

Martin County JOURNAL

Year 11, Issue 3

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 15, 2020

Eight pages

Loogootee Council starts year with rules of decorum

BY COURTNEY HUGHETT
Martin County Journal Publisher

The Loogootee City Council started off this month's meeting, held Monday, January 13, with the Chief of Police Kelly Rayhill reading rules of decorum to the audience. Last month's meeting prompted the public reading of the rules after members of the audience and council members had heated exchanges during and after the meeting. Part of the rules stated that abusing, distracting and intimidating behavior would result in the offender being warned to stop. If the behavior continues, the offender will be asked to leave the meeting, with police escort, if needed.

After several months of debate, tabling and a veto, the new council approved the 2020 salary ordinance. The vote was 3-2 with Rick Norris, Carroll Rayhill and Ron Gilbert voting in favor and Teresa Nolley and Tim Lawrence voting against.

The council went with the original recommendations made by Mayor Noel Harty last year, including full-time employees receiving a 75 cent pay increase per hour and part-time receiving 50 cents per hour. The raise does not include the mayor or clerk-treasurer as they are not allowed to receive raises when they are passed after the end of each year. The raises also include \$1,000 more for the city attorney and a \$4 per hour increase for part-time city police officers. The salary ordinance also included establishing two permanent

part-time positions with the city. The only thing not approved was doubling the building commissioner's salary. He received a \$3,000 raise instead of a \$6,000 increase.

Council Member Rick Norris questioned the building commissioner position and the bump in the salary recommended. The building commissioner currently makes \$6,000 a year and the recommendation was to double that. Norris asked Building Commissioner Tim Hudson how many hours he worked per month. Hudson replied that it varied but he stays very busy each month citing what work he did in December.

Norris said it was just his opinion, but he felt someone getting their salaried double right away was "a bit much." He recommended doing a \$3,000 increase and having the building commissioner keep track of the amount of time he is putting toward the position.

Council Member Tim Lawrence said he didn't feel like \$20 a day was much to have so many calls and have his business interrupted.

Norris responded that this is why they need a better idea of how much time is being spent on the position.

Ruth Smith, from the audience, said she thinks the position needs a job description, something Hudson has asked for before. The mayor replied that they are working on that.

Hudson said he's been in the position
(See 'DECORUM' on page 2)

Shoals to get new innovation lab, pathways for specialty learning

The Shoals School Board met Thursday, January 9. Board Members in attendance were Drexel Turpin, Eva George, Jenell Hoffman, Samantha Boyd, and Jerry Braun. Staff in attendance were Dr. Candace Roush, Amanda Heckard, Kindra Hovis, and Ben Kent. Patrons in attendance were Angela Cook, Edward Cook, and Lorna Troutman.

Board President Drexel Turpin opened the floor for nominations of officers. Samantha Boyd made a motion that the current officers remain in their positions for 2020 as follows: Drexel Turpin, President; Eva George, Vice President; and Jenell Hoffman, Secretary. The motion was seconded by Eva George. Approval was given with a vote of 5-0.

Drexel Turpin called for a motion to appoint all members to the board of finance. Samantha Boyd made a motion to appoint all members to the board of finance and Jerry Braun seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

The board voted to continue meeting on the second Thursday of the month at 6 p.m. through 2020. They also voted to keep the rate of regular meetings at \$109 and executive/special sessions at \$60 for the 2020 year.

The board voted to reappoint the following treasurers: Lisa Elliott, Corporation Treasurer; Amanda Heckard, Corporation Deputy Treasurer; Deborah Howell, Jr./Sr. High ECA Treasurer; Pamela Doane, Elementary ECA Treasurer; Tammy Florio, Cafeteria Treasurer.

The board approved the appointment of

Dr. Roush to the Vocational and Special Education Board.

President Turpin temporarily closed the regular meeting and convened the board of finance at 6:05 p.m. There was a review of the school's investments. The board agreed by consensus to make the president and secretary of the board of finance the same as the regular officers of the board. President Turpin then closed the board of finance meeting and reopened the regular meeting at 6:07 p.m.

Lorna Troutman opened patron input with the success of the SPA Christmas Shop. She stated the children really enjoy having the shop every year. The fall craft show went over really well. Funds from the craft show were used to purchase, for the teacher's classrooms, battery-powered pencil sharpeners, pens, pencils, chalk, construction paper, and glue sticks. The robotics teams went to Evansville and won awards. The robotics teams wrote to Congressman Bassler and received a thank you note in return. Coming up on January 22, they will have a guest speaker from Crane, Greg Petty. Also, on January 27, Emily Fuhs, an engineer, will be speaking about working in the engineering field. This Saturday will be the very first FTC Competition. They will be hosting 10-12 different schools from Southern Indiana and one from Kentucky.

High School Principal, Kindra Hovis, opened with a welcome back to everyone from Christmas break. Right now, there are 66 students who have earned the final
(See 'SHOALS' on page 8)



-Photo provided

Pictured in the front row, from left to right, are Lauren Osmon (DCCF Director of Community Engagement & Impact), Lisa Starr (CFP/MCCF Grants Officer), Dan Gregory (MCCF Board President), Jameson Hibbs (WBP Superintendent), Linda Myers (DCCF Board President), Mary Smith (DCCF Director), and Deborah Crays (WBP Office Manager). In the back row, from left to right, are Ryan Bass (WBP Customer Service Manager), Chris Bearden (WBP Maintenance Supervisor), Curt Johnson (MCCF Director), and Elaine Taylor (WBP Program Director).

Martin, Daviess county foundations award grants to build new West Boggs gatehouse

In a joint show of support, the Martin County Community Foundation and the Daviess County Community Foundation have each awarded grants for the construction of a new gatehouse at West Boggs Park.

The Community Foundation grants are expected to cover 2/3rds of the new structure's cost, depending on final design and estimates.

"We truly appreciate this funding," says Jameson Hibbs, Park Superintendent. "It exceeds our expectations."

According to the presidents of both

Commissioners talk roads, trucks, bridges

BY COURTNEY HUGHETT
Martin County Journal Publisher

The Martin County Commissioners held their first meeting of the year with new Commissioner Aaron Summers, who replaced Dan Gregory, on Tuesday night, January 14.

Potential land purchasers returned to the commissioners again for help getting access to property they want to buy that is presumed landlocked. A road that once existed, County Road 31, has since been covered over from non-use and is now being used as farmland. It was the access to the property in the past. The purchasers asked the commissioners if they are allowed to find County Road 31 and start using it. The property is 60 acres located in Rutherford Township. County Attorney Dave Lett told the men that the commissioners are not recognizing the road and he feels the current property owner should seek legal action to get an easement to the property, prior to it being purchased. Or they can purchase the property and then file the lawsuit but there was no guarantee they would win. The purchasers said they have an approved offer and they have talked to the existing landowner, where the access lies, who has no interest in giving the access. They also noted that the landowners do not understand why they have to give access because it should be up to the commissioners. Commissioner Paul George said they will go with the advice of their attorney and not get involved.

A resident in the audience requested ditching be done on County Road 950
(See 'COMMISSIONERS' on page 2)

Community Foundation Boards, joint funding of the Gatehouse project is a result of the leaders and donors of each Foundation and their shared commitment to make life better in the counties where they live and work.

"Since the park is a joint asset of both counties, providing funding alongside Daviess County was very important to us," says Dan Gregory, Board President of the Martin County Community Foundation. "When we work together, the impact is greater."

For Daviess County Community Foundation Board President, Linda Myers, the joint funding was a great opportunity. "Providing this grant alongside the Martin County Community Foundation worked well for this particular project," added
(See 'BOGGS' on page 2)

Loogootee School Board reorganizes

BY COURTNEY HUGHETT
Martin County Journal Publisher

The Loogootee School Board held their reorganizational meeting last Thursday, January 9. Board Members T.J. McAtee and Chad Wade were not present for the meeting.

Brent Courter was nominated to remain the board president with Chad Wade as vice president and T.J. McAtee as secretary.

The board voted to continue to hold meetings on the third Thursday of each month at 5 p.m. as they can. They also voted to not give board members raises and keep regular meeting pay at \$112 per meeting and executive meetings at \$62 each.

The board made the following annual appointments:

-Sandra Lamar as corporation treasurer and board recording secretary

-Brenda Mathies as corporation deputy treasurer

-Dave Lett as corporation attorney

-Cory Julian as school safety specialist

-Chip Mehaffey as Twin Rivers Vocational Board representative and Daviess-Martin Special Education Co-op Board representative

-Emily Marks as high school and middle school ECA treasurer

-Kerry Cooper as elementary ECA treasurer



-Photo by Josh Hughett

Recently retired Loogootee Police Sergeant Rick Norris was honored with a plaque at Monday night's city council meeting. Norris served the Loogootee Police Department for 31 years. He now sits on the city council.

DECORUM

(Continued from page one)

for two years and didn't receive a raise last year.

Council Member Lawrence asked why the budget wasn't done prior to the start of the new year. Mayor Harty replied that the budget was approved by the state and the salary ordinance was presented in September. It was tabled to October, new recommendations were approved in November by the council but vetoed by the mayor and then voted for again by the city council in December but according to the mayor, a two-thirds majority was needed to get it passed.

The council approved signing over the building housing Four Rivers to the organization. Members of Four Rivers came to the council several months ago requesting to take over ownership to the building however the original lease agreement, made 30 years ago with the city, could not be found until recently. Four Rivers wants to make improvements to the building but didn't want to invest money into a building they do not own. The council voted to donate the property to Four Rivers.

The council also approved \$65,250 to Lane to clean two wells that haven't been cleaned since 2014 and cleaning the tank

of another well. The cost to clean two wells is \$21,000 each and the tank cleaning is \$12,750. There is also \$18,000 for any repairs that are needed.

A resident on Park Street presented photos to the council regarding stormwater runoff that is damaging the road and her driveway. She requested something be done. Superintendent Wilson said the area needs to be addressed however it hasn't been due to lack of money.

Loogootee Chief Rayhill gave the board of works his annual report for 2019. The police department had 2,081 calls for service, 292 cases, 94 criminal arrests, 70 traffic arrests, issued 34 handgun permits, had 59 golf card registrations, 106 traffic accidents with property damage, 5 accidents with personal injury, 25 K9 searches, 20 K9 arrests and 6 K9 demonstrations.

Fire Chief JD Flynn said that last year the fire department had 92 fire runs and 136 medical runs.

Chief Rayhill presented retired officer Rick Norris with a plaque from the police department for his 31 years of service. Norris retired at the end of 2019 and now serves as a city council member.

Rick Norris was named as the president of the council for 2020.

BOGGS

(Continued from page one)

Myers. "Our counties have this shared asset which provided an avenue for us to collaborate and we did."

The park, operated by the Daviess-Martin Joint County Parks and Recreation Department and located in both Daviess and Martin counties, opened in 1972 as a recreational facility for residents of the two counties and as an attraction for tourists to the area. It includes a 622-acre lake with swimming and shoreline fishing, 300 campsites, cabins, picnic shelters, an activity center, and a universally designed playground. Numerous events are held at the location which, according to park officials, served a record number of visitors during 2017 and 2018.

The new gatehouse will better serve the increasing visitor numbers, which, according to Park Superintendent, Jameson Hibbs, have not only caused delays for customers, but traffic safety issues on US Highway 231 leading to the park entrance.

"We literally stop traffic every Friday evening with campers as they wait to enter the park," says Hibbs. "This concern is magnified on Memorial Day, Independence Day, and Labor Day weekends as the facility campground is at full occupancy for three days. Our park events are gaining such popularity that there are many weekends we stop traffic as people wait to gain entrance to the events."

Compared to the existing gatehouse, the new one will be six feet longer and another foot wider, providing a larger space for customers to complete necessary transactions inside, out of the way of vehicles entering and exiting the park. It will feature a larger front porch for busy times when customers may be required to wait outside and offer park visitors an ADA compliant restroom. Insulation and an HVAC system will expand use of the gatehouse during the colder winter months.

The gatehouse structure is just one feature of a plan to enhance the park entrance. Additional components include more traffic lanes and a parking lot.

Hibbs says this isn't the only improvement the park has planned as several are on a list to be completed over the next three years. "We will continue to seek additional funding from a variety of sources

to supplement our budget for the projects," says Hibbs. "The additional funding helps the work move forward faster."

For Gregory and Myers, even though joint funding of the West Boggs project is a first, both Community Foundations will keep an eye out for future opportunities.

"We appreciate working with our neighboring Community Foundation to advance the good work in our counties," says Gregory. "And, we look forward to identifying ways we can share in successes again," added Myers.

COMMISSIONERS

(Continued from page one)

South. He said he has seen ditch work done once in the 25 years he has lived on the road. Commissioner George said he will have the highway superintendent add the road to their ditching schedule.

Highway Superintendent Leo Padgett provided the commissioners with two quotes to do engineering work on Brooks Bridge. After discussion, the commissioners decided to table making a decision on the engineering until they could see how much funding would be available to actually do the bridge work.

The commissioners gave the highway superintendent permission to buy back the recently wrecked dump truck for \$1,600 to be used for parts. Insurance is giving \$35,000 to the county. The commissioners also approved the highway department to purchase a new dump truck for \$42,500.

Tim Hunt, with HWC Engineering, provided the commissioners with a list of roads that will be included in the Community Crossings grant application. Two bridges and eight roads will be included totaling \$1.3 million. The \$1 million is the grant maximum and the \$300,000 is the county's match required. Hunt said the bridges will cost \$300,000 and the roads will be \$1 million.

Roads included in this round of applications include Old School Road, Indian Springs Road, Dover Hill Road, Mt. Pleasant Road, Brookhouse Road, Pine Creek Road, Alfordsville Road, and Beard Road.

The bridges are on Mt. Pleasant Road and 45 Buckley Road.

The county will find out mid-April if they receive the money.

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OBITUARIES

GARNET FREED

Garnet Elaine Freed sweetly went to Heaven, with her family by her side, on Friday, January 10, 2020 in Odon. A resident of Odon, she was 72.

She was born on February 8, 1947 in Daviess County; daughter of Wallace Paul and Coy (Crane) Beasley.

Garnet married her loving husband, Eric L. Freed, in August of 1967.

Garnet was a member of the Second Mt. Olive Baptist Church. She was a Personal Property Manager at Crane before retiring in 2000. Garnet enjoyed traveling, cooking and spending time with her family.

Family left to cherish the memory of Garnet include her husband, Eric Freed; two sons, Paul Freed of Connersville and Ty (Gena) Freed of Washington; two grandchildren, Kasey Freed and Rex Freed; sister, Loretta Osmon of Odon; and two brothers, Norman (Jean) Beasley of Shoals and Harold (Audrey) Beasley of Indianapolis.

Garnet was preceded in death by her parents.

Funeral services to honor the life of Garnet were held Tuesday, January 14 at Meng Family Funeral Home in Odon with Pastor Adam Cissell officiating. Garnet was laid to rest in Walnut Hill Cemetery in Odon.

Memorial contributions may be made to Ketcham Memorial Nursing Center.

All arrangements have been entrusted to Meng Family Funeral Home in Odon. Condolences and memories may be shared with the family online at www.mengfuneralhome.com.

DEBRA DUVALL

Debra May Duvall entered into eternal rest at 7:38 a.m. on Tuesday, January 7, 2020, in Memorial Hospital and Health Care Center in Jasper. A resident of Loogootee, she was 44.

She was born in Jasper on November



DEBRA DUVALL

24, 1975; daughter of John E. and Louise (Schnarr) Freyberger. She married Douglas A. Duvall on August 10, 1996, in Christ Lutheran Church in Haysville.

She graduated from Barr-Reeve High School in 1994, and then went on to graduate from Vincennes University with an associate's degree in teaching and the University of Southern Indiana, where she received a bachelor's degree in teaching.

Debra was a teacher and school bus driver for Barr-Reeve schools.

She was an active member of Christ Lutheran Church in Haysville and a member of the VFW Post # 673 Auxiliary in Jasper. Debra taught Sunday school at Christ Lutheran Church in the nursery for 14 years and served several years on the church council. Debra loved children and they all loved her; they were drawn to her and her caring personality. She was a true friend to every child.

She loved being outdoors, playing cards, fishing, gardening, and spending time with family and friends.

Debra was a beloved mother and wife, survived by her husband, Doug Duvall of Loogootee; her son, Michael Duvall, and companion, Brooklyn Allen of Loogootee; her daughter, Adriana (Ryan) Bittorf of Loogootee; her sister, Michelle (Jason) Davis of Loogootee; her brother, John Michael (Lindsey) Freyberger of Washington; her mother, Louise Freyberger of Loogootee; and five nieces and nephews.

Preceding her in death are her father, John Freyberger; grandparents, John W. and Florence Freyberger and Clyde and Amy Schnarr; and one nephew, John Carter Freyberger.

Funeral services were held Saturday, January 11 at Christ Lutheran Church in Haysville with burial following in Haysville Community Cemetery in Haysville. Pastor Tim Kraemer officiated.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Christ Lutheran Church fund for the new doors or to Barr-Reeve Scholarship Fund.

MARY NORRIS

Mary E. Norris passed away at 4 a.m. Monday, January 13, 2020 at her home. A resident of Loogootee, she was 85.

She was born January 13, 1935 in Loogootee; daughter of the late Charles and Hazel (Tedrow) McGuire.

Mary was married to Robert "Bob" Norris and he preceded her in death.

She was a member of St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church and was an avid quilter for the parish. She owned Mary Norris Drapery for 35 years and was well known for her custom drapery and sewing. She enjoyed reading, crossword puzzles, oil painting and watching the Indiana Pacers. Mary loved spend-



MARY NORRIS

ing time with her grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her husband of 64 years, Robert "Bob" Norris; brothers, Pat, Tom, Charlie and James McGuire; and parents, Charles and Hazel (Tedrow) McGuire.

She is survived by her daughters, Donna (Samuel) Watson of Olympia, Washington and Kathy (Charlie) Mathias of Petersburg; brother, John (Jean) McGuire of Colorado; grandchildren, Collin Padgett, Logan (Erica) Padgett, Gabriel (Lisa) Watson, Daniel Watson, Stacy (Seth) Sickbert and Ryan (Holly) Mathias; 6 great-grandchildren; many nieces and nephews.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated by Very Rev. J. Kenneth Walker at 11:30 a.m. Saturday, January 18 at St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church. Burial will follow in St. John Catholic Cemetery.

Visitation will be held Saturday, January 18 from 8:30 a.m. until 11:15 a.m. at Blake Funeral Home in Loogootee.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions can be made to the Center for Women's Ministries.

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

MARIETTA LENTZ

Marietta J. Lentz passed away at 3:45 p.m. Sunday, January 12, 2020 at Avon Health and Rehabilitation Center. A resident of Loogootee, she was 75.

She was born November 30, 1944 in Washington; daughter of the late Lau-



MARIETTA LENTZ

rence and Helen (Colvin) Seal.

Marietta was an avid card player and enjoyed antiquing with her friends. She loved to sit on her deck and watch the boats when she lived on West Boggs Lake. Marietta traveled to many

places with family and friends and cherished the memories that were made. She was an active and devoted member of St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church. She also volunteered at St. Vincent De Paul. She loved spending time and playing with her grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her daughter, Denise Michelle Lentz; parents, Laurence and Helen (Colvin) Seal; brother-in-law, Tony Bullock.

She is survived by her son, Knute A. (Tricia) Lentz; grandchildren, Alex Cook, Isabel Lentz, Ava Lentz and Myles Lentz; siblings, Marlene Bullock, Martha (Steve) Riggins and Charles (Margene) Seal; and many loving nieces and nephews.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated by Very Rev. J. Kenneth Walker at 10:00 a.m. Friday, January 17 at St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church. Burial will follow in St. John Catholic Cemetery.

Visitation will be held Thursday, January 16 from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. at Blake Funeral Home in Loogootee.

In lieu of flowers, a tribute donation can be made to the Alzheimer's Association at act.alz.org.

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

DCH Foundation accepting scholarship applications

The Daviess Community Hospital Foundation has announced that they will be awarding health career scholarships to residents of Daviess, Martin, and Pike counties or dependents of DCH employees from any area. Students attending an accredited educational institution of higher learning who are pursuing a degree in the field of health care are eligible to apply for the scholarships. Applications are available now on the Foundation's web page at www.dchosp.org. The application deadline is Sunday, February 23, 2020.

The foundation annually awards scholarships to aspiring health care professionals in an effort to support and encourage those individuals to return to our community to fulfill our communities' need for dedicated, trained health care providers. Full and part-time students are eligible and both traditional and non-traditional students are encouraged to apply.

The DCH Foundation makes schol-

arship awards through two scholarship programs. Up to \$1,500 may be awarded for each scholarship recipient selected for the health careers scholarships. One \$500 scholarship award will be made to a student pursuing nursing from The Helen Arthur Memorial Scholarship.

The Daviess Community Hospital Foundation is a nonprofit organization that exists to enhance the mission of Daviess Community Hospital by providing a means for philanthropic support of the hospital and by strengthening relationships between the hospital and the community. For further information, contact the DCH Foundation Office at 812-254-8858 or email asteiner@dchosp.org.

Current filings for 2020 Primary

The 2020 Primary Election will be held May 5, 2020. Candidate filing began on January 8 and ends on February 7, 2020 at noon. You can file at the Martin County Clerk's Office.

The following are current candidate filings:

- Martin County Auditor
Bobbie Abel (D)
- Martin County Coroner
Tina Franklin (D)
- Martin County Recorder
Rhonda Sanders (R)
- Martin County Surveyor
No filings to date
- Martin County Treasurer
Lori D. Carrico (R)
- Martin County Commissioner District 1
No filings to date
- Martin County Commissioner District 3
No filings to date
- Martin County Council At Large - (3) positions open
Adam Greene (R)
- State Convention Delegates - Democrat (3); Republican (4)
Gerald Montgomery (R)
- Leah Govea (R)
- Republican Precinct Committeemen - (1) each Precinct
South Halbert - Gerald Montgomery (R)

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Martin County Sheriff's Department log

SUNDAY, JANUARY 5

9:27 p.m. - Received an alarm call north of Loogootee. Deputy Wells and Loogootee Sergeant Floyd responded. All was secure.

10:43 p.m. - Received a report of a possible runaway in Shoals. Town Marshal Eckert responded. The subject was located.

MONDAY, JANUARY 6

2:48 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Ambulance transported the subject to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

1:00 p.m. - Sheriff Roush conducted an active shooter presentation at for a business in Loogootee.

1:30 p.m. - Deputy Wright performed a vehicle identification check near Shoals.

3:00 p.m. - Received a dog complaint near Shoals. Animal Control Officer Hughett was notified.

3:41 p.m. - Received a report of a small fire in Loogootee. Loogootee Fire and Loogootee Officer Allen responded.

5:32 p.m. - Received a report of an altercation near Shoals. Deputy Wells responded.

6:24 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.

7:56 p.m. - Received a report of a structure fire north of Loogootee. Odon Fire, Crane Fire, Madison Township Fire, Loogootee Fire, Martin County Ambulance, Reserve Deputy Harmon, Deputy Wells, and Loogootee Sergeant Floyd responded.

9:10 p.m. - Received a report of a domestic dispute in Loogootee. Deputy Wells, Loogootee Sergeant Floyd, and ISP Trooper Nolan responded.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 7

1:07 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Crane. Corporal Reed, Crane Fire, and Martin County Ambulance responded. The subject was transported to IU Health in Bloomington.

4:58 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Shoals. Shoals Fire and Martin County Ambulance responded. The subject was transported to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

9:30 a.m. - Major Keller took three inmates to court.

1:30 p.m. - Major Keller took two inmates to court.

2:45 p.m. - Chief Deputy Greene took one inmate to court.

5:27 p.m. - Received a request for a welfare check north of Shoals. Deputy Gibson and Town Marshal Eckert responded. All was okay.

11:57 p.m. - Received a medical alarm call in Loogootee. Martin County Ambulance responded but did not transport.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 8

1:06 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Ambulance responded but did not transport.

6:28 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance south of Loogootee. Haysville Fire and Martin County Ambulance responded. The subject was transported to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

9:12 a.m. - Received a horse complaint south of Loogootee. Animal Control Officer Hughett was notified.

10:29 a.m. - Received a report of an accident in Loogootee. Loogootee Chief Rayhill responded.

11:30 a.m. - Major Keller took one inmate to court.

1:40 p.m. - Major Keller took one inmate to court.

3:00 p.m. - Major Keller took three in-

mates to court.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 9

1:40 a.m. - Received a noise complaint in Loogootee. Loogootee Sergeant Floyd responded.

10:18 a.m. - Received a horse complaint south of Loogootee. Animal Control Officer Hughett was notified.

1:00 p.m. - Deputy Barnett took two inmates to court.

3:37 p.m. - Deputy Barnett took three inmates to court.

6:07 p.m. - Received a report of a suspicious person east of Shoals. Deputy Barnett responded.

9:16 p.m. - Received a report of a tree down east of Shoals. Town Marshal Eckert and Shoals Fire responded.

11:11 p.m. - Received a report of debris on US 50, east of Shoals. Reserve Deputy Dorsey responded and removed the debris.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 10

2:13 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. Loogootee Officer Allen, Deputy Gibson, Reserve Deputy Dorsey, and Martin County Ambulance responded. No one was transported.

6:31 a.m. - Deputy Gibson assisted a motorist with a vehicle unlock in Shoals.

7:04 a.m. - Received a request for lift assistance near Shoals. Chief Deputy Greene, Deputy Gibson, and Shoals Fire responded.

8:25 a.m. - Received a report of a tree down on SR 450. Martin County Highway responded.

10:31 a.m. - Chief Deputy Greene assisted a motorist with a vehicle unlock in Loogootee.

11:00 a.m. - Received a report of a mailbox torn down in Loogootee. Loogootee Officer McBeth responded.

2:40 p.m. - Received a report of a tree down southeast of Shoals. Martin County Highway responded.

3:08 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance near Shoals. Martin County Ambulance transported the subject to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

3:49 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Shoals. Martin County Ambulance transported the subject to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

6:08 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance east of Shoals. Shoals Fire and Martin County Ambulance responded. The subject was transported to Daviess Community Hospital.

6:18 p.m. - Received a report of an assault in Shoals. Deputy Wells responded.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 11

2:41 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Shoals. Deputy Seymour, Shoals Fire, and Martin County Ambulance responded. The subject was transported to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

5:30 a.m. - Received a report of a tree down and an accident on US 50, east of Shoals. Shoals Fire and Deputy Seymour responded.

6:13 a.m. - Received a report of a tree down south of Shoals. Lost River Fire responded.

7:12 a.m. - Received a request for lift assistance near Shoals. Shoals Fire responded.

7:30 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Shoals. Martin County Ambulance responded but did not transport.

Various times - Received several reports of trees down and high water in the county.

12:15 p.m. - Received a report of an accident near Shoals. Deputy Wright responded.

3:30 p.m. - Received a report of a domestic dispute in Loogootee. Loogootee Officer McBeth responded.

3:33 p.m. - Received a dog complaint in Loogootee. Animal Control Officer Hughett responded.

7:14 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Ambulance transported the subject to Da-

ARRESTS

MONDAY, JANUARY 6

9:55 p.m. - Seth Nimel-Hill, 29, of Petersburg, was arrested by Loogootee Sergeant Floyd and charged with disorderly conduct and is being held on a \$10,000 10% bond. Assisting with the arrest were Deputy Wells and ISP Trooper Nolan.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 8

12:40 a.m. - Jerry Lamar Robinson, 25, of Jasper, was arrested by Deputy Gibson and charged with possession of methamphetamine, possession of marijuana, and possession of paraphernalia. He is being held on a \$25,000 10% bond. Assisting with the arrest were ISP Trooper Nolan, Corporal Reed, K9 Officer Spike, and K9 Officer Virka.

12:40 a.m. - Megan Lane, 30, of Springville, was arrested by Loogootee Sergeant Floyd and charged with possession of methamphetamine, dealing methamphetamine, false reporting, making false identity statement, and a Lawrence County warrant. She is being held without bond. Assisting with the arrest were ISP Trooper Nolan, Deputy Gibson, K9 Officer Spike, Corporal Reed, and K9 Officer Virka.

12:40 a.m. - Veronica Abrams, 30, of Bedford, was arrested by Loogootee Sergeant Floyd and charged with possession of a controlled substance and possession of marijuana. Her bond has been set at \$25,000 10%. Assisting with the arrest were Deputy Gibson, K9 Officer Spike, ISP Trooper Nolan, Corporal Reed, and K9 Officer Virka.

10:00 a.m. - Yu Guan, 40, of Noblesville, was arrested by ISP Trooper Lents and charged with resisting law enforcement and is being held without bond.

9:54 p.m. - Michael Clements, 53, of Wheatland, was arrested by Corporal Reed and charged with dealing in methamphetamine, possession of methamphetamine, resisting law enforcement, driving while suspended, and possession of paraphernalia. Assisting with the arrest were Loogootee Officer Allen and K9 Officer Virka.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 11

4:29 a.m. - Timothy Taylor, 40, of Loogootee, was arrested by Deputy Wells and charged with rape, incest, sexual misconduct with a minor, sexual battery, domestic battery, and neglect of a dependent. He is being held without bond. Assisting with the arrest was Deputy Gibson.

6:40 p.m. - Jonathan Dant, 40, of Loogootee, was arrested by Loogootee Officer McBeth and charged with invasion of privacy and is being held without bond.



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viess Community Hospital.

11:47 p.m. - Received a report of a break-in in Shoals. Town Marshal Eckert, Deputy Seymour, and Loogootee Officer Allen responded.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 12

7:40 a.m. - Received a report of an accident south of Loogootee. ISP Trooper Lents responded.

9:30 a.m. - Received a report of trees down on SR 450. Martin County Highway responded.

9:43 a.m. - Received a report of a possible break-in, in Loogootee. Loogootee Officer Todd and Reserve Deputy Greene responded.

11:39 a.m. - Received a report of a tree down near Shoals. Shoals Fire responded.

4:39 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Ambulance transported the subject to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

4:55 p.m. - Received a report of a tree down near Shoals. Lost River Fire responded.

6:45 p.m. - Received a report of a reckless driver near Loogootee. Loogootee Sergeant Floyd responded.

8:19 p.m. - Received a report of a suspicious vehicle near Loogootee. Deputy Wells responded.

8:54 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance north of Shoals. Indian Creek Fire and Martin County Ambulance responded. The subject was transported to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

9:00 p.m. - Received a report of a suspicious vehicle in Loogootee. Loogootee Sergeant Floyd responded.

Citizen of the Year nominations sought

The Martin County Chamber of Commerce is looking for nominations for the Gene Shaw Citizen of the Year.

If you know a resident who does an excellent job of representing Martin County, please send the nominee's name, address, phone number, and why you think this person should be Citizen of the Year to Martin County Chamber of Commerce, PO Box 257, Loogootee IN 47553. Please submit your nominations by February 29, 2020.

The Chamber of Commerce will be holding their Annual Dinner on March 17 at St. John's Lower Level. Carla's Catering will be serving the evening meal. The guest speaker this year is Carolyn Clay Gudger. The proceeds for the evening will go towards the Chamber's scholarship fund for both Loogootee and Shoals schools.

ANIMAL SHELTER Pet of the Week



SPARKY is a male terrier mix, 1.5 years old, very sweet and playful. He is neutered and up to date on shots. Adoption fee is \$90. For info on all the dogs and cats at the Martin County Humane Society, visit www.humanesocietyofmartin-county.org.

Large amount of meth seized

On Wednesday, January 8 at 9:20 p.m., Martin County Sheriff's Office Corporal Tyler Reed was on patrol in Loogootee when he observed a suspended driver operating a motor vehicle. Cpl. Reed further observed the driver commit a moving violation. Cpl. Reed initiated a traffic stop on the vehicle and the driver took an extended period of time to pull over. Cpl. Reed requested that Loogootee Police Department Officer Nathan Allen assist him with the traffic stop.

Cpl. Reed made contact with the driver, Michael D. Clements, 53, of Wheatland, and advised him of the reason for the stop. Cpl. Reed asked Clements if there were any weapons or drugs in the car and Clements advised that he had knives and that there may be marijuana in the vehicle. Cpl. Reed had Clements exit the vehicle and prepared to conduct a pat-down search and remove a knife from Clements' pocket for officer safety. Cpl. Reed then observed what appeared to be a methamphetamine smoking device sticking out of Clements' pocket. Cpl. Reed ordered Clements to place his hands behind his back. Clements then twisted away from Cpl. Reed and attempted to stick his hand in his pocket and approached Cpl. Reed in an aggressive manner.

Cpl. Reed then utilized a take-down technique and escorted Clements to the ground where he and Officer Allen struggled with Clements for an extended amount of time to place him in handcuffs. Clements was handcuffed and refused medical treatment. Deputy Andrea



Barnett, ISP Trooper Steve Nolan, ISP Trooper Beau Brummett, ISP Trooper TJ Henning, and ISP Sgt. Chad Dick arrived to assist.

During a search of Clements' vehicle, a bag containing a white crystal-like substance, that field tested positive for methamphetamine and weighed 45 grams, was located. A digital scale containing methamphetamine residue and two hand-guns were also located.

While being searched at the jail, Clements was found to be in possession of additional methamphetamine and a second methamphetamine smoking device.

Clements was charged with dealing in methamphetamine, a Level 2 Felony; possession of methamphetamine, a Level 3 Felony; resisting law enforcement, a Class A Misdemeanor; driving while suspended (prior), a Class A Misdemeanor; and possession of paraphernalia, a Class C Misdemeanor.

All suspects are presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.



Safety grant

-Photo provided

The Indiana Public Employers' Plan, Inc. (IPEP) is excited to announce Martin County as a recipient of its 2020 safety grant award. IPEP is proud to partner with Martin County Community Corrections Director Kathy Collins and David Welch of German American Insurance to maximize opportunities to promote a safe work environment and assist with stretching their risk management resources. The grant funds will be used to purchase safety equipment or safety training programs that will reduce or limit workers' compensation exposure. IPEP was created in 1989 as a risk-sharing pool for public entities, as a response to the need for public employers to find affordable workers' compensation coverage. IPEP has grown to provide workers' compensation claims administration for more than 700 public entities including cities, towns, counties and schools.

Loogootee Police log

MONDAY, JANUARY 6

10:12 a.m. - Male requested a vehicle identification check.

12:45 p.m. - Male came on station to report harassment.

3:41 p.m. - Loogootee Fire was paged out to a lawn mower on fire on Riley Street.

5:39 p.m. - Caller reported a broken-down vehicle on Broadway Street.

7:58 p.m. - Loogootee Fire was paged out to a structure fire on US 231.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 7

8:55 a.m. - Female caller reported having problems with some juveniles.

11:00 a.m. - Female came on station to report property damage.

12:15 p.m. - Caller requested a welfare check on a male.

3:05 p.m. - Caller reported a traffic complaint on Church Street.

6:37 p.m. - Male reported a battery complaint on East Broadway Street.

7:33 p.m. - Caller reported a burning complaint in Shaded Estates.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 8

5:37 a.m. - Caller reported a property damage accident on US 231.

9:10 a.m. - Chief Rayhill assisted ISP with an arrest.

10:29 a.m. - Caller reported a property damage accident in the Dollar General parking lot. A driver was cited for driving while suspended.

7:19 p.m. - Female reported a civil complaint.

7:43 p.m. - Male caller reported a neighbor's door standing open.

9:44 p.m. - Officer Allen assisted the county with an arrest.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 9

1:40 a.m. - Caller reported a reckless driver in Redwing Trailer Court.

9:45 a.m. - Male requested a vehicle identification check.

2:45 p.m. - Caller reported a speeding vehicle on US 231.

6:12 p.m. - Caller reported a traffic complaint on Broadway Street.

7:11 p.m. - Caller reported a property damage accident in the Chuckles parking lot.

10:34 p.m. - Caller reported a reckless vehicle on US 231.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 10

2:13 a.m. - Officer Allen assisted the ambulance service.

2:59 a.m. - Officer Allen responded to a business alarm.

11:00 a.m. - Female reported property damage.

3:12 p.m. - Caller reported a violation of a protective order.

5:10 p.m. - Caller requested a welfare check on a female.

10:10 p.m. - Caller reported a male destroying property.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 11

3:30 p.m. - Caller reported a violation of a protective order.

7:15 p.m. - First responders were requested in Sunset Trailer Court for a medical call.

9:30 p.m. - Caller reported a reckless driver on Hwy 50.

11:47 p.m. - Female caller reported a male broke into her back door.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 12

9:43 a.m. - Caller requested a security check at a residence.

1:10 p.m. - Officer Mcbeth assisted the county with a break-in.

5:10 p.m. - Female came on station to report a child custody matter.

6:20 p.m. - Caller reported a civil complaint.

6:46 p.m. - Caller reported a reckless driver on US 231.

7:21 p.m. - Male caller reported a child custody matter.

8:17 p.m. - Caller reported a suspicious vehicle outside city limits. County was contacted.

8:30 p.m. - Caller requested extra patrol.

Martin County real estate transfers

Theodore Nicholson and Theodore William Nicholson, of Martin County, Indiana to **Theodore William Nicholson and Debbie R. Nicholson**, of Martin County, Indiana, a part of the east half of the southeast quarter of Section 36, Township 2 North, Range 5 West, containing 17 acres, more or less.

Ronald L. Wilkerson and Craig M. Wilkerson to **Land of Indiana, Inc.** Parcel I: The northeast quarter of the southeast quarter of Section 1, Township 1 North, Range 3 West, Martin County, Indiana, containing 40 acres, more or less. Parcel II: A 20-foot-wide ingress/egress and utility easement.

Patrick Stinson, of Martin County, Indiana to **Raymond E. Hopkins and Kimberly R. Hopkins**, of Martin County, Indiana, a part of the southwest quarter of Section 1, Township 3 North, Range 4 West, containing one acre, more or less.

James W. Acker to **Tiffany A. Dishong**, of Martin County, Indiana, a tract of land in the southwest quarter of Section 19, Township 3 North, Range 4 West, containing three acres, more or less.

Noel D. Harty, of Martin County, Indiana to **Noel D. Harty and Amber Nicole Harty**, of Martin County, Indiana. Tract

I: A tract of land in the City of Loogootee containing .19 acre, more or less. Tract II: A parcel of land in the City of Loogootee, Indiana in the southeast quarter of Section 24, Township 3 North, Range 5 West, containing 0.57 acre, more or less.

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More Neat Stuff!



By Ann Ackerman



Every American should read these four great stories

When in England at a fairly large conference, Colin Powell was asked by the Archbishop of Canterbury if our plans for Iraq were just an example of empire building by George Bush.

He answered by saying, "Over the years, the United States has sent many of its fine young men and women into great peril to fight for freedom beyond our borders. The only amount of land we have ever asked for in return is enough to bury those that did not return.

You could have heard a pin drop.

Then there was a conference in France where a number of international engineers were taking part, including French and American. During a break one of the French engineers came back into the room saying, "Have you heard the latest dumb stunt Bush has done? He has sent an aircraft carrier to Indonesia to help the tsunami victims. What does he intend to do, bomb them?"

A Boeing engineer stood up and replied quietly, "Our carriers have three hospitals on board that can treat several hundred people; they are nuclear powered and can supply emergency electrical power to shore facilities; they have three cafeterias with the capacity to feed 3,000 people three meals a day, they can produce several thousand gallons of fresh water from sea water each day, and they carry half a dozen helicopters for use in transporting victims and injured to and from their flight deck. We have eleven such ships; how many does France have?"

You could have heard a pin drop.

A U.S. Navy Admiral was attending a naval conference that included admirals from the U.S., English, Canadian, Australian and French Navies. At a cocktail reception, he found himself standing with a large group of officers that included personnel from most of those countries. Everyone was chatting away in English as they sipped their drinks but a French admiral suddenly complained that, "whereas Europeans learn many languages, Americans learn only English." He then asked, "Why is it that we always have to speak English in these conferences rather than speaking French?" Without hesitating, the American Admiral replied, "Maybe it's because the Brits, Canadians, Aussies and Americans arranged it so you wouldn't have to speak German."

You could have heard a pin drop.

AND THIS STORY FITS RIGHT IN WITH THE ABOVE...

A group of Americans, retired teachers, recently went to France on a tour. Robert Whiting, an elderly gentleman of 83, arrived in Paris by plane. At French Customs, he took a few minutes to locate his passport in his carry on.

"You have been to France before, monsieur?" the customs officer asked sarcastically. Mr. Whiting admitted that he had been to France previously. "Then you should know enough to have your passport ready."

The American said, "The last time I was here, I didn't have to show it."

"Impossible. Americans always have to show your passports on arrival in France!"

The American senior gave the Frenchman a long hard look. Then he quietly explained, "Well, when I came ashore at Omaha Beach on D-Day in '44 to help liberate this country, I couldn't find any Frenchmen to show it to."

You could have heard a pin drop

Make someone smile today!

Marvin Arvin Memorial Scholarship essay submission

Martin County Right to Life has announced they are offering a \$500 scholarship in honor of Marvin Arvin to a Martin County High School Senior who presents the best essay.

Marvin Arvin served for many years as president of Martin County Right to Life and served as pastor for various Christian churches in the area. The scholarship is one way the local Right to Life organization would like to see his legacy carried on.

The scholarship is open to all high school seniors in Martin County and they must also be a resident of Martin County and will need to verify the college of their choice for the fall of 2020. Applications must be postmarked no later than Friday, April 3, 2020.

Contestants are to research, write, and present an original pro-life essay developed from the theme: "What is happening to America because of Abortion". The essay must be at least 500 words in length and not more than 550.

Applications are available from your local guidance counselor. When completed, applications can be mailed to Martin County Right to Life, P.O. Box 11, Loogootee, Indiana 47553.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Loogootee School Board meeting

The Loogootee School Board will meet Thursday, January 16 at 5 p.m. in the meeting room off the superintendent's office. The meeting is open to the public.

Democratic Party meeting

The Martin County Democratic Party will meet Tuesday, February 4 at 6 p.m. at Biggin's Pizza in Loogootee. Anyone wanting information on running for an office in the May primary should attend. This meeting is open to all Democrats. Any questions, feel free to call 812-639-8106.

Shoals School Board meetings

The Shoals School Board will meet Wednesday, January 22 at 6 p.m. in the Mitchell Auditorium, along with the Mitchell and Orleans school boards. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss the ROI grant and collaboration with Mitchell and Orleans schools. The meeting is open to the public.

Food pantry hours

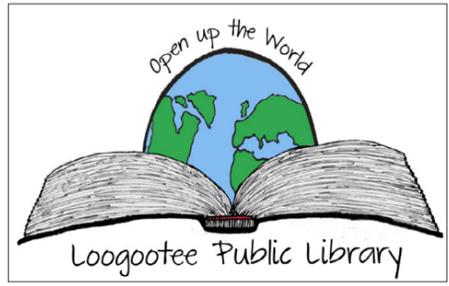
The Loogootee United Methodist Food Pantry will be open the first, second, third and fifth Thursdays of the month from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. and also the first Monday of the month from 5-6:30 p.m.

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



BY DARLA WAGLER

Librarian, Loogootee Public Library

A Ribbon Cutting Ceremony/Open House will be held at the new library on 504 Park Street from 1-3 p.m. Sunday, January 26. The public is invited.

Please note our new library hours will be Monday and Thursday 10 a.m.-7 p.m., Wednesday closed, Tuesday and Friday 10 a.m.-5 p.m. and Saturday 9 a.m.-1 p.m.

Friends of Loogootee Library have published a book on the History of Loogootee Public Library, and it can be purchased from any FOLL member. Call the library and request your copy. The price is only a \$20 donation.

New Books:

Mystery: "Treason" by Stuart Woods, "The River Murders" by James Patterson, and "Hindsight" by Iris Johansen.

Fiction: "Moral Compass" by Danielle Steel, "The Vanishing" by Jayne Ann Krentz.

Inspiration Fiction: "Collateral Damage" by Lynette Eason, "Forever Hidden" by Tracie Peterson, and "On Wings of Devotion" by RoseAnna White.

DVDS: "47 Meters Down", "Big Little Lies Season Two", and "Joker".

The library hours are Monday 10-7, Tuesday 10-5, Wednesday closed, Thursday 10-7, 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.

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!

Humane society meetings

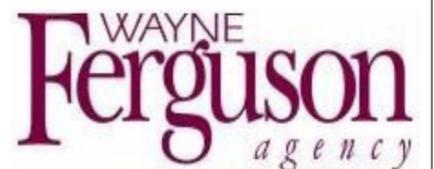
The Martin County Humane Society meets quarterly, on the third Monday of the month at 5:30 p.m. at the animal shelter at 507 N Oak Street in Loogootee.

Solid waste board

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

Soil and Water meetings

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



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In the Garden

By Ralph Purkhiser
Purdue University Master Gardener

Unseasonably mild weather has given many opportunities of late for working in the gardens. As the standing stems of summer flowers lose their seeds, I like to cut them back in preparation for the up-coming season. I usually cut up the stems right there in the garden—a sort of mulching in place with the residue of last year's garden. It is also a good time to apply a layer of mulch to discourage sprouting of foliage during the warm periods.

However, there are many plants which are already growing in the garden. Some of those are considered winter annual weeds. This is a good time to pull or kill such weeds to prevent them from maturing and setting seed in the spring. It is also a good time to use chemical controls, if you wish to use such measures. Choose a day when temperatures are expected to be above freezing for 24-hours and no rain is in the forecast. I, however, prefer to pick the chickweed for winter salads. There is at least more flavor there than in the supermarket greens available.

There are also some ornamentals which begin their life cycle at this time of year. Arum leaves dot the ground around a large soft maple tree outside my picture window. These variegated arrowheads provide interest and mark the spot where the spathes will come later, followed by the

Historic preservation photo contest kicks off with digital format

Ring in the new year and decade by entering a revamped historic preservation photo contest.

The annual contest, run by the DNR Division of Historic Preservation & Archaeology, has been held since 2005 using a traditional print format to promote Indiana's historic resources. While the purpose remains the same, this year the contest is moving to accepting only digital submissions; printed photos will not be accepted.

As in previous years, all subjects of photos must be at least 50 years old and in Indiana. Photos can be black and white or color and must have been taken within the last two years. Each photographer may enter up to three images, and an entry form is required for each photo.

Images should be emailed to aborland@dnr.IN.gov and must be JPEG files that are 10mb or smaller. Participants will only be able to send one photo and one entry form per email.

Participants will need to select one of five contest categories on the entry form in which to enter their photo: Color, Black & White, Kids (younger than age 18), Artistic, and Altered Image.

Go to dnr.IN.gov/historic/3994.htm for parameters of the Altered Image category, contest guidelines, and the entry form.

The entry deadline is April 3.

waxy seed stalks of bright orange berries. New growth is starting in the many hellebores at Sandhill Gardens and some of the flower buds are beginning to swell. Soon, these Lenten roses will burst into bloom, just in time for the beginning of Lent.

The most enjoyable garden activity in January is simply watching the birds coming to the feeders outside the picture window. I offer a variety of seed, fruit and suet options to attract a variety of birds. I have always been reminded that feeding the birds is more an activity to bring the birds up close for watching than it is actually providing necessary nutrition for the birds. However, I do not mean this to diminish the value of feeding. With so much loss in habitat, those who feed the birds do actually provide nourishment that will help birds weather the weather.

Actually, the birds do not come to my feeders in great numbers until we get snow to cover up the available natural food. I have planted my gardens to have interest in all seasons, and the berries that provide a lot of the winter interest also serve as a good food source for my feathered friends.

Loss of habitat for feeding, shelter and reproducing has led to a sharp decline in some bird species. Two which I miss at Sandhill Gardens are the Bob-whites and whip-poor-wills, the distinctive calls of which used to be heard on summer evenings, but which I rarely hear now. The loss of native habitat is just one of the reasons for the decline in bird numbers, but it is one which we can address. Three native plants that are found at Sandhill Gardens are often seen as weeds but are important in the habitat of birds. Many people cut native sumacs as if they had no value, but the nourishment the seedheads provide for birds is very important. Another plant that some shun is spicebush. A conservation officer at Patoka Lake once called it invasive, since it kept springing up in some grassland plots they were cultivating. I pointed out that they are native, and therefore not invasive. However, they may be aggressive in moist woodlands. They provide nourishment for many birds and animals and are the host plant for the spicebush swallowtail butterfly. A third plant that is often seen as a weed is Virginia creeper. While its young shoots do look a lot like poison ivy, the leaves farther down the vine will occur in clusters of five and not three, as is the case in the poison plant. Still, most people I know think it is poison ivy and it gets sprayed with weed killer. It is also aggressive and can smother other plants, but if one keeps it cut back, it can be controlled and offer habitat for many of the creatures of the forest.

Attitudes are not easy to change, but if we act together, we can do a lot to promote the use of these and other native plants in gardens, restoring habitat for wildlife while creating interest in the garden.

Reserved turkey hunt applications for private lands now being accepted

Applications are now being accepted for spring turkey hunting opportunities on private property through the Access Program Providing Land Enhancements (APPLE) program.

APPLE hunts are allocated through the online reserved hunt system. The only way to apply for these hunts is online at on.IN.gov/reservedhunt.

Hunters may apply for only one hunting period.

Applications are accepted until Feb.

19. Draw result notifications will be emailed within two weeks of the application deadline. All regulations and bag limits apply.

APPLE offers financial incentives to landowners who allow controlled public access hunting on their private lands. Wildlife biologists also work with these private landowners to establish and improve habitat.

For more information about APPLE, see on.IN.gov/dnrapple.

Help wildlife by donating on your state taxes

You can help Indiana's whooping cranes, spotted turtles, bats and other wildlife by donating to the DNR's Nongame Wildlife Fund when you file your 2019 state taxes.

The Nongame Wildlife Fund supports the DNR Division of Fish & Wildlife's nongame management programs. "Nongame" means species that are not hunted, trapped, or fished. There are more than 750 nongame and endangered wildlife species in the state. No state tax dollars are used to manage nongame wildlife.

Donate all or a portion of your state tax refund to the Nongame Wildlife Fund by marking the appropriate boxes on your 2019 Indiana tax forms or when filing electronically. To donate, enter Indiana Nongame Wildlife Fund, 200 for its 3-digit code number, and the donation amount on Line 1 of the Schedule 5/Schedule IN-DONATE form. Then add the donation amount to Line 17 on the main IT-40 form. A video of this process is at https://youtu.be/EMz_97x_SuM.

Direct donations can also be made anytime online at on.IN.gov/nongamewildlifefund or by mail to: Nongame Wildlife Fund; 402 West Washington Street, Room W273; Indianapolis, IN 46204.

Habitat management and conservation efforts for nongame and endangered wildlife are supported through the generosity

of Hoosiers and supplemental grants from the federal government. For every \$5 donation to the Nongame Wildlife Fund, Indiana is eligible to receive an additional \$9 in federal funds. Recent projects have included research on endangered turtles, an outreach campaign to conserve whooping cranes, and surveys of summer bat populations on state fish & wildlife areas (FWAs). Complete program details are at wildlife.IN.gov/2356.htm.

Bluebird box workshop to be held at Patoka Lake

You can help bluebirds leap into the new breeding season on Leap Day, February 29, at a Patoka Lake workshop event, by building a bluebird nesting box for these migrating guests.

During the workshop, you will also discover how to attract bluebirds to your backyard and keep them thriving in your area.

The workshop will take place at the Patoka Lake Nature Center, starting at 10 a.m. All supplies and tools will be provided. Nest box kits are \$15 each.

Advance registration is required. Space is limited to 20 participants. Call the Nature Center at 812-685-2447 to register.

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

NEW LISTING!



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Country farm house on 0.6 acre in Barr-Reeve School District! Main level features eat-in kitchen, living room, master bedroom and huge laundry/storage room. Upstairs is 2-3 bedrooms and access to unfinished attic area providing tons of storage! \$49,900

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Making A Difference

MARTIN COUNTY
COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

Last week I suggested you start the new year thinking about your giving plan. So, let's say you've decided you want to do something to help your community, and you've got some funds that you can put toward some charitable giving. But it seems like a lot to really understand all the options that are available to you. So, where do you start?

-- ADVISORS CAN HELP --

Professional advisors can be invaluable guides in helping you plan and execute your charitable giving. When they are fully apprised of your values, interests and intentions, advisors can give detailed information on your giving options and how these options will work in your specific financial situation. They can also project how each option will affect your tax savings and legacy planning.

-- TYPES OF ADVISORS --

The type of advisor and expertise you most need may depend, in part, on the kinds of giving options you'd like to examine in depth. Most importantly is the level of trust and care you receive as a client.

When planning charitable giving, people most often work with one or more of the following types of professional advisors:

- Attorney
- Accountant
- Estate Planner
- Financial Planner
- Stock Broker
- Insurance Broker
- Philanthropy Consultant (may be part of the above, but focuses solely on helping with charitable giving)
- Planned Giving Officer (works for the nonprofits who would accept your donation and can provide good information for your advisors).

-- SELECTING --

Because advisors have different expertise and services, you may get a variety of opinions about your next steps. You need

to find the right match of skills and personality to meet your needs. Talk to your friends, family and others to learn about the advisor's experience in helping others make determinations about their values and giving style. You can also interview potential advisors about their expertise in the areas you are considering.

-- ADVISOR TRAITS --

While you are considering who your advisor(s) will be, keep in mind that donors such as yourself are typically most satisfied with their advisors when the advisor:

- Discusses philanthropy with them in detail, asks questions, and listens.
- Makes philanthropy a discussion about life goals, rather than about estate planning and mortality.
- Keeps the giving plan simple and/or limits discussions of complex giving vehicles to the top few options.
- Treats the plan as a vehicle for giving rather than as a financial product they are selling.
- Is a giver themselves.
- Knows when to look for additional help rather than trying to be an expert on all aspects of giving and family dynamics.

-- IT'S YOUR CHOICE --

Since charitable giving plans deal with personal and sometimes sensitive issues, it is important that you work with an advisor with whom you feel absolutely comfortable. When it comes to narrowing the field, trust your instincts.

-- MORE INFORMATION --

For more information about the MCCF endowment funds and how we can help you develop your charitable giving plan, please contact Curt Johnson, Director, 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/mcccommunityfoundation.

SHOALS

(Continued from page one)

exam exemption with three or fewer tardies. This Saturday, Shoals will be hosting the FTC Robotics Competition beginning at 11:30. She encouraged the community to come out and support our Jug Rox Robotix Team. Kindra wanted to give a shout out to Olivia Jacks who has stepped in for Jessica Hert during her maternity leave. Hovis said she is phenomenal with the students and the transition has been very smooth. Also, this year, they are excited to be able to offer a public service pathway and an ACT (agriculture, construction, technology) pathway beginning next school year. Within each pathway is a major or specialty area that students can take with hopes of graduating with a certification and/or college credit that will go towards their selected career.

Superintendent Dr. Roush reported that ROI will be funding a brand new innovation lab in the Shoals Elementary intermediate building. Dr. Roush reported that this is an exciting time for our school and there are very few elementary fabrication labs in the nation. The fabrication lab will mock a similar lab located in Chattanooga, Tennessee that was sponsored by Volkswagen. The labs consist of computer-controlled tools such as 3D printers and CNC machines to help students foster innovation by allowing them to design and make objects to help solve problems. The lab is planned to be up and running by the

next school year.

The school is still working with a data coach that meets with teachers to go over assessment data and problem-solve ideas to foster student growth.

The school was recently denied funding from the Federal Impact Aid program due to the low percentage of assessed value. The funding is based on how much federal property is located in the school district's boundaries. The school is going to keep working the legislatures to see if the funding formula can be adjusted so the school would qualify for the grant funds.

Dr. Roush congratulated the elementary robotics teams as well as wished the high school team good luck this weekend in their competition.

The school will also be replacing the main basketball gym floor this coming summer. The current floor is believed to be between 45 and 50 years old and has been inspected and has a significant amount of dead spots.

Superintendent Roush presented the proposed 2020-2021 school calendar and the COSMOS memorandum. The board approved both.

The board approved the following donations: two anonymous donations of \$100 and \$1,750 to the school cafeteria fund and an anonymous \$1,000 donation to the teacher supply fund.

The board approved the volleyball team to hold a clinic on Saturday, March 14 and

National unemployment unchanged at 3.5 percent for December

Total nonfarm payroll employment rose by 145,000 in December, and the unemployment rate was unchanged at 3.5 percent, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported last week. Notable job gains occurred in retail trade and health care, while mining lost jobs.

This news release presents statistics from two monthly surveys. The household survey measures labor force status, including unemployment, by demographic characteristics.

The establishment survey measures nonfarm employment, hours, and earnings by industry.

For more information about the concepts and statistical methodology used in these two surveys, see the Technical Note.

Household Survey Data

In December, the unemployment rate held at 3.5 percent, and the number of unemployed persons was unchanged at 5.8 million. A year earlier, the jobless rate was 3.9 percent, and the number of unemployed persons was 6.3 million.

Among the major worker groups, the unemployment rates for adult men (3.1 percent), adult women (3.2 percent), teenagers (12.6 percent), Whites (3.2 percent), Blacks (5.9 percent), Asians (2.5 percent), and Hispanics (4.2 percent) showed little or no change in December.

The number of long-term unemployed (those jobless for 27 weeks or more), at 1.2 million, was unchanged in December and accounted for 20.5 percent of the unemployed.

The labor force participation rate was unchanged at 63.2 percent in December. The employment-population ratio was 61.0 percent for the fourth consecutive month but was up by 0.4 percentage point over the year.

The number of persons employed part time for economic reasons, at 4.1 million, changed little in December but was down by 507,000 over the year. These individuals, who would have preferred full-time employment, were working part time because their hours had been reduced or they were unable to find full-time jobs.

In December, 1.2 million persons were marginally attached to the labor force, down by 310,000 from a year earlier. (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 277,000 discouraged workers in December, down by 98,000 from a year earlier. (Data are not seasonally adjusted.) Discouraged workers are persons not currently looking for work because they believe no jobs are available for them. The remaining 969,000 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 increased by 145,000 in December. Notable job gains occurred in retail trade and health care, while mining lost jobs. In 2019, payroll employment rose by 2.1 million, down from a gain of 2.7 million in 2018.

In December, retail trade added 41,000 jobs. Employment increased in clothing and accessories stores (+33,000) and in building material and garden supply stores (+7,000); both industries showed employment declines in the prior month. Employment in retail trade changed little, on net, in both 2019 and 2018 (+9,000 and +14,000, respectively).

Employment in health care increased by 28,000 in December. Ambulatory health care services and hospitals added jobs over the month (+23,000 and +9,000, respectively). Health care added 399,000 jobs in 2019, compared with an increase of 350,000 in 2018.

Employment in leisure and hospitality continued to trend up in December (+40,000). The industry added 388,000 jobs in 2019, similar to the increase in 2018 (+359,000).

Mining employment declined by 8,000 in December. In 2019, employment in mining declined by 24,000, after rising by 63,000 in 2018.

Construction employment changed little in December (+20,000). Employment in the industry rose by 151,000 in 2019, about half of the 2018 gain of 307,000.

In December, employment in professional and business services showed little change (+10,000). The industry added 397,000 jobs in 2019, down from an increase of 561,000 jobs in 2018.

Employment in transportation and warehousing changed little in December (-10,000). Employment in the industry increased by 57,000 in 2019, about one-fourth of the 2018 gain of 216,000.

Manufacturing employment was little changed in December (-12,000). Employment in the industry changed little in 2019 (+46,000), after increasing in 2018 (+264,000).

In December, employment showed little change in other major industries, including wholesale trade, information, financial activities, and government.

In December, average hourly earnings for all employees on private nonfarm payrolls rose by 3 cents to \$28.32. Over the last 12 months, average hourly earnings have increased by 2.9 percent. In December, average hourly earnings of private-sector production and nonsupervisory employees, at \$23.79, were little changed (+2 cents).

The average workweek for all employees on private nonfarm payrolls was unchanged at 34.3 hours in December. In manufacturing, the average workweek and overtime remained at 40.5 hours and 3.2 hours, respectively. The average workweek of private-sector production and nonsupervisory employees held at 33.5 hours.

March 21.

Superintendent Roush requested to update to the current Boyce Financial System. The board approved.

The board approved the following personnel recommendations:

-Allison Swartzentruber for a student teaching placement in the primary special education classroom for the next eight weeks.

-Jeremy Widdifeild as substitute custodian.

-Randy Wininger as ECA driver.

-Terra Boyd requested FMLA starting Monday, January 20th and returning Monday, February 17.

-Tiffany Wittmer to fill Terra Boyd's medical leave starting January 20 until February 17.

The superintendent recommended deputy treasurer and director of technology to move to salary from hourly. The board approved.

The Class of 2024 requested to sell dinners for the fireworks to patrons that park at the school parking lot. Anticipated use of funds will be used for the senior trip. The board approved.

The CDL reimbursement policy and cafeteria donation policy were presented for a first reading with no vote. The board held a second reading and approved the special purpose school driver/classroom aide policy.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:11 p.m.