

Martin County JOURNAL

Year 12, Issue 1

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 6, 2021

Seven pages

County council reorganizes with one new member

BY COURTNEY HUGHETT
Martin County Journal Publisher

The Martin County Council reorganized in a very short meeting on Monday, January 4, their first of the year. This was the first meeting for new Council Member Adam Greene.

The council voted to make Warren Albright president and Randy Winger remained the council's vice president for this year.

Martin County Council made the following appointments:

- Alcoholic Beverage Board-Kenneth Inman
- Samaritan Advisory Council and Community Corrections Advisory Board-Barb McFeaters
- Southern Indiana Development Com-

- mission-Randy Winger
 - Solid Waste Board-Buck Stiles
 - Economic Development Commission-Warren Albright
 - PTABOA (Property Tax Assessment Board of Appeals)-August Bauer and Roger Downey
 - Martin County Park Board- Mitch Green and Donna Hawkins
 - Redevelopment Commission-Warren Albright and Keith Gibson
 - Alliance Board-Adam Greene
 - Shoals Public Library-Barb Loomis
- The council approved appropriating the money for paving work done by the Community Crossings grant for \$680,000 and for work done on bridge 69 for \$320,550.

The next council meeting will be held Monday, February 1 at 6 p.m.

Shoals Town Council makes appointments, approves transfers

The Shoals Town Council met for their year end meeting on Thursday, December 31. Those in attendance were Council Members Cecil Ragsdale, Cary D. Albright, and Clint Hoffman, Clerk-Treasurer Sierra Rutledge, Shoals Town Marshal Todd Eckert, Municipal Utilities Manager Kevin Crecelius, Town General Laborer Caitlin Sanders, and Cody Roush.

On the agenda was the reorganization of the council. Council Member Ragsdale made a motion to nominate Councilman Albright to serve as president for the 2021 year with Councilman Hoffman making the second.

Councilman Albright made a motion to nominate Councilman Hoffman as vice-president for the 2021 year with Councilman Ragsdale making the second and all were in favor.

Councilman Ragsdale made a motion to appoint Councilman Albright to serve as the contact on the SIDC Board and Councilman Hoffman made the second. Next Councilman Ragsdale made a motion to re-appoint Councilman Albright to serve on the Martin County Solid Waste District Board and Councilman Hoffman made the second.

Councilman Albright made a motion to declare the two previously used picked up trucks as surplus and to advertise to take sealed bids for them. Councilman Hoffman made a second. Advertisements will be prepared and accepted before the February meeting.

Clerk Treasurer Rutledge presented the council members with current fund balances to date.

Rutledge requested the following transfers within the 2020 budget appropriations: LOIT fund appropriation of capital outlay to town marshal salary in the amount of \$500, general fund appropriation of insurance and liability to printing and advertising in the amount of \$200. Councilman Hoffman made a motion to make the transfers with Councilman Albright making the second and all were in favor.

Rutledge then presented the 2021 regular meeting date schedule with keeping the meetings as the second Monday of each month. Councilman Albright made

a motion to approve the schedule with Councilman Hoffman making the second.

Rutledge presented the annual bonds for herself and the deputy clerk. Councilman Albright made a motion to approve the bonds with Councilman Hoffman making the second. Next Rutledge stated she would like approval to get a quote from Area 1 protection for security cameras to be installed on the property along with other safety measure needs. The councilman supported the quote and put Town Marshal Eckert as the contact to lead.

Municipal Utilities Manager Kevin Crecelius discussed a quote received for electrical repairs and upgrades for the water wells area. After discussion, Councilman Albright made a motion to move forward with the quote from D.E.Q. in the amount of \$16,830 with additional costs needed for 100-amp service and a new heater. Councilman Hoffman made the second and all were in favor.

With no further business to discuss Councilman Albright made a motion to adjourn at 9:16 a.m. with Councilman Hoffman making the second.

The council will meet in regular session on Monday, January 11 at 6 p.m.



Sworn in -Photo courtesy Martin County Government facebook page
Newly-elected members of the county council and commissioners, for Martin County, were sworn in yesterday at the courthouse. From left to right, Adam Greene will serve on the county council, and Cody Roush and Aaron Summers will serve as commissioners. Summers has been finishing out the term vacated by Dan Gregory at the start of last year. He was elected for the seat in November.



County moves to red status

The Indiana Department of Health received notification of one additional death from the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) for Martin County in the past week. The individual was an adult male. This brings the total number of deaths reported for Martin County to 13. No further information will be released due to privacy laws.

There have been 44 new Covid-19 cases reported for Martin County for the month of January. The total number of positive cases for Martin County is now at 633. To date over 3,000 people have been tested for Covid-19 from Martin County.

The Indiana Department of Health map shows Martin County as a RED county based on cases the week of 12/28/20 to 1/3/21. The county saw a large increase in the number of positive cases out of the total number tested. Many of the cases can be linked back to holiday gatherings. The link to information on the color coded guidelines can be found at www.in.gov/gov/files/Jan-4-through-Jan-24-Coronavirus-Response-Requirements.pdf Under the RED designation, gatherings are limited to 25 people. Restaurants are encouraged to do carry-out meals or curbside service instead of in-person dining.

Schools will continue in-person classes at this time. The health department continues to work with the schools to monitor the number of cases among staff and students on a daily basis. Per the Indiana Department of Health and the requirements of the Executive Order, the recommendations for a RED status continue for two weeks after the status changes back to Orange.

PLEASE STAY HOME IF YOU ARE SICK or if you have been told to isolate or quarantine! If someone in your household is symptomatic for Covid-19, all household members should stay at home until the symptomatic person is tested or receives an alternate diagnosis from their doctor. If someone in your household has recently been tested for Covid-19, all

household members should stay at home until they receive their results. The symptomatic person should isolate away from the rest of the household until results are received or until they see their doctor. Examples of alternate diagnosis could include strep throat, flu, etc. If the household member's Covid-19 test is negative or they receive an alternate diagnosis, asymptomatic household members can return to normal activities.

For the sake of your family, friends and loved ones, we must take precautions to protect those around us. You can be infectious to others up to 48 hours before your symptoms begin. Wear a mask when you are around others. Wash your hands frequently and avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth. Avoid close contact with people who are sick or have been exposed to someone positive for Covid-19. Cover any coughs or sneezes with a tissue. If someone in your household is sick, clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces several times daily.

Child fatality report shows one child died in Martin County

The number of children who died from neglect or abuse dropped slightly last year, according to new data released in the 2019 Annual Report of Child Abuse and Neglect Fatalities in Indiana.

The Indiana Department of Child Services investigated 276 child deaths in 2019 (one in Martin County) as required by state law. Sixty-one were determined to have been caused by caregiver maltreatment, down from 65 in 2018.

Improper sleeping arrangements, including co-sleeping, remain a leading contributor to infant fatalities. The annual DCS report details 11 unsafe sleep-related deaths in which a caregiver was determined to have been neglectful.

Lack of supervision was frequently cited in death investigations in 2019. Caregivers were found responsible in seven drownings, and three children died after they or another child accessed an unsecured firearm.

"We owe it to our communities to study the circumstances surrounding the death of any child," DCS Director Terry Stigdon said. "Each year, this report is used to inform policy, practice and legislation aimed at protecting Hoosier children."

DCS is legally required to review all child fatalities that fit the following circumstances:

For children under 1 year of age: the death is sudden, unexpected, unexplained or involves allegations of neglect/abuse.

For children age 1 or older: the death involves allegations of abuse or neglect.

The full report can be found at www.in.gov/dcs/files/2019_Annual_Report_of_Child_Abuse_and_Neglect_Fatalities_in_Indiana.pdf?utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery



Making A Difference

By Curt Johnson
MCCF Director



“Dreams are the seeds of change. Nothing ever grows without a seed, and nothing ever changes without a dream.”

-- DREAMS --

That's a nice quote from Debby Boone, a singer with a successful career in the pop, country and Christian music industries (her signature song was “You Light Up My Life” in 1977). I think she got it right by telling how important dreams are for our future. Dreams spring from hope and ideas for changes in ourselves and our community. We see change all around us. Most times it's good, sometimes it's not so good, and sometimes we may not agree with it. But if someone doesn't dream for something better, something to change, we're left in a rut and a life without hope.

-- BUILDING THEM --

While I would agree with Debby that dreams are the seeds of change, I would also say that new awareness and new ideas are the seeds of dreams. Dreams have to start with something planted within us, whether it is a new idea or a newfound understanding of one thing or a combination of things.

-- HOW --

How do those initial seeds get planted within us? How can we come up with those new ideas? We learn. We learn from our experiences and observations or from those of others. We have the capacity to develop wonderful dreams and goals from a single seed or from many that we cultivate into something beyond what we thought possible. Dreams are a great gift.

-- READING --

The premise that we learn through our own experiences is easy enough. But how do we learn from others? We either see it, they tell us, or we read it. Reading easily gives the most opportunities to learn from others. Reading literally opens up the world to us. Reading plants the seeds



Pictured from left to right are Kathy Collins (Library Board member), Curt Johnson (MCCF Director), Angie Risacher (MCCF Board member), Mary Holt (Assistant Librarian), Sylvia Albaugh (Library Director), Annette Taylor (MCCF Board member), Liz Chattin (Library Board member), and Barb Loomis (Library Board member).

for dreams. Dreams are the seeds for change. Change brings us hope.

-- YOUR LIBRARIES --

The school and public libraries in our county offer us some of the best access to read and to learn. Without books, writings and instruction, learning has a limited circle of influence. Books and libraries have forever been fundamental institutions for people. Without these, we don't know our history, we can't learn as well about the present, and our dreams for the future are limited.

-- THE MCCF HELPS --

The MCCF helps by supporting organizations and their services that spur change and improvements to our community and quality of life. Grants and scholarships made possible by donors

just like you, help bring to reality the dreams of others. Our libraries are one of the critical resources for nurturing those dreams.

So, we all need to be sure that our libraries can continue to provide this environment for our communities. The MCCF stepped in to help do just that when the Shoals Public Library's age-old boiler for their heating system recently generated its last bit of steam to heat the building. With the cold weather upon them, the library was forced to close until heat could be restored. Unfortunately, the boiler and system were beyond repair. The MCCF awarded a \$16,000 grant to team with the Shoals Public Library in replacing the much-needed heating system. MCCF Director Curt Johnson and Board Members

Angie Risacher and Annette Taylor were happy to present the grant to Sylvia Albaugh (Library Director) and Mary Holt (Assistant Librarian) along with Library board members Kathy Collins, Liz Chattin and Barb Loomis.

-- MORE INFORMATION --

For information about how the MCCF can help you put your own passion and dreams back into the community, please contact the MCCF Director, Curt Johnson, at 812-295-1022 or mccf@cfpartner.org.

You are also welcome to visit our webpage at www.cfpartner.org, follow us on Twitter at www.tritter.com/MartinCountyCF, and “like” the MCCF Facebook page at www.facebook.com/mccommunityfoundation.

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OBITUARIES

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MARTIN COUNTY JOURNAL

Wednesday, January 6, 2021

REV. ROBERT LEACH

Rev. Robert G. "Bob" Leach died Saturday, January 2, 2021, at 2:10 a.m. at the King's Daughters' Hospital. A resident of Madison, he was 76.



He entered this life on May 4, 1944 in Trimble County, Kentucky on Spring Creek; the son of the late Elmo and Lela F. Morgan Leach. He was raised in Trimble County and went to school there. He attended Madison High School and later received his GED from Trimble County High School.

On May 11, 1962 Bob was united in marriage to Janis Rae King at the Milton Baptist Church in Milton, Kentucky. This happy union of 53 years was blessed with a daughter, Leanne, and sons, Greg, Steve and Jeremy. Bob worked early in life at Williamson Heater Company in Madison for several years. He was ordained in 1970 as a Pastor with the Pilgrim Holiness faith. This led to a life of faith to his Lord and Savior Jesus Christ of over 45 years of service to his church and community.

Bob had worked at Rexnord-Chain Belt (Envirex/US Filter) for 35 years, retiring in 1999. He had served as sexton and grounds keeper of the Springdale Cemetery since 1999 and was the co-owner and co-operator of Ohio Valley Excavating with his late wife, Janis and his son, Steve, since March 2005. Bob had resided in Madison since 1962, had served as Conference Treasurer for the Pilgrim Holiness Conference for 12 years. He supported the Pilgrim Family Camp and Pilgrim Youth Camp for over 30 years. Bob had volunteered with King's Daughters' Hospital since 1999 and served as a Chaplain as well.

Bob enjoyed fishing, especially taking fishing trips with his sons and brother. Bob lived his life to help others, friendship was important to him, he was a man of integrity and trust. Janis was diagnosed with cancer in July 2015 and Bob lovingly cared for her until her death on October 4, 2015. Bob had fought a two-and-a-half-year battle with Pulmonary Fibrosis and was lovingly cared for by his friend Dee Strouse and his family. Bob left his life in the same way he ended his prayer, "and for what you do, we thank you for it. Amen."

Bob will be missed by his loving daughter, Leanne Zeigler and her husband, Rev. John Zeigler of Shoals; his loving sons, Greg Leach and his wife, Lori, of Madison; Steve Leach and his wife, Kim, of Madison; Jeremy Leach and his wife, Emilie, of Covington, Kentucky; his loving grandchildren, Janae, Jonathan (Amberly), Caleb (Autumn), Megan (Brandon), Jordan (Bridget), Ethan, Eric, Saxxlyn, Annabel, Finn, and Charlie; his adoring great grandchildren, Natalie, Carson, Lucy, and Walt; his brother, Michael Leach and his wife, Rose of Loogootee; his special friend, Carolyn "Dee" Strouse and her family of Madison; his sisters in law, Nadine Jones and her husband, Bob of Rock Hill, South Carolina, Judi Boldery of Hanover, Sherry Dunaway of Bedford, Kentucky; his brothers in law, Junior Sutherland of Carrollton, Kentucky and Donald Bladen of Michigan; several nieces, nephews and other relatives.

He was preceded in death by his father, Elmo Leach; his mother, Lela F. Morgan Leach; his beloved wife of 53 years, Janis Rae King Leach, died October 4, 2015; his grandson, Jacob Leach; his sisters, Joann Leach Sutherland and Helen LaVerne Leach Taylor; his sisters in law and brothers in law, Jackson King, Lawrence King, Wayva Barden, Richard Dunaway, Elston Boldery, Mary Helen McClure, and Ralph McClure.

Funeral services will be conducted Sat-

urday, January 9 at 11 a.m. by Rev. Paul Gray and Rev. John Zeigler at the North Madison Christian Church, 1400 East State Road 62 in Madison, Indiana. Private interment will follow in the Springdale Cemetery, 600 West Fifth Street in downtown Madison, Indiana.

Friends may visit Friday from 3 p.m. - 8 p.m. at the Morgan & Nay Funeral Centre, 325 Demaree Drive in Madison, Indiana and after 10 a.m. at the North Madison Christian Church, 1400 East State Road 62 in Madison, Indiana.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Pilgrim Holiness Church or the Springdale Cemetery. Cards are available at the Morgan & Nay Funeral Centres of Madison and Hanover. Online condolences, remembrances and memorials can be left at www.morgan-nay.com.

MARY WALKER

Mary R. Walker passed away Saturday, January 2, 2021 at Eastgate Manor. A resident of Washington, she was 86.



She was born September 14, 1934 in Daviess County; daughter of William and Agnes (Haag) Seal. She was a homemaker and a member of Our Lady of Hope Catholic Church.

She is survived by her husband, Ed Walker who she married September 8, 1956; two sons, James Edward Walker of Illinois and Allan Michael Walker of Evansville; two daughters, Ruth Ann Yancey and Mary Susan Keith, both of Washington; brother, Ed Seal of Dubois County; sister, Margie Arvin of Loogootee; nine grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

Mary is preceded in death by her parents; two brothers, Harold Seal and William Seal; two sisters, Bernice Downey and Jean Miller and son-in-law, Lester Keith.

Visitation will be from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. Wednesday, January 6 at Ed Lee Mortuary North Chapel. A funeral service will follow at 6 p.m. the same night. Burial will be private at a later date.

Condolences can be sent to the family online at www.edleemortuary.com. All arrangements were entrusted to Ed Lee Mortuary.

KENNETH DEININGER SR.

Kenneth E. Deininger Sr. passed away Friday, January 1, 2021 at Daviess Community Hospital. He was 62.

He was born October 17, 1958 in Lancaster, Ohio; son of Charles Edward and Joyce Opal (Belew) Deininger, Jr. He graduated from Mt. Health High School in Cincinnati, Ohio. Kenneth loved Nascar and music.

He is survived by his wife, Kendra (Stokes) Deininger who he married on April 9, 1979; son, Kenneth E. Deininger Jr. of Loogootee; daughter, Kristina (Doug) Griffith of Washington; two sisters, Susan Miller of Bicknell and Patricia Wolfe of Lawrenceville, Illinois and two grandchildren, Alex Griffith and Briyanna Maynard.

Kenneth is preceded in death by his parents.

There will be no services. Condolences can be sent to the family online at www.edleemortuary.com. All arrangements were entrusted to Ed Lee Mortuary.

JOSHUA ROACH

Joshua Matthew Roach, formerly of Shoals, passed away on December 29, 2020 at his home. A resident of French Lick, he was 40.

He was born November 27, 1980 in Washington; son of Ronald L. and Betty

Jo (Graber) Roach. He married Melissa Blessinger on March 3, 2001 and she survives.

Joshua was a graduate of Shoals High School Class of 2000 and was of the Christian faith.

He is survived by his wife, Melissa; parents, Ronald and Betty Jo; children, Bryanna Roach and future son-in-law, Marcious Trout of Decatur; and Gavin Roach, still at home; and was expecting the birth of a grandchild in 2021. He is also survived by his father-in-law, Silas Blessinger Jr. and mother-in-law, Dianna L. Thomas and several aunts, uncles and in-laws.



Preceding him in death are his maternal and paternal grandparents.

Funeral services were held Saturday, January 2 at the Queen-Lee Chapel in Shoals with Pastors Chris Stevens and Matt Sullivan officiating. Burial followed in the Spring Hill Cemetery.

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

JOHN LUCAS

John W. Lucas passed on January 4, 2021 in Jasper, Indiana. A resident of Shoals, he was 61.

He was born February 8, 1959 in Greene County; son of Shirley Ray and Marian (Kline) Lucas. He married Brenda Sipes in 1979 and she survives.

John was a 1977 graduate of Washington High School, received an Associates Degree from Oakland City University, and was a delivery driver for Prairie Farms throughout Southern Indiana.

Survivors include his wife, Brenda; one son, Lance Lucas; mother, Marian McKinney; grandson, Alex Crutchfield; one brother, Kenny (JoAnn) Lucas; mother-in-law, Evelyn Sipes; brothers-in-law, Harold (Debbie) Sipes and Rodney (Anna) Sipes; one sister-in-law, Alusha Sipes; and one uncle, Mel Kline.

He is preceded in death by his father, Shirley Ray; stepfather, Bill McKinney; father-in-law, Cecil Sipes and two nephews, R.J. Lucas and Kyle Johnson.

Funeral services will be held at noon Thursday, January 7 at the Queen-Lee Chapel in Shoals with burial in the Spring Hill Cemetery. Matt Sullivan will officiate. Visitation will be 10 a.m. Thursday until the time of service at the funeral home.

Memorial contributions may be made to the American Cancer Society.

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

JACQUELINE CAIN

Jacqueline Mary Milligan Cain, formerly of Washington, went to her heavenly home on Sunday, December 27, 2020. A resident of Shoals, she was 44.

She was born in Jasper on January 27, 1976; daughter of Michael Milligan and the late Judith Ann (Drach) Watkins.

Jackie was a special deputy for the Monroe County Sheriff's Department and bartender. She was a 1994 graduate of Washington Catholic High School. Jackie enjoyed spending time with her family, especially her grandchildren and cherished every moment with them. She enjoyed being outdoors, camping, and fishing with her husband.

Jackie is survived by her husband, Mark Cain; father, Michael Milligan; stepfather, Allen Watkins; children, Zachary Legg, Cody Milligan (Ashley), Mark Kevin Cain, Jr, Logan Cain, Jenna Marie Legg, and Jessie Denise Cain; three grandchildren, Khloe Snider, Kristopher Milligan,



JACKIE CAIN

A funeral service was held Monday, January 4 at Gill Funeral Home in Washington. Burial followed in Sugarland Memory Gardens.

In lieu of flowers the family has asked to please make contributions to defray funeral costs at www.facebook.com/donate/222197226036400/.

Online condolences may be left at www.gillsince1872.com.

JIM MURPHY

James "Jim" Edward Murphy passed away on Tuesday January 5, 2021 at Daviess Community Hospital after a long fight with Alzheimer's Disease. A resident of Washington, he was 86.

He was born August 6, 1934 in Montgomery; son of Fred and Loretta (Haag) Murphy. He was a 1952 graduate of Montgomery High School and member of St. Peter Catholic Church and the Knights of Columbus Council 630. On June 17, 1954, he married the love of his life, Mary Brothers.

Jim, a proud veteran of the US Army, was a retired bricklayer with the International Union of Bricklayers & Allied Craftworkers (50+ years) and had been employed with Don Nolan construction, serving as superintendent on many projects in and around Southern Indiana, including high schools and universities. In his later years, he was "Clerk of the Works" on the Daviess County Security Center, the first building at NWSC Tech Park, and the Washington Jr/Sr High School renovation project. He enjoyed golfing, mushroom hunting, fishing, turtle and fish fries, and making his family, especially his grandchildren, happy. Everything he did, he did with pride, even mowing his yard. Rarely was there a blade of grass out of place.

Jim is survived by his wife of over 66 years, Mary; his daughters, Anita (Tom) Ash and Jamie (Tony) Graber; grandchildren Kelly Ash, Karly Theroff, Elaina Lynch, Kacey Frette, Emily Thompson, Erika Taber, and Molly Lynch; eight great grandchildren; one great-great grandson; sisters Marilyn (Tedd) Davis, Sharon Herring, and Mary Jeanne Bassler, brother and best friend Steve (Jeanie) Murphy; brothers-in-law Al Moore, Bob Brothers, Max Stuckwisch, and Steve (Missy) Brothers; sisters-in-law Rose Anne Sellers, and Beth (Bill) Babrick; numerous cousins, nieces, and nephews; and his dog Paddy.

He will be welcomed in heaven by his parents, his sister Virginia Moore, sisters-in-law Theresa Walker, Jane Stuckwisch, and Anita Brothers; brothers-in-law Tony Brothers, Mike Herring, Joe Bassler, Paul Walker, and Paul Sellers; infant son James Michael, and son Anthony "Tony" Stephen.

A private Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated by Rev. Sudhakar Bhatati and concelebrants, Rev. Joseph Erbacher, and Very Rev. J. Kenneth Walker. Burial and military rights will follow in St. Peter Catholic Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that contributions be made to Alzheimer's Association, 225 N Michigan Ave. Fl. 17, Chicago, IL 60601, in Jim's memory in hope that they can find a cure for this terrible disease.

Online condolences can be made at www.blakefuneralhomes.com. Arrangements provided by Blake and Wagler Funeral Home in Montgomery.

and Blaine Milligan; two brothers, Steven Watkins, and Cory Milligan; two sisters, Mindi Marchand and Ann Skipworth.

She was preceded in death by; her mother, Judith Ann (Drach) Watkins.

Martin County Sheriff's Department log

MONDAY, DECEMBER 28

6:10 a.m. - Received a report of reckless drivers on US 231, north of Loogootee. Corporal Barnett, Daviess County Sheriff's Office, and ISP responded.

9:05 a.m. - Received a cow complaint southeast of Shoals. Animal Control Officer Hughett was notified.

9:37 a.m. - Major Keller took one inmate to court.

10:36 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Ambulance and Loogootee Fire responded. No one was transported.

11:31 a.m. - Received a dog complaint in Loogootee. Animal Control Officer Hughett was notified.

11:57 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance near Loogootee. Martin County Ambulance responded and transported the subject to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

1:28 p.m. - Received a report of a break-in, in Shoals. Major Keller responded.

4:41 p.m. - Received a report of a break-in north of Loogootee. Deputy Wells responded.

10:40 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Ambulance transported the subject to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

11:49 p.m. - Received a request for a welfare check south of Loogootee. Corporal Barnett and Loogootee Officer Means responded. The subject was okay.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 29

1:10 a.m. - Received a request for a carbon monoxide test in Shoals. Shoals Fire responded and all was okay.

3:13 a.m. - Received a report of a disabled vehicle on US 50 near the 4-H grounds. Corporal Barnett responded.

5:18 a.m. - Received a report of a drunk driver in Shoals. Corporal Barnett responded.

5:53 a.m. - Received a report of a truck-deer accident on US 231, north of Loogootee. Corporal Barnett responded.

9:23 a.m. - Received a request for a welfare check near Shoals. Major Keller, Shoals Fire, and Martin County Ambulance responded.

11:41 a.m. - Received a request for a welfare check in Loogootee. Loogootee Chief Rayhill responded.

1:55 p.m. - Received a report of a tree on SR 150, east of Shoals. Shoals Fire

responded.

3:17 p.m. - Received a dog complaint south of Loogootee. Deputy Wells and Animal Control Officer Hughett was notified.

3:53 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance near Shoals. Martin County Ambulance and Shoals Fire responded. The subject was transported to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

5:01 p.m. - Received a report of harassment in Shoals. Captain Reed and Deputy Wells responded.

5:07 p.m. - Received a dog complaint north of Loogootee. Animal Control Officer Hughett was notified.

6:53 p.m. - Jail Officer Norman transported one inmate to the doctor.

11:25 p.m. - Sergeant Gibson assisted with a notification near Shoals.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 30

1:09 a.m. - Received a request for lift assistance in Shoals. Martin County Ambulance and Shoals Fire responded. No one was transported.

2:20 a.m. - Received a report of a disturbance south of Loogootee. Loogootee Officer Means and Sergeant Gibson responded.

4:45 a.m. - Received a report of a drunk driver in Shoals. Sergeant Gibson responded.

6:05 a.m. - Received a report of a disabled truck on SR 150, just east of Shoals. Sergeant Gibson responded.

10:32 a.m. - Received a report of a disturbance in Shoals. Sheriff Roush and Major Keller responded.

12:25 p.m. - Received a report of an accident in Loogootee. Loogootee Police were notified.

1:20 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Ambulance transported the subject to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

1:22 p.m. - Received a request for lift assistance in Shoals. Shoals Fire responded.

4:31 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance near Loogootee. Martin County Ambulance transported the subject to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

6:59 p.m. - Received a report of a suspicious vehicle near Shoals. Sergeant Gibson responded.

9:38 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Ambulance transported the subject to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 31

2:16 a.m. - Received a report of a fire north of Shoals. Deputy Flanagan, Martin County Ambulance, and Indian Creek Fire responded.

4:44 a.m. - Received a request for lift assistance in Shoals. Martin County Ambulance responded. No one was transported.

5:04 a.m. - Deputy Flanagan assisted a motorist in Loogootee.

8:27 a.m. - Received a report of a large rock in the roadway north of Shoals. Martin County Civil Defense responded.

1:26 p.m. - Received a report of cut wood pieces in US Hwy 50, west of Shoals. Deputy Lents responded.

11:40 p.m. - Received an animal complaint in Crane. Deputy Flanagan responded.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 1

12:32 a.m. - Received a call reporting a threat made in Shoals. Deputy Flanagan responded.

1:03 a.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an officer in Shoals. Deputy Flanagan responded.

2:22 a.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an officer for a domestic dispute. Deputy Flanagan responded.

6:45 a.m. - Received a call reporting an accident in Shoals. Deputy Flanagan and Deputy Lents responded.

1:01 p.m. - Received a call requesting extra patrols in Shoals. Deputy Lents was advised.

1:42 p.m. - Received a call requesting an officer for a burglar alarm in Loogootee. Loogootee Police Department responded.

6:00 p.m. - Received a call reporting an accident, car versus deer in Shoals. Deputy Wells responded.

6:20 p.m. - Received a call reporting an accident southeast of Shoals. Deputy Wells and G&M Wrecker Service responded.

6:49 p.m. - Received a call requesting a deputy northeast of Shoals. Shoals Town Marshal Eckert responded.

8:31 p.m. - Received a call referencing a domestic issue in Shoals. Deputy Wells responded.

8:55 p.m. - Received a call reporting a possible impaired driver east of Shoals. Deputy Wells responded.

8:55 p.m. - Received a call reporting an accident car versus deer southeast of Shoals. Deputy Wells responded.

9:53 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance north of Loogootee. Martin County Ambulance responded. One patient was transported to IU Bloomington.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 2

2:18 a.m. - Received a report of a subject who needs a deputy. Deputy Flanagan responded.

12:01 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Ambulance responded. No one transported.

1:04 p.m. - Received a call reporting a fire near Shoals. Martin County Ambulance, Shoals Fire Department, Martin County Civil Defense and Deputy Lents responded. No one was transported.

1:54 p.m. - Received an animal complaint east of Shoals. Animal Control Deputy Hughett was advised.

4:03 p.m. - Received a call requesting a deputy north of Shoals. Deputy Lents responded.

9:55 p.m. - Received a call requesting a deputy near Loogootee. Deputy Flanagan responded.

10:27 p.m. - Received a call requesting a deputy near Loogootee. Deputy Flanagan responded.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 3

10:47 a.m. - Received a request for a vehicle inspection in Shoals. Cpl. Barnett responded.

ARRESTS

MONDAY, DECEMBER 28

12:45 p.m. - Billie Groff, 64, of Shoals, was arrested by Major Keller and charged with conspiracy to commit arson. He is being held on a \$45,000 cash only bond.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 30

3:58 p.m. - Matthew Truelove, 32, of Shoals, was arrested by Sergeant Gibson and charged with intimidation and driving while suspended prior. He is being held on a \$15,000 10% bond.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 1

3:13 a.m. - Martin Tow, 52, of Shoals, was arrested by Deputy Flanagan and charged with domestic battery, operating a vehicle while intoxicated, resisting arrest, and aggressive driving. He is being held on \$15,000/10% bond after a 48-hour hold.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 3

2:04 a.m. - Julie Lents, 32, of Loogootee, was arrested by Reserve Deputy Dorsey and charged with resisting law enforcement with a vehicle and driving while a habitual traffic violator. She is being held with no bond. Deputy Flanagan assisted with the arrest.

2:24 a.m. - Gerald Emmons, 51, of Loogootee, was arrested by Reserve Deputy Dorsey and charged with invasion of privacy. He is being held on a \$10,000/10% bond.

10:11 a.m. - Angel Hibbs, 22, of Evansville, was arrested by Shoals Town Marshal Eckert and charged with possession of methamphetamine, and possession of paraphernalia. She is being held on \$15,000/10% bond.

10:11 a.m. - Rick Hibbs, 22, of Evansville, was arrested by Sergeant Gibson and charged with possession of methamphetamine and possession of paraphernalia. He is being held on a \$15,000/10% bond.

Councilman's Corner



By Shoals Town Council President Cary D. Albright

In the upcoming months we will be addressing the following topics. This will be a monthly update and information on your council by your councilman.

Here are a few topics that we will be addressing over the next few months.

1. What items concerning the town keeps your councilman up at night?
2. Why does it take so long for your council to get a project done?
3. Where are the councilmen spending your tax money?
4. Who works for this town? And what do they do?
5. Where does my water come from?
6. When I flush my toilet where does it go?
7. What future projects are your councilman working on now?
8. What is your councilman doing to increase my property value?
9. I rent what about me! What is my councilman doing for me?
10. I will be open to reviewing questions submitted over our email address and publishing selected ones for this monthly article.

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Loogootee Police log

MONDAY, DECEMBER 28

10:38 a.m. – First responders were dispatched to a medical call on East Broadway Street.

10:41 a.m. – Chief Rayhill put a 20-day tag on an abandoned vehicle on East Broadway Street.

12:11 p.m. – First responders were dispatched to a medical call on US 231 North.

9:28 p.m. – Officer Means spoke with a complainant in reference to harassment.

11:38 p.m. – Officer Means responded to a local business to check on a complaint of possible destruction of property.

11:49 p.m. – Officer Means completed a welfare check.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 29

11:15 a.m. – Chief Rayhill completed a vehicle check.

11:45 a.m. – Chief Rayhill completed a welfare check.

12:00 p.m. – Chief Rayhill assisted with an animal complaint on North Line Street.

8:36 p.m. – Officer Means looked for a vehicle that may have been involved in a shooting in another county.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 30

2:20 a.m. – Officer means assisted the Martin County Sheriff's Department with a report of a domestic disturbance.

9:45 a.m. – Chief Rayhill responded to a report of a subject in someone's residence uninvited and refusing to leave.

12:26 p.m. – Chief Rayhill responded to a property damage accident on West Broadway Street.

2:55 p.m. – Chief Rayhill responded to a local business in reference to threats made by a customer.

7:08 a.m. – Chief Rayhill responded to a residential burglar alarm.

4:39 p.m. – Sgt. McBeth responded to a domestic disturbance on North JFK Avenue.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 31

10:54 a.m. – Chief Rayhill completed a vehicle check.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 1

1:43 p.m. – Chief Floyd responded to an alarm at a local business.

9:58 p.m. – First responders were dispatched to a medical call in Burns City.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 2

12:01 p.m. – First responders were dispatched to a medical call at Country Place Apartments.

9:50 p.m. – A female caller advised of problems with a neighbor and Officer Means responded.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 3

8:21 p.m. – Officer Means completed a welfare check.

Be Well Crisis Helpline answers the call for Hoosiers in need

The Be Well Crisis Helpline recently passed an important milestone as it enters its sixth month of operation. The free service was launched in July to support the mental health needs of Hoosiers during the COVID-19 pandemic. The service has answered more than 6,000 calls for help as it continues to provide 24/7 access to experienced and compassionate counselors, specially trained to help with the personal challenges that have come along with this pandemic.

"While we recognize that each of these calls is a cry for help from a Hoosier experiencing feelings of distress and anxiety, likely aggravated by the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, we are also comforted to know that, through the Be Well Crisis Helpline, they are connecting with someone who can listen, assess their needs, and help," said Jennifer Sullivan, M.D., M.P.H., secretary of the Indiana Family and Social Services Administration.

To date the Be Well Crisis Helpline has answered 6,049 calls, with an average talk time of 18 minutes and 10 seconds, but with an average wait time of only 16 seconds. To reach a counselor, anyone in Indiana can simply call 2-1-1, enter their ZIP code, and follow the prompts to reach the Be Well Crisis Helpline.

According to data collected by the counselors, 46 percent of the callers have a pre-existing trauma or substance use or mental health problem. Following their conversations, the counselors referred 29 percent of the callers to mental health treatment, 24 percent for additional community-based resources such as food, clothing, housing or utility assistance, and another 16 percent for additional crisis counseling. In just over 1 percent of the cases, following telephone counseling, Be Well Crisis Helpline counselors

have determined the situation is critical and have called 9-1-1 to get the callers the immediate help they need.

"This data tells us that the Be Well Crisis Helpline is playing a critical role in the health care continuum for Hoosiers who feel like they are in distress as a result of this pandemic," said Jay Chaudhary, director of FSSA's Division of Mental Health and Addiction. "Hundreds of our fellow Hoosiers have begun to receive treatment for the mental health issues they face, and likely faced prior to COVID-19. We strongly encourage anyone who feels like they could use the help to call us at 2-1-1."

The top distress reactions counselors are encountering on the calls include isolation or withdrawal (34 percent), issues with sleep (34 percent), anxiety or fearfulness (32 percent), and difficulty concentrating (27 percent).

"We are also getting referrals from first responders who know they can rely on the Be Well Crisis Helpline as a new resource in their toolkit to deal with persons under mental stress," added Chaudhary. "This helpline has come at the right time for Hoosiers who are under real mental distress and need someone to turn for help."

The Be Well Crisis Helpline is funded by a Crisis Counseling Assistance and Training Program grant from the Federal Emergency Management Agency. More information on the Be Well Crisis Helpline can be found at www.BeWellIndiana.org. Indiana 211 is a free service that connects Hoosiers with assistance and answers from thousands of statewide health and human service resources — quickly, easily and confidentially. Indiana 211 became part of FSSA earlier this year.

Martin County real estate transfers

Tracey L. Clifford and Steven T. Westmeyer, of Bartholomew County, Indiana to Philip J. Schulthies and Danielle N. Schulthies, of Dubois County, Indiana, the west half of the northwest quarter of Section 36, Township 2 North, Range 5 West, containing 80 acres, except a section containing 1.17 acres, more or less.

Matthew Lark a/k/a Matthew D. Lark, of Martin County, Indiana to Triple L. Ranch, LLC, of Martin County, Indiana. Tract I: The west half of the southeast quarter of Section 33, Township 4 North, Range 4 West, containing 80 acres; the east half of the southeast quarter of the northwest quarter of Section 33, Township 4 North, Range 4 West, containing 20 acres; the east part of the east half of the northeast quarter of Section 4, Township 3 North, Range 4 West, containing 50 acres; the east half of the southeast quarter of Section 33, Township 4 North, Range 4 West, containing 80 acres; the east part of the northeast quarter of the northwest quarter of Section 33, Township 4 North, Range 4 West, containing 15 acres, more or less. Parcel 2: The south half of the northeast quarter of the northeast quarter and the southeast quarter of the northeast quarter of Section 33, Township 4 North, Range 4 West, containing 60 acres, more or less, in Perry Township. Parcel 3: The south half of the southwest quarter of Section 33, Township 4 North, Range 4 West, containing 80 acres, more or less; and the north half of the northwest quarter of Section 4, Township 3 North, Range 4 West, containing 80 acres, more or less. Tract II: Parcel 1: The southwest quarter of the southwest quarter and portions of the northwest quarter of the southwest quarter of the northwest quarter of Section 10, Township 2 North, Range 3 West of the Second Principal Meridian lying in Halbert Township, Martin County, Indiana, containing 62.919 acres, more or less. Parcel 2: The northeast quarter of the southeast quarter of Section 16, Township 2 North, Range 3 West, Martin County, Indiana, containing 40 acres, more or less. Also, 495 feet of equal width off of the entire east side of the northwest quarter of the southwest quarter of Section 16, containing 15 acres, more or less.

WSW Properties, LLC, of Martin

County, Indiana to Sparkle Properties, LLC, of Dubois County, Indiana, Lots Numbered 2 and 3 in Risacher's Second Addition to the town, now City of Loogootee, Indiana.

Lenore Lark, of Martin County, Indiana to Triple L. Ranch, LLC, of Martin County, Indiana, a part of the northwest quarter and a part of the southwest quarter of Section 13, Township 4 North, Range 3 West, Martin County, Indiana, containing 50.044 acres, more or less.

Lenore Lark and Matthew Lark, of Martin County, Indiana to Triple L. Ranch, LLC, of Martin County, Indiana, the east half of the southwest quarter of Section 10, Township 2 North, Range 3 West, containing 80 acres, more or less; also the north half of the northwest quarter of Section 15, Township 2 North, Range 3 West, containing 80 acres, more or less; and also the southwest quarter of the northwest quarter of Section 15, Township 2 North, Range 3 West, containing 40 acres, more or less. Also, the east half of the northeast quarter of Section 16, Township 2 North, Range 3 West, containing 80 acres, more or less.

Indiana Department of Veterans Affairs introduce new process for tracking veteran discharge records

The Indiana Department of Veterans Affairs (IDVA) website, www.in.gov/dva, is now home to a new application process for requesting copies of service member records recorded with county recorder offices beginning January 5.

Authorized requesters utilize the online system in making the request. The online request process tracks and records the request, as well as the outcome of the request.

All requests for veteran documents must now utilize this system. The request system tracks the request and issuance of records to ensure greater veteran privacy and protection of information contained in the documents. The veteran must continue to provide photo identification when making a request for records.

More information regarding IDVA's online records request process e-mail: DVAMedia@dva.IN.gov.

CLASSIFIED ADS

HELP WANTED

BARTENDER WANTED

The VFW Post 9395 in Loogootee is in need of a bartender. The shift is from 3 p.m. until close.

If you are interested, stop by the VFW and fill out an application or call 812-486-8394 for more information.

BIDS WANTED

The Town of Shoals is taking sealed bids for the following vehicles:

2001 GMC Sonoma 4 Wheel Drive V6 Automatic 188,638 Miles	2005 Ford F150 4 Wheel Drive V8 Automatic 194,240 Miles
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Sealed bids will be accepted until Friday, February 5th, 2021 at 4P.M. Bids will be opened at the regular session meeting on Monday, February 8th, 2021 at 6P.M. Bids are to be separately sealed if bidding on both vehicles. Bid should state the following information: bidder name, address, phone number, truck identification and bid amount.

Trucks can be seen at the Town Hall located at 221 Low Street Shoals, IN 47581. Vehicles will be sold AS IS. Payment will be required to be made in full by Friday, February 12th, 2021. Questions can be directed to the Clerk-Treasurer's office.

NOTICE TO MEMBERS OF EAST FORK WATER, INC.

The annual meeting of East Fork Water, Inc. will be held January 25th, 2021, commencing at 7:30 p.m. at the office, located at 213 S. Main Street in Shoals, Indiana. Directors for North Center, South Rutherford, and Halbert townships will be elected. Members are invited to attend.

COMMUNITY & EVENTS

More Neat Stuff

By Ann Ackerman



Once again, the Washington Post has published the winning submissions to its yearly neologism contest, in which readers are asked to supply alternate meanings for common words...and the winners are:

1. Coffee (n.), the person upon whom one coughs.
2. Flabbergasted (adj.), appalled over how much weight you have gained.
3. Abdicate (v.), to give up all hope of ever having a flat stomach.
4. Esplanade (v.), to attempt an explanation while drunk.
5. Negligent (adj.), describes a condition in which you absentmindedly answer the door in your nightgown.
7. Lymph (v.), to walk with a lisp.
8. Gargoyle (n.), gross olive-flavored mouthwash.
9. Flatulence (n.), emergency vehicle that picks you up after you are run over by a steamroller.
10. Balderdash (n.), a rapidly receding hairline.
11. Rectitude (n.), the formal, dignified bearing adopted by proctologists.
12. Pokemon (n.), a Rastafarian proctologist.

THOUGHTS

*Reading gives us some place to go when we have to stay where we are.
 *Never make snow angels in a dog park.
 *Once you accept the fact that queso and margaritas taste better than being skinny, the second half of your life begins.

*I don't know how to use TikTok but I can write in cursive, do long division, and tell time on a clock with hands...so there's that!

*I made a huge to-do list for today. I just can't figure out who's going to do it.

*I just dumped a pack of M&Ms into my mask at work and I am slowly eating them like a horse.

*Some stores are taking our temperature at the entrance. That's OK, I'm just grateful they're not weighing us.

*One day you will find someone that's obsessed with you. It's probably going to be a dog, but it is what it is.

*Remember when we used to eat cake after someone blew all over it? Man, were we wild!

SERIOUSISMS

*We can judge the heart of a man by his treatment of animals. -Immanuel Kant
 *Life humbles you as you age. You realize how much time you wasted on nonsense.

*No amount of evidence will ever persuade an idiot. -Mark Twain.

A little girl in my mom's neighborhood has a very old Pug with severe arthritis. Today I saw her gently strap him into a baby stroller and wait for the UPS truck so they could chase after it, running and laughing as the pup barked like crazy. You know, just in case you forgot what love means.

Make someone smile today!

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Commissioners' executive session

The Martin County Commissioners will meet in executive session on Thursday, January 7 at 6 p.m. virtually via Zoom. The purpose of the meeting is to receive information concerning an individual over whom the board has jurisdiction and that person's alleged misconduct, and to discuss, before a determination, the individual's status as an employee pursuant to I.C. 5-14-1.5-6.1(6) and to discuss a job performance evaluation of individual employees pursuant to I.C. 5-14-1.5-6.1(9). The meeting is closed to the public.

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.

Mental Health Task Force

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

Celebrate Recovery meetings

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

Local recovery meetings

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

Free lunch for kids

New Beginnings Community Church will be offering a free lunch to all school age children every Saturday. Lunches can be picked up at the fellowship hall of the church, located at 105 Wood St,

Loogootee no later than 10:30 a.m. Deliveries will begin between 10:30 and 11 a.m. Saturdays.

SOAR Tutoring

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

Solid waste board

The Martin County Solid Waste Board holds their monthly meetings on the third Wednesday of each month at 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.

ANIMAL SHELTER Pet of the Week



WILLOW is a female cat, gray and white, around 8 months old. She is shy until she gets to know you but very sweet once she does. Her adoption fee is \$45. The shelter is open by appointment only and an adoption application is required to schedule an appointment. For more info, visit www.humanesocietyofmartincounty.org.

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January 2021

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 \$5.99 #9 x 2-1/2-In. Camo Deck Screws ProTech coating. Buglehead, star drive. Green color. 1750 count. 6188502	 \$144.99 1/2 HP Submersible Sump Pump Cast iron with float switch. Overload protection keeps motor from overheating. 6624035

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In the Garden

By Ralph Purkhiser, Purdue University Master Gardener

The cicadas are coming!!! We are all hoping and praying for an end to the covid 19 pandemic that has plagued us for the past year, but we have a major insect invasion poised for this spring. Southern Indiana will be ground zero for cicada brood X in May and June.

Often confused with the Biblical plague of locusts, cicadas are really far less damaging, and the infestation will result in more inconvenience than actual damage. Still, it is good for gardeners to be forewarned.

Periodical cicadas are insects with interesting life cycles. The two main divisions are 17-year broods and 13-year broods, meaning that particular brood will emerge from the ground to breed in specific cycles. There are always a few stragglers, so you may see and hear cicadas every year, but a major brood's arrival is certainly memorable.

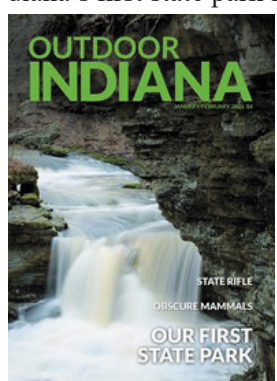
Brood X is the largest brood that affects Southern Indiana. It is a 17-year brood, so the ancestors of this year's insects were here in 2004. Literally billions of insects will be appearing for about six weeks this spring. Two other 17-year cicada swarms invade Southern Indiana, but they are usually fewer in number. Brood XII will arrive in 2023, but it is specific to only Orange and Allen Counties. Brood XIV affects Southwest Indiana next in 2025. There are also two 13-year broods that are active in the area. IN 2024, brood XIX will come to the western edge of Indiana and another brood can be expected in 2028.

Since 2004, the nymphs of that infestation have been living underground, taking food and moisture from the roots of trees. However, they are not normally a problem for the trees. Cicadas are very sensitive to temperatures and will not emerge until we get a warm rain, probably about the middle of May. They are unable to breed at temperatures below 68 degrees F., so a cool spring would disrupt their life cycle. Once they emerge from the ground, the insects will climb onto the trunks of trees and eventually will emerge from their final stage exoskeleton as adult cicadas. Those final shells will be found all over trees this June. The adult cicadas are black with reddish legs, eyes and wing margins. They are 1 1/2 to 2 inches long.

It is then that things get noisy. The adult males have a vibrating membrane

Outdoor Indiana magazine features McCormick's Creek SP

Outdoor Indiana magazine's January/February issue features a cover article on McCormick's Creek, which became Indiana's first state park in 1916.



The issue also includes an article on Indiana's state rifle and another feature on native mammals that usually don't get much attention.

Outdoor Indiana is available now at most Barnes & Noble stores in Indiana for \$4. Subscriptions are \$15 for one year (six issues, a 38 percent savings off cover) and \$28 for two years (12 issues, a 42 percent savings off cover).

Subscribe at innsgifts.com or by calling 317-233-3046. To read article excerpts, go to OutdoorIndiana.org.

on the underside of the first abdominal segment. They use this to make a loud humming noise to attract females. With the number of insects present, the noise may top 100 decibels. That constant noise will be annoying. The adult cicada only lives about a month. During this time, they will feed by sucking sap from trees and shrubs. The females have a knife-like organ that slices into branches of 3/16 to 7/16 of an inch in diameter. In the slots created, they will deposit their eggs. Each female lays 400 to 600 eggs. The eggs will hatch in about a month and the nymphs will drop to the ground and burrow into the soil, where they will live for the next 17 years. The dying adults may make sidewalks and roads slick.

Mature trees will not be severely damaged by the cicadas. They may have some stem tips that will lose leaves, but they will usually recover. Young trees, especially fruit trees, stand to suffer most. For that reason, I would recommend that you refrain from planting any trees or shrubs until after the cicada swarm this year. Trees planted last year could also be damaged. To protect them, they need to be covered entirely with a very fine mesh. You need to have that in place in early May to ensure the plants are not damaged.

Birds, squirrels and other creatures will feast on the cicadas. Fishermen find them good for bait. Do not be alarmed if your pets try to eat them. They are not poisonous. In fact, I have already found some recipes for chocolate-covered cicadas on the internet. This may be the way to up your intake of lean protein.

Coyote teeth needed

As part of ongoing research with Purdue University, DNR needs teeth from coyotes hunted or trapped during the regulated season. Teeth are needed from 30 Indiana counties: Benton, Brown, Carroll, Clark, Crawford, DeKalb, Elkhart, Floyd, Fountain, Greene, Harrison, Jackson, Jasper, Jefferson, LaGrange, Lawrence, Martin, Monroe, Montgomery, Morgan, Newton, Noble, Orange, Owen, Perry, St. Joseph, Steuben, Tippecanoe, Warren, Washington, and White.

Help us spread the word. We need several hundred coyote teeth to make this project successful. You can request teeth envelopes and an instruction sheet by emailing WildlifeIndex@dnr.IN.gov or calling 812-822-3304.

Farmer sentiment rises as income prospects improve, though concerns about key policy issues remain

BY KAMI GOODWIN
Purdue University News Service

There was a modest improvement in producer sentiment according to the December Purdue University/CME Group Ag Economy Barometer. The barometer increased 7 points from November to a reading of 174. Both of the barometer's sub-indices — the Index of Current Conditions and the Index of Future Expectations — also were higher in December than in November. The Index of Current Conditions climbed 15 points to 202, and the Index of Future Expectations increased by 5 points to a reading of 161.

The Ag Economy Barometer is calculated each month from 400 U.S. agricultural producers' responses to a telephone survey. This month's survey was conducted December 7-11.

"The rise in the Ag Economy Barometer was primarily driven by farmers' perception that the current situation on their farms really improved. The sharp rise in the Index of Current Conditions is correlated with the farm income boost provided by the ongoing rally in crop prices. That appears to be the driving force behind producers' optimism," said James Mintert, the barometer's principal investigator and director of Purdue's Center for Commercial Agriculture.

Producers were noticeably more inclined to think now is a good time to make large investments in their farming operations than in November. The Farm Capital Investment Index increased 13 points in December to a record high of 93. The percentage of farmers expecting to increase their machinery purchases in the upcoming year rose 5 points to 15 percent in December, while the percentage expecting to reduce their purchases declined by the same amount.

Farmers also were bullish about farmland values and cash rental rates. In December, the percentage of farmers expecting farmland values to rise over the next year increased 9 points from November to a reading of 35. The percentage expecting farmland values to rise over the next five years increased 11 points from November to a life of survey high 65 percent.

Reflecting the improvement in crop production profitability, more producers said they expect farmland cash rental rates to rise in 2021 when compared with survey results from late summer. In December, 18 percent of respondents

said they expect cash rental rates to rise in 2021, double the percentage who felt that way in August and September. Moreover, it's clear that any downward pressure on cash rental rates evident earlier in the year has nearly disappeared, as just 5 percent of farmers said they expect to see cash rental rates decline in 2021, compared with 17 percent who felt that way in August.

Farmers were less optimistic when asked about the ongoing trade dispute between U.S. and China. In the first quarter of 2020, 76 percent of respondents thought the trade dispute's ultimate resolution would favor U.S. agriculture. By spring, that average declined to 62 percent, and by December it dropped to an all-time survey low of 47 percent. When asked whether they expect U.S. ag exports to increase over the next five years, only 51 percent of respondents in December said they expect to see export growth.

To learn more about what factors might be motivating the shift in producers' sentiment pre- and post-November election, a series of questions focused on producers' future expectations for environmental regulations, taxes and other key aspects of the agricultural economy, were included on the October, November and December surveys. In December, farmers continued to express concerns following the November election about several key policy issues affecting agriculture. Over 80 percent of farmers said they expect environmental regulations to become more restrictive in December, compared with 41 percent who felt that way in October. Over 70 percent of producers expect to see higher income and estate taxes, compared with 35 percent and 40 percent, respectively, in October. One-third of farmers said they expect the farm income safety net to weaken, compared with 18 percent, and just over one-fourth of producers said they expect government support for the ethanol industry to weaken, compared with 17 percent who felt that way in October.

Read the full Ag Economy Barometer report at <https://purdue.ag/agbarometer>. The site also offers additional resources — such as past reports, charts and survey methodology — and a form to sign up for monthly barometer email updates and webinars.

Each month, the Purdue Center for Commercial Agriculture provides a short video analysis of the barometer results, available at <https://purdue.ag/barometervideo>, and for even more information, check out the Purdue Commercial AgCast podcast. It includes a detailed breakdown of each month's barometer, in addition to a discussion of recent agricultural news that impacts farmers.

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

About the Purdue University Center for Commercial Agriculture

The Center for Commercial Agriculture was founded in 2011 to provide professional development and educational programs for farmers. Housed within Purdue University's Department of Agricultural Economics, the center's faculty and staff develop and execute research and educational programs that address the different needs of managing in today's business environment.

Hunting and trapping seasons ending soon

Multiple hunting and trapping seasons close within the next month:

Deer Reduction Zone: Ends January 31
Raccoon & Opossum (hunting, trapping): Ends January 31

Gray & Fox Squirrel: Ends January 31
Quail (South of I-74): Ends January 10
Mink, Muskrat, & Long-tailed Weasel: Ends January 31

Red & Gray Fox (trapping): Ends January 31

Dove: Ends January 7
Central Zone Duck: Ends January 10
South Zone Duck: Ends January 24

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