

# Martin County JOURNAL

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Seven pages

## NSWC Crane announces its first female Technical Director

Naval Surface Warfare Center, Crane Division's (NSWC Crane) has announced its new Technical Director (TD), the first woman to ever be selected for the position.

Dr. Angie Lewis has been selected to serve as TD where she will serve as the senior civilian at the command, which consists of more than 3,800 military and government civilians providing the Navy with acquisition engineering, in-service engineering, and technical support for sensors, electronics, electronic warfare, and special warfare weapons.

"It is an honor to be selected to serve as NSWC Crane's Technical Director," says Dr. Lewis. "As our nation faces some of the toughest challenges we have seen in recent memory, the expertise of our workforce in Strategic Missions, Expeditionary Warfare, and Electronic Warfare will remain a critical component to ensuring the future security of our country. As the first woman to serve in this role, I understand what this milestone represents to future generations and young girls interested in STEM and business fields. It will take passionate people from diverse backgrounds to meet future mission needs."

Dr. Lewis brings more than 30 years of experience to the position. Most recently, she served as the Business Director and Corporate Operations Department Manager at NSWC Crane Division, providing executive level leadership for the command's strategic plan, senior level customer outreach, program office interface, and corporate business capabilities. She was responsible for an integrated approach to investment and resource planning to ensure strong technical health and relevant capabilities are in place for execution of Electronic Warfare, Strategic Systems and Expeditionary Warfare missions.

Dr. Lewis says she is humbled to serve as TD.

"I am very passionate about Crane's mission and the people that work here. I am humbled to work with my Navy teammates in this new capacity," says Dr. Lewis. "It is my goal to ensure the experts at NSWC Crane have the tools they need to be successful to ensure our Warfighters can do their jobs and come home safe."

Dr. Lewis previously served as the acting Division Technical Director at NSWC Crane Division, and oversaw the application of component and system level product engineering expertise principally to warfighting areas related to NSWC Crane's mission. A proponent of the "One Warfare Center Team" man-

tra, Dr. Lewis served in the role of Interim Deputy Technical Director for Operations at Panama City Warfare Center Division for several months.

Earlier in her career, Dr. Lewis served as the NSWC Crane Chief of Staff, advising the NSWC Crane Commanding Officer on operational and policy matters. She also served as the Deputy Department Manager for the Global Deterrence and Defense Department at NSWC Crane Division, responsible for overseeing professional science and engineering workload and operational components of over 800 personnel in primary support of the Navy's Strategic Systems Program. She has been instrumental to the establishment of Crane Division University and

to the facilitation of the organization's hallmark leadership development courses.

Throughout her career, Dr. Lewis has been an advocate for workforce development and culture. As both a practitioner and a researcher, she has focused

(See 'CRANE' on page 2)

## COVID update for Martin County

In the past week, there have been 22 new Covid-19 cases reported for Martin County, bringing the total for the year to 185. The total number of positive cases for Martin County is now at 773. To date over 3,400 people have been tested for Covid-19 from Martin County. 13 residents have died from the virus.

The Indiana Department of Health map currently shows Martin County as an ORANGE county based on cases the week ending January 31. The number of new cases have slowed within the past week. Martin County will be designated as ORANGE on the weekly 2-metric score when map updates on Wednesday afternoon. Under the orange advisory designation, gatherings are limited to 50 people and events are at 50 percent capacity or less and must be able to accommodate social distancing.

The health department will continue to administer COVID-19 vaccine to eligible recipients during clinic times on Tuesdays, Thursdays and every other Saturday. Due to limited supply, vaccine is available by appointment only to those currently eligible as determined

(See 'COVID' on page 2)



Naval Surface Warfare Center, Crane Division's (NSWC Crane) has announced its new Technical Director (TD), the first woman to ever be selected for the position. Dr. Angie Lewis has been selected to serve as TD where she will serve as the senior civilian at the command, which consists of more than 3,800 military and government civilians providing the Navy with acquisition engineering, in-service engineering, and technical support for sensors, electronics, electronic warfare, and special warfare weapons. (Photo by NSWC Crane Corporate Communications)



-Photo via Zoom by Courtney Hughett

The Martin County Council met Monday night, February 1, in a two-hour meeting. From left around the table are Council Members Adam Greene, Keith Gibson, Sherri Bowling, Randy Winger and Warren Albright; Sydney Blankenbaker, auditor's office employee; Auditor Bobbie Abel, and Council Members Buck Stiles and Barb McFeaters.

## County council approves hiring another highway employee

BY COURTNEY HUGHETT  
Martin County Journal Publisher

The Martin County Council spent over an hour at their meeting Monday night, February 1, discussing whether they should approve adding two more operator positions to the highway department.

Commissioner Cody Roush spoke on behalf of the new highway superintendent Scott Seals who said he isn't a public speaker and is also new to the position. Roush told the council that the highway department currently has 13 employees - 10 laborers/operators, the superintendent, a secretary, and a mechanic. He said the only way to get some improvements on the county roads is to add more operators. Commissioners Aaron Summer and Paul George were present via Zoom and agreed with what Roush was saying.

Commissioner Summers said that he receives complaints constantly about the condition of the county roads and hiring more operators is the only way improvements are going to happen. He said they currently have more equipment than they have operators to run the equipment.

County Council Member Randy Winger said he has felt the highway department needed additional staff for a long time. Council Member Buck Stiles agreed.

Commissioner Roush explained that they have two ways the positions can be paid for. They can hire one employee now by moving around funds in the highway department budget. Or they can hire two employees if the EDIT (Economic Development Income Tax) fund could take over paying the highway employees' insurance at around \$143,000. Currently, the highway department funds their own employees' insurance payments from their MVH (Motor Vehicle Highway) fund.

Council Member Winger said he would be in favor of moving funds around to hire an additional employee now as long as the money was already in the highway's budget.

Commissioner Paul George said that the highway department doesn't have any extra money available to move around. This prompted a lengthy conversation about why it was suggested as one of the options. Highway Secretary Terri Alcorn explained that when she had originally talked to Auditor Bobbie Abel about having funds available in the highway bud-

get, she hadn't crunched the numbers. She said there is no money available in MVH to sustain a new employee long term.

Council Member Warren Albright said that when they raised local income taxes last year, it was the understanding that 2022 would be the year the county would see the most impact from the pandemic. The point of raising taxes was to prepare for that shortfall. He said he didn't think it was the best idea to tell the taxpayers that they needed to raise taxes to cover the shortfall and then turn around and hire additional employees, especially not knowing what the impact will be from the pandemic. He said he doesn't like the idea of hiring someone and then being unable to fund the position in the future, causing that employee to be let go.

Council Member Buck Stiles said it didn't seem right that they have hired an

(See 'EMPLOYEE' on page 2)

## Martin County man arrested on child molesting charges

In late December 2020, the Indiana State Police was made aware of child molesting allegations against Ashton V. Pottorff, 24, of Shoals.

The Indiana State Police began an investigation into the allegations and Trooper Steve Nolan, of the Jasper Post, was assigned the case.

After an investigation, Trooper Nolan submitted charging information to the Martin County Prosecutor's Office. On January 25, 2021, Martin County Circuit Court issued a felony warrant for the arrest of Ashton V. Pottorff.

On January 27, 2021, at 10:05 a.m., Trooper Nolan took Pottorff into custody on the warrant at his residence and transported him to the Martin County Jail, where he is being held without bond. Assisting in the arrest were Indiana State Police Detective Jarrod Lents and Martin County Sheriff Travis Roush.

Pottorff was charged with one count of child molesting, a Level 1 Felony.

Assisting agencies were the Department of Child Services, Martin County Sheriff's Office, and SWIACC (Southwestern Indiana Child Advocacy Center Coalition).



# EMPLOYEE

(Continued from page one)

other position in the auditor's office and hired another deputy prosecutor but are not doing what needs to be done at the highway department.

Council Member Albright questioned what the highway department has planned for future equipment purchases. Commissioner George said they have two road graders that are 14 years old and have more than 10,000 hours. He said they will be looking at replacing those along with one of their terrain kings they have had for more than 10 years.

The question then arose as to whether TIF funds from WestGate could help cover the cost of equipment or employees. Alliance Director Angie Risacher said she is still looking into exactly what that money can be spent on and plans to have information to email out to the council this week. She said she wants to make sure they are following the state statute, to the letter, on how TIF funds can be spent.

Albright reiterated that they just raised taxes and they need to spend the money as efficiently as possible.

Commissioner Summers again said he would like to see two employees hired and said he is in favor of implementing a wheel tax to bring in extra funds.

"Run for council," said Council Member Winger, bringing a laugh from the other council members.

In the end, the council voted to hire one additional employee by transferring \$70,000 of the highway's insurance costs from the MVH fund to the county EDIT fund. The cost to hire an employee, including benefits, is \$70,000-\$72,000, depending on their insurance plan chosen. Council Member Stiles voted against hiring one employee as he had made a motion to hire two and it died due to the lack of a second.

Commissioner Roush said that hiring one employee is moving in the right direction.

Commissioner George told the council that they may argue and disagree however he appreciates what the council members do.

The council also discussed the need to

fix the pay scale at the highway department. Council Member Albright said it wasn't fair to pay every employee the same even when some have the licensing to operate equipment and others do not.

Commissioner George said it is hard to keep operators when only paying them \$17 per hour.

The council said that increasing pay for operators can be something they can look at during budget hearings.

Sheriff Travis Roush had talked to the commissioners at their last meeting about upgrading the communications system around the county. He then talked to the county council about it Monday night, explaining what he wanted to do. Roush and Melissa Sorrells, dispatch commander, explained about the towers and equipment that needed updated in three locations and the need for an additional tower in the northern part of the county. Sheriff Roush said that the main concern now is to get the upgrades done on the three existing towers and see what kind of improvements this makes on the county-wide system. He believes simply upgrading what they have will make a big difference when it comes to communicating with emergency personnel.

The council agreed that the upgrades need to be done. Sheriff Roush said he will work on soliciting bids. He said the 911 fund currently has close to \$600,000 and they believe they can get everything done with the money in that fund. The council agreed that getting bids on as much as possible could help drive down the cost. Roush said that the goal is to start the project in phases and see if at the end, they need to install towers at any other area of the county. He said that once a company is hired to do the work, they estimate it to be done in 5-7 months.

Roush also reported there are 71 inmates in the jail currently with 30 of them from Vigo County. He presented a check to the council for \$119,580 to cover housing Vigo County inmates from September to December 2020. Sheriff Roush said that the number of Vigo County inmates is increasing again now that COVID is getting under control.

# COVID

(Continued from page one)

by the Indiana Department of Health. The current eligibility requirements include individuals age 65 and older, as well as to licensed and unlicensed healthcare workers and first responders who have face-to-face interactions with patients or infectious material or work in a public-facing position that requires in-person contact. Appointments can be scheduled at <https://ourshot.in.gov> for those who are eligible. A photo ID, proof of age, or verification of current employment as a healthcare worker or first responder in Indiana will be required. Those who need assistance registering for an appointment can contact their local Agency on Aging. Hoosier Uplands is offering assistance with registration by calling 812-849-4447 and asking for vaccine registration. There is no cost to the individual, but insurance may be charged an administration fee. Individuals should bring a photo ID and an insurance card if they have one. The Moderna is what will be available locally. It requires two doses administered at least 28 days apart. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, it typically takes a few weeks for the body to build immunity after the second vaccination.

People who have been vaccinated may still be able to infect others, so even those who are vaccinated should continue wearing a mask and quarantining if they are a close contact of a positive case.

The best ways to protect yourself and others are to:

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds
- Avoid touching your face with unwashed hands
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick
- Stay home when you're sick
- Cover your cough or sneeze
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces

PLEASE STAY HOME IF YOU ARE SICK or if you have been told to isolate or quarantine. If someone in your household is symptomatic for Covid-19,

all household members should stay at home until the symptomatic person is tested or receives an alternate diagnosis from their doctor. If someone in your household has recently been tested for Covid-19, all household members should stay at home until they receive their results. The symptomatic person should isolate away from the rest of the household until results are received or until they see their doctor. Examples of alternate diagnosis could include strep throat, flu, etc. If the household member's Covid-19 test is negative or they receive an alternate diagnosis, asymptomatic household members can return to normal activities. For the sake of your family, friends and loved ones, we must take precautions to protect those around us! You can be infectious to others up to 48 hours before your symptoms begin.

For more information regarding COVID guidelines and regulations or the COVID-19 vaccination, visit [www.coronavirus.in.gov/](http://www.coronavirus.in.gov/) or [www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/index.html](http://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/index.html).

# CRANE

(Continued from page one)

on building an innovative culture at NSWC Crane that values leadership and employee engagement.

The Indiana Commission for Women selected her as a Torchbearer in 2015 for significant achievements as a woman in government and for her contributions to her employer, local community, and state. She is a member of the Southern Indiana Section of the American Society of Naval Engineers, a member of the Crane Chapter Federal Manager's Association, and a lifetime member and past president of the Hoosier Hills Chapter of Federally Employed Women. She recently served as President of the Board of Directors for the Boys and Girls Club of Lawrence County.

Dr. Lewis earned her bachelor's and master's degrees at Ball State University, and her doctorate degree in Management at Sullivan University. She also holds a Public Management Certificate, School of Public and Environmental Affairs from Indiana University.

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# OBITUARIES

## ROBERT DIVINE

Robert D. "Bob" Divine passed away with his family at his side at 11:40 a.m. Tuesday, January 26, 2021. A resident of Loogootee, he was 90.



He was born November 12, 1930 in Loogootee; son of the late Virgil and Lucy (Truelove) Divine.

**ROBERT DIVINE** Robert was a United States Air Force veteran and served his country for four years. He retired from Crane Army Ammunition Activity as an explosive handler. He was a member of the American Legion - Post 120, Veterans of Foreign Wars - Post 9395 and St. John Lutheran Church. He loved to garden and canning his fruits of labor. Most importantly, Robert loved his family and spending time with his grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Virgil and Lucy Divine; brother, Jackie Divine; half-sisters, Margie Krodell, Maxine Huebner, Jane Eichmiller and Wilma Mason.

Robert is survived by his wife of 61 years, Mary Ann (Chanley) Divine of

Loogootee; sons, Jack (Lisa) Divine and Mark (Gina) Divine, both of Loogootee; grandchildren, Jordan (Ashlye) Divine, Josh (Kayla) Divine, Jake Divine and Jess Divine; great-grandchildren, Kailye (Ashton) Wagler, Jack and Wrenlye Divine and one due to arrive in August; great-great-grandchildren, Jolye Wagler; sisters, Patricia (Don) Waggoner of Indianapolis and Annabell Gibson of Shoals; and many nieces and nephews.

A funeral service was held Saturday, January 30 at St. John Lutheran Church in Loogootee.

In lieu of flowers, memorials contributions can be made to the American Legion - Post 120, Veterans of Foreign Wars - Post 9395 or any veterans' charity.

Condolences may be made online at [www.blakefuneralhomes.com](http://www.blakefuneralhomes.com). Blake Funeral Home in Loogootee is honored to serve the family of Robert D. Divine.

## EVELYN PADGETT

Evelyn Delight (Stone) Padgett passed away January 27, 2021 at the Loogootee Nursing Center. A resident of Loogootee, she was 61.

She was born February 8, 1959; daughter of Donald and Yvonne (Tinkle) Stone.

She married Joe Padgett and he preceded her in death.

She attended Shoals Community Schools and was a homemaker.

Survivors include her mother, Yvonne Stone; children, Donald (Melanie Hogrefe) Gibson, Adam Gibson and Julie Lents; grandchildren, Braden Gibson, Amelia Hogrefe, Bethany Lents, Jonathan Emmons, Jacob Gibson, Colton Gibson, Bryson Gibson and Emma Gibson; one great grandchild, Layla Lents; siblings, Mary Jo Mullins, Sonya Davis, Darren Stone; and several nieces and nephews.

She is preceded in death by her father, husband and one brother, Randy Stone.

Funeral services were held Monday, February 1 at the Queen-Lee Chapel in Shoals, with burial in the Spring Hill Cemetery.

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

## EDWIN HARRIS

Edwin L. Harris passed away Thursday, January 28, 2021. A resident of Loogootee, he was 56.

He was born June 11, 1964 in Washington; son of the late Lowell and Cora (Hedrick) Harris.

Ed enjoyed fishing with his brother, Don, and being outdoors.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Lowell and Cora (Hedrick) Harris and siblings, Richard Harris, Ronald Harris, Mary Louise Gribben, David Harris and Don Harris.

Ed is survived by his son, Jason Harris of Wheatland; grandchildren, Riley, Brailey, Jaley and Jaxon Harris; sister-in-law, Mary Harris of Loogootee; and many nieces and nephews.

Funeral services were held this morning Wednesday, February 3 at Blake Funeral Home in Loogootee. Burial followed in Old Union Cemetery.

Condolences may be made online at [www.blakefuneralhomes.com](http://www.blakefuneralhomes.com). Blake Funeral Home in Loogootee is honored to serve the family of Edwin Harris.

## DOROTHY WALKER

Dorothy Jane Walker passed away Saturday, January 30, 2021 at University Nursing and Rehabilitation Center. A resident of Evansville, she was 96.



She was born October 2, 1924 in Jasper; daughter of the late Herbert Sr. and Leona (Blessinger) Pittman.

Dorothy graduated from Jasper High School. She married Elbert

Walker in July of 1948 and they spent 51 years together.

During her career Dorothy was employed as a secretary and bookkeeper at Jasper Venere Mills, in Jasper, McCormick Inc. in Vincennes, and Hocker Brake Co. in Evansville.

For many years, Dorothy and Elbert operated Lamasco Paint & Lacquer Co. in Evansville.

She is a long-time member of Holy Spirit/Annunciation Catholic Church.

Dorothy was preceded in death by her husband Elbert Walker, her parents; Herbert Sr. and Leona Pittman, her brother, Herbert Pittman Jr., and her sister Juanita (Pittman) Gardner.

A private graveside service officiated by Very. Rev. J. Kenneth Walker will be held for Dorothy on February 4, 2021. She will be laid to rest next to her husband in St. John Catholic Cemetery in Loogootee.

Condolences may be made online at [www.blakefuneralhomes.com](http://www.blakefuneralhomes.com). Blake Funeral Home in Loogootee is honored to serve the family of Dorothy Walker.

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# Visit [indianaunclaimed.gov](http://indianaunclaimed.gov) to look for unclaimed property

On Monday, on the first-ever National Unclaimed Property Day, Attorney General Todd Rokita encouraged Hoosiers to visit [IndianaUnclaimed.gov](http://IndianaUnclaimed.gov) and search for unclaimed property.

The Office of the Attorney General's Unclaimed Property Division has millions of dollars of unclaimed property to return to Hoosiers who take the time to search for their property at [IndianaUnclaimed.gov](http://IndianaUnclaimed.gov). Searching for property takes just a few minutes and costs no money.

Last year, the Office's Unclaimed Property Division received more than \$128 million in property and returned more than \$55 million to Hoosiers. Millions of dollars' worth of property is just waiting to be claimed at [IndianaUnclaimed.gov](http://IndianaUnclaimed.gov) by rightful owners, Attorney General Rokita said.

"It is a unique mission of this office to hold our citizens' unclaimed property and to make sure it gets back into their hands, and I am committed to carrying out this responsibility with integrity and efficiency," Attorney General Rokita said. "Our Office has made it extraordinarily easy for Hoosiers to search for and claim their property. I encourage all Indiana residents to visit [IndianaUnclaimed.gov](http://IndianaUnclaimed.gov) to get started."

Generally, unclaimed property is defined as a financial asset with no activity by its owner for an extended period. This includes unclaimed wages or commissions, savings and checking accounts, stock dividends, insurance proceeds, underlying shares, customer deposits or overpayments, certificates of deposit, credit balances, refunds, money orders,


and safe deposit box contents.

In most cases, unclaimed property is held by the state for 25 years. After 25 years, unclaimed property can no longer be claimed and becomes the property of the state.

If you file a claim at [IndianaUnclaimed.gov](http://IndianaUnclaimed.gov), please allow up to 90 days for your claim to process.

For more information about the Office's Unclaimed Property Division, visit [IndianaUnclaimed.gov](http://IndianaUnclaimed.gov). You may also contact the Unclaimed Property Division at 1-866-462-5246 or [updmal@atg.in.gov](mailto:updmal@atg.in.gov).

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## Martin County Sheriff's Department log

### MONDAY, JANUARY 25

8:04 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance near Loogootee. Martin County Ambulance and Loogootee Fire responded. The subject was transported to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

9:20 a.m. - Received a report of a reckless driver north of Loogootee. Martin County Law Enforcement was notified.

1:20 p.m. - Received an alarm call in Loogootee. ICO Mann and Major Keller responded.

Major Keller assisted with the arrest.

3:59 p.m. - Received a dog complaint in Loogootee. Animal Control Officer Hughett was notified.

### TUESDAY, JANUARY 26

4:49 a.m. - Received a report of an attempted breaking and entering in Loogootee. Loogootee Officer Means and Sergeant Gibson responded.

7:52 a.m. - Received a report of an accident in Loogootee. Major Keller, Martin County Ambulance, and Loogootee Fire responded.

9:40 a.m. - Received a medical alarm call near Loogootee. Martin County Ambulance and Haysville Fire responded. The subject was transported to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

10:26 a.m. - Received a report of an accident east of Shoals on SR 150. Major Keller, Lost River Fire, and Martin County Ambulance responded. No one was transported.

10:31 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance near Loogootee. Dubois County Ambulance and Loogootee Fire responded.

11:46 a.m. - Received a report of an accident in Loogootee. ISP, Martin County Ambulance, and Loogootee Fire responded.

1:30 p.m. - Deputy Seymour took two inmates to court.

2:05 p.m. - Received a dog complaint south of Loogootee. Animal Control Officer Hughett was notified.

7:45 p.m. - Received a report of a car-deer accident on SR 150, east of Shoals. Corporal Barnett responded.

### WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 27

2:33 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Shoals. Martin County Ambulance, Shoals Fire, and Sergeant Gibson responded. No one was transported.

4:55 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance north of Shoals. Martin County Ambulance and Indian Creek Fire responded. The subject was transported to IU Health in Bedford.

9:30 a.m. - Deputy Seymour assisted a motorist with a vehicle unlock in Shoals.

10:02 a.m. - Major Keller assisted a motorist with a vehicle identification check.

10:04 a.m. - Received a report of a suspicious vehicle in Loogootee. Loogootee Police responded.

11:30 a.m. - Deputy Seymour assisted a motorist near Loogootee with a vehicle unlock.

11:43 a.m. - Received a request for an

ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Ambulance transported the subject to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

12:19 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance east of Loogootee. Loogootee Chief Floyd, Deputy Seymour, and Martin County Ambulance responded. The subject was transported to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

1:31 p.m. - Received a report of a verbal dispute near Shoals. Sheriff Roush responded.

2:28 p.m. - Received a report of an accident west of Shoals on US 50. ISP and Martin County Ambulance responded.

2:29 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Shoals. Martin County Ambulance and Shoals Fire responded.

2:53 p.m. - Received a report of a slide-off east of Shoals on SR 150. Major Keller responded.

3:55 p.m. - Received a report of a slide-off on US 231, south of Loogootee. ISP Trooper Beaver responded.

3:57 p.m. - Received a report of a slide-off on US 231, north of Loogootee. Captain Reed responded.

4:05 p.m. - Received a dog complaint in Crane. Animal Control Officer Hughett was notified.

5:05 p.m. - Received a report of an accident on D.H. Gate Road. Sheriff Roush responded.

4:09 p.m. - Received a report of an accident in Loogootee. Loogootee Police responded.

4:20 p.m. - Received a report of a slide-off on US 50, west of Shoals. Martin County Sheriff's Office responded.

5:45 p.m. - Received a report of a slide-off on SR 150, north of Shoals. Corporal Barnett responded.

### THURSDAY, JANUARY 28

11:00 a.m. - Deputy Seymour took three inmates to court.

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

1:26 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance east of Loogootee. Martin County Ambulance and Shoals Fire responded.

2:30 p.m. - Received a dog complaint in Loogootee. Animal Control Officer Hughett was notified.

2:30 p.m. - Major Keller assisted with a slide-off east of Shoals.

3:00 p.m. - Deputy Seymour took two inmates to court.

7:26 p.m. - Received a report of a suspicious person on SR 150, east of Shoals. Town Marshal Eckert and Deputy Lents responded.

### FRIDAY, JANUARY 29

1:33 a.m. - Received a request for a welfare check in Loogootee. Loogootee Sergeant McBeth and Deputy Flanagan responded. The subject was transported to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

2:29 a.m. - Received an alarm call in Shoals. Deputy Flanagan responded. All was secure.

9:41 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance near Shoals. Martin County Ambulance and Shoals Fire responded. The subject was transported to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

10:37 a.m. - Received a dog complaint near Loogootee. Animal Control Officer Hughett was notified.

1:01 p.m. - Received a report of a reckless driver south of Loogootee on US 231. Major Keller, ISP Beaver, and Loogootee Captain Hennette responded.

5:07 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Ambulance responded but did not transport.

5:12 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Ambulance transported the subject to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

7:30 p.m. - Received a report of a reckless driver near Loogootee on US 50. Loogootee Police responded.

### SATURDAY, JANUARY 30

12:44 p.m. - Received a dog complaint in Loogootee. Animal Control Officer Hughett was notified.

1:05 p.m. - Received a hang up 911 call. Dispatch notified that everything is okay at the residence.

3:36 p.m. - Received a request for a deputy in Shoals. Shoals Town Marshal Eckert and ISP Trooper responded.

4:16 p.m. - Received a report of a suspicious vehicle north of Shoals. Deputy Lents responded.

7:23 p.m. - Received a report of a domestic dispute in Shoals. Deputy Flanagan and Shoals Town Marshal Eckert responded.

7:24 p.m. - Received a request for a welfare check near Shoals. Town Marshal Eckert and Deputy Flanagan responded. The subject was transported to Good Samaritan Hospital in Vincennes.

### SUNDAY, JANUARY 31

8:53 a.m. - Received a report of a disturbance in Loogootee. Loogootee Assistant Chief Rayhill and ISP responded.

10:25 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Ambulance and Loogootee Fire responded. The subject was transported to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

11:08 a.m. - Received a report of a tree down on US 50, east of Shoals. Shoals Fire responded.

6:11 p.m. - Received a report of a tree down on US 50, west of Shoals. Shoals Fire responded.

6:45 p.m. - Received a report of an accident on US 50, west of Shoals. Town Marshal Eckert, Deputy Lents, Sergeant

Gibson, Shoals Fire, and Martin County Ambulance responded. The subject was transported to Daviess Community Hospital.

7:12 p.m. - Received a report of a reckless driver on US 50 near Loogootee. Loogootee Officer Means and Captain Reed responded.

9:13 p.m. - Received a report of an accident on US 50, west of Shoals. Sergeant Gibson, Martin County Ambulance, and Shoals Fire responded. No one was transported.

10:47 p.m. - Received a report of an accident east of Loogootee on US 50. Loogootee Officer Means, Sergeant Gibson, and Captain Reed responded.

## ARRESTS

### MONDAY, JANUARY 25

2:10 p.m. - Sean Peterson, 36, of Loogootee, was arrested by Loogootee Assistant Chief Rayhill and charged with intimidation and resisting law enforcement. He is being held without bond.

8:19 p.m. - James Wallisa, 37, of Loogootee, was arrested by Sergeant Gibson on a Spencer County warrant and is being held without bond.

### WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 27

12:50 a.m. - Jeff Lake, 59, of Shoals, was arrested by Captain Reed and charged with possession of methamphetamine and possession of paraphernalia. Bond has been set at \$15,000 10%. Assisting with the arrest were Loogootee Officer Means and Sergeant Gibson.

10:10 a.m. - Ashton Pottorff, 24, of Shoals, was arrested by ISP Trooper Nolan on a Martin County warrant, for Felony Level 1 Child Molesting. He is being held on a 15-day hold and after that a bond of 100,000 dollars cash only. ISP Detective Lents and Sheriff Roush assisted with the arrest.

### SUNDAY, JANUARY 31

11:40 p.m. - William Vaughan, 47, of Washington, was arrested by Sergeant Gibson and charged with operating a vehicle while intoxicated refusal, operating a vehicle while intoxicated endangerment, false informing, and leaving the scene of an accident. He is being held on a \$10,000 10% bond. Assisting with the arrest were Captain Reed, Loogootee Officer Means and Town Marshal Eckert.

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# COURT NEWS

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

## CRIMINAL COURT New Charges Filed January 11

Brandon S. Stone, dealing in methamphetamine, a Level 4 Felony.

Sherry D. Gibson, dealing in methamphetamine, a Level 4 Felony.

Travis S. Bauernfiend, strangulation, a Level 5 Felony; domestic battery in the presence of a child less than 16 years old, a Level 6 Felony.

## January 12

Robert A. Holt, invasion of privacy, a Class A Misdemeanor; three counts of harassment by means of a telephone call, Class B Misdemeanors.

Susan R. Bell-Moody, possession of marijuana, a Class B Misdemeanor.

## January 14

David Dale Raber, use of private land without consent, a Class C Misdemeanor.

## January 19

Frank J. Kane, criminal trespass, a Class A Misdemeanor.

Jason H. Stone, operating a vehicle while intoxicated endangering a person, a Class A Misdemeanor; operating a vehicle with an ACE of .08 or more, a Class C Misdemeanor; operating a vehicle with a schedule I or II controlled substance or its metabolite in the body, a Class C Misdemeanor.

Storm L. Bradley, possession of methamphetamine, a Level 5 Felony; maintaining a common nuisance- controlled substances, a Level 6 Felony; possession of marijuana, a Class B Misdemeanor; possession of paraphernalia, a Class C Misdemeanor.

Sherry D. Gibson, possession of methamphetamine, Level 5 Felony; neglect of a dependent, a Level 6 Felony; maintaining a common nuisance- controlled substances, a Level 6 Felony; possession of marijuana, a Class B Misdemeanor; possession of paraphernalia, a Class C Misdemeanor.

Calvin Gibson, possession of methamphetamine, Level 5 Felony; neglect of a dependent, a Level 6 Felony; maintaining a common nuisance- controlled substances, a Level 6 Felony; possession of marijuana, a Class A Misdemeanor; possession of paraphernalia, a Class C Misdemeanor.

Brandon S. Stone, possession of methamphetamine, Level 5 Felony; maintaining a common nuisance- controlled substances, a Level 6 Felony; possession of marijuana, a Class B Misdemeanor;

## Martin County real estate transfers

**Deborah A. Hawkins**, of Martin County, Indiana to **Deborah A. Hawkins, Melissa Louthain, and Kimberly Bauer**, of Martin County, Indiana. Tract I: A part of the east half of Section 10, Township 2 North, Range 4 West, Second Principal Meridian, Martin County, Indiana, containing 48.20 acres, more or less, except a section containing 0.20 acres, more or less. Tract II: Lot Number 15 in Stiles Addition to the Town of Shoals, Indiana. Tract III: Lot Number 16 in Stiles Addition to the Town of Shoals.

**Melissa K. Moffatt and James E. Moffatt**, of Martin County, Indiana to **Kaden T. Butler**, of Martin County, Indiana, 2.66 acres, more or less, in Section 21, Township 2 North, Range 3 West.

**Teresa D. Hewitt, Tamara D. Jones, and Tawni D. Ridgley** to **Rickie L. Spurgeon and Tracy Spurgeon**, of Martin County, Indiana, a part of the south half of the southeast quarter of Section

possession of paraphernalia, a Class C Misdemeanor.

Joshua M. Davis, obstructing a firefighter, a Class A Misdemeanor; criminal recklessness, a Class B Misdemeanor; false informing, a Class B Misdemeanor; refusal to identify self, a Class C Misdemeanor.

Troy A. Pate, operating a vehicle while intoxicated endangering a person, a Class A Misdemeanor; possession of marijuana, a Class B Misdemeanor; possession of paraphernalia, a Class C Misdemeanor.

## January 20

Christopher L. Bearden, residential entry, a Level 6 Felony.

## CRIMINAL CONVICTIONS AND SENTENCING

### January 25

Cody W. Combs, convicted of operating a vehicle while intoxicated endangering a person. Sentenced to serve 262 days with 0 days suspended and credit for 131 actual days previously served plus 131 Class A credit days.

Russell E. Cook III, convicted of operating a vehicle while intoxicated, a Level 6 Felony. Sentenced to serve 730 days with 365 days suspended and credit for 4 actual days previously served plus 4 Class A credit days. Defendant to serve remaining 357 days on home detention through Greene County Community Corrections. Defendant received 12 months of probation.

## CRIMINAL CHARGES DISMISSED

### January 25

Russell E. Cook III, operating a vehicle while intoxicated endangering a person, a Class A Misdemeanor, dismissed.

## CIVIL COURT New Suits Filed

### January 21

Midland Credit Management, Inc. vs. Phyllis Mullins, civil collection.

### January 22

Cavalry SPV I, LLC vs. Michael Hopkins, civil collection.

Cynthia Qualkenbush vs. Joseph Qualkenbush, petition for dissolution of marriage.

### January 25

Capital One Bank vs. Jason Wathen, civil collection.

### January 26

Charles E. O'Connor vs. Audrey J. O'Connor, petition for dissolution of marriage.

## MARRIAGE LICENSES

### January 21

Kacrisa J. Lintz of Williams and Travis R. Salmon of Loogootee.

24, Township 3 North, Range 4 West, Center Township, Martin County, Indiana, containing 0.27 acres, more or less.

**Abydel Farms, LLC**, of New Castle County, Delaware to **Jeremy S. Vire**, of Martin County, Indiana, a part of the northeast quarter of Section 9 and the northwest quarter of Section 10, Township 4 North, Range 3 West, Mitcheltree Township, Martin County, Indiana, containing 40.532 acres, more or less.

**David S. Stuffle and Theresa L. Stuffle to Jerrod Helderman and Vera Helderman**, a portion of the northwest quarter of Section 24, Township 3 North, Range 5 West in the City of Loogootee, Indiana, containing 0.50 acre. Lot 2, Country Court II.

**Tory C. Stinson to Mountain River Farm, LLC**, part of the east one-half of the southeast quarter of Section 15, Township 4 North, Range 3 West, Martin County, Indiana, containing 2.32 acres, more or less.

# Loogootee Police log

## MONDAY, JANUARY 25

3:22 a.m. - Sgt. McBeth completed a welfare check.

8:04 a.m. - First responders were dispatched to a medical call on North Line Street.

9:10 a.m. - Assistant Chief Rayhill responded to a report of a reckless driver entering Loogootee from US 231 South.

12:20 p.m. - Assistant Chief Rayhill responded to a report of a broken windshield from debris off of another vehicle on the roadway.

5:04 p.m. - Assistant Chief Rayhill completed a welfare check at Country Court.

5:51 p.m. - Assistant Chief Rayhill responded to an alarm at a local business.

8:22 p.m. - Officer Means completed a welfare check on Boston Street.

## TUESDAY, JANUARY 26

7:53 a.m. - Chief Floyd responded to a property damage accident on JFK Avenue.

11:48 a.m. - Chief Floyd responded to a property damage accident at US 50 and US 231.

2:00 p.m. - Chief Floyd completed a vehicle check.

## WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 27

9:56 a.m. - Chief Floyd transported one male subject on an emergency detention.

10:00 a.m. - Caller reported a suspicious van on North Line Street.

10:25 a.m. - The Loogootee Fire Department was dispatched to a local business and everything checked out okay.

12:23 p.m. - First responders were dispatched to a medical call on Scenic Hill Road.

3:40 p.m. - Caller reported a slide off on Bloomfield Road.

3:54 p.m. - Chief Floyd assisted with slide offs on US 231 South.

6:01 p.m. - Sgt. McBeth responded to a report of a vehicle running into the fence at the Loogootee Pool.

7:53 p.m. - Sgt. McBeth responded to a report of a tree limb on a power line on West Broadway Street.

9:33 p.m. - Sgt. McBeth responded to

a noise complaint on West Main Street.

## THURSDAY, JANUARY 28

9:11 a.m. - A complainant came on station to speak with an officer in reference to a minor accident that occurred yesterday during the snowfall.

9:36 a.m. - Sgt. Hennette assisted with a funeral escort.

1:01 p.m. - Sgt. Hennette assisted the Martin County Sheriff's Department with a report of a reckless driver nearing Loogootee on US 231 South.

## FRIDAY, JANUARY 29

5:15 p.m. - First responders and Sgt. Hennette responded to a medical call on Cedar Street.

8:15 p.m. - Officer Means spoke with a complainant about a domestic dispute.

## SATURDAY, JANUARY 30

12:43 p.m. - Assistant Chief Rayhill assisted with a funeral escort.

3:15 p.m. - Assistant Chief Rayhill investigated a report of possible illegal drug activity.

## SUNDAY, JANUARY 31

8:57 a.m. - Assistant Chief Rayhill responded to a domestic dispute on Doyle Avenue.

12:29 a.m. - First responders were dispatched to a medical call on South Kentucky Avenue.

12:05 p.m. - Assistant Chief Rayhill responded to a report of debris on the roadway on East Main Street.

10:49 p.m. - Officer Means assisted the Martin County Sheriff's Department with a property damage accident on US 50 East with vehicles that have left the scene.

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## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### More Neat Stuff

By Ann Ackerman

IF THE PERSON WHO NAMED WALKIE TALKIE NAMED EVERYTHING:

- \*Stamps – Lickie Stickie
- \*Defibrillators – Hearty Starty
- \*Bumble Bees – Fuzzy Buzzy
- \*Pregnancy Test – Maybe Baby
- \*Bra – Breastie Nestie
- \*Fork – Stabby Grabby
- \*Socks – Feetie Heatie
- \*Hippo – Floatie Bloatie
- \*Nightmare – Screamy Dreamy

Quote from Pope Francis: “Rivers do not drink their own water; trees do not eat their own fruit; the sun does not shine on itself, and flowers do not spread their fragrance for themselves. Living for others is a rule of nature. We are all born to help each other. No matter how difficult it is...Life is good when you are happy; but much better when others are happy because of you.”

**THOUGHTS**

- \*I hate having a messy house – not enough to actually clean it but enough to give it a really disgusted stare from my seat on the couch.
- \*We all get heavier as we get older because there’s a lot more information in our heads. So, I’m not fat, I’m really intelligent and my head couldn’t hold any more so it started filling up the rest of me.
- \*I’m just a girl, standing in front of a donut, asking it to be a salad.
- \*Reading the nutrition facts of a cookie: Me – so I’ll need to eat at least 83 of these to get 100% of my daily protein?
- \*I don’t always carry all the groceries on one arm, but when I do, my keys are

in the wrong pocket.  
\*I apologize for the coin shortage. I started a swear jar.

Friend: I hate frozen pizza.  
Me: I hate frozen pizza too. That’s why I put it in the oven for a bit before I eat it.  
Friend: \_\_\_\_\_

- \*2014: Didn’t jog.
  - 2015: Didn’t jog.
  - 2016: Didn’t jog.
  - 2017: Didn’t jog.
  - 2018: Didn’t jog.
  - 2019: Didn’t jog.
  - 2020: Didn’t jog.
  - 2021: Still haven’t jogged.
- This is a running joke.

Make someone smile today!

### ANIMAL SHELTER Pet of the Week



**HEIDI** is a female shepherd mix, 2 years old. Very sweet but needs to be the only dog as she wants to be the boss. Adoption fee is \$100. The shelter is open by appointment only and an adoption application is required to schedule an appointment. For more info, visit [www.humanesociety-ofmartincounty.org](http://www.humanesociety-ofmartincounty.org).



### Safety grant

The City of Loogootee received the check for the \$6,500 IPEP grant they were awarded last year to pay for safety equipment for the public works and police departments. The grant was initiated by the city’s insurance agent Rex Strawn, with Strawn Insurance. Shown above, from left to right, are Rex Strawn, City Superintendent Bo Wilson, Police Chief Jim Floyd, and Mayor Noel Harty.

### NEW LISTING! ALFORDSVILLE!



Great location in Barr Reeve School District for this like new 2014 manufactured home with 3 bedroom, 2 bath. Open living, dining, and kitchen area, split bedrooms floor plan. Very nice, covered open front deck on approx 1/3 acre lot. \$169,900

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### Free meal

The Loogootee Christian Church, at 206 Sherman Street, is having their monthly free meal for the community. They would like to extend an invitation to the entire community for a free dinner to be held Thursday, February 4 from 6-8 p.m. at the church. The meal this month will be carry out only, please line up in the parking lot and they will take your order.

### Food pantry hours

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

### Mental Health Task Force

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

### Celebrate Recovery meetings

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

### Local recovery meetings

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

Loogootee at 8 p.m.; Fridays-Alcoholic Anonymous, Loogootee Municipal Building Loogootee at 8 p.m.

### Free lunch for kids

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

### SOAR Tutoring

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

### Solid waste board

The Martin County Solid Waste Board holds their monthly meetings on the third Wednesday of each month at 5:30 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](http://www.martinswcd.com) or call at 295-3149.

## Quarter million dollar grant to launch cancer support for Martin, 10 other counties

To expand the variety, frequency, and the number of cancer patients and family members who receive support with needs beyond clinical care, Bloomington Health Foundation (BHF) has granted \$260,000 to Cancer Support Community Central Indiana (CSCCI) to establish Cancer Support Community South Central Indiana. The new satellite program will be headquartered in Bloomington and serve patients throughout the 11-county region including Monroe, Morgan, Owen, Brown, Orange, Greene, Daviess, Martin, Washington, Jackson, and Lawrence counties.

The grant provides one-year startup funding for two personnel positions and will offer free in-person programmatic services when they can be safely held, potentially in late 2021. Last year BHF, CSCCI, and IU Health South Central Region collaborated to bring virtual versions of these services to the area amid the COVID-19 pandemic. Those services are ongoing and can be accessed through the CSCCI website.

Funding for the grant comes from past monies raised through the annual community event Hoosiers Outrun Cancer. Also included in the agreement is 3-year licensure of the event, which will fund the program moving forward.

“It is wonderful to witness after 21 years of incredible community support for Hoosiers Outrun Cancer, that this beloved event will have even a broader vision for supporting those impacted by cancer,” said BHF Interim President and CEO Heather Robinson. “We are honored to partner with CSCCI to bring critical services beyond clinical care to our area that will be free to cancer patients and their families.”

al non-profit network consisting of 175 locations, including the 26-year-old affiliate in Indianapolis. Their centers provide free support through wellness classes, counseling, a toll-free helpline, educational resources, and more.

“We have cared for tens of thousands of Hoosiers in Central Indiana for more than 25 years and it is our honor to work alongside local leaders like BHF to continue that legacy and expand our services to our friends in South Central Indiana,” said Eric Richards, President and CEO of CSCCI.

Mary, a current program participant in Indianapolis, said, “What happens every week I walk into a group is pure magic. I find spiritual strength when treatment has drained me of physical strength. I am refueled and re-energized through my support group and through the wellness activities and the education programs and the people. The whole place is magical.”

A local advisory committee comprised of seven individuals, three selected by BHF and four appointed by CSCCI, will oversee operations of the South Central program. Additionally, CSCCI is currently working to establish relationships with regional healthcare leaders for further program expansion. Those details will be announced in the coming weeks.

Cancer Support Community Central Indiana will be hiring a full-time Program Manager and full-time Development Manager to support its efforts. Qualified and interested individuals can learn more or submit their resume to [eric@cancersupportindy.org](mailto:eric@cancersupportindy.org).

The 22<sup>nd</sup> Hoosiers Outrun Cancer 5k walk/run is set for September 25. Registration will soon be available at [HoosiersOutrunCancer.org](http://HoosiersOutrunCancer.org).

Cancer Support Community is a glob-



## In the Garden

By Ralph Purkhiser, Purdue University Master Gardener

Last week, we began plans for the work to be done in the landscape this year. We discussed plans to increase winter interest, especially in the parts of the garden visible from the windows. We will continue the planning this week.

Winter is not the most popular time to visit botanical gardens and other public gardens, but when planning for one's own winter interest, it is a good time to see those places. It is easy to see the bones of the garden in the winter and to use that knowledge to plan for good bones for our own. You will also see plants that give the garden interest at this time of the year. I highly recommend visiting any of the botanical gardens around, but one of the best for seeing good winter interest is the Missouri Botanical Gardens in St. Louis. The gardens have extensive plantings of a wide variety of evergreens, both conifers and broad-leaf plants that retain foliage during the winter. Many of these take on different colors in the winter. Many of the evergreens in the rhododendron family take on a burgundy color in the cold. You will also see evergreens that have variegations, including yellow and white tips. These little additions to the color palette make a big difference in the overall landscape throughout the year, but the contrast is especially stark in the winter months.

If you are not able to visit a botanical garden, visit the gardens of friends in the area or come by Sandhill Gardens. I have planned the landscape at Sandhill Gardens for interest in all seasons, and I am especially pleased with the number of interesting plants that shine in the winter. In addition to foliage, you will see contorted filberts and mulberries. Trees that have weeping foliage in the summer also have weeping bare branches that give interest in the winter. There are also plants with bark that steals the show when the leaves are gone. Red-twig and yellow-twig dogwoods are appropriately named, and some cultivars offer variations in those colors. I also have a coral-bark Japanese maple, the young branches of which shine with an intense coral color in the winter. Other trees and shrubs have exfoliating bark that reveals layers of color. Two of my favorites are oak-leaf hydrangeas and river birch.

Wherever you visit, take in the way the bones of a garden establish the various beds and affect the other plants that will grow in the area. Trees and shrubs will cause the adjacent areas to be shaded at least part of the day, so you will need to take that into consideration when selecting plants for the area. The amount of shade will change as the trees and shrubs mature, so your garden plan must include plans to change. You may want to plant some perennials that need partial sun around young trees, knowing they will need to be moved when the trees mature. There are also some plants that will adapt as the shade changes. Perhaps the best of

these is one of my favorite species—the hellebores. Young hellebores will mature more quickly with a little sun, but as they mature, they do not require much sun at all. Hellebore clumps will increase with age and rarely need to be divided, so they are set to mature in place in a new bed. You can plant daylilies or other sun-loving perennials at first and change them out for hostas and ferns when the area becomes shadier in a few years. By that time, the daylilies will be ready to be dug and divided anyway. Another option is to use pots of annuals to complete the landscape until ready for the addition of shade-lovers in a few years.

As you pick the plants that will become your landscape, find pictures of them to keep with the graph design. The wonderful thing about landscapes is that they are always changing. If you later find a different plant that you just have to grow, it can be added. There will be storms and pests that will cause great changes. The step to being a successful garden designer and gardener is to know that everything continues to change and to be willing to adapt to the changes. That is what keeps gardening interesting. There is always something new.

### Grant applications open for Community Hunting Access Program

Communities interested in applying for funding through DNR's Community Hunting Access Program (CHAP) can apply through March 31.

CHAP is designed to increase hunting opportunities for white-tailed deer in communities and to help alleviate human/deer conflicts. The program provides participating organizations with financial and technical assistance to administer hunting programs in their communities. In a broader sense, CHAP provides a practical and economical method for reducing deer numbers and balancing ecological and societal needs through regulated deer hunting.

Parks, homeowners associations, and other land-managing entities are eligible to apply for CHAP. Successful applicants will be awarded financial assistance to help them manage a deer hunt during the regulated 2021-2022 deer hunting season.

New this year, CHAP recipients will be required to provide a 25% acreage match for the total acres they offer for deer hunting opportunities, that is, CHAP will provide a dollar amount per acre for up to 75% of the acres identified on an application. Total financial assistance per participating partner is capped at a maximum of \$25,000.

CHAP allows for community partner oversight and the flexibility to determine when and where managed hunts occur.

For more information and to submit an application, visit on.IN.gov/dnrchap.

## Indiana Dairy Strategy available

The Indiana State Department of Agriculture has unveiled a new Indiana Dairy Strategy, which focuses on dairy business expansion, development and attraction to our great Hoosier state. Indiana Dairy Strategy 2.0 is an update to the previous dairy strategy released in 2015.

"This updated dairy strategy highlights our strengths as an agriculture focused state along with our unprecedented business climate," said Lt. Gov. Suzanne Crouch. "We want to encourage processors and dairy businesses to think of Indiana when realizing expansion or adding an additional location is on the horizon."

America's dairy farmers are critical to agriculture, not just in Indiana, but around the world. Dairy products provide a rich source of protein and other vital nutrients at an affordable cost for consumers and it is readily available in almost all grocery stores. While the coronavirus pandemic did cause some disruptions for the dairy industry, this strategy focuses on data pre-COVID-19.

"Our dairy industry is crucial for our state and we are incredibly thankful for our Hoosier farmers and processors," said Bruce Kettler, Indiana State Department of Agriculture director. "Our dairy farmers are committed to their profession and we are proud to support them on the state level and will continue to do everything we can to increase milk processing in our state and add value to our dairy products."

The Indiana Dairy Strategy 2.0 was

developed to better understand our current dairy industry environment and its strengths. It also gives an overview of the data trends the industry has seen play out over the past few years. A goal of the dairy strategy was to find new ways to strengthen our dairy industry and work with our current processors to increase milk outlets.

"The dairy industry is something I have been a part of all my life, and it is an industry that teaches me something new each day," said Doug Leman, executive director of the Indiana Dairy Producers. "This updated strategy is a big step forward in making more opportunities available for Hoosier dairy farmers."

Some highlights of the dairy strategy are as follows:

- Indiana produces a net surplus of 3.5 million pounds of milk each day

- Indiana producers and farmers have made strides around sustainability and work each day to reduce ecological impact

- A key asset in growing Indiana's dairy sector is the state's advantage of critical infrastructure

- Indiana has a positive regulatory and tax environment for dairy producers and processors

To view the full dairy strategy visit [www.in.gov/isda/files/Indiana-Dairy-Strategy-2.0.pdf](http://www.in.gov/isda/files/Indiana-Dairy-Strategy-2.0.pdf).

To view the dairy strategy one page document visit [www.in.gov/isda/files/DairyStrategy2.0\\_1Pager.pdf](http://www.in.gov/isda/files/DairyStrategy2.0_1Pager.pdf).

## Weekly digital agriculture webinar series returns February 4

BY MEGAN KUHN  
Purdue University News Service

A weekly webinar series featuring Purdue University experts in data science and digital agriculture will kick off at 12:30 p.m. ET Thursday, February 4.

Each Thursday this spring, the Data Driven Agriculture webinars will explore ways digital agriculture and data science can advance agriculture today and into the future.

"Building on the momentum of last fall's digital agriculture webinars, we wanted to highlight how data is not only being used today but also explore its future potential," said Dennis Buckmaster, agricultural and biological engineering professor and dean's fellow of digital agriculture at Purdue.

"In this series, researchers from across the College of Agriculture – and beyond – will showcase how they are using data to improve crop, livestock and forest management decisions, increase produce safety, quickly identify disease outbreaks in livestock and much more."

The webinars start at 12:30 p.m. ET each Thursday starting on Feb. 4 and running through May 13. Speakers will present for the first 30 minutes followed by a live chat where participants can ask questions.

February 4 – Precision Soil Maps: Moving Beyond Soil Survey. Jason Ackerson, assistant professor of agronomy.

February 11 – Soybean Production Amplified. Shaun Casteel, associate professor of agronomy and Extension soybean and small grains specialist.

February 18 – UAVs in Livestock Production. John Scott, Extension coordinator for digital agriculture.

February 25 – Dairy Data Utilization. Jackie Boerman, assistant professor of animal sciences.

March 4 – Digital Forestry. Songlin

Fei, professor of forestry and natural resources and Dean's Chair of Remote Sensing.

March 11 – On Farm Experimentation, Robert Nielsen, professor of agronomy and Extension corn specialist.

March 18 – Digital Forestry. Songlin Fei, professor of forestry and natural resources and Dean's Chair of Remote Sensing.

March 25 – Data in Produce Safety. Amanda Deering, clinical associate professor of food sciences.

April 1 – Putting a Price on Data. Nathan DeLay, assistant professor of agricultural economics.

April 8 – Using Imagery Data for Weed Identification. Dharmendra Saraswat, associate professor of agricultural and biological engineering.

April 15 – Smarter Treatment of Livestock Disease. Mohit Verma, assistant professor of agricultural and biological engineering, and Aaron Ault, senior research engineer.

April 22 – Practical Applications for UAVs. John Scott, Extension coordinator for digital agriculture.

April 29 – IoT Networks: Sensors and Data Visualization. Nithin Raghunathan, research scientist, and Charilaos Mousoulis, senior research scientist.

May 6 – Public Data for the Public Good. Nicole Widmar, professor and associate head of agricultural economics.

May 13 – Machines and Robotics. John Evans, assistant professor of agricultural and biological engineering, and David Cappelleri, associate professor of mechanical engineering.

The webinars are free, but registration is requested at <https://ag.purdue.edu/digital-ag-resources/spring-webinar-series/>.

The presentations will be recorded and posted on the Purdue Digital Ag Resources website. This series is supported in part by the Wabash Heartland Innovation Network.

### PUBLIC NOTICE

RTC Communications will be going door to door to inform and sell community members Intelcyn services, such as fiber broadband and voice solutions through RTC's Connecting the Community program. This program is comprised of RTC team members to educate and offer RTC services to applicable residents. This initiative will run from January 31, 2021 to May 31, 2021. Any questions may be referred to Becky Smith with RTC Communications at 812-486-3211.