

# Martin County JOURNAL

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Ten pages

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## County council discusses jail, economic development

BY COURTNEY HUGHETT  
Martin County Journal Publisher

Sheriff Travis Roush spoke to the Martin County Council at their meeting Monday night, February 5 about several issues facing the sheriff's department.

Sheriff Roush explained that when the state jail inspector went through the jail last year, he approved the number of beds allowed in the jail from 61 to 79. At that time, Roush said there could have been more beds added but he was not ready for that. He noted that the jail was originally designed to hold 61 beds. The jail inspector returned recently and told Sheriff Roush that he could increase the bed capacity to 95. The sheriff contacted the Loughmillers, at Southern Indiana Steel, and they are busy with other jobs at this time but agreed to do a rush on five beds, which will be installed Monday. Sheriff Roush said that, as of now, he has

too many local inmates and they are the top priority. He noted that if the local population goes down, he has out-of-county inmates that can be brought in and that he has a good partnership with community corrections and the probation office allowing inmates to move through the jail quicker.

Taking in 15 total out-of-county inmates per year would add \$190,000 annually to the county's general fund, said the sheriff. Currently, the sheriff is limiting out-of-county inmates to 10 at a time, due to the local population.

The sheriff explained to the council that he doesn't seem to have any problems with other counties needing to send Martin County their inmates however he only has four jailers, plus one that is in the National Guard, so every time there is an increase of beds, it adds more work to his jailers. Roush explained that if he were to go to the maximum capacity, he would need to hire another jailer at a cost of around

\$33,000 per year with benefits. He told the council that he doesn't expect them to make a decision about hiring another jailer right now however he wanted them to know that he will not be adding more out-of-county inmates to his population until he has one. Roush said he lost two jailers recently to Daviess County due to the low pay in Martin County. He said he's having a hard time filling positions due to lower salaries.

When asked how many more beds the jail can hold, Sheriff Roush replied that 95 would be maximum, unless they remodeled. He said some of the areas in the jail could be repurposed if there was a population boom in the county and there was a need for additional beds.

Sheriff Roush also let the council know that there is still a need to upgrade the 911 service from analog to digital. He said the current system will

(See 'COUNCIL' on page 2)



### Primary filings 2018

The following have filed candidacy in the Martin County Clerk's Office for the 2018 Primary Election in Martin County:

US Representative District 8

Ron Drake (D)

William Tanoos (D)

Larry D. Bucshon (R)

Rachael Covington (R)

Richard Moss (R)

State Representative District 62

Jeff Ellington (R)

State Representative District 63

Shane M. Lindauer

State Senator

Eric S. Bassler

Martin County Prosecutor

C. Michael Steiner (D)

Martin County Assessor

Carolyn S. McGuire (R)

Martin County Clerk

Gerald D. Montgomery (R)

Martin County Sheriff

T.A. "Andy" Burkhardt (D)

Travis Roush (R)

County Commissioner District 2

Paul George (D)

Martin County Council District 1

Randy L. Winger (D)

Martin County Council District 2

James A. (Buck) Stiles (R)

Martin County Council District 3

Barb McFeaters (R)

Martin County Council District 4

Floyd "Lonnie" Hawkins (D)

Perry Township Trustee

Jason Hennette (D)

Perry Township Advisory Board

Anthony "Tony" J. Dant (D)

Brandi Hennette (D)

Perry 4 Precinct Committeeman

Noel Harty (D)

Center Township Trustee

Charles S. Hamilton (R)

Center Township Advisory Board

Ruby V. Wilcoxon (R)

Larry L. Downs (R)

Halbert Township Trustee

Exzelia Montgomery (R)

Halbert Township Advisory Board

Stephanie (Stevie) J. Horton (R)

Travis Montgomery (R)

Kimberly Albright (R)

Lost River Township Advisory Board

Keith Emmons (R)

Rutherford Township Trustee

Terry J. Street (D)

Rutherford Township Advisory Board

Danny F. Berry (D)

Jeff Horney (R)

Crane Town Clerk/Treasurer

Linda Ann Willoughby (R)

Crane Town Council

Bernard Butcher (D)

(See 'ELECTION' on page 2)

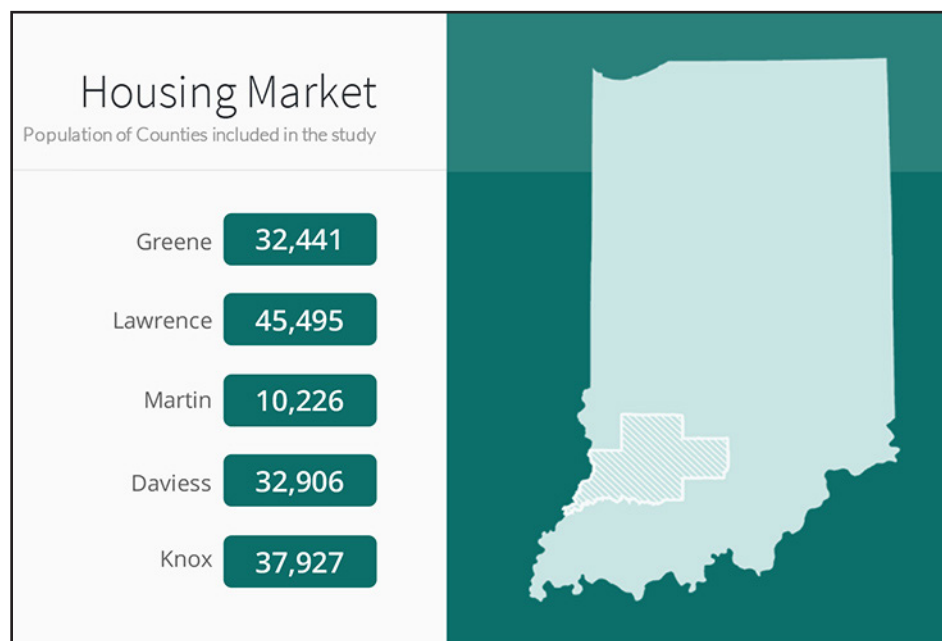
### Results of housing survey of Martin and surrounding counties

BY COURTNEY HUGHETT  
Martin County Journal Publisher

Tim Kinder, Martin County Economic Development Director, passed out information to the Martin County Council, at their meeting Monday night, from a recent housing survey done by Purdue University Center for Regional Development. He explained that since the survey is completed, he has been in contact with ROI (Regional Opportunities Initiative) about them picking up the survey and working to bring benefits to Martin County. He said the main thing being discussed is infrastructure around broadband internet access. He noted that broadband is something that the county needs to attract new business and development. He said he is currently in talks with a company who works with small communities to increase broadband service.

Kinder added that the survey can be used by the council or other elected officials to help solve housing needs.

The survey included information on Martin County only along with the region surveyed which included



-Graphic provided by Purdue University Center for Regional Development

The residents in the counties mentioned above were a part of a household survey recently completed by Purdue University Center for Regional Development. The graphic shows each counties population. 1,337 residents and business owners were randomly contacted for the survey.

Greene, Daviess, Knox and Lawrence counties.

According to the survey, Martin County is the fourth most concentrated

county for STEM-related jobs in the country however the county has a low tax base due to the fact that workers

(See 'SURVEY' on page 2)

### Driver seriously injured after semi-tractor trailer rolls

Last Wednesday, at approximately 4:36 p.m., emergency personnel responded to the Singing Hill area of US 150, which is just north of Roland, for the report of a semi-tractor trailer on its side blocking the roadway.

Preliminary investigation reveals that the 2016 Peterbilt semi pulling a box trailer loaded with skids of bricks, was traveling south on US 150. The skids of bricks were not secured inside of the trailer. As the semi traveled around the curves on US 150 the load shifted which caused the semi-tractor trailer roll onto its driver's side and come to

rest blocking both lanes of the roadway.

The driver, Jeffrey M. Laine, 56, of Louisville, Kentucky, was transported from the scene by IU Health Ambulance Service. Hewas then airlifted to U of L for treatment of his injuries, which are unknown at this time.

US 150 was closed for four hours while Storks Service Center of Jasper up righted the semi and cleared the debris from the road.

Indiana State Police Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Division is investigating the crash and conducting a post-crash inspection. The investi-

gation is continuing and at the time of the release no charges or citations have been filed.

The semi-tractor is owned by NRW, Inc from Louisville, Kentucky and was being operated by Tom Wantye Trucking LLC, Mt. Washington, Kentucky.

Troopers were assisted at the scene by the Orange and Martin County Sheriff's Departments, Lost River Fire, Shoals Fire, Orange County Rural District 1 Fire, IU Health and Martin County Alert 1 Ambulance.

Investigating officer was Master Trooper David Qualkenbush.

# COUNCIL

**(Continued from page one)**  
 be obsolete mid-year and can no longer be serviced. The cost to upgrade the system is \$55,866. The council agreed to let the sheriff go forward with the upgrade after getting approval on the contract from the commissioners. The additional money request must be advertised and will be officially approved at the next council meeting. The money will come from the 911 fund.

The council also approved \$15,531 to Harmonic Electronics for the sheriff's department to purchase seven new handheld radios along with a base unit for the new deputy's vehicle. Council Member Buck Stiles questioned the sheriff on warranty and maintenance on the radios and whether the sheriff's department has a maintenance agreement. The sheriff replied that there is no maintenance contract, the company provides service to the systems as needed. He added, however, that the don't have very many issues with the radios and the new ones should have at least a year of factory warranty.

Tim Kinder, with the Martin County Alliance for Economic Growth, talked to the council about events coming up at WestGate and in French Lick related to economic development and entrepreneurship.

Council Member Randy Winger asked Kinder if there were any events where high school students are welcome or if there are any classes in high school related to entrepreneurship.

Kinder replied that there are a few business classes and he has offered his services to help out with those classes, as he used to work in small business development. He said there is a program that he has tried to figure out how to fund, \$25,000 per school, that he would like to add to Martin County that focuses on entrepreneurship.

Kinder also passed out his business card and asked that the council call him because he would like to sit down with each one to discuss economic development.

Council Member Winger asked if Kinder is in contact with existing Martin County businesses. Kinder replied that he has not done this as much as he probably should, and he would like his Alliance board to help him with that. Winger said that dropping by and talking to business owners, giving them his card and offering any assistance would go a long way in helping with job retention and helping businesses who face problems.

# ELECTION

**(Continued from page one)**  
 Judith A. Harlow (D)  
 Ronald L. Barker (R)  
Shoals Town Council  
 Cary D. Albright (R)  
 Earl Boyd, Jr. (R)  
 Clint D. Hoffman (R)  
 Cecil L. Ragsdale (D)  
 Dick Cresgy (D)  
 Billy Joe Norman (R)  
Shoals Clerk/Treasurer  
 Sierra Rutledge (D)  
 Lori Butler (D)  
Crane Precinct Committee Member  
 Bernard Butcher (D)  
 Republican State Delegate

Gerald D. Montgomery  
 Warren D. Albright  
 Democrat State Convention Delegate  
 Audra P. Deckard  
 Stephen A. Deckard  
 Filing for candidacy for the May 8, 2018 Primary Election ends February 9, 2018 at noon in the Martin County Clerk's Office.  
 Please call the Clerk's Office at 812-247-3651 to check voting status or with any questions regarding the upcoming election. You can also register to vote or update your voter registration online at [www.indianavoters.com](http://www.indianavoters.com). The deadline to register to vote is April 4.

# SURVEY

**(Continued from page one)**  
 commute into Martin County and are not residents. The survey also states that other issues facing the county are older houses, depressed property values, too many vacant homes and few community amenities. Two-thirds of Martin County is land for NSA Crane and the Hoosier National Forest, which also lowers the tax base.

In the jobs aspect of the survey, it was noted that 57 percent (4,875) of jobs provided by Martin County are with the government, 8 percent in professional scientific and technical services; 5 percent each in manufacturing and retail, 4 percent in food service and accommodations and 21 percent in all other industries. The figures are based on 2016 data.

According to the survey, 927 households (19.5 percent) in Martin County are rentals. The strong workforce and density of STEM jobs in Martin County increases the demand for rentals in close proximity to these jobs.

Those in the rental market felt the most desired community amenities that would attract them are easy access to medical services and professionals, cell phone service, and access to jobs. Other fairly important amenities include a variety of housing rental options, activities for families and/or youth, availability of broadband, access to post-secondary education, large supermarkets, walkable and bikeable community, local food/farmer's markets, big box retail, public parks and trails, vibrant local downtown, a good mix of restaurants and cultural opportunities.

The most desired amenities that someone looking to buying a home would want include access to quality jobs and cell phone service. Other important amenities, in order of importance, include availability of broadband, activities for families and/or youth, large supermarkets, access to post-secondary education, local food/

farmer's markets, good mix of restaurants, variety of housing options, big box retail, walkable and bikeable paths, public parks and trails, vibrant local downtown, cultural opportunities, specialty retail shops and coffee shops.

The end result of the survey data told Purdue that high quality, affordable and wider variety housing is necessary to invigorate the regional market and that new housing should cater to smaller households. Counties and the region should focus on quality of life amenities important to renters and homeowners. The study also notes that three groups emerge as important: retirees, temporary workers and millennials

## Active shooter workshop to be held February 21

The Martin County Sheriff's Office will be hosting an Active Shooter Survival workshop on Wednesday, February 21 at the Martin County Community Building. The workshop will begin at 6 p.m. and will provide training on how to increase your odds of surviving an active shooter event. The program, which emphasizes the concept of RUN/HIDE/FIGHT, will be taught by local law enforcement officers.

Registration is not required, and snacks and refreshments will be provided. This is event is free to the public.

All organizational leaders are encouraged to attend, especially, those that work in confined areas, such as churches, banks, schools, and other office like settings.

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**LAWYER**


 **Isha E. Wright-Ryan**  
 Attorney at Law

A Professional Corporation Telephone: 812-295-1096  
 200 John F. Kennedy Avenue Fax: 260-408-1760  
 P.O. Box 398 [ishawrightryan@gmail.com](mailto:ishawrightryan@gmail.com)  
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## VIRGIL BATEMAN

Virgil A. Bateman passed away at 11:59 p.m. Sunday, February 4, 2018 at Hillside Manor in Washington. A resident of Loogootee, he was 93.

He was born May 9, 1924 in Martin County; son of the late Willis Cleveland and Goldie (Freeman) Bateman.

He was a veteran of the United States Army and served in the South Pacific during World War II. He was injured during combat and received a Purple Heart. He also received a Philippine Liberation Medal with two Bronze Stars. After being honorably discharged from the service, Virgil, was employed at Crane until his retirement. During his employment with Crane he was an ammunition packer. He loved to fish and watching Barr-Reeve and Indiana University basketball.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Virginia Elizabeth (Taylor) Bateman; parents, Willis Cleveland and Goldie (Freeman) Bateman; seven brothers and three sisters; three grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

He is survived by his sons, Robert D. (Brenda) Bateman of Washington, Tony (Marsha) Bateman of Columbus, John C. Bateman of Florida, Bill (Rosemary) Bateman of Ferdinand, Joe (Mary) Bateman of Washington, Gary L. Bateman of Otwell, Kevin Bateman of Bicknell and Keith Bateman of Washington; daughters, Kathy Utzman of Loogootee, Karen Ellis of Kentucky, Beverly Bateman of St. Louis, Mis-

souri, Mary Elizabeth (Mike) Williams of Dale and Linda Bateman of Loogootee; numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted this morning, Wednesday, February 7, at 10 a.m. at Blake Funeral Home in Loogootee. Burial followed in Goodwill Cemetery.

Memorial contribution may be made to Barr-Reeve Scholarship Foundation.

Condolences may be made online at [www.blakefuneralhomes.com](http://www.blakefuneralhomes.com). Arrangements were provided by Blake Funeral Home in Loogootee.

## PATRICK O'BRIEN

Patrick J. O'Brien passed away at 2:25 p.m. Wednesday, January 31, 2018 at Loogootee Healthcare and Rehabilitation Center. A resident of Loogootee, he was 77.

He was born July 1, 1940 in Loogootee; son of the late Desmond O'Brien and Marie (Carrico) O'Brien Wildman.

Patrick retired after 20 years of employment from Jasper Woodworking/Best Chair in Jasper. He attended St. Martin Catholic Church and St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church. He enjoyed fishing, rabbit hunting and breeding and raising Beagles. He was an avid IU basketball and football fan.

He was preceded in death by an infant son, Robert Desmond O'Brien; parents, Desmond O'Brien and Marie (Richard) Wildman; brother, Michael O'Brien; sister, Miriam Birkman, brothers-in-

law, Richard Poertner and Donald Miller; son-in-law, Bill J. Armstrong.

He is survived by his wife, Vivian (Collins) O'Brien; children, Mike D. (Julie) of Holland, Kelly S. (Stephen) O'Brien of Loogootee, Chris L. (Jennifer) of Stendal; step-children, Naydine Armstrong of Loogootee, Richard A. (Cindy) Fuhrman of Loogootee and Linda Lee Ann (Dennis) Peschel of New Ulm, Texas; eight grandchildren and eight step-grandchildren; seven great-grandchildren and 17 step-great-grandchildren; siblings, Robert D. (Flora) O'Brien of Huntington, Missouri and Margaret Miller of Cannelburg.

Funeral services were conducted Saturday, February 3 at Blake Funeral Home, Loogootee. Burial followed in St. Martin Catholic Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be made to Heart to Heart Hospice or Loogootee Healthcare and Rehabilitation Center.

Condolences may be made online at [www.blakefuneralhomes.com](http://www.blakefuneralhomes.com).

Arrangements were provided by Blake Funeral Home in Loogootee.

## NORMA ARVIN

Norma Marie Arvin, formerly of Loogootee, passed away Tuesday, February 6, 2018 at Meadow Lakes. A resident of Mooresville, she was 91.

She was born October 20, 1926 in Loogootee; daughter of the late William and Josephine (Pruse) Perkins.

She was preceded in death by her parents, William and Josephine; her husband, Victor Arvin, and her siblings, Virginia Batchelor, Charles Perkins, and Bernard Perkins.

She is survived by her daughters, Lynne Sattler (Jim), Vicki Davis, Marsha Arvin (Jerry Shipman), and Kim Arvin (Karen Curtis); five grandchildren, thirteen great grandchildren, and three great-great grandchildren.

A funeral service will be conducted Friday February 9 at 2 p.m. with the Very Rev. J. Kenneth Walker at Blake Funeral Home. Burial will follow at Goodwill Cemetery.

Visitation will be held on Friday February 9 from noon until time of service at Blake Funeral home.

Online condolences can be made at [www.blakefuneralhomes.com](http://www.blakefuneralhomes.com). Arrangements provided by Blake Funeral Home.

## CLARICE MITCHELL

Clarice Isabell Hitchcock Mitchell, formerly of Shoals, passed away January 31, 2018. A resident of Bedford, she was 98.

She was born September 22, 1919 in Indian Springs; daughter of Odes and Mary Ethel Faris Hitchcock. She became a member of the Indian Springs United Methodist Church in early life and years later moved her membership to the First United Methodist Church of

Bedford.

She graduated from Trinity Springs High School, Central Normal College at Danville, and Indiana State University at Terre Haute. She married Harold C. Mitchell in 1941, and he preceded her in death. They had celebrated their 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 1991. She was also preceded in death by a son, Michael Wayne Mitchell; a granddaughter, Carrie Mae Mitchell; a brother, Arnold Hitchcock; and a daughter-in-law, Donna (Embree) Mitchell.

Mrs. Mitchell began her teaching career at Pea Ridge School in Martin County. She also taught at the Trinity Springs school as well as elementary schools in Williams, Dugger, Shoals and Fayetteville. Memberships have included the Indiana State Teachers Association, the First United Methodist Churches in Indian Springs and Bedford, the John Wallace Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution, and the Flinn, Guthrie, Speer family association. She also volunteered at the Lawrence County Historical & Genealogical Museum. Her interests included traveling, reading, genealogy, quilting, crocheting, and working crossword puzzles.

The family would like to thank the staff at Bliss Place and Kindred Hospice for their care of her in her last illness.

Survivors include a son, Philip Harold Mitchell (Judy) of Bedford; a daughter, Janice Mitchell Bedwell (Rex Dennis) of Carbon; grandchildren, Kim Mitchell Ray (Kyle) and Philip Scott Mitchell (Barbara) of Bedford, Thomas Wayne Mitchell (Corlan), Timothy Michael Mitchell (Tracy), Carol Marie Crum, and Troy Matthew Mitchell (Nicole), all of Crawfordsville; and Kristen Bedwell Beasley (Martin) of Brazil; great-grandchildren, Michael Riley Watts (Kiley), Hope Crum, Faith Crum, Tyler Crum, Mae Mitchell, Molly Marie Mitchell, Matt Mitchell, and Kale Mitchell, all of Crawfordsville; Caleb Ray, Elijah Ray, Lauren Mitchell and Molly Clair Mitchell, all of Bedford; Kaitlyn Mitchell of Charleston, South Carolina; and Emma Grace Beasley of Brazil; step-grandchildren, Greg Garr and Logan Bailey of Crawfordsville and Katie Fultz (Chris) and Kasey Fenstermaker of Ft. Wayne; great great-granddaughter, Cora Fultz and and step-great grandson, Cobi Fenstermaker of Ft. Wayne. She is also survived by nieces, Patsy Hitchcock Dye of Shoals, Norma Hitchcock Thrasher of Harrodsburg; a nephew, Edward Hitchcock of Bloomington, and many other relatives.

Funeral services were conducted Monday, February 5 in the Elmwood Chapel of the Day & Carter Mortuary with Pastor Lee Brown officiating. Burial followed in the Green Hill Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in her honor to the Lawrence County Community Foundation in support of the Lawrence County Museum.

## CLASSIFIED ADS

### HELP WANTED

**THE LIONS BASEBALL and Softball Program is soliciting anyone or organization that would like to work the concessions this summer for all league and tourney play. The requirements of this position would be to schedule workers, pick up supplies, and restock the shelves with some additional duties to be determined. The LIONS Baseball and Softball Program is willing to pay your organization a predetermined amount. If you are interested, please be sure to submit your information to PO Box 19, Loogootee, IN 47553. All submissions should be postmarked by February 24, 2018.**

## HIRING: JAIL COOK

### One full-time position and One part-time position

The Martin County Sheriff's Office is accepting applications for the positions of full-time and part-time jail cooks. We currently have 1 position open. Applications may be picked up at the jail at 318 Capitol Avenue, Shoals. Qualified applicants should be able to follow directions

#### Position Requirements:

- High School Diploma or GED
- Ability to pass a drug screen
- No Felony Convictions
- Dependability and Reliability

**Please contact the jail matron with any questions you might have at 812-247-3726.**

## Shoals School Job Posting

**Posting Date: 2/2/2018**

**Job Opening: Custodian**

Qualifications: Preferred High School Diploma or Equivalent

Pay: Hourly According to Non-Certified Salary Schedule

Starting Rate \$10.50 per hour

Benefits: Life Insurance, PERF Covered Position, Paid Leave Days

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## Martin County Sheriff's Department log

### MONDAY, JANUARY 29

10:40 a.m. - Received a dog complaint near Shoals. Animal Control Officer Hughett responded.

11:30 a.m. - Sheriff Roush took one inmate to court.

11:30 a.m. - Captain Dant took one inmate to court.

9:50 p.m. - Received a report of damage done to a cemetery north of Shoals. Deputy Reed responded.

11:29 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance north of Loogootee. Martin County Ambulance responded but did not transport.

### TUESDAY, JANUARY 30

2:03 a.m. - Received a report of a reckless semi on US 231, south of Loogootee. Deputy Reed responded.

6:09 a.m. - Received a report of an accident north of Shoals. Deputy Reed and Martin County Ambulance responded. No one was transported.

7:50 a.m. - Received a report of trespassing east of Loogootee. Captain Dant, Deputy Reed, and Loogootee Chief Rayhill responded.

9:00 a.m. - Chief Deputy Greene took four inmates to court.

10:29 a.m. - Received a request for ambulance in Shoals. Martin County Ambulance and Shoals Fire Department responded.

10:35 a.m. - Captain Dant took three inmates to court.

11:07 a.m. - Received a report of reckless driving in Shoals. Chief Deputy Greene responded.

11:10 a.m. - Sheriff Roush assisted a motorist in Loogootee.

11:30 a.m. - Received a report of harassment in Loogootee. Loogootee Chief Rayhill responded.

12:07 p.m. - Received a request for ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Ambulance responded and transported one subject to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

12:57 p.m. - Chief Deputy Greene took two inmates to court.

1:10 p.m. - Sergeant Keller took one inmate to court.

1:28 p.m. - Captain Dant took one inmate to court.

2:10 p.m. - Received a report of yard fire south of Shoals. Lost River Fire Department responded.

2:25 p.m. - Chief Deputy Greene took four inmates to court.

2:51 p.m. - Received a report of semi-trucks exceeding the 10-ton weight limit on county roads South of Loogootee. Captain Dant responded.

3:33 p.m. - Captain Dant assisted a motorist east of Shoals.

3:48 p.m. - Received a report of harassment in Loogootee. Loogootee Captain Hennette responded.

4:05 p.m. - Chief Deputy Greene took six inmates to court.

4:46 p.m. - Received a request for ambulance south of Shoals. Martin County Ambulance, Lost River Fire Department, Air Evac Life Team, and Sergeant Keller responded. Air Evac transported one subject to University of Louisville Hospital.

6:04 p.m. - Received an animal complaint south of Loogootee. Animal Control Officer Hughett responded.

7:08 p.m. - Received an animal complaint north of Loogootee. Animal Control Officer Hughett responded.

7:43 p.m. - Received a report of reckless driving south of Shoals. Shoals Town Marshal Eckert responded.

9:21 p.m. - Received a request for

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

### WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 31

7:21 a.m. - Received a report of unauthorized semi-truck parking in Loogootee. ISP Trooper Lents responded.

8:50 a.m. - Received a request for ambulance south of Loogootee. Martin County Ambulance responded and transported one subject to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

9:44 a.m. - Captain Dant took one inmate to court.

2:55 p.m. - Received a report of suspicious person walking on US Highway 50, west of Shoals. Sheriff Roush and Chief Deputy Greene responded. Everything checked out okay.

4:30 p.m. - Received a report of accident south of Shoals. Martin County Ambulance, Lost River Fire Department, Shoals Fire Department, Orange County Ambulance, Orange County First Responders, and Air Evac Life Team responded. Air Evac transported one subject to University of Louisville Hospital.

4:53 p.m. - Received a report of trespassing and harassment in Shoals. Sheriff Roush and Chief Deputy Greene responded.

5:30 p.m. - Received a report of trespassing south of Loogootee. Deputy Shinn responded.

7:56 p.m. - Received a report of car-deer accident north of Loogootee. Indiana State Police Troopers responded.

### THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 1

5:32 a.m. - Received a report of a loose horse north of Shoals. Deputy Shinn responded.

7:28 a.m. - Received a request for ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Ambulance, Loogootee Fire First Responders, Loogootee Captain Hennette, Sheriff Roush, County Coroner Franklin, County Prosecutor Steiner, and Indiana State Police responded.

7:31 a.m. - Received a report of car-deer accident north of Loogootee. ISP Trooper Wilson responded.

8:53 a.m. - Jail Officer Fox took one inmate to the doctor.

9:57 a.m. - Chief Deputy Greene took two inmates to court.

9:59 a.m. - Received a request for traffic control assistance south of Shoals. Shoals Fire Department responded.

10:35 a.m. - Received a report of residential fire alarm in Loogootee. Loogootee Fire Department and Loogootee Captain Hennette responded. Everything checked out okay.

10:50 a.m. - Chief Deputy Greene assisted a motorist in Shoals.

11:26 a.m. - Received a report of attempted residential break-in south of Shoals. ISP Trooper Lents responded.

11:30 a.m. - Received a report of harassment in Loogootee. Loogootee Captain Hennette responded.

1:02 p.m. - Chief Deputy Greene took two inmates to court.

2:04 p.m. - Received a request for ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Ambulance responded.

2:13 p.m. - Received a report of semi-trucks exceeding the 10-ton weight limit on county roads in Shoals. Captain Dant responded.

2:32 p.m. - Chief Deputy Greene took two inmates to court.

2:45 p.m. - Major Burkhardt completed a boat vehicle identification check

north of Loogootee.

3:38 p.m. - Captain Dant assisted a motorist in Shoals.

4:00 p.m. - Received a report of trespassing in Loogootee. Loogootee Officer Floyd responded.

4:50 p.m. - Received a report of accident in Loogootee. Loogootee Officer Floyd responded.

5:53 p.m. - Received a report of suspicious individual walking on US 231, south of Loogootee. Major Burkhardt responded. Everything checked out okay.

7:15 p.m. - Received a request for ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Ambulance responded and transported one subject to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

9:17 p.m. - Received a report of commercial burglar alarm in Loogootee. Loogootee Officer Floyd responded. Everything checked out okay.

10:15 p.m. - Received a request for ambulance in Shoals. Martin County Ambulance and Shoals Fire First Responders responded.

### FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 2

12:14 a.m. - Received a report of commercial burglar alarm in Loogootee. Loogootee Officer Floyd responded. Everything checked out okay.

12:24 a.m. - Received a report of commercial burglar alarm in Loogootee. Loogootee Officer Floyd, Major Burkhardt, and Deputy Shinn responded. Everything checked out okay.

9:36 a.m. - Received a report of accident in Loogootee. Loogootee Officer McBeth responded.

9:52 a.m. - Received a report of trash-truck exceeding the 10-ton weight limit

## Martin County real estate transfers

**Mary Ann Survance**, of Marion County, Indiana to **Bradley P. Survance**, of Martin County, Indiana, the northwest quarter of the northeast quarter of Section 26, Township 3 North, Range 3 West, containing 40 acres, more or less. Also, the south half of the northwest quarter of the southeast quarter, and the southwest quarter of the southeast quarter, all in Section 23, Township 3 North, Range 3 West, containing 60 acres, more or less, and containing in all, 100 acres more or less.

**Ronald E. Ochs**, of Martin County, Indiana to **Vicki Brown**, of Martin County, Indiana, Lots Numbered 32 and 34 in Risacher's Fifth Addition to the City of Loogootee, Indiana.

**Andrew Kenneth Aiman**, of Martin County, Indiana to **Jaleena Grace Graber and Gavin D. Benock**, of Martin County, Indiana, a part of the northwest quarter of the northwest quarter and a part of the north half of the north half of the southwest quarter of the northwest quarter, lying north and west of the County Road, in Section 20, Township 2 North, Range 4 West, containing 1 acre, more or less.

**Clifford D. Motyka and Mary J. Motyka**, of Martin County, Indiana to **Jason Robert Greene and Myrna Joy Greene**, of Martin County, Indiana, a portion of the northeast quarter of the northeast quarter of Section 24, Township 3 North, Range 5 West, Perry Township, Martin County, Indiana, containing 0.51 acre, more or less. Also, a part of the northeast quarter of the northwest quarter of Section 24, Township 3 North, Range 5 West, Perry Township, Martin County, Indiana, containing 2.27 acres, more or less.

on county roads in Shoals. Chief Deputy Greene and ISP Qualkenbush responded. The driver was cited for the 10-ton load limit violation.

10:05 a.m. - Received a request for welfare check in Shoals. Chief Deputy Greene responded. Everything checked out okay.

10:12 a.m. - Chief Deputy Greene assisted a motorist in Loogootee.

4:27 p.m. - Received a report of a reckless truck on US 50. Major Burkhardt responded.

5:10 p.m. - Received a report of a fire south of Loogootee. Loogootee Fire and Martin County Civil Defense responded.

5:15 p.m. - Major Burkhardt assisted a motorist north of Shoals.

6:44 p.m. - Received a report of cows out near Loogootee. Reserve Deputy Harmon responded.

7:07 p.m. - Received a report of a car-deer accident east of Shoals on US 50. Shoals Town Marshal Eckert responded.

7:16 p.m. - Received a report of a possible fire in Shoals. Shoals Town Marshal Eckert and Shoals Fire responded.

11:46 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance near Shoals. Martin County Ambulance responded and transported the subject to Daviess Community Hospital.

### SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 3

2:53 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Shoals. Martin County Ambulance responded and transported the subject to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

9:06 a.m. - Received a report of animal neglect in Loogootee. Animal Control Officer Hughett responded and all

(See 'SHERIFF LOG' cont. on page 5)

**Kyle Street and Bobi Street**, of Martin County, Indiana to **Teri L. Becker**, of Martin County, Indiana, Lots Numbered 39, 40 and 41 in Walker's Addition to the City of Loogootee, Indiana.

**J. Larry Akles and Mable Akles**, of Martin County, Indiana to **Kevin J. Akles**, of Martin County, Indiana, a part of the north half of the northwest quarter of Section 20, Township 3 North, Range 3 West, Halbert Township, Martin County, Indiana, containing 2.24 acres, more or less.

**Donald Richard Norris**, of Martin County, Indiana and **Mary Beth Norris Ranard**, of Sullivan County, Indiana to **Michael Lee Norris**, of Martin County, Indiana, Lot Number 34 in Ackerman's Addition, City of Loogootee, Martin County, Indiana. Also, Lot Number 35 in Ackerman's Addition, City of Loogootee, Martin County, Indiana.

**Michael Lee Norris**, of Martin County, Indiana to **Michael Lee Norris and Sandra L. Norris**, of Martin County, Indiana, Lot Number 34 in Ackerman's Addition, City of Loogootee, Martin County, Indiana. Also, Lot Number 35 in Ackerman's Addition, City of Loogootee, Martin County, Indiana.

**Mark Ellis**, of Monroe County, Indiana to **Samantha Ellis Alvarez**, of Allen County, Indiana, Lot Number 2 in Brook's Addition to the Town, now City of Loogootee, Indiana.

**Edwina Johnson and Tamara Blevins**, of Orange County, Indiana to **Nathan Hoffman and Katherine Hoffman**, of Orange County, Indiana, a part of the south half of Section 3, Township 3 North, Range 3 West, Martin County, Indiana, containing 5.49 acres, more or less.

# COURT NEWS

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

## CRIMINAL COURT

### New Charges Filed

**January 28**

Phillip E. Babcock, operating a vehicle while intoxicated, a Class 6 Felony; operating a vehicle with a schedule I or II controlled substance or its metabolite in the body, a Class 6 Felony.

**January 29**

Dylan V. Bruner, possession of methamphetamine, a Class 6 Felony; maintaining a common nuisance – controlled substances, a Class 6 Felony; possession of marijuana, a Class B Misdemeanor; possession of paraphernalia, a Class 6 Misdemeanor.

**January 2**

Steven L. Truelove, leaving the scene of an accident, a Class B Misdemeanor.

Thomas D. Miller, possession of a narcotic drug, a Class 6 Felony; maintaining a common nuisance – alcohol, a Class 6 Felony; possession of marijuana, a Class B Misdemeanor.

Steven L. Truelove, visiting a common nuisance – controlled substances, a Class 6 Felony; possession of marijuana, a Class B Misdemeanor; operating a vehicle while intoxicated, a Class C Misdemeanor.

Jacqueline R. Mattingly, neglect of a dependent, a Class 6 Felony; auto theft, a Class 6 Felony; possession of a controlled substance, a Class 6 Felony; two counts of resisting law enforcement, Class A Misdemeanors.

**January 8**

David L. York, Jr., operating a vehicle while intoxicated endangering a person, a Class A Misdemeanor; operating a vehicle with an ACE of .15 or more, a Class A Misdemeanor; habitual vehicular substance offender sentence enhancement.

**January 9**

Marcus L. Wittmer, illegal possession of an alcoholic beverage, a Class C Misdemeanor.

Christopher L. Snyder, possession of marijuana, a Class B Misdemeanor.

Harry C. Bond, maintaining a common nuisance – controlled substances, a Class 6 Felony; 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; possession of marijuana, a Class B Misdemeanor.

Charles W. Needs III, operating a vehicle while intoxicated endangering a person, a Class A Misdemeanor; operating a vehicle while intoxicated, a Class 6 Felony.

**January 10**

Damien L. Payne, maintaining a common nuisance – controlled substances, a Class 6 Felony; possession of marijuana, a Class B Misdemeanor.

Tyson M. Stutzman, maintaining a common nuisance – controlled substances, a Class 6 Felony; possession of marijuana, a Class B Misdemeanor.

**January 16**

Ralph E. Stiles, operating a vehicle while intoxicated endangering a person, a Class A Misdemeanor.

Robert R. Osborne, 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.

Mark L. Harding, possession of methamphetamine, a Class 6 Felony; maintaining a common nuisance – controlled substances, a Class 6 Felony; resisting law enforcement, a Class 6 Felony.

**January 17**

Christopher C. Jones, driving while suspended, a Class A Misdemeanor.

**January 18**

Will K. Trout, operating a vehicle with an ACE of .15 or more, a Class A Misdemeanor.

Jasmine Nicole Jones, neglect of a dependent, a Class 6 Felony; maintaining a common nuisance – controlled substances, a Class 6 Felony; contributing to the delinquency of a minor, a Class A Misdemeanor; false informing, a Class B Misdemeanor.

**January 19**

Andrew J. Stone, resisting law enforcement, a Class 6 Felony; battery resulting in bodily injury to a public safety officer, a Class 5 Felony; possession of marijuana, a Class A Misdemeanor.

Isabella E. Goodpaster, possession of marijuana, a Class B Misdemeanor; maintaining a common nuisance – controlled substances, a Class 6 Felony.

Michael L. Arvin, possession of methamphetamine, a Class 6 Felony; possession of a narcotic drug, a Class 6 Felony; possession of marijuana, a Class 6 Felony; obstruction of justice, a Class 6 Felony.

**January 29**

Tina M. Wilson, operating a vehicle while intoxicated endangering a person, a Class A Misdemeanor.

Juan C. Avalos, dealing in methamphetamine, a Class 2 Felony; dealing in methamphetamine, a Class 3 Felony; possession of methamphetamine, a Class 3 Felony; dealing in marijuana, a Class A Misdemeanor; possession of marijuana, a Class B Misdemeanor; carrying a handgun without a license, a Class A Misdemeanor.

Matthew B. Quinn, two counts of battery resulting in bodily injury to a person less than 14 years of age, Class 5 Felonies; two counts of neglect of a dependent resulting in bodily injury, Class 5 Felonies.

Lourdes M. Vega-Castellvi, maintaining a common nuisance – controlled substances, a Class 6 Felony; operating a vehicle while intoxicated endangering a person, a Class A Misdemeanor; possession of marijuana, a Class B Misdemeanor; operating a vehicle with a schedule I or II controlled substance or its metabolite in the body, a Class C Misdemeanor; possession of paraphernalia, a Class C Misdemeanor.

**January 30**

Cary L. Clifton, dealing in methamphetamine, a Class 4 Felony; possession of methamphetamine, a Class 6 Felony; two counts of maintaining a common nuisance – controlled substances, Class 6 Felonies; possession of marijuana, a Class B Misdemeanor; possession of paraphernalia, a Class C Misdemeanor; habitual offender, sentence enhancement.

Brittany R. Hert, two counts of neglect of a dependent resulting in bodily injury, Class 5 Felonies.

Rocky A. McClure, possession of methamphetamine, a Class 5 Felony; neglect of a dependent resulting in bodily injury, a Class 5 Felony; maintaining a common nuisance – controlled substances, a Class 6 Felony; possession of paraphernalia, a Class C Misdemeanor.

Nicole J. Brown, operating a vehicle while intoxicated endangering a person with a passenger less than 18 years of age, a Class 6 Felony; neglect of a dependent, a Class 6 Felony.

Ricky L. Riggins, dissemination of matter harmful to minors, a Class 6 Felony.

**CRIMINAL CONVICTIONS &**

## SENTENCING

**January 18**

Darrel E. Salmon, convicted of residential entry, a Class 6 Felony. Sentenced to serve 547 days with 431 days suspended and credit for 58 actual days previously served plus 58 Class A credit days. Defendant received 14 months of probation.

**January 19**

Amy R. Moffitt, convicted of operating a vehicle with a schedule I or II controlled substance or its metabolite in the body, a Class C Misdemeanor. Sentenced to serve 60 days with 56 days suspended and credit for 2 actual days previously served plus 2 Class A credit days. Defendant received 6 months of probation.

William J. Moffitt, convicted of possession of marijuana, a Class B Misdemeanor. Sentenced to serve 180 days with 176 days suspended and credit for 2 actual days previously served plus 2 Class A credit days. Defendant received 6 months of probation.

**CRIMINAL CHARGES**

## DISMISSED

**January 19**

Amy R. Moffitt, maintaining a common nuisance – controlled substances, a Class 6 Felony, dismissed; possession of marijuana, a Class B Misdemeanor, dismissed.

William J. Moffitt, maintaining a common nuisance – controlled substances, a Class 6 Felony, dismissed.

## CIVIL COURT

### New Suits Filed

**January 29**

Crane Credit Union vs. Philip Balder, civil collection.

## SMALL CLAIMS COURT

### New Suits Filed

**January 30**

Crane Credit Union vs. Katherine Rollins, complaint.

## MARRIAGE LICENSES

**January 29**

Steven M. Fahey of Shoals and Annette Lewis of Shoals.

**February 1**

Tanner Allen Dale Terry of Shoals and Mekah Cheyenne Needs of Shoals.

# ARRESTS

## MONDAY, JANUARY 29

12:17 a.m. - Rejan Allen, 42, of Loogootee, was arrested by Deputy Shinn and charged with operating while intoxicated prior, operating a vehicle while intoxicated endangerment, operating a vehicle while intoxicated controlled substance, dealing in meth, possession of meth, maintaining a common nuisance x2, possession of a legend drug, dealing in a legend drug, possession of a controlled substance, dealing of a controlled substance, possession of marijuana, and dealing in marijuana. Assisting with the arrest were ICO Mann and Loogootee Sergeant Norris. She is being held without bond.

2:55 a.m. - Michael Gist, 58, of Washington, was arrested by Deputy Reed and charged with dealing in meth, possession of meth, maintaining a common nuisance, possession of a legend drug, dealing of a legend drug, possession of a controlled substance, dealing of a controlled substance, possession of marijuana, and dealing in marijuana. He is being held without bond. Assisting with the arrest were Deputy Shinn, ICO Mann and Loogootee Sergeant Norris.

2:55 a.m. - Roger Gist, 53, of Washington, was arrested by Deputy Reed and charged with dealing meth, possession of meth, maintaining a common nuisance, possession of a legend drug, dealing of a legend drug, possession of a controlled substance, dealing of a controlled substance, possession of marijuana, and dealing in marijuana. He is being held without bond. Assisting with the arrest were Deputy Shinn, Loogootee Sergeant Norris and ICO Mann.

11:28 a.m. - Phillip Fellers, 26, homeless, was arrested by Sheriff Roush for intimidation and is being held without bond. Captain Dant assisted with the arrest.

2:35 p.m. - Nicole Brown, 38, of Loogootee, was arrested by ISP Trooper Wilson and charged with operating a vehicle while intoxicated endangerment and is being held on a \$25,000 10% bond.

## TUESDAY, JANUARY 30

9:20 a.m. - Stephanie Howder, 37, of Vincennes, was arrested by Deputy Reed and charged with maintaining a common nuisance, possession of methamphetamine, possession of marijuana, and possession of paraphernalia. She

is being held on a \$25,000 10% bond. Captain Dant assisted with the arrest.

## WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 31

3:16 p.m. - Kelvin Canady, 56, of Loogootee, was arrested by Loogootee Captain Hennette and charged with possession of methamphetamine and possession of a controlled substance. He is being held without bond. Loogootee Chief Rayhill assisted with the arrest.

6:24 p.m. - Russell Erwin, 43, of Shoals, was arrested by Sheriff Roush and charged with invasion of privacy and is being held without bond.

## THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 1

1:08 p.m. - James Vasquez, 24, of Jasper, was arrested by Captain Dant on a Martin County Warrant for Failure to Appear and is being held without bond.

## SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 3

8:30 p.m. - Kelly Johnson, 35, of French Lick, was arrested by Deputy Shinn and charged with dealing in meth, possession of meth, and maintaining a common nuisance. He is being held on a \$100,000 10% bond. Town Marshal Eckert assisted with the arrest.

## SHERIFF LOG

(Continued from page 4)

was okay.

9:44 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. Loogootee Officer McBeth and Martin County Ambulance responded. The subject was transported to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

11:05 a.m. - Loogootee Officer McBeth and Sergeant Keller assisted with a funeral detail in Loogootee.

12:21 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance south of Shoals. Lost River Fire and Martin County Ambulance responded. No one was transported.

1:14 p.m. - Received a report of a reckless semi on US 231. Sergeant Keller and Loogootee Officer McBeth responded.

1:44 p.m. - Received an alarm call in Loogootee. Loogootee Officer McBeth responded and all was okay.

5:58 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Shoals. Martin County Ambulance responded but did not transport.

6:43 p.m. - Received a noise complaint in Loogootee. Loogootee Officer McBeth responded.



## In the Garden

By Ralph Purkhiser  
Purdue University Master Gardener

Valentine's Day is approaching. It is the second busiest day of the year for florists. (Mother's Day is first.)

The tradition of giving flowers to those we love goes back to pre-historic times. Archeologists have found the remains of flower petals in dwellings from the bronze age. Of course, there are written accounts of giving flowers in the cultures of Egypt, Persia, Greece and Rome. These earliest floral gifts may have been more practical than romantic. The gifts may have been healing herbs and what shows one's love more than offering healing? It is also universal that flowers are beautiful and offering beauty to another is a fine way to show affection.

The Persians developed a language of flowers, with each plant included in a bouquet portraying a specific meaning. This tradition was brought to Europe in the 1700's, but culminated with the frenzy of flower giving in Great Britain and the United States during the Victorian era. During that time, more than 500 books were written on the language of flowers and bouquets were painstakingly designed to convey very specific messages.

Be careful. You may be sending a coded message with the bouquet or potted plant you give on Valentine's Day.

Several flowers are said to convey a message of love, including an orchid, a red chrysanthemum and a red rose. A white carnation is a sign of pure love and forget-me-nots denote true love. If you have a secret love, send him or her a gardenia. A gloxinia means love at first sight and a red tulip is a declaration of

love. A pink camellia says, "I'm longing for you," and a red camellia says the person has created a flame in your heart. Maybe you should stick with white camellias, which mean "You're adorable."

Pink carnations say, "I'll never forget you." Rosemary sprigs in a bouquet are also a sign of remembrance. Striped carnations are a way to tell someone that you are sorry you are away and wish you could be there.

White chrysanthemums are a symbol of truth, but yellow mums signal slighted love. White roses are for innocence and yellow roses are for joy and friendship.

If your relationship is heating up, jonquils send a message of desire and lily-of-the-valley means, "You've made my life complete." (They are poisonous, so "complete" may mean the end of life.) The gladiolus is a sign of sincerity. Putting some spider flowers in a bouquet says that you want to elope. Make sure your florist does not include them for whimsy. Violets are symbols of modesty, but a white violet says, "Let's take a chance on happiness."

As flowers go, zinnias are usually not very expensive. Magenta zinnias are a sign of lasting affection. White zinnias show goodness and yellow zinnias are for daily remembrance.

If you want to go cheaper still, dandelions are symbols of faithfulness and happiness. I want to meet the man who convinces his wife of that on Valentine's Day.

I once gave a lady a packet of flower seeds and told her she could grow her own flowers. I have not seen her in 50 years. Go figure.

## Producers more optimistic in January; many expect lower taxes

BY JENNIFER STEWART-BURTON  
Purdue University News Service

Agricultural producers said in January that they were more optimistic about the agricultural economy than a month prior, according to the Purdue University/CME Group Ag Economy Barometer.

The January barometer read 135, up 9 points from December's 126. The uptick was driven by increases in both the Index of Current Conditions, which climbed 5 points to 144, and the Index of Future Expectations, which climbed 11 points to 131. This marks the largest one-month improvement in future expectations since January 2017.

The barometer is based on a monthly survey of 400 agricultural producers from across the U.S. Each month, survey respondents are asked whether their farm operations are financially better off, worse off, or about the same. In January, 43 percent said their farms were financially worse off than a year ago, while 14 percent said their farms were financially better off. According to James Mintert, director of Purdue University's Center for Commercial Agriculture and the barometer's principal investigator, the 43 percent number is significant.

"To help put January's responses in perspective, the percentage of farmers who felt their operations were financially worse off reached a high of 81 in August 2016," he said. "Since April 2017, the share reporting that their farms were financially worse off has consistently fallen below 50 percent. The reduction

has been an important driver of the ongoing improvement in the Index of Current Conditions."

Another potential driver of producer sentiment in January was the passage of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017. Surveyed producers were asked to rate the likely impact on their farming operations, as well as their families' tax burdens. Nearly half of all producers said they expect the tax bill to be beneficial to their operations. Conversely, 19 percent said they expect the tax bill to have a negative impact on their farming operations. The remaining 35 percent gave a neutral response. When it came to producers' expectations for their families' tax burdens, 43 percent said they expect a decline, 18 percent expect an increase, and 40 percent said they expect their families' tax burdens to stay about the same.

"It's possible the 40 percent of respondents expecting no changes in their taxes and the 35 percent who provided a neutral rating could reflect uncertainty regarding the specific content of the tax bill and the fact that IRS regulations implementing the tax bill have yet to be issued," Mintert said.

Each quarter, a parallel survey gauges the sentiment of 100 agricultural thought leaders. Sentiment among thought leaders declined sharply from October's survey, falling from 152 to 127. The decline in agricultural thought leaders' sentiment was driven in part by their more negative perspective on current conditions than they had last fall.



## Grazing Bites

By Victor Shelton  
NRCS State Agronomist/Grazing Specialist

I have a hard time trying to figure out how anyone can be bored or lacking something to do. I recently heard someone say, "What am I going to do with my extra time today?" Seriously? I'm usually lacking one of three things when I am up against getting a project done; time, energy, or money...and sometimes all three! The older I get, the more I realize that time is the most precious.

I am an avid reader. My wife would say I'm obsessed with books. I quite often read two or more at the same time. Not simultaneously, but I don't wait to finish one before starting another. There is always more to be learned and understood. The more I know, the more I know that I don't know. That's a vicious cycle, or predicament, or perhaps a curse, which to me means more books, another course, another conference, or a one on one conversation with someone that I can learn from. But my point is, time spent learning is always a good use of time.

I really enjoy going to conferences, especially when authors of books I've read are there. Not only are there opportunities to listen to and talk with speakers and authors, but some of the best highlights are the side or during dinner conversations. I recently sat between two men, one from Utah raising cattle on literally nothing but rock and an Australian raising Friesian Brahma crosses on mixed pasture. It wasn't long before the topic of drought came up. We all could relate in different degrees.

It might seem like an odd time to think about drought, but it should be part of your contingency plan; meaning you need to plan ahead for it and not wait until it happens.

Allan Savory is well known for his holistic approach to planning for droughts and for his solution to reversing desertification, by building resiliency. He always makes me stop and think. I totally agree with him that ruminant livestock are needed to maintain or restore vegetative cover, especially in fragile environments.

Fragile environments are found in more arid areas where plant material tends to be more "brittle" or crumbly dry, especially when not actively growing. In more humid areas like the Midwest, we live in a non-brittle environment. Higher humidity, maintains moisture better and we have faster decay because of it. Even our dry material generally has some moisture. Brittle environments are certainly subject to possible desertification if not managed correctly. Under grazing is as detrimental as over grazing. Having animals present helps to maintain order, diversity, and life, above and below the ground.

The real secret to building resiliency is retaining the rainfall you get, maintaining and building soil organic matter, and keeping the soil covered and diverse plants growing. Does that sound familiar?

I recently heard Savory speak and enjoyed listening to him. He said most things are very complex and we usually try and fix them with simple single actions that normally fail. He suggests to step back and look at the system as a whole and also include social aspects. Ironically, the answer is quite often, still very simple. Keep it covered, keep

it growing, and allow for adequate rest.

Going back to my discussion with the Aussie and the Utah rancher, one of our common factors of the drought is the blessing of having some warm season forage to graze during hot dry conditions. In the drought of 2012, producers with any warm season forage thrived much better than ones without. The deep penetrating, water seeking, marvelous roots of these grasses certainly help to heal and build the soil and provide forage when the cool season forages go dormant.

You can somewhat gage the severity of a drought mainly by the lack of rainfall, but eventually you have lower soil moisture, and lower humidity to a degree. That reduction of humidity can create a pseudo-brittle environment for a short time. Cool season forages absolutely need to be rested during these periods or you can have huge plant loss, especially of desirable species. Warm season forages thrive quite well through these conditions and provide revered needed forage during these dry periods. They also thought have numerous benefits for normal years. Because they grow slightly later in the season, they can buy you valuable time in the spring. Earlier species, such as switchgrass, can be taken for hay, in a prime vegetative stage, much later than most cool season forages. Too much cool season forage hay is cut way past its peak quality vegetative stage and harvested closer to maturity with much lower nutritional value. You might get slightly higher tonnage harvesting it later and mature, but you trade off quality and usually animal intake too resulting in more wastage.

Why should you even think about the inclusion of some warm season forages? The same reason that you stockpile forages. The same reason you graze annuals and occasionally corn residue. It provides a feed source for ruminant livestock they can harvest themselves and most importantly, it is not an added expense or input for the operation. Anytime a grazing animal can graze with ample high-quality feed in front of them and you not carrying something to them, you are generally saving money and improving your bottom line. It's not the size of weaned calves or the gallons of milk in the tank that make or break an operation, it's the inputs.

In a few short weeks, you have the opportunity to listen and talk with some of the most leading experts on utilizing forages efficiency, reducing or eliminating summer forage slump, and best management for tall fescue at the Southern Indiana Grazing Conference. I hope to see you there!

Until then, remember "Time don't wait on nobody," and the best way to make a change is to just start. Keep on grazing!

Reminders & Opportunities  
Indiana Forage Council Annual Meeting & Seminar – February 19, 2018, 6 p.m. at the Abe Martin Lodge, Brown County State Park. (4:30 p.m. is the Annual Meeting for members and interested guests) Meal and program starts at 6 p.m. Please RSVP by February 12th to Jason Tower, towerj@purdue.edu or 812-678-4427. Dinner and seminar is \$20. Josh Cox and Dave Fischer are presenters.



**Making A Difference**  
MARTIN COUNTY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

By Curt Johnson  
MCCF Executive Director



# 4-H NEWS

By Stacy Brown  
*Martin County Purdue Extension Educator*



**-- CARE TO HELP --**

If you look around our county you can usually find someone lending a helping hand to someone else. Sometimes what you see on the surface seems to be just the way it is or should be. But sometimes if you look a little deeper, you'll understand that some of the good things are happening because someone cares to get involved. Someone cares enough to get involved and to help.

**-- ORGANIZATIONS CARE --**

Frequently those that care belong to an organization that provides a service or helps others to serve. There are many of those organizations in our county such as churches, schools, government agencies, non-profits and businesses. It may seem that "it's just the way it should be", but these groups have people there because they chose to be there. They're there to help. They're there because they care.

**-- TRI-KAPPA CARES --**

The Loogootee-Shoals Delta Tau Chapter of Tri-Kappa is one of those organizations who care and have members who care. Tri-Kappa is full of women who unselfishly give of their time to conduct special projects to support and enhance charity, culture and education in our community. Tri-Kappa is a philanthropic organization and their members demonstrate this by giving their time, talent and treasure back to the community.

**-- WIDE REACH --**

Some of those organizations that benefit from Tri-Kappa's support are the Martin County Historical Society and Museum, Area Churches honoring Christ Together in Service (ACCTS), Martin County Humane Society, Martin County 4-H Council, Cops for

Kids, libraries and various school departments and projects. They also give scholarships to county students and, as do Tri-Kappas throughout Indiana, they donate to the Riley Hospital for Children in Indianapolis.

**-- AND WIDER STILL --**

Another of Tri-Kappa's community support is through the Martin County Community Foundation (MCCF) "Tri-Kappa of Loogootee-Shoals Community Grants Fund." This fund is one of our unrestricted funds, which means that the payout from the fund is used every year to meet those changing and emerging needs within the community. By establishing this type of fund with the MCCF, Tri-Kappa showed their wisdom in knowing that no matter what issues or concerns arise in the future, their support will always be there to help. Through the MCCF, their reach to non-profits serving our county will always be there to answer the call.

**-- TRI-KAPPA DONATES --**

Tri-Kappa recently made a \$250 donation to the MCCF for the Tri-Kappa Community Grants Fund. So, while most of their support and funding is towards organizations providing a more immediate service, supporting the MCCF fund allows them to provide funding far into the future to many more organizations.

**-- MORE INFORMATION --**

If you would like to hear more about how we can help you help our community, please contact the MCCF Executive Director, Curt Johnson, at 812-295-1022 or [mccf@cfpartner.org](mailto:mccf@cfpartner.org).

You are also welcome to visit our website at [www.cfpartner.org/mccf.htm](http://www.cfpartner.org/mccf.htm) or to "like" the MCCF Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/mcccommunityfoundation](http://www.facebook.com/mcccommunityfoundation).



Pictured is Curt Johnson (MCCF Executive Director) receiving a \$250 donation from Tri-Kappa member Beth Lett.

Make a Difference in a Child's Life, Become a 4-H Volunteer

Becoming a 4-H volunteer is easy, just phone the Extension Office at 812-295-2412 and ask for the appropriate forms to be mailed to you. Once we get all of the forms back and conduct a brief interview, you're finished. Being a volunteer with 4-H means you get the chance to help Martin County youth learn leadership and life skills through project completion, camps, workshops, and educational outreach programs.

**Livestock Weigh-In Dates**

The 2018 livestock weigh-in dates have been finalized. All 4-Hers participating in cattle, sheep, goats, and/or poultry will receive information and registration forms in the mail soon. Please have all of this information filled out before coming to the weigh-ins. This year DNA hair samples will be required from cattle going to the Indiana State Fair. If you have any

questions, please contact the Extension Office.

Beef Weigh-in: Saturday, March 10 @ the fairgrounds 9-11 a.m.

Sheep & Goat Weigh-in: Saturday, May 5 @ the fairgrounds 9-11 a.m.

Swine Weigh-in: Saturday, May 12 @ the fairgrounds 9-11 a.m.

Poultry Blood Testing: Saturday, June 9 @ the fairgrounds 9-11 a.m.

**Upcoming Events**

4-H Council Meeting: Thursday, March 1, at 6:30 p.m.

Shooting Sports Meetings: Mondays, February 12, February 26, March 12, and March 26 at 6 p.m. at the Community Building.

Jolly Jug Rox Meetings: February 19, March 13, April 2, April 17, May 1, May 22, June 11, June 26 all at 6 p.m. at Hindostan Church

Junior Leaders Meetings: March 18 at 4 p.m., April 22 at 5 p.m. (bingo at senior housing following). All at the Learning Center.

## Reserved turkey hunt applications being accepted online

Hunters can apply online now for a reserved turkey hunt by visiting [hunting.IN.gov](http://hunting.IN.gov) and clicking on the "Reserved Hunt Info" link.

The application period ends March 19. No late entries will be accepted. The online method is the only way to apply.

Applicants must possess a hunting license valid for the hunt for which they are applying.

Hunters will be selected through a computerized, random drawing. Drawing results will be posted at [wildlife.IN.gov](http://wildlife.IN.gov) within two weeks after application deadlines, and an email will be sent to applicants when results are posted.

Turkey hunts open for application are as follows:

-Atterbury Fish & Wildlife Area: April 25-27; April 28-30.

-Aukiki Wetland Conservation Area: April 25-27; April 28-29; April 30-May 2; May 3-5; May 6-8; May 9-11; May 12-13.

-Big Oaks National Wildlife Refuge: April 25-27; April 28-30.

-Chinook Fish & Wildlife Area: April 25-27; April 28-29.

-Crosley Fish & Wildlife Area: April 25-27; April 28-30.

-Deer Creek Fish & Wildlife Area: April 25-27; April 28-29.

-Fairbanks Landing Fish & Wildlife Area: April 25-27; April 28-30.

-Glendale Fish & Wildlife Area: April 25-27; April 28-29.

-Goose Pond Fish & Wildlife Area: April 25-27; April 28-30.

-Hillenbrand Fish & Wildlife Area: April 25-27; April 28-30.

-Hovey Lake Fish & Wildlife Area: April 25-27; April 28-29.

-J.E. Roush Lake Fish & Wildlife Area: April 25-27; April 28-29; April 30-May 2; May 3-5; May 6-8; May 9-11; May 12-13.

-Jasper-Pulaski Fish & Wildlife Area: April 25-27; April 28-29; April 30-May 2; May 3-5; May 6-8; May 9-11; May 12-13.

-Kingsbury Fish & Wildlife Area: April 25-27; April 28-29; April 30-May 2; May 3-5; May 6-8; May 9-11; May 12-13.

-LaSalle Fish & Wildlife Area: April 25-27; April 28-29; April 30-May 2; May 3-5; May 6-8; May 9-11; May 12-

13.

-Mississinewa Lake: April 25-27; April 28-29; April 30-May 2; May 3-5; May 6-8; May 9-11; May 12-13.

-Muscatatuck National Wildlife Refuge: April 25-26; April 27-28; April 29-30. (Youth only: April 21-22).

-Pigeon River Fish & Wildlife Area: April 25-27; April 28-29; April 30-May 2; May 3-5; May 6-8; May 9-11; May 12-13.

-Salamonie Lake: April 25-27; April 28-30; May 1-3; May 4-6; May 7-9; May 10-13.

-Sugar Ridge Fish & Wildlife Area: April 25-27; April 28-29.

-Tri-County Fish & Wildlife Area: April 25-27; April 28-29; April 30-May 2; May 3-5; May 6-8; May 9-11; May 12-13.

-Willow Slough Fish & Wildlife Area: April 25-27; April 28-29; April 30-May 2; May 3-5; May 6-8; May 9-11; May 12-13.

-Winamac Fish & Wildlife Area: April 25-27; April 28-29; April 30-May 2; May 3-5; May 6-8; May 9-11; May 12-13.

Only one application is allowed per license holder. No changes can be made once the application is submitted.

More information is available at [dnr.IN.gov/fishwild/5834.htm](http://dnr.IN.gov/fishwild/5834.htm).

## Free severe weather spotter class to be held

Martin County will be hosting a severe weather spotter class, presented by the Indianapolis National Weather Service, on Thursday, April 5 at 6:30 p.m.

The class will be held at the Martin County CD/EMA office at 2660 US Highway 50, on the 4-H Fairgrounds.

This free training will teach participants how to identify and report severe weather. There is no need to pre-register and the class will last approximately two hours.

Visit <http://www.weather.gov/ind/spotter> for additional information or other training sites dates if you are interested and cannot attend April 5.

For additional information on this Martin County class, contact Andy Ringwald: [andy.ringwald@frontier.com](mailto:andy.ringwald@frontier.com)

## TOY'S AUTO PARTS, INC.

|                              |                                |                              |   |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------|---|
| Loogootee<br>(812) 295-2312  | Shoals<br>(812) 247-3321       | Jasper<br>(812) 634-2222     | Washington<br>(812) 254-2540  |
| Sullivan<br>(812) 268-5252   | Martinsville<br>(765) 342-6623 | Linton<br>(812) 847-4494     |   |
| Jasonville<br>(812) 665-3969 | Bicknell<br>(812) 735-3545     | Bloomfield<br>(812) 384-4453 |  |



- OLDER THAN DIRT QUIZ**  
Do You Remember?
- \*Black Jack Chewing Gum
  - \*Wax coke-shaped bottle with colored sugar water
  - \*Butch Wax
  - \*Candy Cigarettes
  - \*Soda Pop machines with glass bottles
  - \*Howdy Doody
  - \*Restaurants with tableside bottles
  - \*Home milk delivery in glass bottles
  - \*Party Telephone Lines
  - \*NewsReels before the movies
  - \*45 RPM records
  - \*P.F. Flyers
  - \*Carrying a metal lunchbox
  - \*Drive in movie theatres
  - \*Telephone numbers with word prefix (Olive-6789)
  - \*The Andy Griffith Show
  - \*Soda Fountains
  - \*Roller skate keys
  - \*S&H Green Stamps
  - \*Blue flashbulbs

If you remember 0 to 5, you're a WhipperSnapper. If you remember 6 to 15, you're gettin' there. If you remember 16 to 20, you're OLDER THAN DIRT.

**RANDOM THOUGHTS:**

- \*The human body is roughly 60% water . . . I'm not fat, I'm flooded.
- \*Pandas - The living proof that you can be fat just by eating salad.
- \*When I was your age, I had to WALK to the TV to change the channels.
- \*Just spent 15 minutes searching for my phone in the car . . . while using my phone as a flashlight.
- \*I always mean what I say but sometimes I don't mean to say it out loud.
- \*Well, you know what they say, "If you don't have anything nice to say, come sit by me."
- \*I try to keep things picked up, but most of the time it looks like my house just sneezed.
- \*Not to brag or anything, but I can forget what I was doing while I was doing it.

A woman was shopping at her local supermarket, where she selected a quart of milk, a carton of eggs, juice, and a package of bacon.

As she was unloading her items on the conveyor belt to check out, a drunk standing behind her, watched as she placed her items in front of the cashier. He said, "You must be single."

The woman, a bit startled, looked at her four items on the belt, and seeing nothing particularly unusual about her selections said, "Well, y'know, that's right. But how in earth did you know that?"

The drunk said, "Cause you're uglier 'n heck."

Teacher: "If I gave you 2 cats and another 2 cats and another 2, how many would you have?"

Johnny: "Seven."

Teacher: "No, listen carefully... If I gave you two cats, and another two cats and another two, how many would

you have?"

Johnny: "Seven."

Teacher: "Let me put it to you differently. If I gave you two apples, and another two apples and another two, how many would you have?"

Johnny: "Six."

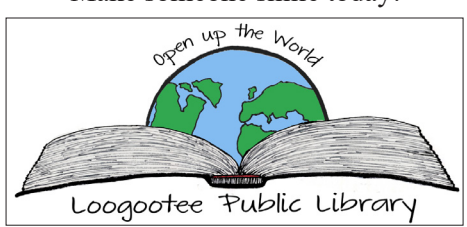
Teacher: "Good. Now if I gave you two cats, and another two cats and another two, how many would you have?"

Johnny: "Seven!"

Teacher: "Johnny, where in the heck do you get seven from?!"

Johnny: "Because I've already got a cat!"

-----  
Make someone smile today!



**BY DARLA WAGLER**  
Librarian, Loogootee Public Library

The Friends of Loogootee Library (FOLL) and the library board have teamed up on their fundraising efforts. Some of the fun and unique events that are in the works are: In March, Giving of the Green is being planned to coordinate with St. Patrick's Day. Community members are encouraged to stop by the library and make a donation and get their name on a shamrock for the glass window and be entered into a \$25 gas card drawing. On March 10, there will be a Euchre Tourney at VFW from 6-9. It costs \$10 to play and winner receives a cash prize. Food and drinks will be available for a donation. Bling and Brunch will be held on April 21 from 10-12 at St. John's Upper Level, little girls can dress up in their favorite princess or Easter dress and have tea and finger foods. There will be costume jewelry available to purchase. On May 12, 2018, we have scheduled a live auction to be at the Loogootee Methodist Church. A list of items will be posted in the near future. These are a few of the fun activities planned to help raise funds toward the new library building.

**NEW BOOKS:**

Mystery: "Into the Black Nowhere" by Meg Gardiner and "Look For Me" by Lisa Gardner.

Fiction: "House of Secrets" by V.C. Andrews, "The Great Alone" by Kristin Hannah, and "Fall from Grace" by Danielle Steel.

Inspirational Fiction: "The Celebration" by Wanda Brunstetter, "The Masterpiece" by Francine Rivers, and "A Passionate Hope" by Jill Eileen Smith.

DVDs: "All of My Heart" and "Carbine Williams"

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



**Students, staff of the month** *-Photo provided*

The Loogootee Elementary Students and Staff Member of the Month were recently chosen for January. In the front row, from left to right, are Carter Rice, Kylie McBeth, Bryce Christmas, Broc Kerns, Fara Fisher, Acelynn Rice, and Brylee Bateman. In the second row, from left to right, are Josie Hawkins, Bethany Mundy, Mrs. Sarah Mullen, Colt Kerns, and Savanna Sitzman. Local sponsors for student/staff of the month are Loogootee McDonald's, Dairy Master, Jones' Marathon, Running with Scissors, Edwards Jones, Blake Hi-Y Carwash, Hawkins Healthcare, and Jolene McAtee.

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**Shoals School Board meeting**

The Shoals School Board will meet Thursday, February 8 at 6 p.m. in the central administration office. The meeting is open to the public.

**Domestic Violence Task Force meeting**

The Martin County Domestic Violence Task Force will meet Wednesday, February 7 at 4:30 p.m. at the Martin County Community Corrections Office. February is Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month and that will be the topic of discussion, including warning signs, and how you can help. The meeting will also kick-off of Middle Way House's second annual essay contest for Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month.

**Girls' bball soup supper**

The Loogootee Girls' Varsity Basketball will host a good will soup supper from 4:30 to 8 p.m. Friday, February 16 in LHS Cafeteria during the varsity boys' basketball game against Dubois.

**Sons of the Revolution meeting**

The first meeting of 2018 for the Indiana Society Sons of the American Revolution, Daniel Guthrie Chapter, Bedford, Indiana, will be held Tuesday, February 20 at the Free Methodist Church at 630 R Street, Bedford. Dinner will start at 6 p.m., meeting at 7 p.m. This will be the awards night. They will be presenting the law enforcement, firefighter, EMS, hero and high school essay winner medals, certificates and monies. Everyone is welcome to come and visit with us.

**Chamber meeting**

The Martin County Chamber of Commerce will meet Wednesday, February 21 at noon at the Loogootee United Methodist Church. Anyone interested in being a part of the Chamber is welcome to attend.

**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.

**Free lunch for kids**

New Beginnings Community Church will be offering a free lunch to

all school-age children every Saturday from noon to 1 p.m. at the fellowship hall of the church, located at 200 West Main Street next to the post office. For more info, call 812-709-2525.

**SOAR Tutoring**

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

**Tourism meetings**

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

**Humane society meetings**

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

**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](http://www.martinswcd.com) or call at 295-3149.

**Attention Senior Citizens**

The Loogootee Senior Citizen Center, located in the annex building attached to JFK Gym on JFK Avenue in Loogootee provides activities for seniors every Monday and Thursday from 8 a.m. to noon. For \$5 a year, seniors can participate in Euchre tournaments, games, puzzles, etc., with other local seniors. Anyone interested is welcome to stop by, there are no age or residency requirements to participate. Seniors are also offered lunch at the Loogootee Senior Center every Monday and Thursday. A freewill donation is requested. Call 812-295-3130 to make a reservation, so enough food is prepared.



## National unemployment stays at 4.1 percent for fourth month in a row

Total nonfarm payroll employment increased by 200,000 in January, and the unemployment rate was unchanged at 4.1 percent, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported last week.

Employment continued to trend up in construction, food services and drinking places, health care, and manufacturing.

### Household Survey Data

In January, the unemployment rate was 4.1 percent for the fourth consecutive month. The number of unemployed persons, at 6.7 million, changed little over the month.

Among the major worker groups, the unemployment rate for Blacks increased to 7.7 percent in January, and the rate for Whites edged down to 3.5 percent. The jobless rates for adult men (3.9 percent), adult women (3.6 percent), teenagers (13.9 percent), Asians (3.0 percent), and Hispanics (5.0 percent) showed little change.

The number of long-term unemployed (those jobless for 27 weeks or more) was little changed at 1.4 million in January and accounted for 21.5 percent of the unemployed.

The civilian labor force and total employment, as measured by the household survey, changed little in January (after accounting for the annual adjustments to the population controls). The labor force participation rate was 62.7 percent for the fourth consecutive month and the employment-population ratio was 60.1 percent for the third month in a row.

The number of persons employed part time for economic reasons (some-time referred to as involuntary part-time workers) was essentially un-

changed at 5.0 million in January. These individuals, who would have preferred full-time employment, were working part time because their hours had been cut back or because they were unable to find a full-time job.

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

Among the marginally attached, there were 451,000 discouraged workers in January, little changed from a year earlier. (The data are not seasonally adjusted.) Discouraged workers are persons not currently looking for work because they believe no jobs are available for them. The remaining 1.2 million persons marginally attached to the labor force in January had not searched for work for reasons such as school attendance or family responsibilities.

### Establishment Survey Data

Total nonfarm payroll employment rose by 200,000 in January. Employment continued to trend up in construction, food services and drinking places, health care, and manufacturing.

Construction added 36,000 jobs in January, with most of the increase occurring among specialty trade contractors (+26,000). Employment in residential building construction continued to trend up over the month (+5,000). Over the year, construction employment has increased by 226,000.

Employment in food services and drinking places continued to trend up in January (+31,000). The industry has added 255,000 jobs over the past 12 months.

Employment in health care continued to trend up in January (+21,000), with a gain of 13,000 in hospitals. In 2017, health care added an average of 24,000 jobs per month.

In January, employment in manufacturing remained on an upward trend (+15,000). Durable goods industries added 18,000 jobs. Manufacturing has added 186,000 jobs over the past 12 months.

Employment in other major industries, including mining, wholesale trade, retail trade, transportation and warehousing, information, financial activities, professional and business services, and government, changed little over the month.

The average workweek for all employees on private nonfarm payrolls declined by 0.2 hour to 34.3 hours in January. In manufacturing, the workweek declined by 0.2 hour to 40.6 hours, while overtime remained at 3.5 hours. The average workweek for production and nonsupervisory employees on private nonfarm payrolls edged down by 0.1 hour to 33.6 hours.

In January, average hourly earnings for all employees on private nonfarm payrolls rose by 9 cents to \$26.74, following an 11-cent gain in December. Over the year, average hourly earnings have risen by 75 cents, or 2.9 percent. Average hourly earnings of private-sector production and nonsupervisory employees increased by 3 cents to \$22.34 in January.

## Attorney General Curtis Hill warns of tax fraud

Indiana Attorney General Curtis Hill is warning Hoosiers to beware of scams in which their identities are stolen and used to file fraudulent tax returns.

For many families, the New Year brings hope of long awaited tax refunds. People may make plans to pay off debts or make significant purchases. Unfortunately, tax identity thieves may also be making plans to use those hard-earned dollars.

Tax identity thieves use other people's Social Security Numbers (SSN) to file taxes and/or even obtain jobs. Most victims initially will not even be aware that this has happened. Some will be notified upon e-filing that a tax return has already been filed using their SSN.

The Federal Trade Commission (FTC) has partnered with the Department of Veterans Affairs, the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) and the Treasury Inspector General to bring awareness and tools to help people protect themselves from tax identity theft.

On their website, the FTC has provided free webinars and other information in order to learn what to do if you or someone you know needs assistance with tax identity theft or an IRS imposter scam. Information specifically dedicated to taxpayers, military service members and small business operators can also be found on the site.

The IRS has offered the following warning signs of possible tax-related identity theft:

More than one tax return was filed for you;

You owe additional tax, have a refund offset or have had collection actions taken against you for a year you did not file a tax return, or;

IRS records indicate you received wages or other income from an employer for whom you did not work.

If you believe you have been the victim of tax-related or any other type of identity theft, the Office of the Indiana Attorney General office can help. Go to indianaconsumer.com or call 1-800-382-5516 to make a complaint.

## Volunteer coaches needed for fall prevention program

Generations is looking to expand their Matter of Balance (MOB) program. This nationally-recognized evidence-based program's goal is to reduce fear of falling, stop the fear of falling and increase activity levels among community-dwelling older adults.

Studies show that one-half of the older adult population fear falling, one-third of older adults do fall, and falls are the leading cause of fatal and non-fatal injuries for this group. They need volunteers who would like to be trained to lead these classes in the community.

Generations is hosting a free two-day Matter of Balance Coaches' Training in March for volunteers interested in teaching this evidence-based fall prevention program to older adults in this area. The training will be conducted on March 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Vincennes University (location to be announced).

Generations and their partners will provide materials for classes, supervi-

sion and program promotion. There is no selling involved. Seating is limited. For more information or to RSVP, contact Alma Kramer at 812-888-4527 or akramer@vinu.edu.

## Tax Counseling for the Elderly

Generations is once again providing Tax Counseling for the Elderly (TCE) in Martin County. This program provides free assistance to low income, elderly and special needs taxpayers in filling out both the federal and state tax forms.

Volunteers have completed their certification with the Internal Revenue Service, and they are now available to complete tax forms at Loogootee Senior Center, 406 NW 1<sup>st</sup> Street. Appointments can be made on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays between noon and 3 p.m. by calling 812-247-2525. The Martin County TCE Coordinator is Kenny Woods.

**WAYNE Ferguson agency**

[www.fergusonagency.com](http://www.fergusonagency.com)

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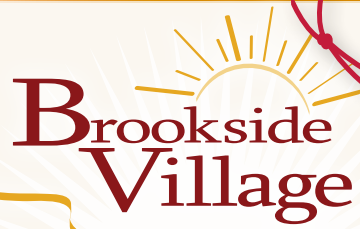
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BSV-NP-0215-3



The Martin County Veteran Service Officer has an office in the Martin County Courthouse. An appointment is necessary. For assistance, call 812-247-2210; transportation needs, call 812-247-2450 and leave a message or e-mail martincountyvso2013@yahoo.com. Calls are returned on Tuesday and Thursday.

During the month of January, the veteran service officer assisted three veterans and had four meetings. The veterans' van took four trips transporting four veterans to VA medical centers and clinics.

DRIVERS NEEDED for the veterans' van. I am aware that we all have very busy lives and very little free time which is why I am looking for reliable drivers to add to my call list. I am looking for VOLUNTEERS that are willing to transport a veteran possibly one trip a week to medical appointments at VA hospital and clinics in the surrounding area. This is not a paid position.

## Joint narcotics investigation leads to Orange County man's arrest

On Saturday, February 3, in the early evening, Martin County Sheriff's Department Deputy Cody Shinn and Shoals Town Marshal Todd Eckert conducted a controlled buy of narcotics at a gas station in Shoals. After the narcotics deal was complete, Deputy Shinn made a traffic stop on the suspected vehicle. Upon approaching the vehicle, suspected narcotics were in plain view. Kelly Johnson, 55, of French Lick, was

You must have an Indiana license and a clean driving record. If interested, please contact me.

The veterans' van only transports to appointments at VA hospitals and clinics. You must contact me for transportation needs. Do NOT contact the driver's directly, they do not have the van schedule. The veterans' van is not a part of the DAV program. It is funded by Martin County taxpayers so we only transport Martin County residents.

The veterans' van will only transport to Indianapolis and Northern clinics on Tuesday and Thursday, Louisville and New Albany on Wednesday and Friday and Southern clinics on Monday's. The veterans' van will NOT leave the Recycling Center earlier than 7 a.m. Please schedule your appointments accordingly.

The Veterans Crisis Line provides confidential help for Veterans and their families. Call at 1-800-273-8255 (PRESS 1) for help.

arrested without incident. During the arrest, over eight (8) grams of methamphetamine were recovered.

The following is the charges for Kelly Johnson:

- Dealing methamphetamine, a Level 3 Felony
- Possession of methamphetamine, a Level 5 Felony
- Maintaining a common nuisance, a Level 6 Felony

## Report of vehicle stuck in field leads to arrest of Vincennes woman on meth charges

On Tuesday, January 30, at 7:50 a.m., the Martin County Sheriff's Office received a complaint from a resident on Scenic Hill Road concerning a truck stuck in a field behind his residence. Martin County Sheriff's Office Captain Tony Dant, Loogootee Police Department Chief Kelly Rayhill, and Martin County Deputy Tyler Reed responded to the area.

Once on scene, Deputy Reed recognized the vehicle as being a vehicle that had eluded him earlier in the night when he attempted to turn around on it and initiate a traffic stop near US Highway 50 and Brickyard Road.

The female occupant of the vehicle was identified as Stephanie Howder, 37, of Vincennes. Deputy Reed utilized his narcotics-certified K9 Virka for a free air sniff of the exterior of the vehicle. K9 Virka gave a positive indication for the presence of narcotics inside the vehicle. A search of the vehicle yielded

a plastic bag containing a white crystal substance that field tested positive for methamphetamine. A small glass bottle containing a green leafy plant-like substance that field tested positive for marijuana was also located.

During a search of Ms. Howder's person, a glass smoking device containing additional methamphetamine was located as well as a small black rubber tube containing methamphetamine residue. Ms. Howder was arrested and transported to the Martin County Security Center.

Howder was charged with the following:

- Maintaining a common nuisance, a Level 6 felony
- Possession of methamphetamine, a Level 6 felony
- Possession of marijuana, a Class B misdemeanor
- Possession of paraphernalia, a Class C misdemeanor



## Thirty-Two new troopers patrolling Indiana

Indiana has 32 new Indiana State Police Troopers assigned to state police districts throughout the state now patrolling the roads. Members of the 77th Indiana State Police Recruit School that graduated on October 19, 2017 received their patrol cars Monday at the Indiana State Police Museum, located at the Indiana State Police Indianapolis District.

The troopers received approximately 917 hours of structured training at the Indiana Law Enforcement Academy. Their curriculum included; administrative subjects, general police subjects, investigations, criminal law, traffic law, firearms, first aid, and emergency driving to name a few.

The new troopers then completed a three-month field training period with seasoned troopers where they were observed applying the knowledge and training that had been gained at the academy and applying it to real life situations.

For more information on becoming an Indiana State Police trooper go to [www.in.gov/isp](http://www.in.gov/isp) and click on the link "career opportunities."

## Where to write, call or email

### Martin County Government County Council

Lynn Gee  
Mailing address: 101 Southeast Third Street, Loogootee, IN 47553  
Randy Wininger  
Phone: 812-709-0383  
Email: [rvwininger@gmail.com](mailto:rvwininger@gmail.com)  
Warren Albright  
Email: [wdbright@countrypine-sprinting.com](mailto:wdbright@countrypine-sprinting.com)  
Phone: 812-709-0099  
Keith Gibson  
Phone: 812-247-3872  
Richard Summers  
Email: [charlierich55@live.com](mailto:charlierich55@live.com)  
Phone: 812-709-1615  
Buck Stiles  
Cell Phone: 812-797-3293  
Barbara McFeaters  
Mailing address: PO Box 360, Loogootee IN 47553  
Email: [mcfeaters@nwcable.net](mailto:mcfeaters@nwcable.net)  
Cell: 812-295-6457

### Commissioners

Dan Gregory  
Mailing address: 2011 Lumpkin Road, Loogootee, IN 47553  
Home phone: 812-695-5131  
Cell: 812-631-2635  
Fax: 812-644-7400  
Email: [gregoryd@psci.net](mailto:gregoryd@psci.net)  
Paul George  
Cell: 812-653-2771  
Kevin R. Boyd  
10900 Sherfick School Road,

Shoals, IN 47581  
Phone: 247-3604  
Email: [kevinbyd@frontier.com](mailto:kevinbyd@frontier.com)

### Indiana Government

House Representative District 62  
Jeff Ellington  
200 W. Washington Street, Indianapolis IN 46204  
317-232-9863  
House Representative District 63  
Mike Braun  
200 W. Washington Street, Indianapolis IN 46204  
317-234-9447  
State Senator Eric Bassler  
200 W. Washington Street, Indianapolis IN 46204  
317-232-9400  
Federal Government  
President of the United States  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington DC 20500  
202-456-1111  
Congressman Larry Bucshon (District 8)  
1005 Longworth HOB, Washington DC 20515  
202-225-4636  
Senator Todd Young  
279 Quartermaster Court, Jeffersonville IN 47130  
812-288-3999  
Senator Joe Donnelly  
115 N. Pennsylvania Street, Suite 100, Danville IN 46122  
202-224-4814

## Specials at The Lodge

Wednesday: Chicken and Waffles

Thursday: Roast Beef or Beef Manhattans

Friday: Popcorn Shrimp

Friday night: Seafood Boil

Saturday: Foot Long Cones

Saturday night: Prime Rib

Sunday: County Fried Steak



302 W. Williams St.  
LOGOOTE  
295-3636

[www.thelodgeofloogootee.com](http://www.thelodgeofloogootee.com)

Find us on facebook!

Hours: Wed. & Thurs. 7 am to 9 pm; Fri.-Sat. 7 am to 10 pm; Sun. 8 am to 2 pm; Closed Monday & Tuesday