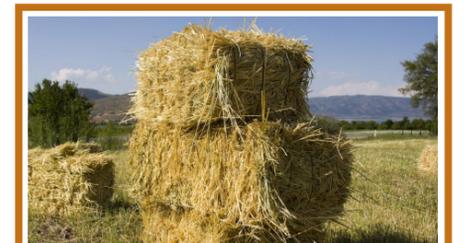
10:54 p.m. - Caller reported a domestic dispute on Sheridan Street.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 28

5:29 a.m. - Male reported a theft from his vehicle.
 8:41 a.m. - First responders were requested on Church Street for a medical call.
 10:45 a.m. - Male reported someone tried to break in his vehicle.
 1:04 p.m. - Caller reported a possible break in on Dewey Street.
 6:13 p.m. - Caller requested an officer for a child custody issue.
 7:28 p.m. - First responders were requested on East Broadway Street for a medical call.
 7:37 p.m. - Caller requested a welfare check on a female.
 7:56 p.m. - Sgt. Floyd assisted the ambulance service.
 11:30 p.m. - Caller reported a noise complaint on Dewey Street.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 29

8:32 a.m. - Officer McBeth responded to a residential alarm.
 10:36 a.m. - Female reported a child custody matter.
 12:25 p.m. - Caller reported a theft from a local business.
 4:09 p.m. - Female reported possible drug activity.
 4:30 p.m. - Female reported property damage.
 5:00 p.m. - Officer McBeth assisted the county with an arrest.
 7:10 p.m. - First responders were requested on Lincoln Avenue for a medical call.
 7:28 p.m. - Caller reported a reckless driver on US 231.
 10:24 p.m. - Female reported a domestic issue.



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More Neat Stuff!



By Ann Ackerman



During cold, wintry, snowy days, I sometimes have moments of serious thinking. I thought the following two stories were neat. Hope you do, too.

Two Wolves.

One evening an old Cherokee told his grandson about a battle that goes on inside people. He said, "My son, the battle is between two 'wolves' inside us all.

One is Evil. It is anger, envy, jealousy, sorrow, regret, greed, arrogance, self-pity, guilt, resentment, inferiority, lies, false pride, superiority, and ego.

The other is Good. It is joy, peace, love, hope, serenity, humility, kindness, benevolence, empathy, generosity, truth, compassion and faith."

The grandson thought about it for a minute and then asked his grandfather, "Which wolf wins?"

The old Cherokee simply replied, "The one you feed."

A Lesson That Should Be Taught

Back in September of 2005, on the first day of school, Martha Cothren, a social studies school teacher at Robinson High School in Little Rock, did something not to be forgotten. On the first day of school, with the permission of the school superintendent, the principal and the building supervisor, she removed all of the desks out of her classroom. When the first period kids entered the room, they discovered that there were no desks.

Looking around, confused, they asked, "Ms. Cothren, where're our desks?"

She replied, "You can't have a desk until you tell me what you have done to earn the right to sit at a desk."

They thought, "Well, maybe it's our grades."

"No," she said.

"Maybe it's our behavior." She told them, "No, it's not even your behavior."

And so, they came and went, the first period, second period, third period. Still no desks in the classroom.

By early afternoon television news crews had started gathering in Ms. Cothren's classroom to report about this crazy teacher who had taken all the desks out of her room.

The final period of the day came and as the puzzled students found seats on the floor of the deskless classroom Martha Cothren said, "Throughout the day no one has been able to tell me just what he/she has done to earn the right to sit at the desks that are ordinarily found in this classroom. Now I am going to tell you." At this point, Martha Cothren went over to the door of her classroom and opened it.

Twenty-seven (27) U.S. Veterans, all in uniforms, walked into that classroom, each one carrying a school desk. The vets began placing the school desks in rows, and then they would walk over and stand alongside the wall. By the time the last soldier had set the final desk in place those kids started to understand, perhaps for the first time in their lives, just how the right to sit at those desks had been earned.

Martha said, "You didn't earn the right to sit at these desks. These heroes did it for you. They placed the desks here for you. Now, it's up to you to sit in them. It is your responsibility to learn, to be good students, to be good citizens. They paid the price so that you could have the freedom to get an education. Don't ever forget it."

By the way, this is a true story. If you can read this, thank a teacher. Since you read it in English, thank a soldier.

Make someone smile today!

Martin County unemployment edges up to 2.4 percent in October

Grocery Getter Nation presents \$650 check to the Loogootee School Board

Replacement sought for outgoing commissioner

DECEMBER

Commissioners discuss ending Indian Creek Quarry's tax abatement

Historical society gifted Allbright house

Martin County Council holds last meeting of the year

Tri Kappa scholarship applications available to college students

Tempers flare during and after city council meeting

New Loogootee Library now open

Commissioners again discuss county sanitation

Dalton Roush chosen as this year's Lilly Scholar

Shoals Town Council discusses ordinances, violations

Republicans to hold do-over caucus

Toy Store donates to 431 Martin County children this Christmas

Martin County jobless rate ticks up to 2.5 percent for November

Summers named district 3 replacement for commissioner

Both county schools need bus drivers

Free spay/neuter for cats ending next month

Dan Gregory says goodbye at last commissioners' meeting before retirement

Vogler retires

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Free community dinner

The Loogootee Christian Church, at 206 Sherman Street, would like to extend an invitation to the entire community for a free dinner to be held Thursday, January 9 from 6-8 p.m. in the church basement. All members of the community are invited.

Food pantry hours

The Loogootee United Methodist Food Pantry will be open the first, second, third and fifth Thursdays of the month from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. and also the first Monday of the month from 5-6:30 p.m.

Celebrate Recovery meetings

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

Local recovery meetings

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

Free lunch for kids

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

SOAR Tutoring

Bus drivers wanted

Due to the low number of bus drivers around the state, Shoals and Loogootee Schools are trying to get more people interested in getting a license to drive a school Bus "CDL". Both schools need drivers for field trips, ball games, and substitute drivers for contracted routes. A driver receives an hourly rate for driving on field trips and sporting events. Pay includes the time you are at the field trip event or watching the ball game.

Contracted drivers for both districts have times they are unavailable due to illness and sub drivers are needed. Payment for these days can be up to \$100/day - paid directly by the contracted driver. To get a CDL, a driver must pass a physical fitness exam, pass a background check, take a 3-day training course, register for drug and alcohol testing, log four hours of observation time, log eight hours of practice driving time, and pass a written and driving test. Both Shoals and Loogootee Central Offices can help with these tasks.

The Department of Transportation will be offering the three-day course at Loogootee Schools on February 19, 20, and 21 and at Shoals on May 27, 28, and 29. If you are interested in getting registered for one of these three-day courses, please contact the Shoals or Loogootee Central Office.

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

Humane society meetings

The Martin County Humane Society meets quarterly, on the third Monday of the month at 5:30 p.m. at the animal shelter at 507 N Oak Street in Loogootee.

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.

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.



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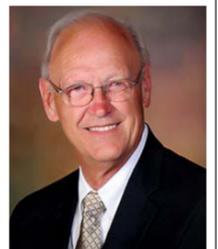
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NOTICE TO MEMBERS OF EAST FORK WATER, INC.

The annual meeting of East Fork Water, Inc. will be held January 27, 2020, commencing at 7:30 p.m. at the office, located at 213 S. Main Street in Shoals, Indiana. Directors for North Rutherford, Lost River, West Perry and South Center townships will be elected. Members are invited to attend.

HEADLINES

(Continued from page two)
NOVEMBER

Loogootee, Shoals Beta groups travel to State Convention

Traffic stop leads to meth dealing charges for Shoals woman

Veterans to be honored Monday

Community foundation awards \$166,335 at 20th anniversary dinner

Council approves lower raises, mayor vetoes

County council discusses cyber security, grants

Shoals Robotics wins

Commissioners hear from Alliance Director, USG

Martin County Prosecutor's Office Child Support Division wins awards

Resident concerned about trash covered properties

Shoals School Board approves staff, athletic changes, raises

Williams Bros. donates \$1,790 to New Beginnings Kids Lunch Program

Shoals School Board approves staff, athletic changes, raises

50th Anniversary celebration of the 1970 Loogootee Lions

Traffic stop results in methamphetamine arrest of Loogootee woman

Loogootee girl receives award for inspiring others

Christmas Parade, Stroll to be held in downtown Loogootee this Sunday

Women's Ministry looking for permanent home in Martin County

In the Garden

By Ralph Purkhiser
Purdue University Master Gardener

As we begin a new year, we look forward to new beginnings in a lot of ways. Of course, as gardeners, we look forward to a new year of gardening. I have big plans for 2020. My big project will be expanding the rhododendron walk down to the cave here at Sandhill Gardens. There is a lot of brush to clear and I hope to clear some Japanese honeysuckle and multiflora rose. Once that is done, I will be planting as many new rhododendrons as possible. A friend informed me that she has some overgrown rhodos that she has decided to remove, so I plan to attempt to re-locate them to Sandhill Gardens.

Of course, with the rhododendron walk, I will fill in around the shrubs with other shade-tolerant plants. That will give me the chance to try the Perennial Plant Association's 2020 Perennial Plant of the Year, "Sun King" aralia. I find that many people are not familiar with aralias, even by the common name of spikenard. The genus includes species native to North America and Asia. "Sun King" is actually a Japanese aralia. Like all spikenards, it has compound leaves that may be more than 3 feet long. The yellow foliage contrasts with red to brown stems. In heavy shade, the foliage may morph to chartreuse or lime green, but with just a couple of hours of sun a day, it holds the bright yellow foliage through the summer. Although it is an herbaceous perennial, it functions almost as a shrub. Once established, the clump grows quickly in the spring to three to five feet in height and width. It has small white flowers in late summer which attract pollinators, especially bees, and then sets berries that are eaten by the birds. The bright foliage is a good contrast for other shade-loving plants. Aralia is rarely affected by disease and deer do not seem to find it particularly tasty.

The United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization has proclaimed 2020 the Year of Plant Health. They have campaigns to draw attention to the importance of plants to the environment and the economy. There will be a push to promote gardening and to discourage the use of chemicals. Instead, there will be efforts aimed at limiting the spread of diseases and insects by preventing the movement of plant materials across borders.

The National Garden Bureau has also released its Plants of the Year in five categories. The annual plant of the year is lantana. Although truly a tender perennial, lantana is usually grown as an annual in Indiana. The perennial of the year for this organization is lavender and the edible plant of the year is corn. The 2020 shrub of the year is the hydrangea. With so many possible varieties, there is a hydrangea that will fit in almost every garden. The bulb plant of the year is the iris.

Proven Winners plant company also names its list of plants of the year. Their perennial plant is perovskia "Denim and Lace". This cultivar is more compact than traditional Russian sage varieties and is less likely to split. The hosta of the year is "Shadowland Coast to Coast", a golden hosta with a tall arching shape and puckered leaves. The 2020 landscape shrub is "Gem Box" inkberry holly. This dwarf cultivar tops out at three feet tall and may be trimmed to almost any shape. The rose of the year is "Oso East Double Red" and the hydrangea is "Invincibelle Ruby". The flowering shrub of the year is "Blue Chiffon" Rose of Sharon.

I wish each of you a Happy New Year and pray that you will have the best garden ever in 2020. We have a couple of months to plan and get ready, but planting time will be here before we know it.

USDA Farm Bill options, farm stress explored at workshop

Agricultural producers and their families can learn more about maintaining local farms now and into the future at a workshop presented by county organizations.

Options available to local producers for the current USDA Farm Bill sign up along with crop insurance decisions will be featured at the Dubois County Farm Management Workshop, to be held January 14 from 6 to 9 p.m. EST at the Huntingburg Event Center, 110 East 14th Street, Huntingburg. The event is free and open to the public, although registration is required by January 3 due to meal, limited seating, and materials.

USDA Farm Service Agency County Extension Director Samantha Fleenor and Purdue Extension ANR Educator

Nick Held will discuss the 2020 USDA programs and how to select the most appropriate program options for your farm. Randy Boberg, Boberg Crop Insurance Service Agent, will explore steps to consider when working with your crop insurance provider, and Tonya Short, Purdue Extension HHS Educator, will talk about dealing with everyday stress on the family farm.

The workshop is being hosted by Purdue Extension - Dubois County and German American Bank.

To register for this event, contact the Purdue Extension - Dubois County office at duboisces@purdue.edu or ph.812-482-1782 (leave name, email and phone number). Registration is open until January 3.

Grazing Bites

By Victor Shelton
NRCS State Agronomist/Grazing Specialist

I'm glad the days are starting to be a fraction longer, even though it's not much more yet. While I wait for some daylight, I can usually be found reading early in the morning. I'm certainly a morning person, just ask my wife. There is no other good reason to be up at 4 a.m. this time of year, especially if I don't have to be. I am though, trying to catch up on reading while it's a bit easier to stay inside.

There is always something to be learned, reviewed, or perhaps occasionally unlearned. I like to take a second look at old ways of doing things and reading very old agriculture books. You would be surprised to learn that things that most would think are new ideas are sometimes over a century old.

As new ideas or innovations come to light, there is always somewhat of an incentive to evaluate and try them. Quite often they came about because of some new technology or product availability. Fads come and go, but the ideas that make the most sense and make a positive impact on the bottom line keep coming back and stay around until the next short-lived fad displaces them for a while.

In a depressed market, input costs will make the difference of using black or red ink. It's usually not the time to do anything that will raise the cost of production. It's usually a smart idea to try and keep production costs as low as possible even on good years. If you can make money on low years, then you have even a greater chance of making really good money on good years. A relative used to tell me not to get caught up in the game, but stick to what works year end, year out. There is a lot of truth in that statement.

Letting the livestock feed themselves and having enough acres available to supply that forage is a good place to start. Rarely, can you feed livestock cheaper than they can. The less grazable forage you have available, the more fed feed that will be needed. All fed feed is input costs. You control these costs. Instead of baling more hay or buying hay or feed, are there more acres that can be grazed? Do you have some cropland, especially marginal cropland, that might be better off in forages?

Long rotations used to be the norm. Fields might be rotated from corn, to soybeans, to wheat. The wheat would often have perennial forages seeded with it, especially timothy, and then frost seeded with red clover. After the wheat harvest, a late season clipping was usually taken for cow hay, the next year was just hay or hay then grazing before going back to corn again. Four fields rotated this way would always insure a harvest of each crop every year. This diversity was not only good for the soil, but it didn't put all the eggs in one basket either.

I tend to sit back and think hard about the year that we just left behind and do my best to develop a good plan for the year we are about to tackle. I spent too much in 2019. I know I did. But I also believe in being prepared and the memory of last winter and spring is still too fresh on the mind. I spent money on new winter-feeding pads and more waterers; money well spent so far. I try and remain optimistic, especially with the livestock markets, and I do believe that they will cycle back up. Some would say that this might be a good time to expand; I would tend to agree. That could pay dividends if the market becomes bullish again.

Whether you are grazing stockpiled

forages, feeding hay or other feed, some winter days are more challenging than others for both the producer and the livestock. I'm not complaining about the milder days we have been having, but there is a lot of winter to get through yet. I'm sure that we will get our share of snow and wintery weather. It always surprises me how snow is usually no issue for most grazing livestock. If the quality of the stockpiled forage is good, then they will go after it...even if hay is provided. The quality of good stockpiled forage can easily be better than hay.

Ice, or enough ice to prevent grazing, is probably the number one reason to pull up stakes and move to some hay or other feed. Deep snow is next. How deep is too deep? That depends on two things: the livestock grazing it and the amount of forage present. Experienced animals, those that have done it before, won't even hesitate; they know where dinner is and go after the good stuff. If you watch the younger, less experienced animals, they tend to eat first where others have been eating and then they soon figure it all out. Smaller ruminants, especially sheep, tend to have less issue with snow and are quite good at digging it out with their hooves. I've observed deer doing the same thing; they also are quite good in digging up turnip bulbs out of frozen ground and have been hitting some of mine quite hard. The amount of forage present becomes more critical as the amount of snow increases; the more forage present, the easier it is to get.

The quality of that stockpiled forage must be good. Energy, if anything, is usually the shortfall with protein second if too much mature forage is included. Energy can be a challenge. Growing and lactating animals may need supplementation. Winter annuals that are left will do a better job of maintaining enough energy and protein for those animals needing more as long as they last or can even be grazed depending on soil conditions.

Most producers are feeding hay or other feed by this time of year and there is certainly nothing wrong with that. There are, on the other hand, producers that want to reduce the amount of fed products and would rather move temporary fences than get a tractor out. I'm running out of stockpiled forage and will soon move to hay. I really needed those late summer rains that I didn't get. That shortfall impacts grazing now.

Permanent winter-feeding areas should ideally be in an area with some wind break, a good winter watering source, on a well-drained soil/site, and where runoff and manure/waste feed can be managed. This means away from water bodies or with adequate buffers and usually with rock or concrete pads to feed on. Mud, along with wet cold weather, really increases energy needs. Muddy, stressful conditions should be avoided when possible. Feeding on rock padded areas or grazing sufficiently heavy stands of stockpiled forage usually are adequate.

We are just weeks away from Indiana's two grazing conferences. Both conferences will have outstanding speakers and I would strongly encourage you to attend either or both. The planning committees have worked hard to get remarkable presenters and keep the costs low. Each conference has its own agenda with different speakers so there will be no duplication if you can attend more than one.

Happy New Year and keep on grazing!

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