

Martin County JOURNAL

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-Photo by Courtney Hughett

The Martin County Council held their first meeting of the year Monday night. The council remains the same as last year with the exception of Keith Gibson, who defeated Lonnie Hawkins in last November's election. Going around the table, from left to right, are Warren Albright, Keith Gibson, Lynn Gee Randy Wininger, Rich Summers, Auditor January Roush, Buck Stiles, and Barb McFeaters.

Council wary about changing salaries of some departments and not others

BY COURTNEY HUGHETT
Martin County Journal Publisher

The Martin County Council held their first meeting of the year Monday night, January 9. They voted to have Rich Summers continue to serve as the council's president and Randy Wininger as the vice president.

The main topic of discussion was a request by the prosecutor's office to change the salary ordinance to allow a recently-hired secretary to be paid \$23,976 which is what legal assistants are paid. The prosecutor wants his secretary to be paid the same as his legal assistant and 4D administrator.

Auditor January Roush explained

Loogootee Council moves to the legal aspect of zoning the city

BY COURTNEY HUGHETT
Martin County Journal Publisher

The Loogootee City Council met Monday, January 9. Zoning was the main item on the council's agenda. The city is working toward implementing zoning regulations within the city, including a three-mile radius outside the city. The zoning ordinance was put together by a committee and is now in the hands of the city attorney to work on the legal aspects.

City Attorney Isha Wright-Ryan said that since zoning is not her forte, she spoke with the firm of McIntire and Smith in Bedford about assisting with the city's zoning ordinance. She said the estimate they came up with is not to exceed \$25,000. They expect it to be between \$10,000 and \$15,000 but they want to put enough there to cover any additional costs.

Mayor Noel Harty said he spoke to a member of the Montgomery Town Board and they spent around \$7,500 for legal costs associated with implementing zoning.

Clerk-Treasurer Nancy Jones suggested the council wait until they had a written contract. After discussion,

that the girl he hired was a former employee, who served as a legal secretary, that quit the prosecutor's office a few months back. The girl was told that she would be hired back, in the secretary position, at the same pay as when she left.

A secretary is paid \$23,196 this year, which includes the three percent raise given by the council for 2017.

The council spent quite a bit of time discussing the fairness of the employee coming back at the increased pay, especially since it's a lesser position.

"I think if she hires in as secretary, she should get secretary's pay," said Council Member Lynn Gee. She added that if the employee had come back

Council Member Ruth Smith made a motion for the council to approve the \$25,000 verbally and have Wright-Ryan have a contract written up.

Council Member Roger Downey said he would like to have seen more than one quote, on the legal costs. The council decided to table the discussion until more quotes were sought.

Tim Kinder, with the Martin County Alliance, told the council that the Martin County Alliance has agreed to put \$2,500 toward the feasibility study that was discussed at last month's meeting.

Nicole Bays, director of Jill's House in Bloomington, spoke to the council at last month's meeting about the possibility of bringing assisted living into Loogootee. The parent company, of Jill's House, House Investments, based in Indianapolis, would like to do a feasibility study for the purpose of looking at Loogootee and the areas around it to see what kind of interest and what kind of development fits Loogootee. The price of the study would be \$7,500. House Investments would like to divide that \$7,500 between themselves, the city and the county. The study would be the property of Loogootee and Bays said if (See 'ZONING' continued on page 2)

to her original position, she could have understood her keeping the same pay but since she came back as a secretary, she should be paid what secretaries make.

Council Member Barb McFeaters asked if this means that if the new secretary quits, the next secretary they hire would also receive the \$23,976. A few council members replied that yes, this is what it means.

Auditor Roush noted that all the courthouse deputies are paid \$23,196.

Council Member Wininger said he doesn't want to see happen what happened back during budget hearings, when one county department got raises and not other departments. He said it will cause an explosion. He said he understands that the prosecutor had an issue a few months back when he had two employees quit around the same time but he feels the prosecutor needs (See 'SALARIES' continued on page 2)

Food service establishments inspected

The following restaurant inspections were done by Julia Albright, of the Martin County Health Department. The information listed is verbatim from the inspection report and all were routine inspections, unless otherwise noted. Violations that were seen again from one inspection to the next are noted with "(Repeat violation)" after the entry.

DECEMBER 15

VFW Post 8589, 314 Main Street, Shoals

No violations noted.

Jones Oil Company, 314 4th Street, Shoals

No violations noted.

DECEMBER 22

China Wok, 601 West Broadway Street, Loogootee

One critical violation:

-Multiple items in all coolers had no date marking

Two non-critical violations:

-Multiple items were uncovered in reach-in cooler near prep area

-Multiple containers have build-up of dried food on exterior of container

Break Time Bar & Grill, 119 Cooper Street, Loogootee

Two non-critical violations:

-Range hood has accumulation of dust/grease

-Three-compartment sinks not being properly utilized to wash/rinse/sanitize

Dairy Queen, 212 Mill Street, Loogootee

One non-critical violation:

-Ice buckets sitting directly on the floor in front of ice machine; boxes of cones, food cups and to-go boxes sitting on floor of storage room; bag of ice and box of chicken strips sitting on floor of walk-in freezer; box of tortillas sitting on floor of walk-in cooler

(See 'INSPECTED' continued on page 2)



New fire chief

-Photo provided

New Loogootee Fire Chief JD Flynn was sworn in last week. Flynn took over for outgoing chief Morgan Huebner. Shown above, from left to right, are Lori Flynn (JD's wife), JD Flynn, and Loogootee Mayor Noel Harty.

SALARIES

(Continued from page one)

to make the new employee a secretary or move her up to legal assistant to justify the pay increase, to match the pay scale of other departments.

Auditor Roush suggested waiting until the prosecutor could attend a meeting so that he could answer the council's questions. The council voted to table the discussion until the prosecutor could attend a meeting.

A similar matter was brought up regarding the judge paying one of her employees \$3,000 above the three percent raise given to all employees, to prevent the employee from leaving.

The council questioned whether this issue of the extra money was something the council discussed several months back. Council Member Buck Stiles said if he remembers correctly, the council voted on it and approved it although he voted against it. Council Member Warren Albright said he thought the money the judge used came from a fund that could only be used for salaries.

Council Member Wininger said he thought the council was firm on the three percent raise across the board, with no extra to be given out.

Council Member Rich Summers suggested asking the judge to attend the next meeting so they could find out where the initial raise stemmed.

"I don't know that we are going to get anywhere with it," said Albright.

Council Member Lynn Gee said it puts the council in a bad position with the rest of the county employees that did not get more money.

The council moved on to other business without making a decision regarding the judge or asking her to come to a meeting.

Josh and Courtney Hughett provided the council with the humane society's annual report. Courtney told the council that the humane society's continued goal in 2017 is to catch and fix as many feral or "community" cats as they can. The goal was to take in and fix 200 cats in 2016 and the shelter took in 206.

Council Member Randy Wininger said he can't imagine what the county would be like without the humane society.

Council Member Lynn Gee asked if the humane society applies for grants. Courtney replied that she applies for any she can find but oftentimes they

do not qualify due to the county's low population.

The council approved Community Corrections Director Kathy Collins to purchase a lean-to building for \$7,600 to put on their new location in Loogootee, to store equipment. There is currently \$7,000 in the misdemeanor fund and Collins said the state will be putting more money in that fund in the coming weeks so it will not be drained for long.

Collins said that the lean-to will be taken with them if they ever move from the property, which is being leased from Teresa Nolley.

The council approved the following appointments:

-Warren Albright and Keith Gibson to the Martin County Redevelopment Commission. Stiles was originally appointed but said he was hesitant to accept the appointment again due to working for a company in the tech park. He doesn't want a potential conflict of interest.

-Kenneth Inman to the alcoholic beverage board.

-Barb McFeaters to the Good Samaritan Advisory Board, the community corrections advisory board and the Martin County Alliance.

-Mitch Green and Donna Hawkins to the Daviess-Martin Park Board.

-Warren Albright to the economic development commission.

-Randy Wininger to the SIDC (Southern Indiana Development Commission) Board.

-Rich Summers to the solid waste board.

The board offered Stiles their positions on various boards so that he would have something to serve on. Stiles said he was fine with not serving on any boards.

INSPECTED

(Continued from page one)

The Mill Street Grille, 111 Mill Street, Loogootee

No violations noted.

Corner Café, 201 N. JFK Avenue, Loogootee

One critical violation:

-Sanitizing solution used for dishwashing at an insufficient concentration

One non-critical violation:

-Box of cups stored directly on storage room floor

ZONING

(Continued from page one)

her company decided not to invest, the city could use that study with other potential organizations.

Council Member Teresa Nolley motioned for the city to pay the \$2,500 requested to go toward a feasibility study. The rest of the council approved. Nolley also requested that since Martin County is so close to the Daviess County line, that House Investments make sure they are looking at land in Martin County.

In other business, the council voted Carroll Rayhill to serve as the council president again this year.

The council approved one building permit at 104 West Main Street for Jeramey Osborn to add decking to the second floor of the existing building.

The council tabled the Perry Township Fire agreement. Clerk-Treasurer Jones said that she assumes Trustee Jason Hennette did not have it ready for the meeting.

The council voted to transfer \$48,000 from West Boggs Sewer District to the city's sewer account.

Clerk-Treasurer Jones asked the council to think about updating the city employee handbook that has not been updated since 2010. She said labor laws have changed in the past seven years. The last time the city had the handbook updated, it was \$5,000. Council Member Teresa Nolley asked why they needed an outside company to do it if just a few changes were needed. Jones replied that she doesn't know how to update the labor laws. Nolley then asked City Attorney Isha Wright-Ryan if she could do it. Wright-Ryan said she would look at it but she could not guarantee she knows those types of laws well enough. She will report back at the next meeting.

The council looked over two stone and sand bids, from Bonnie Leasing and

Arvin Crushed Stone. Bonnie Leasing had the cheaper prices and the council voted to go with that bid.

Public Works Superintendent Bo Wilson told the council that his department needs a utility vehicle with a crane to replace their current one. He has found two for sale in Kentucky he would like to go look at. He said a 2007 model has a cost of \$28,000 and a 2008 model has a cost of \$35,000. He said the 2008 model suits the needs of the department. He also asked the council to give him a maximum amount he allowed to spend on one because when he finds one that will work, he will have to give the seller a verbal commitment or they will sell it to someone else. The council voted to give Wilson a maximum of \$35,000.

When asked how much he would get when he sells the department's current vehicle, Wilson said he estimates it to sell for around \$8,000.

During the board of public works and safety meeting, department heads gave their reports.

Public Works Superintendent Bo Wilson gave the board his department's December report on the amount of service calls. He also reported that they pumped 6.4 million gallons of water to customers in December and treated 15.8 gallons of water at wastewater plant.

Loogootee Police Chief Kelly Rayhill gave the board of public works his annual report for 2016. He said they had 278 cases, 1,925 calls for service, 119 traffic citations, 91 criminal arrest, issued 40 hand gun permits, had 65 golf cart registrations, and 39 searches in the K9 division and 37 arrests in the K9 division.

Loogootee Fire Chief JD Flynn reported that, in December, they had six runs – two medical, two for smoke detectors and two for accidents.

CLASSIFIED ADS

HELP WANTED

PART-TIME JAILERS & DISPATCHERS WANTED

The Martin County Sheriff's Office is accepting applications for part time positions for jail officers and dispatchers.

Please pick up applications at the Sheriff's Office.

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Fri.-Sat. 7 a.m. to 10 p.m.; Sun. 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Obituaries

MARTIN COUNTY JOURNAL

Wednesday, January 11, 2017

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RONALD BUTCHER

Ronald Joseph Butcher passed away at 2 p.m. Monday January 2, 2017 surrounded by his loving family. A resident of Loogootee, he was 58.



RONALD BUTCHER

He was born on July 16, 1958 in Indianapolis; son of Marguerite (Riley) Butcher and the late Richard Butcher. He is a graduate of Loogootee High School. Following high school, he served in the U.S. Marine Corps. He went on to achieve multiple technical degrees and finished with a Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering from the University of Evansville. He played a vital role for 32 years at NSWC Crane progressing from an electronics technician, to an electrical engineer. He achieved many awards such as the Commander's Award for Civilian Service and the Secretary of Defense Medal for the Global War on Terrorism. He was an avid golfer, fisherman, and inventor. He loved to travel with his family where they made many happy memories around the country. He was son, brother, husband, dad, daddy, grandpa, papaw and friend to many. He never met a stranger and had one of the most giving hearts.

He is survived by his mother, Marguerite (Riley) Butcher of Loogootee; wife of 34 years, Rhonda (Pierson) Butcher; son, Joshua (Holly) Butcher of Washington; two daughters, Kendra (Nick) Wade of Fort Branch and Jessica Butcher of Washington; three brothers, Rick (Lisa) Butcher of Texas, Thomas Butcher of Evansville, and Terry (Michelle) Butcher of Loogootee; sister, Karla (Bill) Latham of Ohio, and three beautiful granddaughters that were the joy of his life, Elaine Butcher, Brooklyn Wade, and Abigail Butcher.

Funeral services were conducted Saturday, January 7 at Blake Funeral Home in Loogootee. Burial followed in St. John Catholic Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Cornerstone Rehab in Bloomington and/or Wounded Warriors Project.

Condolences may be made online at blakefuneralhomes.com.

MARVIN GRABER

Marvin Graber, formerly of Goshen, passed away at 10:09 p.m. Monday, January 2, 2017 at Daviess Community Hospital. A resident of Washington, he was 64.

He was born October 25, 1952 in Washington; son of Zetta (Stoll) Lengacher and the late George Graber.

He was a member of the East Goshen Mennonite Church.

He owned and operated Graber Piano Tuning and was a professional piano technician. In his spare time, he loved cars, music and water skiing.

He is survived by his mother, Zetta (Joe) Lengacher of Loogootee; siblings, Delmer (Betty Jean) Graber of Washington, Terry Joe (Gwen) Graber of Goshen, Nelda (Dean) Lengacher of Washington, Jolene (Van) McAtee of Loogootee and Sheldon Graber of Washington; 14 nieces and nephews; many great-nieces and great-nephews.

He was preceded in death by his father, George Graber and brother, Jerry J. Graber.

Funeral services were conducted Saturday, January 7 at Providence Mennonite Church. Burial followed in the church cemetery.

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

GERTRUDE GRONLUND

Gertrude Juanita Gronlund passed away at 11 p.m. Friday January 6, 2017 at the Prairie Village Nursing and Rehabilitation Center in Washington. A resident of Shoals, she was 90.

She was born in Vanderburgh County on February 26, 1926; daughter of Lawrence and Grace (Heuring) Steele. She married Theodore Gronlund and he preceded her in death.

She was a graduate of Millersburg, Indiana High School. She was employed by Bank of America as a teller and was a homemaker.

She is survived by a brother, Arnold Steele and wife, Dorothy, of Boonville; one step-daughter, Linda Hudson of Riverside, California; two step-sons, Richard Gronlund of Yucaipa, California and David Gronlund of Riverside, California; several nieces and nephews including, Linda and Dennis Jones of Shoals and Gaye and Stephen Sorrells of Montgomery; four grandchildren and great nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents, husband, one daughter, Diane Neighbors; four brothers and one sister.

A grave side memorial service will be held at 11 a.m. Thursday January 12 at the Springhill Cemetery in Shoals. Visitation will be from 4-7 p.m. on Wednesday at Queen-Lee Chapel in Shoals.

Queen-Lee Chapel in Shoals is in charge of the arrangements.

ROBERT STUCKEY

Robert Dean Stuckey passed away Tuesday, January 3, 2017 at Deaconess Hospital. A resident of Evansville, he was 85.

He was born in Raglesville on October 14, 1931; son of the late Mary Mae (Holt) and Sherman Albert Stuckey. He



ROBERT STUCKEY

honorably served in the United States Army from 1950-1953. While raising his young family, working a full-time job and running track, Bob was able to graduate from Indiana State University with honors in just 2 1/2 years with a degree in mathematics and biology. He worked for Pfizer Corp. and Commercial Solvents Corp and went on to retire from Bristol Myers after 17 years of service. He was a member of the Terre Haute and Evansville Lions Club, enjoyed hunting small game, fishing, and loved traveling to Puerto Rico in the winter with his wife, Jean.

He is survived by his sons, Robert M. Stuckey (Linda J.) of Collinsville, Illinois, and David A. Stuckey (Sandra L.) of Evansville; grandchildren, Michael A. Stuckey, Kevin P. Stuckey, Samuel D. Stuckey (Margaret), and Dean A. Stuckey (Cara); great-granddaughter, Karly Paige Stuckey; great-grandson, Samuel David Stuckey; one great-grandson on the way, Leland Dean Stuckey; sisters-in-law, Jean Stuckey and Mary Vickers; brother-in-law, Eldon Vickers (Jackie Jo); and many nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his wife

of 64 years, Verna "Jean" Stuckey in 2015; his parents; sister and brother-in-law, Mary Kay LaMar (Allen); a brother, Jack H. Stuckey; and a brother and sister-in-law, Sherman Albert Stuckey, Jr. (Florence).

Funeral services were held Friday, January 6 at Browning Funeral Home in Evansville with Deacon Vincent Bernardin officiating. Funeral services were also Saturday, January 7 at Blake Funeral Home in Loogootee. Entombment followed at Goodwill Cemetery, Loogootee with military honors.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Boys and Girls Club, 700 Bellemeade Ave., Evansville, IN 47713 or Boys Town, 14100 Crawford St., Boys Town, NE 68010.

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

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Martin County Sheriff's Department log

MONDAY, JANUARY 2

11:33 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Shoals. Shoals Fire and Martin County Ambulance responded and transported patient to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

11:55 a.m. - Received a request for an officer in Crane for a dog complaint. Sergeant Keller responded.

1:01 p.m. - Received a request for a vehicle check south of Loogootee. Sergeant Keller responded.

1:27 p.m. - Received a request for a vehicle check in Shoals. Captain Dant responded.

2:34 p.m. - Received a request for an officer near Loogootee in regard to a dog complaint. Sergeant Keller responded.

2:45 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Burns City. Crane Fire and Ambulance responded.

3:15 p.m. - Received a report of an impaired driver eastbound on Hwy. 50, toward Loogootee. Loogootee Chief Rayhill responded.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 3

3:07 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Ambulance responded. No transport was needed.

3:40 a.m. - Received a report of a vehicle accident on Hwy. 150 at the county line. Deputy Salmon, Shoals Fire and Martin County Ambulance responded. No transport needed.

4:42 a.m. - Received a report of a vehicle accident on Hwy. 50, east of Shoals. Deputy Salmon, Shoals Fire, and Martin County Ambulance responded. Martin County Ambulance transported one patient to IU Health Bedford.

9:50 a.m. - Sheriff Roush and Captain Dant transported four inmates to court.

10:50 a.m. - Received a request for an officer to speak with dog owners in the Crane Village about their dogs running loose and not being fed.

11:43 a.m. - Received a report of an accident on Hwy. 150 and Windom Road. Sheriff Roush, Chief Deputy Dant, Shoals Fire and Martin County Ambulance responded. No patient transport was needed.

1:03 p.m. - Received a report of dogs running loose day and night in the Scenic Hill, chasing children and running into the road. Captain Dant responded.

1:10 p.m. - Received a report of a tree across Hwy. 50 at county line. Shoals Fire responded.

1:30 p.m. - Captain Dant took four inmates to court.

4:16 p.m. - Received a dog complaint in Loogootee. Loogootee Police responded.

4:54 p.m. - Received a report of a dispute in Loogootee. Sheriff Roush, Sergeant Keller, Captain Dant, Deputy Reed, Reserve Deputy Gammon, Loogootee Officer McBeth, ISP Trooper Johnson, Martin County Ambulance, and Loogootee Fire responded.

10:50 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Ambulance responded. The subject was transported to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 4

9:25 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. Loogootee Fire, Martin County Ambulance, and Loogootee Chief Rayhill responded. No one was transported.

2:20 p.m. - Received a request for an

ambulance in Shoals. Shoals Fire and Martin County Ambulance responded. The subject was transported to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

3:15 p.m. - Received a report of a prowler in Loogootee. Loogootee Captain Hennette, Major Burkhardt, Sergeant Keller, and ISP Trooper Lents responded.

3:18 p.m. - Received a report of a car break-in in Crane. ISP was dispatched.

3:21 p.m. - Received a report of an accident north of Loogootee on US 231. Major Burkhardt and Loogootee Fire responded.

4:00 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.

7:24 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. Loogootee Fire and Martin County Ambulance responded. The subject was transported to Daviess Community Hospital.

7:31 p.m. - Received a report of a prowler in Crane. Sergeant Keller and ISP Trooper Johnson responded.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 5

8:00 a.m. - Received a report of an accident in Loogootee. Loogootee Chief Rayhill responded.

8:06 a.m. - Received a report of an accident east of Loogootee. Captain Dant responded.

8:16 a.m. - Sheriff Roush took one inmate to court.

9:40 a.m. - Received a report of an accident south of Loogootee. Captain Dant responded.

9:45 a.m. - Major Burkhardt took one inmate to court.

10:32 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Shoals. Shoals Fire and Martin County Ambulance responded. No one was transported.

10:50 a.m. - Major Burkhardt took one inmate to court.

11:05 a.m. - Received a report of an injured deer on SR 150 near Shoals. ICO Corporal Doane responded.

1:30 p.m. - Major Burkhardt took three inmates to court.

1:48 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Ambulance transported the subject to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

2:13 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance east of Loogootee. Martin County Ambulance responded but did not transport.

2:25 p.m. - Sheriff Roush took two inmates to court.

2:32 p.m. - Received a request for a welfare check and report of a fire east of Shoals. Shoals Fire, Martin County Civil Defense, Captain Dant, and Martin County Ambulance responded. No one was transported.

3:06 p.m. - Received a report of a domestic near Loogootee. ISP Trooper Lents responded.

5:45 p.m. - Received a request for a welfare check in Shoals. Major Burkhardt, Town Marshal Eckert, and Martin County Ambulance responded. The subject was transported to Daviess Community Hospital.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 6

1:13 a.m. - Deputy Shinn assisted a motorist in Loogootee.

3:44 a.m. - Received a dog complaint north of Loogootee. Deputy Shinn responded.

4:50 a.m. - Received a request for a welfare check in Shoals. Deputy Shinn responded.

5:07 a.m. - Received an alarm call south of Loogootee. Dubois County Sheriff's Office and Deputy Shinn responded. Everything was okay.

8:50 a.m. - Major Burkhardt took one inmate to court.

9:20 a.m. - Received a report of an abandoned animal near Loogootee. The humane society was contacted.

11:23 a.m. - Major Burkhardt took one inmate to court.

11:25 a.m. - Received a report of a theft in Loogootee. Loogootee Officer Baker responded.

1:54 p.m. - Major Burkhardt took four inmates to court.

2:05 p.m. - Sheriff Roush took one inmate to court.

2:21 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Ambulance responded but did not transport.

2:45 p.m. - Received a report of an accident near Shoals. Sheriff Roush responded.

7:38 p.m. - Received a request for a welfare check near Shoals. Deputy Shinn and Town Marshal Eckert responded. Everything was okay.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 7

7:47 a.m. - Major Burkhardt assisted a motorist east of Loogootee.

10:08 a.m. - Received a report of an accident near Loogootee. Major Burkhardt responded.

1:04 p.m. - Received an alarm call near Loogootee. Major Burkhardt and Loogootee Officer Dant responded. Everything was okay.

7:48 p.m. - Received a report of a fight in Shoals. Town Marshal Eckert responded.

8:23 p.m. - Received a report of a disabled vehicle north of Loogootee on US 231. ICO Mann responded.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 8

10:51 a.m. - Received a report of a theft in Loogootee. Loogootee Captain Hennette responded.

8:42 p.m. - Received a report of an accident in Shoals. Town Marshal Eckert and Deputy Reed responded.

9:38 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance near Shoals. Martin County Ambulance, Shoals Fire, Deputy Salmon, Deputy Reed, and Town Marshal Eckert responded. The subject was

transported to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

Real estate transfers

Robert E. Davis to Hazel N. Fuhrman, Lot Number 204 in Daugherty's Addition to the Town of West Shoals, now Shoals, Indiana.

Hazel N. Fuhrman to The Hazel N. Fuhrman Revocable Trust, Lot Number 204 in Daugherty's Addition to the Town of West Shoals, now Shoals, Indiana. Also, Lots Numbered 216 and 217 in Daugherty's Addition to the Town of West Shoals, now Shoals, Indiana. Also, Lot Number 218 in Daugherty's Addition to West Shoals, now Shoals, Indiana. Also, Lot Number 202 in the original plat of West Shoals, now West Shoals, Addition to the Town of Shoals.

Roger C. Survance to Hazel N. Fuhrman, Lot Number 213 in Daugherty's Addition to the Town of West Shoals, now Shoals, Indiana. Also, Lot Number 208 in Daugherty's Addition to the Town of West Shoals, now Shoals, Indiana. Also, Lot Number 209 in said Daugherty's Addition.

Hazel N. Fuhrman to The Hazel N. Fuhrman Revocable Trust, Lot Number 213 in Daugherty's Addition to the Town of West Shoals, now Shoals, Indiana. Also, Lot Number 208 in Daugherty's Addition to the Town of West Shoals, now Shoals, Indiana. Also, Lot Number 209 in said Daugherty's Addition.

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Martin County Humane Society

3RD ANNUAL CHILI COOK OFF

SUNDAY, JANUARY 29

3:30-5:30 p.m.

at The Lodge of Loogootee



Want to enter your chili?

Email mchs@frontier.com for info or call the shelter at 812-295-5900.

Entry fee: \$10

Prizes awarded for 1st, 2nd & 3rd place. \$5 to come taste and vote!

All proceeds go to the care of the dogs and cats at the animal shelter. Come out and support the animals!

Loogootee Police log

MONDAY, JANUARY 2

9:10 a.m. - Chief Rayhill assisted with a funeral procession.

3:25 p.m. - Caller reported a possible intoxicated driver. Officers were unable to locate.

6:21 p.m. - Caller reported a possible child abuse case.

8:16 p.m. - Caller requested a welfare check on a female.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 3

10:53 a.m. - Caller reported the traffic light at US 231 was not working.

12:23 p.m. - Caller requested a vehicle identification check.

4:30 p.m. - Caller reported a civil complaint.

4:52 p.m. - Caller reported a runaway. Juvenile returned home.

5:00 p.m. - Officer McBeth assisted the county with a domestic dispute.

10:27 p.m. - Officer McBeth responded to a business alarm.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 4

2:37 a.m. - Caller requested an officer assist with a repossession of a vehicle.

9:25 a.m. - Chief Rayhill assisted the ambulance service on North Line Street.

3:21 p.m. - Caller reported property damage on US 231.

4:00 p.m. - First responders were requested on Truelove Drive for a medical call.

7:24 p.m. - First responders were requested at Ruler for a medical call.

4:06 p.m. - First responders were re-

quested for traffic control on US 231.

8:53 p.m. - Caller reported harassing phone calls.

10:55 p.m. - Caller reported a suspicious person on SE 3rd Street.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 5

12:05 p.m. - Chief Rayhill assisted the county with serving an arrest warrant.

7:25 p.m. - Caller reported harassment.

8:41 p.m. - Caller reported a reckless driver in the high school parking lot.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 6

10:45 a.m. - Caller reported a reckless driver on Hwy 50.

2:45 p.m. - Caller requested a welfare check on a male.

8:50 p.m. - Caller reported a dog complaint.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 7

12:43 p.m. - Caller reported a theft of fuel from Chuckles.

5:11 p.m. - Caller reported kids throwing rocks at his residence.

8:23 p.m. - Caller reported a broken-down vehicle on US 231.

9:02 p.m. - Caller reported a dog complaint.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 8

9:49 a.m. - Caller requested a welfare check on a female.

10:51 a.m. - Caller reported a theft.

9:10 p.m. - Officer Baker responded to a business alarm.

10:30 p.m. - Caller reported a reckless driver on US 231.

ARRESTS

TUESDAY, JANUARY 3

6:20 p.m. - Dale Condra, 54, of Loogootee, was arrested by Sergeant Keller and charged with battery. His bond has been set at \$25,000 10%.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 4

4:00 p.m. - Anthony Chestnut, 46, of Loogootee, was arrested by Loogootee Captain Hennette and charged with possession of meth and maintaining a common nuisance. He is being held without bond. Captain Dant assisted in the arrest.

9:13 p.m. - Jennifer Yoder, 41, of Loogootee, was arrested by Sergeant Keller and charged with maintaining a common nuisance. She is being held without bond.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 5

1:00 p.m. - Jarrod Zins, 41, of Loogootee, was arrested by Captain Dant on a Martin County Warrant and is being held without bond.

3:00 p.m. - Rector Worley, 32, of Washington, was arrested by ISP Trooper Lents on a Martin County warrant and is being held without bond.

4:12 p.m. - Robert White, 35, of Loogootee, was arrested by ISP Trooper Lents on a Martin County warrant and is being held without bond.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 7

8:44 p.m. - Toby Carwile, 50, of Loogootee, was arrested by ISP Trooper Watson and charged with operating while intoxicated endangerment. He is being held on a \$20,000 10% bond.

Assisting with the arrest were Deputy Reed and Reserve Deputy Harmon.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 8

3:30 p.m. - Robert Neal, 31, of Loogootee, was arrested by Sergeant Keller and charged with driving while suspended prior and is being held on a \$20,000 10% bond.

COURT NEWS

CIVIL COURT

New Suits Filed

December 29

Bradley S. Combs II vs. Morgan M. Combs, petition for dissolution of marriage.

SMALL CLAIMS COURT

New Suits Filed

January 3

Medical of Dubois vs. Darlene R. Wiscaver, complaint.

Medical of Dubois vs. Ronnie K. Rea, complaint.

Medical of Dubois vs. Melody S. Padgett, complaint.

Medical of Dubois vs. Johnny R. Blackmon, complaint.

Accident report

THURSDAY, JANUARY 5

8:00 a.m. - Cynthia F. O'Brien, of Loogootee, was operating a 2007 Chevy on 150 North. Due to icy roads, O'Brien lost control and stuck a culvert. Chief Rayhill investigated.

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More Neat Stuff



Riddles can often be thought provoking but also very frustrating. You read the answer and think, "Duh, I knew that!" The following might cause that reaction but they are kind of neat. Hope you can think "outside the box." Answers are at the end. (Believe it or not, some people request these.)

1. What's bigger than you but doesn't weigh anything?
2. What word becomes shorter when you add two letters to it?
3. If you have me, you want to share me. If you share me, you haven't got me. What am I?
4. Which is correct to say, "The yolk of the egg are white," or "The yolk of the egg is white?"
5. In California, you cannot take a picture of a man with a wooden leg. Why not?
6. Billy was born on December 28th, yet his birthday is always in the summer. How is this possible?
7. What word in the English language is always spelled incorrectly?
8. How much dirt is there in a hole that measures 2 feet, by 3 feet, by 4 feet?
9. Before Mt. Everest was discovered, what was the highest mountain in the world?
10. There is a clerk at the butcher shop. He is 5 feet 10 inches tall, and he wears size 13 sneakers. What does he weigh?

HUMORISMS:

- PUPIL – "Would you punish me for something I didn't do?"
 TEACHER – "Of course not."
 PUPIL – "Good, because I haven't done my homework."
 2. As a teacher I often send home notes with children to inform the parents that their child's behavior can use some improvement. I received the following letter from one student's father, "Dear Mrs. Green, Harry is sorry he didn't do his homework last night, he will never do it again."
 3. Someone just honked to get me

out of my parking spot faster so now I have to sit here until both of us are dead.

4. If you see me eating salad in a restaurant, I have been kidnapped and I am trying to signal you.
5. Do you ever just wake up and go, "Nope," and roll over and go back to sleep?
6. I've decided I'm not old. I'm 25 plus shipping and handling.
7. I really think it's time to take the warning labels off everything and let stupidity work itself out of the gene pool.
8. I don't understand how I can remember every word from a song from 1984, but I can't remember why I walked into the kitchen.
9. If I plan it right, one hot flash can defrost the whole car.
10. The police came to my house earlier and said my dog had chased someone on a bike. I said, "You must be joking, officer, my dog doesn't even have a bike."
11. Did you ever wake up, kiss the person sleeping beside you, and feel glad that you are alive? I just did and apparently will not be allowed on this airline again.
12. I should really work off that Christmas meal. Oh look, Christmas cookies!

1. Your shadow
2. Shorter
3. It's a secret.
4. Neither, the yolk of the egg is yellow.
5. You can't take pictures with a wooden leg. You need a camera (or cell phone) to take pictures.
6. Billy lives in the southern hemisphere.
7. Incorrectly
8. There is no dirt in a hole.
9. Mt. Everest. It just wasn't discovered yet.
10. Meat

Make someone smile today!

Electric co-op to sponsor students for D.C. trip

Daviess-Martin County REMC will sponsor two students on the annual Indiana Youth Tour to Washington, D.C. The 2017 Indiana Youth Tour is June 8-15. Students whose parents or guardians are Daviess-Martin County REMC members and entering their senior year in 2017 are eligible to attend and are selected by their local cooperative to participate in the weeklong trip. Indiana will send a delegation of approximately 85 students from throughout the state. The students travel to Washington and convene with more than 1,800 students from up to 46 states.

"Daviess-Martin County REMC is pleased to provide this opportunity for our local youth," said Janet Chestnut, DMREMC Member Services Representative. "It's a great trip and a wonderful chance to see the sites, make new friends and learn how everyone, even young people, can make a difference in the political process."

Applications for Youth Tour are available at local high schools, on the coop-

erative website at www.dmremc.com or by contacting Chestnut at Daviess-Martin County REMC, 800-762-7362 or jchestnut@dmremc.com. Applications are due February 17.

Students participating in the trip will visit the Gettysburg Battlefield, Arlington National Cemetery, the Smithsonian museums, tour the Jefferson, Martin Luther King, Jr., and Franklin D. Roosevelt Memorials, take a night cruise on the Potomac River, and much more.

The Indiana Youth Tour students will also participate in a youth rally hosted by the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association, during which they will share their thoughts and opinions on a variety of timely issues. The youth rally will prepare the students for a day on Capitol Hill, where they will have an opportunity to meet with Indiana's congressional delegation.

For more information about the 2017 Indiana Youth Tour to Washington, D.C., contact Janet Chestnut at 800-762-7362.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Shoals School Board meeting

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

Special talk to a lawyer clinic

The Diversity Committee of the Evansville Bar Association, along with the Volunteer Lawyer Program will participate in a statewide honoring of Martin Luther King, Jr.'s celebrated birthday on January 16, 2017, with a special session of their talk to a lawyer telephone clinic. Volunteer attorneys and paralegals will be available between the hours of 4:30 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. CST, to answer general legal questions. This will be the 14th year that the Volunteer Lawyer Program has participated in this special event. To call in, the telephone numbers are: (812) 618-4845 and 888-594-3449 and the hours are between 4:30 and 6:30 p.m. CST.

Drawing classes

Artist Bill Whorral would like Martin County, and surrounding area, teens and adults to know he has re-started his drawing class in the SOAR office (in the building behind the community building on the fairgrounds). It will meet three times, Saturdays, January 14, 21 and 28. The class will be from 2-4 and all materials will be supplied. Beginners and experienced artists are welcome! \$15 per class and can be paid on the day of the class.

Loogootee School Board meeting

The Loogootee School Board will meet Thursday, January 12 at 4 p.m. in the meeting room off the superintendent's office. The meeting is open to the public.

Chamber of commerce meeting

The Martin County Chamber of Commerce will hold their monthly meeting Wednesday, January 18 at noon at Wendy's in Loogootee. Anyone interested in the chamber activities is invited to attend.

Online survey needs your input

Share your opinions about local housing needs through the Martin County Housing survey (available online at: <https://purdue.qualtrics.com/SouthernIndianaHousingDemandSurvey>). Don't miss your chance to be heard! If you have already recently answered housing-related questions via a phone survey, please do not answer the same questions using this web-based link (in order to avoid duplication). All responses are voluntary and anonymous. The deadline for providing feedback is February 15, 2017. The information you provide will guide decision-makers as they explore ways to expand local housing options.

Sunday nights of revival

New Beginnings Community Church and Maranatha Tabernacle Church are holding 14 continuous Sunday nights of revival starting January 8 through April 9, 2017. The "Code Blue" (start your heart with God) revival meetings begin at 6 p.m. (EST) each Sunday night and meet at Maranatha Tabernacle Church, 13111 Hwy 231 N., Loogootee. Special revival speakers and worship bands will participate each month. For additional information, contact Pastor Ernie at 812-709-0258 or Pastor Duane at 812-295-4349.

Attention Senior Citizens

The Loogootee Senior Citizen Cen-

ter, located in the Annex building attached to JFK Gym on JFK Avenue in Loogootee provides activities for seniors every Monday and Thursday from 8 a.m. to noon. For \$5 a year, seniors can participate in Euchre tournaments, games, puzzles, etc., with other local seniors. Anyone interested is welcome to stop by, there are no age or residency requirements to participate.

Free lunch for kids

New Beginnings Community Church will be offering a free lunch to all school-age children every Saturday from noon to 1 p.m. at the fellowship hall of the church, located at 200 West Main Street next to the post office. For more info, call 812-709-2525.

SOAR Tutoring

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

Humane society meetings

The Martin County Humane Society meets on the third Friday of the month at the animal shelter at 507 N Oak Street in Loogootee, at 5:30 p.m. Members of the humane society are invited to attend.

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.

Tourism meetings

The MCCC Tourism Committee meets on the third Wednesday of each month at 7 p.m. at Loughmiller Machine, 12851 E 150 N, Loogootee. The public 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



Ruby is a female cattle dog mix, 2 years old, very playful, does very well with children. She gets along with other dogs and doesn't seem to mind cats. She is spayed and up to date on shots. The animal shelter is open Monday and Wednesday 5-7 p.m. and Saturday 11 a.m.-2 p.m. To see all the dogs and cats available, visit www.humanesocietyofmartincounty.org. The shelter is located at 507 N. Oak Street in Loogootee.



Making A Difference

MARTIN COUNTY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

By Curt Johnson
MCCF Executive Director



-- ARISTOTLE --

"The whole is greater than the sum of its parts." So, what does a quote from an ancient Greek philosopher and scientist have to do with you and I here in Martin County in 2017? You've probably seen it used before to make a point about working together to accomplish something good, something more than could have been done individually. So, you bet, here's one more time.

-- SMALL FOR BIG --

And I've said it before that we are a small county. Nothing new there. But as we've seen more than once, our residents come together to make our county better. So many times, people volunteer their time and talent to help pull together that important event, to improve the quality of life in some way for someone in our community. People from a small county can make a big difference when they work together.

-- YOUR GIVING PLAN --

This same thought also applies when you start thinking about your giving plan for the year. You'll need to decide how much you can donate to a charity to have some kind of an impact on a concern that is important to you. Some people donate money whenever there's an event or celebration. Sometimes instead of buying gifts, they donate in honor of a loved one. Some can donate a significant amount of money, but the majority of us are not that fortunate.

-- LITTLE BITS ADD UP --

But, there is an amount this is right for each of us. Pick some percentage of your income or a specific amount that you want to donate and how often. And it can be a small amount. Whatever or however you do it is fine; just stay committed to your cause. Over the year, it adds up. And if many people commit to donating what they can, together it adds up to make a big difference. It's "strength in numbers."

-- YOUR MCCF --

The MCCF is here to help you put your giving plan into practice. We start the new year with some new board members that give us good representation across the county. Please contact any of them to start that conversation about how you can be a part of something bigger.

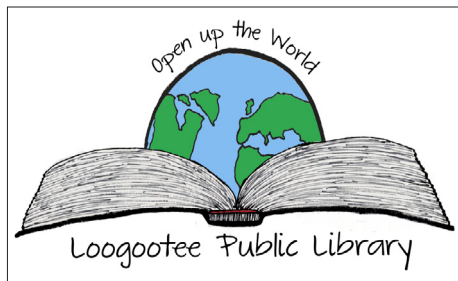
The 2017 MCCF Board of Directors are:

Liz Chatten, President
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Melissa Courter, Secretary
Vicky Bauernfiend
Jerry Braun
Brian Esch
Terry Hasler
Alan Lagree
Candace Roush
Phillip Smith
Annette Taylor
Jean Walker

-- MORE INFORMATION --

For more information about the MCCF, please contact the Executive Director, Curt Johnson, at 812-295-1022 or mccf@cfpartner.org.

You are also welcome to visit our website at www.cfpartner.org/mccf.htm, follow us on Twitter at www.twitter.com/MartinCountyCF, and "like" the MCCF Facebook page at www.facebook.com/mcccommunity-foundation.



BY DARLA WAGLER
Librarian, Loogootee Public Library

New Books:

Mystery Fiction: "Below the Belt" by Stuart Woods.

Fiction: "Lord of the Privateers" by Stephanie Laurens.

Inspirational Fiction: "Amish Weddings" by Leslie Gould and "In the Shadow of Denali" by Tracie Peterson.

The library hours are Monday and Tuesday 10-7, Wednesday closed, Thursday and Friday 10-5 and Saturday 9-1. The phone number is 812-295-3713 or check out the website www.loogootee.lib.in.us or like us on Facebook. The library has free Wi-Fi service available for patrons.

4-H NEWS



By Stacy Brown
Martin County Purdue Extension Educator

Club Meetings

Jolly Jug Rox—January 9, 2017 at 6 p.m. at Shoals Elementary. Meeting will take place in Mrs. Hawkins 4th grade class room. Please enter by the 3rd grade doors. Please bring your chrome books so you can sign up for 4-H.

Shooting Sports—Shooting Sports is becoming its own club. Please join us for meetings every 2nd and 4th of the month at 6 p.m. at the Martin County Community Building starting January 9.

Horse and Pony--

Wednesday, January 11, 6:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m. at Martin County Learning Center

Monday, February 6, 6:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m. at Martin County Learning Center

Monday, March 13, 6:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m. at Martin County Learning Center

Monday, April 3, 6:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m. at Martin County Community Building

Enrollment Deadline for 4-H 2016-2017 Is Fast Approaching

If you are interested in 4-H or know someone who is now is the time to start planning to join us for another great year in Martin County. Any child grades 3 through 12 may join 4-H. We also have a future 4-H program for kids in grades K-2. While most 4-Hers concentrate on projects for the fair, the program is about much more than exhibits. 4-H teaches leadership, community service, independence, confidence, and many other life skills. There are clubs and projects that focus on livestock judging, shooting sports, robotics, and junior leadership. Each year there are dozens of opportunities for youth to attend workshops, conference, and camps focusing on career choices, diversity, and co-operation. 4-H is a great way to meet new friends and learn to make the best better.

If you have any questions or would like information sent to you about enrolling for 4-H, please contact the Martin County Purdue Extension office at 812-295-2412.

Camps, Conferences, & Trips

Recently application of interest forms for state camps, conferences, and trips were sent to all 4-H families. If you are thinking of attending any of these events, please fill out the form and send it back to the Extension Office. More information will be sent to you as it becomes available.

4-H Scholarships Available

The following scholarships are available through 4-H. Scholarship applications must be submitted through 4Honline.com by January 25, 2017. To for more information about the scholarships please visit <http://extension.purdue.edu/4h/Pages/scholarships.aspx>

4-H Accomplishment Scholarship—Sophomores, Juniors, Seniors, and College Freshmen are eligible to apply.

4-H Foundation Scholarship—All Seniors are eligible for this state and county scholarship.

4-H Club Scholarship—Seniors in high school or those who are currently enrolled in a post-secondary institution and will be transferring to Purdue

University in the fall semester.

4-H Camp Counselors Needed

The weather may be getting colder, but we are already thinking about 4-H Camp 2017. Any currently enrolled 4-H member grades 9-12 may apply to be a camp counselor. This is an amazing opportunity to grow as a leader, make new friends, learn new things, and have a ton of fun. There are two required trainings for camp counselors. The first is March 5th. This is an all-day training in Spencer County. The second is on May 30th with times to be determined. If you are interested in applying to be a counselor, please contact Stacy at the Purdue Extension office (812) 295-2412. Before you apply make sure you re-enroll in 4-H for 2017 at 4Honline.com.

Become a Volunteer

Volunteers for 4-H have the unique opportunity to grow true leaders in our community. Volunteering can be as active as leading a 4-H club or just helping out at fair time. Volunteers learn educational programs to take out to community youth. If you are interested in becoming a volunteer, please call the Purdue Extension Martin County office at (812) 295-2412.

Opportunities to Help 4-H Grow in Martin County

Almost everyone in Martin County has either been involved in 4-H or knows someone who has been a part of this great youth organization. Over the years, 4-H has helped to develop life skills, teach responsibility, offer opportunities, award scholarships, and much more to Martin County youth. The program has been growing true leaders since its inception and many 4-Hers have gone on to become actual leaders of the community. As 4-H continues to grow in the 21st Century, the cost of maintaining the space needed for programming also grows. Now is your chance to give back to an organization that has given so much to the young people in the area. The Martin County 4-H Council has launched a fundraising campaign for the upcoming year. Businesses that donate will have their names listed on a plaque in the Community Building. Donations of \$5,000+ will receive a platinum status, \$1,000-\$4,999 will receive a gold status, \$500-\$999 will receive a silver status, and donations of \$100-\$499 will receive a bronze status. Individuals may donate as well and any donation is appreciated. We also have a 4-H recipe book containing all the recipes submitted to the 2016 fair. They are \$5 and available at the Purdue Extension-Martin County office. All donations will go toward maintaining the fairgrounds and buildings so future 4-Hers and the community can continue to benefit from programming. To donate please contact the Purdue Extension Office at 812-295-2412.

Park board appointment

The Martin County Board of Commissioners is searching for an interested citizen of Martin County to serve on the Daviess-Martin Park Board. If you are interested in serving on this board please contact the Martin County Auditor's Office at 812-247-3731 by Tuesday, January 17, 2017 by 4 p.m.

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In the Garden

By Ralph Purkhiser
Purdue University Master Gardener

While many see the winter months as a time away from gardening, I find that there are several things to do now to make the garden better. Of course, keeping an eye on winter damage and heave is one of the most important activities, but there is much more.

While gardens may be dreary right now, it is a good time to take stock on the bones of the garden and determine what is needed to improve it for the future. What would it take to make your garden attractive in all seasons? What is in the garden that is already attractive? What can be done to emphasize those traits?

Obviously, evergreen trees and shrubs are often the most noticeable things in the winter garden, but evergreens also play an important role in other seasons. Evergreens make backdrops for smaller plants and may allow light-colored blossoms stand out better. Evergreens also anchor beds. Regardless of the season, an evergreen provides interest. While the plants around it may change with the seasons, the evergreen remains fairly constant.

In general, evergreens may be classified as either conifer or broadleaf. The interest in conifers lies in the shape, color and type of foliage. Over the past few years, I have been attempting to add a few new conifers to the gardens each year. I have placed weeping form conifers with more columnar trees and with rounded forms. Classic pyramidal shapes may be contrasted with spirals, pom-poms or other irregular shapes. Ground covers, such as carpet junipers, may be used to cover banks and other difficult areas. While we refer to them as evergreens, the color palette is actually much broader. Shades of green range from chartreuse to emerald. Many conifers also have gold foliage and some sport various shades of blue.

Funding available for developing young forests

A new forest wildlife habitat program will distribute almost \$1 million in federal funding to private landowners in southern Indiana for the development of young forests. Similar to young forest projects in the New England, Mid-Atlantic and Great Lakes areas, the Southern Indiana Young Forest Initiative is a multiple-agency partnership that will make available \$960,000 in cost-share funding to landowners in 43 southern counties. The DNR Division of Forestry will lead the five-year program.

The goal is to create 3,000 acres of young forest habitat, also called early successional habitat, on private land. Hoosier National Forest, DNR Forestry, The Nature Conservancy Indiana Chapter and U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service will contribute an additional 5,436 acres for a combined 8,436 acres of habitat.

The program will benefit many at-risk and state-endangered species, according to State Forester John Seifert.

“The Southern Indiana Young Forest Initiative will advance the population recoveries of young forest bird species such as ruffed grouse, American woodcock, blue-winged warbler, yellow-breasted chat, and whip-poor-will,” Seifert said. “This area is based on the Central Hardwoods Joint Venture bird conservation region and shows a dra-

Some actually change colors with the seasons, with bronze or burgundy winter color the most common. I have also become smitten with variegation in evergreens. Gold or cream-colored tips on needles often occur in the spring. Many conifers have lighter-colored candles when adding new growth. Variety is the spice of life and juxtaposing different evergreens will definitely add interest to the garden in all seasons. However, repeating a single color or type of tree or shrub will also help to tie the various parts of the garden into a more cohesive plan. Evergreens can be expensive, so learn the growth requirements for the plants you admire to make certain they will work in your landscape.

Broadleaf evergreens often add foliage and flowers to the garden. Azaleas, rhododendrons, hollies and other broadleaf evergreens add yet another texture to the garden mix. When in bloom, they also add a lot of color. In recent years, repeat-blooming azaleas have become more affordable and really give a garden a bang for the bucks. Some broadleaf foliage has different colors on the back side of the leaves, adding to the interest. As with conifers, variegated varieties will also increase the variety.

Whether you use a computer for research or prefer the time-honored method of cutting pictures out of nursery catalogues, place pictures of different evergreens together to see what combinations you like and what will work in your garden. Surround the evergreens with stones, perennials and annuals to see what will stand out in different seasons.

Winter interest is possible, but it takes some planning. Now is the time to plan for the future. Next week, we will consider some other types of plants that add interest to the garden in winter.

matic lack of early successional habitat.”

Young forest habitat is lacking in Indiana due to changes in land use over the last century. After farms on hilly and marginal land failed during the Great Depression, Indiana experienced a period of reforestation and a boom in young forest habitat. But those reforested areas have aged in unison and are reaching maturity. The initiative is being funded by the USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCP). Other partners include DNR Fish & Wildlife, Ruffed Grouse Society, Indiana Forest & Woodland Owners Association, Izaak Walton League, The Indiana Forestry Educational Foundation, Central Hardwoods Joint Venture and National Wild Turkey Federation.

DNR district foresters will help private landowners develop young forest management plans and apply for funding. Enrollment opportunities are expected to begin in 2017. Landowners can begin the process by contacting their local NRCS district conservationist or DNR district forester.

Contact information for NRCS district conservationists is at nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/in/contact/local. Contact information for DNR district foresters is at dnr.IN.gov/forestry/4750.htm.



Grazing Bites

By Victor Shelton
NRCS State Agronomist/Grazing Specialist

I know that there are a lot of people who really enjoy winter. I'm not one of them. The only good things about winter is I don't have to mow the yard and I might find more time to catch up on my reading. The best part of winter is when it's over!

Winter does tend to be one of the better times for me to do some maintenance. I spend time fixing or building fences, as long as the ground isn't frozen too much, recycling old metal, removing brush, and frost-seeding clover. Just like fences need some periodic maintenance to keep them in good shape, keeping a sufficient amount of clover present in the pastures also takes a little attention.

Most of our white clovers do a fairly good job of sticking around from year to year. Typically they are white Dutch type clovers, a Ladino, or more likely a cross between the two. They are heavy nitrogen producers and add a lot of value to a pasture, boosting yield and feed quality. Some of the newer varieties of white clovers are a lot more aggressive than the older Dutch clovers. They are typically Ladino crosses and do a better job of getting leaves up higher in the canopy and competing with the grasses present.

This competition can be a problem. If it is a newly planted pasture, the more aggressive Ladino type clovers can start growing in the early spring before the grass takes off and become quite competitive for the existing grasses. This tends to be more of a problem if the clover and the grass are planted at the same time. It generally is better to plant the grasses first, such as in the fall, and then come back and over-seed or frost-seed the clovers on during the winter dormant months. That gives the grass a bit more of advantage that first spring. If planted at the same time, and especially if too much clover is planted, then stands in the spring can sometimes be sixty percent or better. Clover, especially white clover, that dense can cause bloat issues.

In pastures where the grasses are already established, the opposite is quite often true. The grasses can be too much competition for the clover to get established. This is one case where some pre-dormant, tighter grazing can help. By grazing the grass closer and not maintaining the normal prescribed stop grazing heights of three or four inches for cool season forages, you can delay the growth of the grass for the spring, which will help establish the frost-seeded clovers.

Red clover can also be a good legume for pasture. Red clovers are not as long living as white clovers and usually tend to thrive for two to three years. If you are going to be cutting the field for hay, red clover is a better choice over white clover. It yields better and certainly dries better than white clovers. It tends to have a fairly shallow root system, especially in wet years. If cutting for hay in a wet year, it's best to cut a little bit higher than normal, at least three inches. I have seen almost ninety percent stand loss from cutting short and then the weather turning dry. There is some research that indicates that isoflavones in red clover may help reduce

tall fescue toxicosis. It's been preached for a long time that while diluting the alkaloids in tall fescue with clover and other species certainly helps, red clover may go beyond just diluting and may actually offset potential damage from the fescue alkaloids and also help ruminants digest protein more efficiently.

The negative aspect of red clover, or more precisely the isoflavones produced by it, is it can interfere with the estrous cycle in sheep and reduce lambing rates. This can be avoided by not grazing areas with high amounts of red clover at least 30 days prior to breeding.

Right now is a good time to be thinking about adding clover to your pastures or hay fields. Frost seeding is certainly one of the least expensive ways to enhance the stand of legumes in your pastures. It is basically the process of broadcasting the legume seed onto the soil surface during the winter dormant months. For the most part, I usually say the ideal time period is somewhere between Christmas and Valentine's Day.

You already know that I'm not a fan of winter and could really pass on the snow completely except maybe for only about a week right before Christmas, but it does come in handy for frost-seeding clover. A light snow on the ground serves for a couple good purposes. First, it helps "catch" the seed and transport it to the ground. Second, it serves as a great marker for the tractor or ATV. A good heavy frost can also work. It just happens that I'm getting some snow as I write this today and have some clover that needs to be sown. Guess I know what I'll be doing soon.

I usually recommend slightly higher seeding rates for frost seeding than for conventional seeding. White clovers can be seeded at 1-1.5 lb. per acre, remembering that it is a much smaller seed than red clover and will be around longer. You can get it on too thick and yes, I know, it's hard to seed that small amount! I've found cat litter is not too bad of a carrier if needed; just make sure to mix it all well to distribute the seed evenly or have your seed dealer mix it for you, then allow for that carrier to get the correct seeding rate. Red clover should be seeded at 6-8 lbs. per acre. All legumes should be inoculated with the appropriate inoculants for that species to insure proper bacteria, good germination, and growth. That inoculant also helps to maximize nitrogen fixation, and you certainly want to take advantage of that! Most legumes have a specific Rhizobia (soil bacteria that fix nitrogen) so select the ones for the species being planted. Quite often, the inoculant is included on coated seed, which is also easier to plant.

Keep warm and keep on grazing!

Reminders & Opportunities

Southern Indiana Grazing Conference (SIGC) – March 8, 2017, Crane, IN – Speakers include Darin Williams, Joshua Dukart, and Teddy Gentry. For more information contact the Daviess County Soil and Water Conservation office at 812-254-4780, Ext 3, email Toni.Allison.dc.swcd@daviess.org, or visit www.daviesscoswcd.org/index.php/sigc or www.facebook.com/SouthernIndianaGrazingConference

National unemployment at 4.7 percent in December

Total nonfarm payroll employment rose by 156,000 in December, and the unemployment rate

was little changed at 4.7 percent, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported last week.

Job growth occurred in health care and social assistance.

Household Survey Data

The unemployment rate, at 4.7 percent, and the number of unemployed persons, at 7.5 million, changed little in December. However, both measures edged down in the fourth quarter, after showing little net change earlier in the year.

Among the major worker groups, the unemployment rates for adult men (4.4 percent), adult women (4.3 percent), teenagers (14.7 percent), Whites (4.3 percent), Blacks (7.8 percent), Asians (2.6 percent), and Hispanics (5.9 percent) showed little change in December.

The number of long-term unemployed (those jobless for 27 weeks or more) was essentially unchanged at 1.8 million in December and accounted for 24.2 percent of the unemployed. In 2016, the number of long-term unemployed declined by 263,000.

The labor force participation rate, at 62.7 percent, changed little in December and was unchanged over the year. In December, the employment-population ratio was 59.7 percent for the third consecutive month; this measure showed little change, on net, in 2016.

The number of persons employed part time for economic reasons (also referred to as involuntary part-time workers), at 5.6 million, was essentially unchanged in December but was down by 459,000 over the year. These individuals, who would have preferred full-time employment, were working part time because their hours had been cut back or because they were unable to find a full-time job.

In December, 1.7 million persons were marginally attached to the labor force, little changed from a year earlier. (The data are not seasonally adjusted.) These individuals were not in the labor force, wanted and were available for work, and had looked for a job sometime in the prior 12 months. They were not counted as unemployed because they had not searched for work in the 4 weeks preceding the survey.

Among the marginally attached, there were 426,000 discouraged workers in December, down by 237,000 from a year earlier. (The data are not seasonally adjusted.) Discouraged workers are persons not currently looking for work because they believe no jobs are available to them. The remaining 1.3 million persons marginally attached to the labor force in December had not searched for work for reasons such as school attendance or family responsibilities.

Establishment Survey Data

Total nonfarm payroll employment rose by 156,000 in December, with an increase in health care and social assistance. Job growth totaled 2.2 million in 2016, less than the increase of 2.7 million in 2015.

Employment in health care rose by 43,000 in December, with most of the increase occurring in ambulatory health care services (+30,000) and hospitals (+11,000). Health care added

an average of 35,000 jobs per month in 2016, roughly in line with the average monthly gain of 39,000 in 2015.

Social assistance added 20,000 jobs in December, reflecting job growth in individual and family services (+21,000). In 2016, social assistance added 92,000 jobs, down from an increase of 162,000 in 2015.

Employment in food services and drinking places continued to trend up in December (+30,000). This industry added 247,000 jobs in 2016, fewer than the 359,000 jobs gained in 2015.

Employment also continued to trend up in transportation and warehousing in December (+15,000). Within the industry, employment expanded by 12,000 in couriers and messengers. In 2016, transportation and warehousing added 62,000 jobs, down from a gain of 110,000 jobs in 2015.

Employment in financial activities continued on an upward trend in December (+13,000). This is in line with the average monthly gains for the industry over the past 2 years.

In December, employment edged up in manufacturing (+17,000), with a gain of 15,000 in the durable goods component. However, since reaching a recent peak in January, manufacturing employment has declined by 63,000.

Employment in professional and business services was little changed in December (+15,000), following an increase of 65,000 in November. The industry added 522,000 jobs in 2016.

Employment in other major industries, including mining, construction, wholesale trade, retail trade, information, and government, changed little in December.

The average workweek for all employees on private nonfarm payrolls was unchanged at 34.3 hours in December. In manufacturing, the workweek edged up by 0.1 hour to 40.7 hours, and overtime edged up by 0.1 hour to 3.3 hours. The average workweek for production and nonsupervisory employees on private nonfarm payrolls remained at 33.6 hours.

In December, average hourly earnings for all employees on private nonfarm payrolls increased by 10 cents to \$26.00, after edging down by 2 cents in November. Over the year, average hourly earnings have risen by 2.9 percent. In December, average hourly earnings of private-sector production and nonsupervisory employees increased by 7 cents to \$21.80.

The change in total nonfarm payroll employment for October was revised down from +142,000 to +135,000, and the change for November was revised up from +178,000 to +204,000. With these revisions, employment gains in October and November were 19,000 higher than previously reported. Over the past 3 months, job gains have averaged 165,000 per month.

Tolling is underway in Louisville and Southern Indiana

Tolling is underway on three Ohio River bridges connecting Louisville and Southern Indiana. Tolling on the new SR 265 Lewis and Clark Bridge, the new I-65 Abraham Lincoln Bridge and the improved I-65 Kennedy Bridge started one week ago, December 30.

The Kennedy and Lincoln bridges provide 12 lanes of I-65 traffic connecting Downtown Louisville and Southern Indiana. The Lewis and Clark Bridge, which opened to traffic December 18, connects the Gene Snyder Freeway in Prospect, Ky. with State Road 265 in Utica, Ind.

RiverLink is the name of the new, all-electronic tolling system. There's no stopping, no slowing, no lines and no coin machines. Toll rates range from \$2-\$12, depending on the size of vehicle and whether the driver has a prepaid RiverLink account and transponder.

"More than 80,000 drivers have been traveling the three tolled bridges on a daily basis, enjoying a faster and safer commute," said Clint Murphy, director of tolling oversight for the Indiana Department of Transportation. "It's encouraging to already see more than 50 percent of drivers with transponders in their vehicles during the opening days of tolling." That number is expected to climb as more accounts are opened and transponder orders are fulfilled.

Drivers with transponders pay the lowest toll rates. Drivers can set up a prepaid RiverLink account to get a transponder. All E-ZPass transponders, including the I-PASS from Illinois and the Indiana Toll Road E-ZPass, will work with the RiverLink system. No further action is necessary.

Drivers without transponders will get bills in the mail, and pay higher toll rates. Drivers who do not pay their tolls will be charged additional fees and may face restrictions on vehicle registration until tolls and penalties are paid.

Demand for Transponders is Strong

Scores of drivers have been opening accounts and ordering transponders. Nearly 185,000 RiverLink transponders have been requested to date, including more than 150,000 RiverLink local transponders and nearly 35,000 RiverLink E-ZPass transponders.

Incredibly high demand has temporarily depleted supplies of RiverLink local transponders for passenger vehicles. RiverLink local transponders are still available for medium and large vehicles.

Additional supplies for passenger vehicles have been ordered, and will be available in the next several weeks. Drivers with prepaid RiverLink accounts waiting for transponders to arrive will pay the lowest rates.

A RiverLink local transponder is free, one per registered vehicle. The small sticker adheres to the inside of windshield, is non-transferable and works only on tolled bridges between Louisville and Southern Indiana.

RiverLink E-ZPass transponders remain in stock. They're \$15 per transponder, are mounted on the inside of the windshield, are portable from vehicle to vehicle registered to a single account, and work in all 16 E-ZPass states (<https://e-zpassag.com/about-e-zpass/where-can-i-use-it>).

"We knew interest in RiverLink transponders would be high, but demand has skyrocketed over the past few weeks," said Megan McLain, tolling project manager with the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet. "From July through November, more than 70,000 RiverLink transponders had been ordered. Nearly 100,000 additional RiverLink transponders were ordered just in December, outpacing total demand since we launched operations."

Drivers can open a RiverLink account online at www.RiverLink.com, by phone at 855-RIV-LINK or in person at one of two RiverLink customer service centers.

NOTICE TO MEMBERS OF EAST FORK WATER, INC.

The annual meeting of East Fork Water, Inc. will be held January 30, 2017, commencing at 7:30 p.m. at the office, located at 213 S. Main Street in Shoals, Indiana. Directors for North Rutherford, West Perry, South Center, and Lost River townships will be elected. Members are invited to attend.

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