



Break-ins in Shoals lead to two arrests

The Martin County Sheriff's Department received multiple reports of vehicles and buildings that had been broken into early Sunday morning, in the Shoals area. Two firearms were reported stolen along with several other items. The thefts occurred between the hours of 1 a.m. and 4 a.m. on Sunday morning, February 9. Witnesses were able to describe one of the suspects as being a younger male, approximately 5'10" and slender. The individual was seen wearing a Carhartt-type jacket and pants with boots, carrying both firearms near Main Street at approximately 4 a.m. At least two individuals if not more are believed to be involved. Anyone with information regarding these thefts or who might have seen anything they believe to be suspicious is encouraged to call the Martin County Sheriff's Department. All callers can remain anonymous.

Deputy Damon Baker and Indiana Conservation Officer Tony Mann were able to recover the two firearms that were stolen. Two individuals were also arrested for being in possession of the firearms. They were Kimberly Fisher, 36, of Shoals, two counts of receiving stolen property, Class D Felonies and Nathan Truelove, 18, of Shoals, two counts of receiving stolen property, Class D Felonies.

Deputy Baker was assisted by Martin County Sheriff's Deputy Luke Harmon, Indiana Conservation Officer Tony Mann and the Indiana State Police.

More employees opt out of county insurance than opt in

Meeting minutes provided by Martin County Auditor January Roush

The Martin County Commissioners met Thursday, February 6.

Auditor January Roush submitted resolution 2014-03, regarding eligibility for group health insurance benefits. The resolution changes the 90-day eligibility period to 60 days. Commissioner Kevin Boyd made a motion to approve resolution 2014-03. Commissioner Dan Gregory made the second. All were in favor and the motion passed. After open enrollment, there are currently 34 employees on the county's health insurance plan and 35 opted out.

Linda Dillon, veteran service officer, requested approval to attend training March 31-April 4 in Indianapolis. Dillon provided paperwork that would allow for some of the training expenses to be reimbursed. Commissioner Boyd made a motion to approve the training. Commissioner Gregory made the second. All were in favor and the motion passed. Dillon also gave the January report.

Leo Padgett, highway superintendent, submitted his two-work schedule. He updated the commissioners on road conditions and the recently purchased dump truck. (See 'INSURANCE' cont. on page 2)

Shoals students and the Pacers

-Photo provided

Indiana SADD Night With The Pacers was held Saturday, February, 1. Over 200 SADD (Students Against Destructive Decisions) members from a dozen schools across Indiana attended the family night event. The Pacers played the Brooklyn Nets, and won the game 97-96. Shown above from left to right are Sean Winger, Zach Walker, Stephanie Craft, SADD Sponsor Linda Sherfick, Megan Hawkins, Damon Roach, Cher Song, Damion Hart, Cody Hert, Brandon Pendley, and Tyler George. Also in attendance were Steven, Becky, and Levi Pendley, Rodney, Mimi, and Melanie Hawkins, and the bus driver Paul George.

Council member still wants to improve winter streets

BY COURTNEY HUGHETT
Martin County Journal Publisher

Council member Fred Dupps brought up the issue again of the city not having salt to put on snow and ice covered roads at the Loogootee City Council meeting Monday night, February 10. As was discussed at last month's meeting, the city only uses sand. It was discussed at the meeting last month that salt is very expensive and wears on the roads. Mayor Harty had also mentioned that there is no place to store salt as it has to be

kept indoors.

Dupps said Monday night that there will be a meeting in April in Cincinnati where county and city officials can go and learn about getting salt for their streets. He recommended that Mayor Harty attend that meeting. Harty said that the main concern about purchasing salt is that the minimum they could purchase would cost \$25,000. Dupps replied that he doesn't think salt needs to be applied to every city street, just the main thoroughfares which would cost \$7,000-\$8,000. Bo Wilson spoke up saying

that the city could get less than the minimum through the state. Harty replied that he was not aware of that, he was under the impression that a minimum had to be purchased.

Mayor Harty then said that the issue with only doing a few streets is that residents on streets not treated with salt will become upset.

"That's where the nightmare begins," said Council member Rick Norris.

Dupps replied that he is sure other cities and towns go through the same thing and it could be dealt with. He said that he wanted to come up with a proposal to present at the April meeting.

The mayor noted that he visited two other cities after winter storms recently and their roads were no better than Loogootee's.

"So let's not look for improvement, let's just continue what we are doing," Dupps started to reply.

Harty quickly interjected saying that this is not what he meant.

Dupps asked Harty if he is saying that every city and town around Loogootee is just wasting their money then by buying salt.

Council member John Fraley interjected saying that it would be a bigger expense for a town the size of Loogootee when sand works just as well as salt. And he noted that the city doesn't have money in the budget to re-asphalt after the roads are damaged from the salt.

In other business, the mayor presented a quote from Area One Protection requested by the park board. He said the park board is having issues with littering in the city park parking lots and the quote was for cameras to be put up in the two lots. Council member Norris said one of the issues is that the street lights need to be fixed because it is very dark in the lots. He said that spending \$5,000 on a camera system may not be the best way to go because unless the camera is able to get a good shot of the li-



Fender bender

-Photo by Courtney Hughett

Last Thursday, February 6 at around 2:55 p.m., Brandon Poole, of Loogootee, driving a silver 2005 Kia, advised he was heading east on US 50 in Shoals and approaching the intersection of High Street. He was unaware of the vehicle in front of him that had stopped for other traffic and collided into the rear of the red 2000 Ford driven by Eric A. Brett of Shoals. No one was injured in the collision and neither vehicle required a wrecker. The main issue was debris in the roadway. The accident was investigated by Sheriff's Deputy Andy Burkhardt.

West Boggs

The Best Indiana Park By A Dam Site

Daviess-Martin Joint County Parks & Recreation Dept.

WEST BOGGS PARK

GLENDALE SFWA CAMPGROUND

COUNCIL

(Continued from page one)

cense plates of the person littering, nothing can be proven.

Council member Norris asked if the money would be better suited going into the pool fund. He added that getting a \$25 littering fee would not justify the system.

Clerk-Treasurer Nancy Jones said she wasn't aware of the request so she didn't know where the money would come from out of the parks and rec budget. It was decided to table the discussion until the next meeting.

The council then discussed which sport utility vehicles should be allowed on city streets. City Attorney Mark Jones read from a drafted ordinance that would replace the city's current ordinance. The ordinance was amended to include the definition of a sport utility vehicle. It was questioned at previous meetings whether four wheelers and other off-road ATVs were treated the same way as golf carts on city streets. The new ordinance includes all off-road vehicles and golf carts. All ATVs must be registered with the city at a cost of \$25. Attorney Jones suggested comparing the new ordinance with the one currently in place to see if any more changes should be made. Council member Rick Norris suggested that the city charge the same amount as the state for registering the vehicles at \$10. He said the main point of having them register every year was to make sure the ATVs are insured.

The council decided to table the approval of the ordinance to see if anything needed to be changed.

Rex Knight, with SIDC, spoke to the council about the city applying for grant funds for another storm water drainage

project. The project would cover an area in the city limits, south and west of the Main Street area and on the south side of the CSX railroad line. Knight said there would be some areas outside this area which will be decided once the budget is created. The estimated cost of the total project is \$556,000 which includes a local match from city EDIT (Economic Development Income Tax) funds of \$56,000. The total cost includes engineering, construction and inspection and any soil testing.

A similar project was done in the city about seven years ago.

The city will find out in July if they receive the grant funding. The grant money comes from OCRA and HUD.

SIDC sent a letter read by the mayor regarding the housing improvement grant. As required in the grant, any property included in receiving funding must be made public to receive comments on possible historical attributes. The property in question is at 603 North Line Street in Loogootee. Anyone believing this property has historical significance should contact SIDC (Southern Indiana Development Commission).

The council approved the fire agreement with the Perry Township Trustee for \$8,000 for the city to provide fire service to the residents. This is the same amount as last year.

The meeting to discuss the city's five-year comprehensive plan was rescheduled for February 19 at 6 p.m. The mayor said they need all the help they can get.

A moment of silence was held prior to the board of public works meeting in honor of Loogootee Police Officer Jason Hennette's mom who passed away.

Council member Richard Taylor was not present at the meeting due to illness.

INSURANCE

(Continued from page one)

perintendent Padgett thanked community corrections for the painting of the hallway, bathroom and break room. He will be attending a WTH meeting concerning the GIS Mapping System on March 7 and the LTAP Conference March 11 and 12.

Prosecutor Mike Steiner recently purchased new computers for his department and requested permission to destroy the old computers and then take them to recycle. The commissioners gave their approval.

County Attorney Dave Lett submitted ordinance 2014-02, an ordinance enacting a code of ordinances and resolution 2014-04, amendment of the Martin County Code Chapter 73: traffic schedules. Commissioner Gregory made a motion to approve the ordinance. Commissioner Boyd made the second. All were in favor. Resolution 2014-04 reduces the speed limit on Bear Hill Road in Mitcheltree Township to 30 mph. Commissioner Boyd made a motion to approve the resolution. Commissioner Gregory made the second. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Sheriff Rob Street submitted his 2013 activity report. Sheriff Street also updated the

commissioners the need to replace the electronic door opening consoles at the security center. Street is to start getting quotes on replacing the door.

Phil Todd, Emergency Management, stated that there will be a Local Emergency Planning Commission meeting on February 19, 2014 at 7 p.m. at the civil defense building.

Commissioner Gregory made a motion to approve the renewal and modification of Geographic Information Services Agreement with 39 Degrees North. Commissioner Boyd made the second. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Rex Knight, SIDC, submitted Lost River Fire Station Pay Applications #7 and #8. Commissioner Gregory made a motion to approve both pay applications. Commissioner Boyd made the second. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Brent Roberts, BF&S, stated that there are currently inspectors out doing county wide bridge inspections.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:46 pm with a motion by Commissioner Boyd and seconded by Commissioner Gregory. All were in favor and the motion passed.

EMA forming Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC)

The Martin County Emergency Management Agency is in the process of organizing a Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC), in accordance with the requirements set by Title III of the Superfund Amendments and Re-authorization Act of 1986 (SARA Title III). The LEPC tracks hazardous material stored and used in the county, and provides information and training for all citizens to be able to identify and respond in an emergency resulting from a hazardous material incident. The committee will consist of emergency response personnel, including police, and medical, businesses or companies having and/or dealing with hazardous material, and concerned county residents. The LEPC is required by state law and the State Emergency Management Agency (SEMA) to verify grant expenditures are monitored and used correctly.

The LEPC will also be conducting surveys to determine and assure that all hazardous material in the county is identified by type and can be accounted for as to location, volume, and type of storage. Any business or operation that uses and stores hazardous material is required to file a report with the state, however this report is based on volume stored and used annually, and some operations that use material only periodically that has been identified by the state EMA as haz-

ardous may be exempt from filing. This is the area that local emergency response organizations need to identify. Some organizations may not be aware of the level of hazard for the material they use.

Additionally, the LEPC is identifying structures throughout the county that have the capability to temporarily house dislocated residents in case of an industrial spill, and also in case of a natural disaster, such as a tornado or earthquake that impacted multiple houses. LEPC personnel will be contacting facility owners for information as to the number of people that could be temporarily located. These structures would be used until residents could be transported to a reunification site to meet with family members, Red Cross Personnel, or other disaster relief organizations.

The initial meeting for the LEPC will be February 19, 2014 at the Martin County Fire and Rescue Office located at the Martin County Fairgrounds. Any county resident interested in HazMat matters is welcome to attend the meeting, and anyone wishing to be on the committee is encouraged to attend.



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Hwy. 231 & 50,
Loogootee

Free order of Garlic Cheese Bread with purchase of Any Pizza
Friday thru Sunday
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Early bird games at 6 p.m. • Main games at 6:30 p.m.

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Open to the public! Must be 18 or older. Bingo is non-smoking!

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Tell the bingo staff you saw their ad in The Journal!

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!
The Ladies of Loogootee United Methodist Church are cooking again for the

5TH ANNUAL SOUP & SANDWICH LUNCHEON

Wednesday, March 5
11 a.m. to 1 p.m.
208 W. Main Street, Loogootee



Chicken or Ham Salad, Vegetable Soup, Chili, or Chicken Noodle Soup, Desserts and Drink - \$6.00
Call in/Carry out available 295-3049

Bring your Sweetheart to Stoll's Lakeview this weekend

Seafood Buffet Friday Night
Prime Rib on the buffet Saturday Night (after 4 p.m.)

Stoll's Lakeview Restaurant

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OBITUARIES

Wednesday, February 12, 2014 ~ Martin County Journal

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CRYSTAL DYAL

Crystal A. (Hembree) Dyal, formerly of Loogootee, died at 2:35 p.m. Friday, February 7, 2014 at Ketcham Memorial Center in Odon. A resident of Odon, she was 87.

She was born March 24, 1927 in Martin County; the daughter of Orian and Ora (Parsons) Dyal. She married Harold Lee Dyal on June 27, 1998 and he survives.

She was a homemaker and a member of the Odon United Methodist Church. She enjoyed planting flowers, gardening, walking and cooking, as her specialty was chicken and dumplings.

She is survived by two sons, Bill and wife Terri Berry and Kenny and Marla Dages, both of Loogootee; three step-daughters, Becky Albright of Lawrenceville, Illinois; Julie Ketchem of Linton, and Brenda Keys of Winslow; three step-sons, Robert Dyal of Loogootee, Daniel Dyal of Odon, and Harold E. Dyal of St. Henry, Indiana; two brothers, Norman Hembree of Carlisle and Bub Hembree of Counsel Bluffs, Iowa; three sisters, Ora Taylor of Loogootee, Delphia Sendelweck of Jasper, and Edith Zigler of Washington; two grandchildren, Sandra Knies of Ferdinand and Nicholas Berry of Evansville; and five great grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Orian and Ora (Parsons) Dyal; her first husband, Thomas Berry in 1952; her second husband, Walter "Shorty" Dages in 1993; three brothers, Ernie, Alvin and Woody Hembree; and five sisters, Sylvia Keller, Verda Chambers, Velma Wenning, Mary Hembree and Melva Simmons.

Funeral services were conducted Monday, February 10 at Brocksmith-Blake Funeral Home in Loogootee. Burial will follow in St. Martin's Catholic Cemetery in Whitfield.

In lieu of flowers memorial donations may be made to the; Loogootee United Methodist Church, Odon United Methodist Church or the Cancer Society.

Online condolences may be made at www.brocksmithblakefuneralhomes.com.

EVELYN FALLOWFIELD

Evelyn Sue (Wires) Fallowfield died Tuesday, February 4, 2014, at the Timbers of Jasper from injuries related to a fall in September. A resident of Shoals, she was 76.

She was born March 6, 1937, in Bedford; the only child of Earl and Ethel Wires, both deceased.

She grew up on the family farm in Shoals, and graduated from Shoals High School. She married Jack Fallowfield in 1958. They met at Indiana University, where they both graduated as speech therapists. They trav-

eled and worked abroad, serving our government teaching in Turkey and Germany before returning to the United States. They divorced in 1970, and Jack died in 2012. Evelyn went on to earn a Masters of Library Science degree from Indiana University, and worked in the Seattle area as a children's librarian. She finished her career as a State Reference Librarian for the State Capitol Library, in Olympia, Washington.

Evelyn returned to Shoals to care for her mother, Ethel, in 1992, and was active in the community as a volunteer for the historical society, a member of The Woman's Study Club, and as a supporter of the Martin County Humane Society. She attended the Dover Hill Church, and the United Methodist Church, in Shoals. Her abiding passion was the beauties of nature, and she was a dedicated bird-watcher.

She is survived by cousins, Bob Haines, of Bedford; Larry and Debbie Haines, of Danville; Steve and Donna Haines, of Indianapolis; and Mary Studley, of Vincennes.

A memorial service was held this morning, Wednesday, February 12, at the Shoals United Methodist Church. The Queen-Lee Funeral Home, in Shoals, assisted with the arrangements.

HENRY MILLER

Henry Miller went to be with Jesus at 9:56 p.m. Tuesday, February 4, 2014 at his home. A resident of Odon, he was 93.

He was born October 12, 1920 in Daviess County; the son of Jacob and Lucy (Stoll) Miller. He married Esther (Kemp) Miller on January 1, 1942 and she preceded him in death on February 24, 2013.

He was a farmer and a charter member of Zion Amish Mennonite Church in Montgomery.

He is survived by two sons, Richard and wife Clara Miller of Grabill and Mike and wife Lavone Miller of Odon; one daughter, Hazel Wilson of Loogootee; four sisters, Rose Ann Stoll of Montgomery, Mary Lou (Henry) Swartzentruber of Loogootee, Lydia Swartzentruber of Caneburg, and Lena (Amos) Swartzentruber of Odon; two sisters-in-law, Corine Miller and Barb Miller, both of Montgomery; 10 grandchildren; and 17 great-grandchildren.

He was also preceded in death by his parents; three brothers, David, Martin and Donnie Miller; a son-in-law, John S. Wilson; two brothers-in-law, Roy Stoll and John Swartzentruber Jr.; one grandson; and two great-grandsons.

The funeral was held Friday, February 7 at Zion Amish Mennonite Church in Montgomery. Burial followed in the church cemetery.

In lieu of flowers memorial donations may be made to the Zion Amish Mennonite Church or the Helping Hearts Hospice.

Arrangements were made through Brocksmith-Blake and Wagler Funeral Home in Montgomery.

LARRY PORTER

Larry E. Porter, formerly of Loogootee, died Sunday, February 2, 2014 at his home. A resident of Washington, he was 55.

He was born January 27, 1959, in Daviess County; the son of Frank and Anna May (Raney) Porter.

He was a member of St. John Catholic Church in Loogootee, a 1977 graduate of Loogootee High School, and he attended Vincennes University.

He was a retired carpenter and enjoyed music, history and being outdoors.

He is survived by one son, Frank Porter of Indianapolis; one daughter, Amy Porter of Louisville, Kentucky; and two sisters, Jane Jeffries of Eau Claire, Wisconsin, and Jean Storckman of Highland Mills, New York.

He is preceded in death by his parents and one sister, Clara Porter.

A memorial service was conducted Saturday, February 8 at Brocksmith-Blake Funeral Home in Loogootee. There was no visitation and private graveside services will be conducted at a later date.

Online condolences may be made at www.brocksmithblakefuneralhomes.com.

OSCAR J. RECKELHOFF

Oscar J. Reckelhoff passed away at 11:50 a.m. Friday, January 31, 2014 at the Loogootee Nursing Center. A resident of Loogootee, he was 91.

He was born in Celestine; the son of Herman and Mathilda (Schnell) Reckelhoff.

He was a retired farmer in the Hall Creek Bottom near Celestine and also operated the Twin Valley Lunch Service for many years. He enjoyed working with his cattle.

He is survived by one daughter, Linda Harding and husband Dave of St. Anthony; two sons, Ronald (Red) Reckelhoff of Celestine and Richard Reckelhoff of Bretzville; five grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren; two sisters, Sally Davis, of Columbus Georgia and Lorena Burke of St. Anthony; and two brothers, Frank Reckelhoff of Jasper and Roman Reckelhoff of Cincinnati, Ohio.

Preceding him in death were four sisters, Louise Lasche, Veronica Koch, Emma Hov-elkamp and Adeline Seger.

Funeral services were held Friday, February 7 at the Becher-Kluesner Downtown Chapel with entombment following in Fairview Cemetery Mausoleum.

PAUL DOBSON

Paul Gene Dobson passed away at 9:53 a.m. Sunday, February 9, 2014, at Indiana University Health Bloomington Hospital. A resident of Mitchell, he was 72.

He was born March 1, 1941, in Shoals; the son of Frank and Betty (Norman) Dobson, Jr. He married Tracy Sue Terry on February 27, 1982 and she survives.

He graduated from Shoals High School in 1959 and was a member of the Shoals Christian Church. He was a U. S. Navy veteran. He retired from Naval Weapons Support Center—Crane.

He is also survived by his children,



PAUL DOBSON

Cheryl Lynn (Bob) Pickel of Shoals and Brian (Kim) Fults of Mitchell; his mother, Betty Dobson of Shoals; grandchildren, Brianne (Brett) Mosier, Brennan Fults, and Braeden Fults; siblings, Ralph (Anne) Dobson of Donaldsonville, Georgia; Rick Dobson of Shoals, and Cheryl (Ray) Norris of Loogootee.

His father; son, Curtis Lee Dobson; and grandson, Matthew Pickel, preceded him in death.

A funeral service will be at 11 a.m. Thursday, February 13 in the Memorial Chapel of Chastain Funeral Home & Cremation Center with Brother Marc Fields officiating.

Burial will be in Mitchell Cemetery with military honors accorded by American Legion Post No. 250 and Veterans of Foreign Wars Post No. 9107.

Friends may call from 3-7 p.m. this evening, Wednesday, February 12 and from 10 a.m. until the service on Thursday at the funeral home.

Memorial gifts may be made to Lawrence County Cancer Patient Services.

WANDA MESIANA

Wanda L. Mesiana passed away Wednesday, February 5, 2014. A resident of Greenwood, she was 78.

She was born February 2, 1936 in Shoals; the daughter of William Andrew and Inez Marie Grigsby Stringer. She married Joseph A. Mesiana on December 3, 1956 and he preceded her in death on March 5, 1998.

She was a 1954 graduate of Shoals High School where she was cheerleader. In 1957, she was a princess in the queen's court of the inaugural Indianapolis 500 parade. She worked as an executive secretary for US Rubber and RCA. She also worked as a medical assistant for MedCheck and a sales associate for Sears. She was a cheerleading mother for the Northeastwood Youth Football Association and was a member of the American Legion Post 495 Women's Auxiliary.

She is survived by her children, Joseph Anthony Mesiana Jr. (Terri), Mary Christina Bleizeffer (David), Angela Mesiana-Frazier; grandchildren, Cameron, Joey, Gregory, Demi, Dominick, Josephine, Shannah, Kagny; great grandchildren, Jacob and Iva; sister, Wilma Engle; brother, Charles Stringer; dear family friend, Susan Wilkins; and best friend, Marilyn Force.

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated on Monday, February 10 at St. Barnabas Catholic Church. Burial followed in Washington Park East Cemetery. Daniel F. O'Riley Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.



Spaghetti DINNER

Parkview Village will host a Spaghetti Dinner on Valentine's Day

FEBRUARY 14 • 5:00 - 6:30 PM
\$6⁰⁰ - Adults • \$3⁵⁰ Children under 7 yrs.

On the Menu:
Spaghetti, Salad, Garlic Bread, Dessert, Drink

Entertainment To Follow
BRUCE BORDERS (Elvis Impersonator)

Bring Your Valentine & Come Enjoy The Fun!
Please call in advance to reserve

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Hwy. 231 & 50, Loogootee

Hours: 6:30 a.m.-9 p.m. Everyday

812-295-3600

COPS & COURT

Wednesday, February 12, 2014 ~ Martin County Journal

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Martin County Sheriff's Department log

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 3

8:18 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 4

1:05 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee.

9:53 a.m. - Received a report of a burglary on Panhandle Road.

11:57 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Shoals.

4:16 p.m. - Received a report of a property damage accident on State Road 450.

4:22 p.m. - Received a report of a slide off on U.S. 231.

4:35 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee.

4:58 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Williams.

5:05 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Shoals.

5:25 p.m. - Received a report of a slide off on U.S. 231 North.

6:55 p.m. - Received a report of a slide off on U.S. 50, east of Shoals.

6:57 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee.

Loogootee Police Department log

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 3

5:30 a.m. - Loogootee Fire was paged to a house fire on 350 North.

5:17 a.m. - Caller reported a theft of medication.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 4

12:49 p.m. - Caller reported a theft of fuel from Chuckles.

1:16 p.m. - Caller reported a school cross arm violation. Driver was located.

4:37 p.m. - First responders were requested on JFK Avenue for a medical problem.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 5

5:05 a.m. - Loogootee Fire was paged out to a residence in Bellbrook for smoke alarms activated.

6:37 a.m. - Chief Rayhill responded to a business alarm on Broadway Street.

11:08 p.m. - Caller reported someone banging on his back door. Officers were unable to locate anyone.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 6

1:53 a.m. - Caller reported hearing a loud boom around her residence.

11:10 a.m. - Caller reported a 911 hang-up in Shaded Estates.

11:45 a.m. - Caller reported a slide-off near Country Place Apartments.

12:25 p.m. - Caller requested a welfare check on her mother.

5:38 p.m. - Caller reported suspicious persons on Broadway Street.

5:47 p.m. - After a report of theft of fuel from Chuckles, Loogootee Police arrested Robert A. Iams, 21, of Montgomery. Iams was charged with theft and transported to the Martin County Security Center. Captain

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 5

2:30 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee.

5:06 a.m. - Received a request for the fire department in Loogootee.

8:43 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Shoals.

11:14 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Shoals.

11:16 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Shoals.

11:27 a.m. - Received a report of mailbox vandalism.

1:18 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee.

8:00 p.m. - Received a report of a domestic dispute in Shoals.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 6

8:23 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee.

9:30 a.m. - Received a report of a property damage accident on County Road 800 N.

1:45 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Shoals.

2:55 p.m. - Received a report of a property damage accident on U.S. 50 in Shoals.

Akles was assisted by Officer Jeremy Branham and Officer Steve Nolan.

5:55 p.m. - Caller reported a vehicle without tail lights.

7:54 p.m. - Caller reported a vehicle broke down on Butcher Boulevard.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 8

12:55 p.m. - Caller reported harassment.

2:05 p.m. - Caller reported a theft of fuel from Chuckles.

8:36 p.m. - Caller reported a suspicious person on North Kentucky Avenue.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 9

2:58 a.m. - Caller requested to speak with an officer regarding theft.

5:02 p.m. - Caller requested a welfare check on his brother.

6:25 p.m. - Caller reported an altercation following a child exchange.

8:16 p.m. - Caller reported a child custody dispute.

9:32 p.m. - Caller requested a welfare check on a male and female.

Accident reports

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 7

6:00 p.m. - Alice Sexton, of Loogootee, was operating 2006 vehicle on North Line Street when due to the icy roads, Sexton's vehicle collided with a 2001 Ford owned by Mackenzie Graves, of French Lick. Captain Akles was the investigating officer.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 8

9:41 a.m. - Kelsy Seals, of Loogootee, was operating a Dodge on Hwy 550. Due to the icy roads, Seals' vehicle slid off the road and struck a 2007 Chevy owned by Harry Graber, of Odon. Captain Akles investigated.

5:15 p.m. - Received a report of a theft in Shoals.

6:52 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Shoals.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 7

9:39 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Shoals.

10:12 a.m. - Received a report of a property damage accident.

12:44 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Shoals.

12:57 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 8

12:13 a.m. - Received a report of a property damage accident on Spout Springs Road.

5:42 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee.

5:49 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Shoals.

6:46 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Shoals.

9:39 a.m. - Received a report of a slide-off on U.S. 150.

6:12 p.m. - Loogootee Healthcare requested an ambulance for a transport. Martin County Ambulance transported subject to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

11:51 p.m. - Report of a car deer accident on Hwy 150.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 9

2:58 a.m. - Marathon of Loogootee called to report item stolen. Loogootee Police Department was advised.

5:13 a.m. - Caller advised of an accident on US 231 near St Mary's Road. Deputy Baker and Loogootee Officer Norris responded.

6:16 a.m. - Received a report of items stolen from a pick-up on West River Road. Deputy Baker responded.

7:10 a.m. - More vehicles were found broken into on Main Street in Shoals. Deputy Baker responded.

9:45 a.m. - Caller advised of a truck broken into in Doanes Trailer Park. Deputy Baker responded.

Martin County real estate transfers

Frank K. Yarbrough and Helen Yarbrough, of Daviess County, Indiana to Loogootee Properties, LLC, of Martin County, Indiana, Lots Numbered 6, 7, and 8 in Block "B" in the Loogootee Land Company's Addition to the Town, now City of Loogootee, Indiana. Also, a part of a platted unimproved vacated street, being a tract of land 30 feet north and south by 130 feet east and west, lying adjacent to and immediately south of Lot 8 in Block "B" in the Loogootee Land Company's Addition to the Town, now City of Loogootee, Indiana.

Consula Kay Reeder to C. Darryl Logsdon, of Martin County, Indiana. Tract B Lot 146 in the Town of Crane in Martin

County, Indiana. Tract B in Lot 147 in Town of Crane in Martin County, Indiana.

Tract B in Lot 148 in Town of Crane in Martin County, Indiana.

Richard A. Jones, of Martin County, Indiana to **Lawrence E. Bridgewater**, of Martin County, Indiana, Lot Number 10 in Clark's Addition to the Town, now City of Loogootee, Indiana.

Elmer Bates, Jr. and James Alan Bates, of Letcher County, Kentucky to **Amy Quinn-Watson**, of Martin County, Indiana, a part of the west half of the west half of the northwest quarter of the northwest quarter of Section 21, Township 3 North, Range 3 West, containing one acre, more or less.

Gregory L. Warren, of Martin County, Indiana to **Gregory L. Warren and Linda L. Warren**, of Martin County, Indiana, Lot Number 38 in Cray's Addition to the Town, now City of Loogootee, Indiana.

Kenneth Schrock and Lawrence Carpenter, of Martin County, Indiana to **Kenneth Schrock and Hannah Schrock**, of Martin County, Indiana, a part of the southwest quarter of the northeast quarter of Section 1, Township 3 North, Range 3 West, lying in Halbert Township, Martin County, Indiana, containing 5 acres, more or less.

Jail bookings

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 2

10:37 a.m. - Alford Houchins, of French Lick, was arrested by Martin County Deputy Baker on preliminary charge of possession of marijuana.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 5

9:27 p.m. - Darrin Boyd, of Shoals, was arrested by Martin County Major Burkhardt on preliminary charge of disorderly conduct.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 7

5:58 p.m. - Bruce Machmer, of Loogootee, was arrested by Martin County Deputy Baker on a Martin County warrant.

6:25 p.m. - Robert Iams, of Montgomery, was arrested by Loogootee City Captain of Police Akles on preliminary charge of theft.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 9

5:53 p.m. - Kim Fisher, 36, of Shoals, and Nathan Truelove, 18, of Shoals, were arrested by Conservation Office Tony Mann and Sheriff Deputy Baker for possession of stolen property.

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Martin County Court News

CRIMINAL CONVICTIONS AND SENTENCINGS January 23

William E. Winger, convicted operating a vehicle as an habitual traffic violator, a Class D Felony. Also convicted of operating a vehicle while intoxicated, a Class C Misdemeanor. Sentenced on count one to serve 3 years in the Indiana Department of Corrections with 1,093 days suspended and credit for 1 actual day previously served plus one day good time credit. Defendant received 1,093 days of probation. Sentenced on count two to serve 60 days in the Martin County Security Center with 58 days suspended and credit for 1 actual day previously served plus one day of good time credit. Defendant received 58 days of probation.

CRIMINAL CHARGES DISMISSED January 30

James A. Plano, invasion of privacy, a Class A Misdemeanor, dismissed; domestic battery, a Class A Misdemeanor, dismissed.
Lori Plano, invasion of privacy, a Class A Misdemeanor, dismissed; domestic battery, a Class A Misdemeanor, dismissed.

CIVIL COURT New Suits Filed January 30

Accounts Recovery Bureau, Inc. vs. Billy D. Wildman, civil collection.

January 31

Stormy Ann Hall vs. Jay C. Hall, petition for dissolution of marriage.

Our Community Bank f/k/a Owen Community Bank vs. Rufina Diamond, civil ple-

nary.

CIVIL COURT JUDGMENTS January 30

Judgment in favor of the plaintiff Crane Federal Credit Union and against the defendant Tiffany L. Phillips in the amount of \$4,678.11.

SMALL CLAIMS COURT New Suits Filed January 31

Crane Federal Credit Union vs. Rickie L. Barrett, Jr. and September D. Barrett, complaint.

Crane Federal Credit Union vs. Nicholas B. Hay, complaint.

Crane Federal Credit Union vs. Rodney G. Frazier, Jr., complaint.

Crane Federal Credit Union vs. Rosalina Vera, complaint.

Crane Federal Credit Union vs. Tyler R. Gadberry, complaint.

Crane Federal Credit Union vs. Timothy R. Braun, complaint.

Crane Federal Credit Union vs. Kevin A. Dean, complaint.

Crane Federal Credit Union vs. Courtney Sue Ann Morrison, complaint.

Crane Federal Credit Union vs. Barbara E. Medlock, complaint.

Crane Federal Credit Union vs. Jacqueline Combs, complaint.

Crane Federal Credit Union vs. Kimberly B. Betz, complaint.

SMALL CLAIMS JUDGMENTS February 3

Judgment in favor of the plaintiff Priscilla

A. McCauley and against the defendant Mindy Holt in the amount of \$394.

February 4

Judgment in favor of the plaintiff Hoosier Accounts Service and against the defendant

Michael S. Jones in the amount of \$1,066.80.

MARRIAGE LICENSES January 31

Charles E. Kirkley of Bloomfield and Donna J. Dunn of Loogootee.

Report fake jury duty calls to police

Several Indiana trial courts have alerted the Division of State Court Administration and Indiana Judicial Center to a possible scam involving fake jury duty phone calls. There have only been a few incidents, but court leaders are alerting the public in the abundance of caution.

Judges in two Indiana counties (Henry and Hamilton) recently learned residents received similar phone calls making false claims about missed jury service. The caller accused the individual of failing to appear for jury duty and offered ways to resolve the situation by appearing in court or providing financial information to pay a fine. Courts are not aware of anyone who has been harmed by revealing personal financial information.

While practices vary, Indiana courts never ask potential jurors (or those who missed jury duty) for money. Courts never ask for specific bank account numbers, credit card information or Personal Identification Numbers (PIN's) and never call jurors and pressure them to reveal personal information—especially financial information.

In Indiana, all initial contact with potential jurors is conducted in writing through the mail. A written jury summons and/or ques-

tionnaire may ask for information such as name, age, occupation, marital status, prior jury service or whether the person understands the English language.

If a person fails to appear for jury duty the judge can send the sheriff to compel the individual to attend jury selection. A judge can hold an individual in contempt and require the individual to pay a fine for failure to appear. However, none of these actions takes place over the phone.

Questions about jury service or failure to appear for jury duty should be directed to the clerk or court in the county where the individual lives. For a list of contact information see here: www.in.gov/judiciary/2794.htm. Individuals who receive what appears to be a fake jury duty phone call should alert police.

There are about 1,400 jury trials in Indiana each year. Trial and appellate court judges want to take this opportunity to thank individuals who appear in court ready to serve and those who are selected for jury duty. A series of Public Service Announcements produced in partnership with Indiana Public Broadcasting Stations showcases the importance of jury duty www.in.gov/judiciary/press/2011/0721.html.

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LOOGOOTEE HIGH SCHOOL



2014 Senior SPOTLIGHTS



KYLE CRANEY

Kyle James Craney is the son of Sue Craney and Jerry Craney. While in high school he participated in job shadowing his senior year. After graduation Kyle plans to attend Vincennes University and study diesel technology.



ALLISON LYTHGOE

Allison Nicole Lythgoe is the daughter of John and Kathy Lythgoe. During high school she was in Spanish Club all four years and in Beta Club and served as a cadet teacher her senior year. Allison plans to attend the University of Evansville and study graphic design.

Loogootee Girls' Basketball Seniors

KENEDI ROHLMAN

Kenedi plans to attend college after high school and get her undergraduate degree and go on to medical school where she will focus on obstetrics. She says she has always loved the idea of being a doctor. In 10 years she sees herself starting her career as a physician and making an impact on the world. Kenedi's most memorable moment with the Lady Lions was playing Barr-Reeve for the first time. "The intensity of competition was both inspiring and overwhelming," she said. When asked what she feels she brought to this year's team, she replied that she thinks she brings an optimistic attitude. She said it's always her intention to be upbeat and encouraging because whether they win or lose, the team still plays with a great amount of heart. Kenedi would encourage younger players to never give up on their dreams. "At the end of the day, the faith you have in yourself is all that really matters," she said.

TAYLOR HAYES

Taylor plans to go to USI after graduation and become a dental hygienist. She also says she may do some

coaching down the road. She said in 10 years she sees herself as a dental hygienist and starting a family. She said she hopes to be coaching to help kids become better athletes. Her most memorable moment playing for the Lions was her freshman and sophomore years when she got to play with Gabrielle Ritchie and the 2012 graduates. Taylor said she tried her hardest to be a leader and aid her team as a whole through her years as a player. Her advice to younger players is to work hard, have fun, and just play.

CHRISTINA ZIEGLER

Christina plans to attend college after graduation and study business. In 10 years she sees herself having a job and starting a family. Her most memorable moment on the Lady Lions was playing Barr-Reeve in the



KENEDI ROHLMAN

was both inspiring and overwhelming," she said. When asked what she feels she brought to this year's team, she replied that she thinks she brings an optimistic attitude. She said it's always her intention to be upbeat and encouraging because whether they win or lose, the team still plays with a great amount of heart. Kenedi would encourage younger players to never give up on their dreams. "At the end of the day, the faith you have in yourself is all that really matters," she said.



TAYLOR HAYES

6th grade and having three 3-pointers in the game. She said she feels she contributed to her team in more ways than one with rebounding, scoring, and trying to get the ball to the other girls so they could score. Her advice to younger players is to play with heart, to have faith in themselves, and to play with the desire to win.



CHRISTINA ZIEGLER

is to play with heart, to have faith in themselves, and to play with the desire to win.

Shoals High School 2014 SENIOR Spotlights



BRIANA WAGLER

Briana Rene Wagler was born on October 13, 1995. She is the daughter of Dan and Rene Wagler. Briana has two siblings, Emilee and Ethan Wagler. While in high school she participated in basketball, volleyball, track, IMPACCT, Spanish Club, Beta, SADD and cadet teaching. She was also class historian for four years. Briana's favorite song is Thrift Shop by Macklemore. Her favorite teachers are Mr. Dahlen and Mr. Gee. Briana plans to go to college to become an elementary teacher.



LOGAN MCCRARY

Logan James McCrary was born on May 22, 1996. He is the son of Terry and Lynn McCrary. Logan has one brother, Seth. While in high school he participated in band, media, and Rox Café. Logan's favorite song is Tin Man by The Avett Brothers. His favorite teacher is Mr. Dahlen. Logan plans to attend Vincennes University for Mechanics.



LOOGOOTEE ELEMENTARY
Breakfast
Thursday, February 13
 Cereal, muffin, fruit
Friday, February 14
 Breakfast pizza, egg, fruit
Monday, February 17
 Cheese omelet, wheat toast, fruit
Tuesday, February 18
 Biscuit and gravy, sausage patty, fruit
Wednesday, February 19
 Cereal, muffin, fruit
Lunch
Thursday, February 13
 Popcorn chicken, lettuce, corn, mixed fruit, milk
Friday, February 14
 Hamburger, French fries, broccoli dip, pineapple, milk
Monday, February 17
 Sloppy Joe, French fries, peas, peaches, milk
Tuesday, February 18
 Chicken Alfredo, tossed salad, carrots, pineapple, breadstick, milk
Wednesday, February 19
 Taco salad, refried beans, lettuce, tomatoes, applesauce, milk

Chicken Alfredo or pizza, tossed salad, carrots, pineapple, breadstick, salad plate, milk
Wednesday, February 19
 Taco salad or pizza, refried beans, lettuce, tomatoes, applesauce, salad plate, milk

LOOGOOTEE INTERMEDIATE AND JR./SR. HIGH SCHOOL
Lunch
Thursday, February 13
 Popcorn chicken or pizza, lettuce, corn, mixed fruit, salad plate, milk
Friday, February 14
 Hamburger or pizza, French fries, broccoli dip, pineapple, salad plate, milk
Monday, February 17
 Sloppy Joe or pizza, French fries, peas, peaches, salad plate, milk
Tuesday, February 18

SHOALS SCHOOLS
Breakfast
Thursday, February 13
 Cereal, graham cracker snack, fruit, juice, milk
Friday, February 14
 Yogurt parfait, fruit, juice, milk
Monday, February 17
 Muffin top, fruit, juice, milk
Tuesday, February 18
 Cereal, granola bar, fruit, juice, milk
Wednesday, February 19
 Mini pancakes, fruit, juice, milk
Lunch
Thursday, February 13
 Fajita chicken, brown rice, broccoli and cheese, pears, milk; choice 4th-12th grades: deli wrap or chef salad
Friday, February 14
 Whole grain Bosco sticks with marinara sauce, jicama sticks and grape tomatoes with ranch dip, fresh apple, milk
Monday, February 17
 Breaded chicken sandwich with whole grain bun, salad boat, green beans, peaches, milk
Tuesday, February 18
 Country fried steak, mashed potatoes, applesauce, honey wheat roll, milk; choice 4th-12th grades: sausage pizza or chef salad
Wednesday, February 19
 Chicken nuggets, baked hash browns, fresh broccoli with ranch dip, pears, milk; choice 4th-12th grades: ham and cheese sandwich or chef salad



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HAPPY 13TH BIRTHDAY ON FEBRUARY 13TH

Dr. Bucshon invites high school students to enter congressional STEM competition

On Tuesday, Congressman Larry Bucshon, a physician from Southern Indiana, announced he is inviting high school students in Indiana's Eighth District to participate in, "The House STEM APP Challenge," his first annual Congressional Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) Academic Competition. The competition is designed to engage student's creativity and encourage their participation in STEM education fields through the process of creating and exhibiting a software application, or "app," for mobile, tablet, or computer devices on a platform of their choice.

"As someone who was active in science as a student, I'm excited to invite eighth district students to participate in our inaugural STEM Challenge," said Bucshon. "In my role as chairman of the subcommittee on research and technology, I've worked extensively on ways to encourage our young adults to pursue fields related to science, technology, engineering, and math. This competition is an exciting and challenging opportunity for students to engage in innovative, fun activities that will prepare them to be future leaders in these industries. We have the best and brightest students right here in the Southern Indiana

Purdue announces degree recipients, honor students

About 14,800 Purdue University students earned academic honors for the fall 2013 semester.

To earn honors, students must have had at least a 3.5 semester or cumulative GPA on a four-point scale.

Students from Martin County receiving honors were:

Carla Sue Smith of Loogootee attending the TSW-Vincennes campus

Curtis Ryan Slaubaugh, of Loogootee, attending the West Lafayette campus

Colton Michael Gann, of Shoals, attending the West Lafayette campus

Purdue University awarded about 3,400 degrees to students following the fall semester. One Martin County resident received a degree: Kaylee Lane Hastings of Loogootee, Bachelor of Science at the School of Nursing.

and I look forward to reviewing their great work."

The challenge is open to all high school students in Indiana's Eighth District. Students entering the competition must create an account on www.challengepost.com and submit their app's source code online by 11:59 PM Eastern Daylight Time on April 30, 2014, as well as provide a YouTube or VIMEO video demo explaining their app and what they learned through the competition process.

The submissions will be judged by a panel from Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology in Terre Haute, Indiana and the winner will be featured on the U.S. House of Representatives website and displayed in an exhibit in the U.S. Capitol.

Participants can access the application packet at http://bucshon.house.gov/sites/bucshon.house.gov/files/Eighth%20District%20App%20Challenge%20Packet_0.pdf and review more extensive directions and information at www.bucshon.house.gov/STEMchallenge.

BACKGROUND:

Most recently, Dr. Bucshon held a hearing about how private sector organizations can assist with the engagement and retention of America's youth in STEM related careers. Bucshon invited Dr. Phillip Cornwell, vice president of academic affairs at Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology, to provide testimony before the House Subcommittee on Research and Technology.

Furthermore, in March of 2013, Dr. Bucshon also held a hearing to examine industry and non-profit philanthropic science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) education initiatives. One of the key witnesses Bucshon invited to give testimony was Dr. Vince Bertram, President and CEO of Project Lead the Way (PLTW) and former Superintendent of the Evansville Vanderburgh School Corporation (EVSC).



-Photo provided

Students of the month

Loogootee Elementary Students and Staff Member of the Month have been chosen. They are kindergarten-Caitlyn Meade, first grade-Hannah Venters, second grade-Alivia Willis, third grade-Caitlin Carrico, fourth grade-Kyndal Braun, and staff member-Brenda Mathies. Students have been chosen by their teachers because they possess positive character qualities of respect, caring, integrity, responsibility, and self-discipline as well as their perfect or outstanding attendance for the month of January, no detentions or loss of recess for behavior issues, they exhibit good effort daily, and they also work well with classmates with a cooperative attitude. These students serve as excellent role models for other students in our school! The staff member of the month is nominated by the Loogootee Elementary Staff.

Preview campus life at a PreVU visitation day

Finding the right college is just as important as finding the best college. And the most effective way to find out if a college is the right fit is to visit the campus, ask questions, and gather as much information as possible.

High school students and their parents can preview college life at Vincennes University by attending any spring PreVU visitation day. PreVU Days are scheduled for February 22, March 21, 22, April 4, 5, 25, 26.

Each PreVU Day will provide opportunities to tour the campus and meet with faculty, staff, and students. And there will be

sessions about the college application process, financial aid, scholarships, student services, academics, and housing.

Check-in is at 8:30 a.m. (EST) at the Beckes Student Union located on Second Street at Indianapolis Avenue. Walking tours of campus will follow the information sessions. The program is free and lunch is provided with advance registration.

Registration can be completed online at www.vinu.edu/preview. For more information, or to register by phone, interested persons can call the VU Admissions Office toll-free at 800-742-9198. Local callers can reach the admissions office at 812-888-4313.

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In the Garden

By Ralph Purkhiser
Purdue University Master Gardener

It is planting time. If you have a covered cold frame where the soil is workable, it is traditional to plant lettuce on Valentine's Day. Of course, with the weather we have been having, planting outside otherwise would be impossible. The ground is frozen and even if we get some top thaw, the ground will be too wet for working. Still, even if you do not hit the traditional day, it is good to start cool season crops as soon as possible. Cover your planting beds with a frame made from old windows or use a commercial bed cover. On warm days, open it up, but be sure to close it at night and on days when temperatures stay below freezing. I am not sure that anything tastes better than that first fresh salad of the season and getting started early means that the harvest will also be early.

Inside, it is time to start pepper plants and other warm-season crops whose seeds require an extended germination period. Germination of pepper seeds may take three weeks or longer, so patience is key. The seeds of peppers are relatively large and using tweezers or a suction seed planter, it is easy to plant the seeds in individual pots instead of sowing them in flats. That will mean the plant will not have to be transplanted as early and will avoid transplant shock. Use a sterile seed starting medium which is available at most garden centers. Fill the individual containers about two-thirds full and press it down. If the medium is dry, it is good to wet it down before planting, but be careful not to pack the soil down too much. Put one or two seeds in each pot and cover them with more of the planting mix. Wet the top and allow the water to soak in.

In the ground, pepper seeds will not germinate until the soil temperature tops seventy degrees at the depth of four inches. Seeds started indoors will also benefit from warmth from the bottom. If you are planning to start seeds often, invest in a germination mat. These electric mats are waterproof and will not overheat. Most have a metal cage to actually raise the tray containing the seed pots slightly above the

mat itself. If buying a mat is not in your budget, there are some alternatives. Try placing the tray on top of the refrigerator or some other appliance that will supply the needed heat. I have placed seed trays over the pilot lights of gas ranges and on shelves well above wood stoves. It is important that the medium not be allowed to dry out during this period, so covering the pots with plastic or creating a tent for the tray will help hold in moisture. It may be necessary to spray the pots several times a day to keep the moisture level high enough for germination.

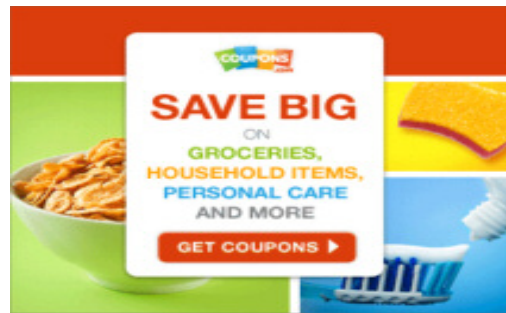
At this early time, light is not really important to germination of pepper seeds, but as soon as the seedlings emerge, the tiny plants will need light. If you are hoping to rely only on natural light from a window, make sure it has exposure to the south and receives light for several hours a day. You will also need to rotate the tray often to prevent the seedlings from growing toward the light. If you do not have a good window, you may use grow lights. The artificial lighting needs to be close to the plants. It is best to have lights that can be raised and lowered, and keep the light source about two inches above the plants.

You may also want to start a few early tomatoes at this time, but I would keep that to just a few. Tomatoes generally germinate and develop more quickly than peppers, and would need to be transplanted several times before it is safe to plant them in the garden. That is not too hard to do with a few plants, but if you have several, it could be quite a chore. I prefer to wait until March to plant tomato seeds.

I want to remind gardeners that Saturday, February 15 is the early registration deadline for the popular Hoosier Hillside Master Gardeners Spring Tonic, scheduled for March 1. You will save \$5 for registering early. Mail your check for \$35 to Nancy Kimmel, 723 N. County Road 500 E. Paoli, IN 47454. Spring Tonic is a day-long event featuring garden-related speakers, vendors, good food and fellowship with fellow gardeners. Come join me for a great day.

fees and program locations are available at www.agecon.purdue.edu/extension/programs/index.asp or by contacting the Purdue Extension offices in the host counties of Harrison, Posey and Pike. Forms and fees should be mailed to the Purdue Extension office of the host county.

For more information, contact Harrison at harrisog@purdue.edu; toll-free at 888-EXT-INFO (398-4636), ext. 44214; or directly at 765-494-4216.



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Fish limits on West Boggs Creek Reservoir will be relaxed

Anglers at West Boggs Creek Reservoir in Daviess County will be allowed to harvest more fish starting Saturday, February 8.

The reservoir will undergo a renovation during fall that will consist of draining the water and eradicating the fish population. As the reservoir refills, it will be stocked with the appropriate numbers of game fish. The goal is to restore a balanced, self-sustaining fish population.

A temporary change to size and bag limits will allow anglers to harvest more fish be-

fore the lake is drained. The rule change is in effect from February 8 to October 10.

The bag limit for largemouth bass on West Boggs will increase to 10, and there will be no size limit. Bag limits for all other species will be double the normal daily bag limit.

Two fish salvage operations will also take place in spring and fall for adult bass and catfish.

The lake is scheduled to reopen to the public in February 2015.

DNR offers beginning turkey hunting workshops in March

Registration is open for a DNR workshop series at two locations in March that will teach how to hunt wild turkey.

"Hunt, Fish, Eat: Wild Turkey" is part of the ongoing "Hunt, Fish, Eat" program that is run by the DNR Division of Fish & Wildlife and teaches self-reliance. The program is free.

Installments of the workshop series are March 15, 20 and 27 at Kankakee Fish & Wildlife Area in North Judson and March 18, 25 and 29 at Morgan-Monroe State Forest in Martinsville.

All weeknight sessions will run from 6 to 9 p.m., and Saturday sessions will run from noon to 3 p.m., local time. Location specifics will be provided to registered participants.

Completing the program requires attending each of the three sessions.

Participants must be new hunters.

The program will focus on laws and regulations, firearms and safety, locating a hunting spot, tracking and field dressing your harvest, and handling and preparing your turkey for the table. Each session will include an opportunity to sample wild turkey recipes and examine hunting gear and resources.

All equipment is provided. Space is limited, so hunters are encouraged to register early at wildlife.IN.gov/7548.htm.

For more information, contact Amanda Wuestefeld, Hoosier Outdoor Heritage coordinator with DNR Division of Fish & Wildlife, at (317) 234-8442 or awuestefeld@dnr.IN.gov.

Purdue agricultural economist: Farm bill process far from over

BY JENNIFER STEWART
Purdue University News Service

While Congress has agreed on a long-debated and much-anticipated farm bill, a Purdue Extension agricultural economist says the process of interpreting and finalizing specifics of the law is far from complete.

The \$956.4 billion bill immediately eliminates direct payments for all commodities except cotton and instead offers farmers an enhanced safety net that includes insurance revisions and higher base-price levels - or the crop price at which farmers could claim payment. A vast majority of the bill's cost - about 75 percent - is in nutrition programs, while 15 percent goes to commodities and the rest divided up among conservation programs, university research and risk management for specialty crops.

The Senate passed the bill Tuesday (February 4) following House approval a week earlier. Although the bill will become law when the president signs it, there are still many specifics to work out. Roman Keeney, who specializes in agricultural policy, said the U.S. Department of Agriculture will be left to analyze and interpret what is included in the bill's more than 900 pages. The department will then be charged with writing the rules that determine how the farm bill will be implemented.

"The process of making law goes well beyond what is actually written into the law," Keeney said. "Agencies, in this case the USDA, will have a big role to play in setting out the very specific rules that will de-

termine how the programs look when farmers go in and participate."

As part of the bill, farmers will now have the opportunity to choose between Agricultural Risk Coverage (ARC) or Price Loss Coverage (PLC), depending on which program best suits individual farms. Along with that decision will come options for varying degrees of crop insurance coverage and other supplemental programs to protect farmers from yield and revenue losses.

"One of the things this farm bill does is greatly increase farmer options," Keeney said. "Farmers now have a suite of programs. They will have to make some decisions, and they will have to make those decisions for a five-year time frame. They are going to have to look at a lot of information about their farms and the different options and think about which policy options will pay them the best over the next five years."

Some of what will help farmers decide is their experience with crop insurance. Because farmers, especially in the Midwest, make complex decisions annually about crop coverage, Keeney said they would have some familiarity with the process even with the new options.

As the USDA digests the new bill and works through rule writing, Keeney said it's important for those affected by the bill to keep a close eye on how its various components develop.

"We just want to encourage people who have been watching the farm bill this long to know that the process is ongoing," he said. "There will be ways for them to participate, and they will have to start engaging. If you're impacted by the farm bill, you need to follow it and try to understand what your options are and how your decisions will be affected."

Purdue Extension to host series on farm law and taxes

BY EMMA HOPKINS
Purdue University News Service

Purdue Extension will offer three February programs covering selected topics on farm law and taxes, as well as business and estate planning.

The Farm Law and Taxes with Estate and Business Transfer Planning programs take place in February and will be presented by Gerry Harrison, Purdue Extension agricultural economist and member of the Indiana Bar Association.

The programs are intended for farmers and farmland owners. Indiana accountants, lawyers and insurance providers also are invited to attend and can receive continuing education credit of 5 or more hours. Members of the Kentucky Bar also can earn CLE credit by individual application.

Program sponsors are Purdue University Department of Agricultural Economics and the Purdue Extension offices in Harrison, Posey and Pike counties.

Program dates and cities:
* February 19-20: 6:30-9:40 p.m. (EST) both days, Corydon.

* February 20: from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. (CST), Poseyville.

* February 21: from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. (EST), Petersburg.

Registration by February 18 is required to attend any of the workshops. Registration forms with more information, including

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Purdue agronomists seek collaborators for on-farm trials

BY JENNIFER STEWART
Purdue University News Service

Two Purdue Extension agronomists are seeking farmers who are willing to collaborate in on-farm, field-scale research trials to study corn plant populations and nitrogen management.

Corn specialist Bob Nielsen and soil fertility specialist Jim Camberato have been studying corn yield response to nitrogen fertilizer in field-scale trials for eight years, and plant populations for 13. Between the two projects, they have accumulated a database of results from about 275 such trials - the majority of which have been conducted in collaboration with growers on their fields, using their equipment.

"Even though we have a large database of trial results, we believe there is more to be learned from continuing these field-scale trials," Nielsen said. "Yield responses to both of these crop inputs are often influenced by growing conditions and conducting more trials helps us sample a wider set of growing conditions."

While both studies need more trials in general, the nitrogen management research especially needs more sandy (irrigated or non-irrigated) trial sites.

The size of on-farm trials tends to range from 30 to 80 acres, with some as large as 200 acres. Nielsen said fields do not need to be uniform and that growing condition variability actually helps researchers evaluate nitrogen rates and plant populations in a more realistic environment.

Nielsen and Camberato plan and design the trials and provide the information to collaborators. They will provide plot flags when necessary and will complete all data analysis. Local Purdue Extension educators also will play an active role in the trials.

In addition to providing useful data for farmers statewide, the trials can offer extra benefit to a collaborator's bottom line.

"On-farm research is a great way to evaluate the merits of agronomic practices on growers' own farms, under their own conditions and management practices," Nielsen said. "We are convinced that growers can accurately identify the ballpark optimum nitrogen rates and plant populations for their farming conditions after collaborating with us for two or three years."

Farmers interested in participating in the trials can get more information by contacting their local Purdue Extension Agriculture and Natural Resources educators. They also can visit directly with Nielsen at 765-494-4802, nielsen@purdue.edu or Camberato at 765-496-9338, jcambera@purdue.edu.

Nielsen and Camberato's most recent plant population and nitrogen research updates are available on Purdue Agronomy's Chat 'n Chew Café website:

* Nitrogen Management Guidelines for Indiana.

* Yield Response of Corn to Plant Population in Indiana.

Both the nitrogen management and plant population research projects have been supported in recent years, in part, by the Indiana Corn Marketing Council.

Purdue expert: Livestock producers can lower propane use

BY JENNIFER STEWART
Purdue University News Service

Farmers who rely on propane to heat livestock facilities can take steps to use the increasingly costly fuel more efficiently - and without making expensive capital investments, a Purdue University specialist says.

The liquid propane, or LP, used for heating many confined livestock barns has been in short supply and high demand amid the frigid Midwestern winter. That has translated to the recent high price of propane.

According to Al Heber, professor of agricultural and biological engineering, the place to start for more efficient use of propane in barns is the thermostat.

"Lowering the temperature set point for heating might be a good first plan of attack because it is quick and effective if it can be reduced without creating unhealthy conditions for the animals or birds," he said. "Livestock and poultry producers need to judge animal comfort as they lower the temperature."

One way to gauge animal comfort in hogs, for example, is to observe whether they are huddling in groups for warmth. Heber said this behavior means the animals are too cold.

Another way to be more efficient with the heating thermostat is to understand how animals tolerate temperature. An example is nursery hogs, which can tolerate a 10-degree drop in housing temperature at night.

Producers also need to monitor the heating and ventilation control systems in their facilities to make sure the winter fans aren't competing with the heaters. Ventilation fans with rates greater than what is required for humidity control function as a cooling system. If the ventilation system senses the air temperature getting too warm, it will draw in more cold air. If the heating system senses air temperatures getting too cold, however, it will continue putting out heat.

When the systems compete, they waste propane. Heber said care must be taken to keep this from happening.

"A failure to interlock the heater and the second stage of ventilation can cause a tremendous waste of propane," he said. "A

quick audit of the barns should be conducted to make sure this isn't happening."

In this same vein, Heber said producers should assess whether the minimum winter airflow rate in the barn is much greater than the recommended minimum ventilation rate and can be safely decreased. The minimum ventilation rate refers to the base rate at which the system adequately controls humidity and ammonia at safe levels.

"Over-ventilating the building in cold weather will increase propane use to unnecessary levels," he said. "Over-ventilating by 10 percent can increase annual LP consumption by 27 percent, according to research at Iowa State University."

Other ways for producers to use propane more efficiently involve building maintenance. Ventilation air inlets need to be properly maintained, and air leaks should be eliminated.

Producers can assess the efficiency of their facilities by having an on-farm energy audit. During an energy audit, professionals come out to the farm and look at where facility improvements could be made. They outline savings-to-investment ratios for implementing those improvements, whether that's as simple as caulking areas of air leaks or as investment-heavy as adding heat exchangers.

Purdue Extension energy specialist Chad Martin conducts on-farm energy audits and can be contacted for more information at 765-496-3964 or martin95@purdue.edu.

Martin said farmers could apply for grants to offset the costs of the audits and farm energy efficiency improvements. The U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Development offers the Rural Energy for America Program - or REAP - to provide assistance with energy efficiency improvement projects. The USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service offers Environmental Quality Incentives programs, and many utility companies also offer rebate incentives.

Livestock producers with questions about environmental control, energy efficiency and air quality in their facilities can contact Heber at 765-494-1214 or heber@purdue.edu.



Beautiful duck

-Photo by David Whorrall

This is a male Hooded Merganser spotted on the White River near Shoals. Hooded Mergansers find their prey underwater by sight. They can actually change the refractive properties of their eyes to improve their underwater vision. In addition, they have an extra eyelid, called a "nictitating membrane," which is transparent and helps protect the eye during swimming, like a pair of goggles.

Purdue Extension launches website on propane gas shortage

BY KEITH ROBINSON
Purdue University News Service

Purdue Extension has created a website to help homeowners and renters conserve propane gas and use it more efficiently in heating their homes as a shortage of the fuel continues.

The objective of the Extension Disaster Education Network website, launched Monday, February 10, is to show how propane users can stretch their supply while at the same time free up more of the fuel for those who need it most.

"We want people to know that this crisis isn't just about them; it's also about their neighbors," said Abby Hostetler, an EDEN communications specialist who provided the information on the website. "We're encouraging users that if their tank is at least 30 percent of capacity to let others who might need propane more get it. So conserve what you have rather than rush to get more."

The website is at <https://ag.purdue.edu/extension/eden/Pages/Propane-Conservation.aspx>.

Propane users have been dealing with a shortage since early January in much of the U.S., leading to escalating prices, rationing of supplies and calls for customers to conserve what little gas they could get from suppliers. Bitter-cold weather, often well below zero in some regions, has made it especially difficult for them to make do with less gas to heat their homes.

Steven Cain of Brookston, Indiana, EDEN homeland security project director, uses propane gas to heat his home. He noted that the price of propane, also known as LP gas, has risen from a fall contract rate of about \$1.50 a gallon for 1,000 gallons in his area to a pay-as-you-go rate of more than \$4 a gallon. Customers can get only partial refills because of the rationing.

"At the end of January, we received a letter from our supplier telling us to be prepared to seek alternative heating," he said. "We are watching the LP tank gauge very closely, conserving as much as we can and hoping to make it through February."

Among EDEN's conservation tips, which also apply to other home-heating systems:

* Reduce use of kitchen fans, bathroom fans and other ventilating fans, which pull air out of rooms. Leaving a fan on too long will result in more fuel being used to heat the home.

* Bundle up inside and wear multiple layers of clothing. That will help to retain natural body heat, allowing you to lower the thermostat.



A propane gas tank surrounded by snow sits on an Indiana property. This tank, like many others, is low on propane because of a shortage of the fuel, which is used in home heating. (Purdue Agricultural Communication photo/Steven Cain)

* Turn down the thermostat at night and when you are away. Do not turn off the heating system. That could cause pipes to freeze.

Significant energy savings can be achieved with each degree the thermostat setting is reduced, said Al Heber, Purdue University professor of agricultural and biological engineering. In addition to wearing more clothing and using extra blankets, he said people can take several other steps to increase comfort when the thermostat is lowered, including:

* Putting rugs on bare floors.
* Humidifying the air.
* Trying zone heating where possible by turning down or shutting off the heat in unused rooms.

"A very cold and windy day is a good time to check for cold drafts due to air leakage around doors, windows, electrical fixtures and other openings in the exposed walls and ceilings of the home," Heber said. "Mark the locations where you feel cold air and seal up these drafts, even temporarily, until a permanent seal can be installed. Such seals would include caulking, weather stripping, and door and window replacements."

Heber said inefficient heating and lack of insulation - or improperly installed insulation - can result in 50-100 percent more heat energy use than necessary.

A thorough energy audit by a qualified professional can help homeowners determine the benefit of new windows, insulation or equipment compared with the cost, Heber said.

"Such a professional would have sophisticated tools to measure and detect air infiltration and leakage of the house, heating duct leakage into unheated spaces, insulation levels and gas leaks," he said. "They can also check the home for water, moisture and safety issues."

National unemployment stood at 6.6 percent for January

Total nonfarm payroll employment rose by 113,000 in January, and the unemployment rate was little changed at 6.6 percent, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported last week. Employment grew in construction, manufacturing, wholesale trade, and mining.

Household Survey Data

Both the number of unemployed persons, at 10.2 million, and the unemployment rate, at 6.6 percent, changed little in January. Since October, the jobless rate has decreased by 0.6 percentage point.

Among the major worker groups, the unemployment rates for adult men (6.2 percent), adult women (5.9 percent), teenagers (20.7 percent), whites (5.7 percent), blacks (12.1 percent), and Hispanics (8.4 percent) showed little change in January. The jobless rate for Asians was 4.8 percent (not seasonally adjusted), down by 1.7 percentage points over the year.

The number of long-term unemployed (those jobless for 27 weeks or more), at 3.6 million, declined by 232,000 in January. These individuals accounted for 35.8 percent of the unemployed. The number of long-term unemployed has declined by 1.1 million over the year.

After accounting for the annual adjustment to the population controls, the civilian labor force rose by 499,000 in January, and the labor force participation rate edged up to 63.0 percent. Total employment, as measured by the household survey, increased by 616,000 over the month, and the employment-population ratio increased by 0.2 percentage point to 58.8 percent.

The number of persons employed part time for economic reasons (sometimes referred to as involuntary part-time workers) fell by 514,000 to 7.3 million in January. These individuals were working part time because their hours had been cut back or because they were unable to find full-time work.

In January, 2.6 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 837,000 discouraged workers in January, about unchanged from a year earlier. Discouraged workers are persons not currently looking for work because they believe no jobs are available for them. The remaining 1.8 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 increased by 113,000 in January. In 2013, employment growth averaged 194,000 per month. In January, job gains occurred in construction, manufacturing, wholesale trade, and mining. (See table B-1.)

Construction added 48,000 jobs over the month, more than offsetting a decline of 22,000 in December. In January, job gains occurred in both residential and nonresidential building (+13,000 and +8,000, respectively) and in nonresidential specialty trade contractors (+13,000). Heavy and civil engineering construction also added 10,000 jobs.

Employment in manufacturing increased in January (+21,000). Over the month, job gains occurred in machinery (+7,000), wood products (+5,000), and motor vehicles and parts (+5,000). Manufacturing added an average of 7,000 jobs per month in 2013.

In January, wholesale trade added 14,000 jobs, with most of the increase occurring in

nondurable goods (+10,000).

Mining added 7,000 jobs in January, compared with an average monthly gain of 2,000 jobs in 2013.

Employment in professional and business services continued to trend up in January (+36,000). The industry added an average of 55,000 jobs per month in 2013. Within the industry, professional and technical services added 20,000 jobs in January.

Leisure and hospitality employment continued to trend up over the month (+24,000). Job growth in the industry averaged 38,000 per month in 2013.

Employment in health care was essentially unchanged in January for the second consecutive month. Health care added an average of 17,000 jobs per month in 2013.

Employment in retail trade changed little in January (-13,000). Within the industry, sporting goods, hobby, book, and music stores lost 22,000 jobs, offsetting job gains in the prior 3 months. In January, motor vehicle and parts dealers added 7,000 jobs.

In January, federal government employment decreased by 12,000; the U.S. Postal Service accounted for most of this decline (-9,000).

Employment in other major industries, including transportation and warehousing, information, and financial activities, showed little or no change over the month.

In January, the average workweek for all employees on private nonfarm payrolls was unchanged at 34.4 hours. The manufacturing workweek declined by 0.2 hour to 40.7 hours, and factory overtime edged down by 0.1 hour to 3.4 hours. The average workweek for production and nonsupervisory employees on private nonfarm payrolls was unchanged at 33.5 hours.

Average hourly earnings for all employees on private nonfarm payrolls rose by 5 cents to \$24.21. Over the year, average hourly earnings have risen by 46 cents, or 1.9 percent. In January, average hourly earnings of private-sector production and nonsupervisory employees increased by 6 cents to \$20.39.

The change in total nonfarm payroll employment for November was revised from +241,000 to +274,000, and the change for December was revised from +74,000 to +75,000. With these revisions, employment gains in November and December were 34,000 higher than previously reported. Monthly revisions result from additional reports received from businesses since the last published estimates and the monthly recalculation of seasonal factors. The annual benchmark process also contributed to the revisions in this news release.

Rural areas need new 'pioneers' to lead economic development

BY KEITH ROBINSON
Purdue University News Service

Leaders in rural areas must take risks, innovate and become the "pioneers of the 21st century" for their communities to prosper, the director of Purdue Extension says in an online series about challenges and opportunities facing rural Indiana.

"The rural areas have resources and value to offer; they may just need to be packaged differently today," Jason Henderson says in Part 4 of a weekly series on the website of *Agricultures*, a magazine of the Purdue University Department of Agricultural Communication.

Henderson has extensive background in rural life and economic development. He grew up on a farm in Iowa, earned master's and doctoral degrees in agricultural economics from Purdue, and before returning to Purdue in May 2013 was a Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City vice president who led the bank's agricultural and rural outreach and research programs.

Henderson says in the article that Purdue Extension can assist rural America in mak-

The Messmer Report

By District 63 State Representative
Mark Messmer



Halfway through the 2014 session

This week marks week five of ten of the 2014 legislative session. So far, we have passed 146 bills out of the House.

On Monday, that number increased dramatically because it was our third reading deadline. After the third reading deadline, bills that have been approved on final passage switch houses; House bills go to the Senate for further debate and vice versa. Bills that haven't been approved die.

This week, I would like to share with you two of the bills that passed the House on Monday with bipartisan support. One of those bills is House Bill (HB) 1222. This legislation provides an income tax credit for an individual who adopts a child. If enacted, it would allow qualifying Hoosiers to be able to get a state tax credit equal to 10 percent of the qualifying federal adoption credit amount claimed on their federal income tax return starting in 2015.

The bill also establishes an interim committee on adoption which will study how other states provide services under public adoption programs, study legal and regulatory costs associated with foster care and private adoption, and make recommendations concerning improving adoption programs.

This is an agenda item for the governor and passed unanimously out of the House. As of 2012, data from the National Conference of State Legislatures shows that at least 13 other states offered adoption tax credits. Another 10 offered some form of a deduction. There are many children in need of a good home, and this legislation will hopefully simplify the process and lower the costs of adoption in Indiana.

The second bill deals with a topic we have debated for quite some time in the Indiana

Legislature: motor driven cycles (MCDs), or, as they are better known, mopeds. By establishing license and registration requirements, HB 1343 not only holds MCD operators accountable but also keeps other motorists safe.

This bill clearly defines and differentiates between Class A and Class B MCDs. Class A refers to those that have a cylinder capacity of 50 cubic centimeters (cc) or greater, and Class B are those with a capacity of less than 50cc. In both cases, owners must register the cycle with the Bureau of Motor Vehicles and display a license plate, however in order to operate a Class A cycle, you must also hold a valid driver's license and have insurance.

I believe this bill strikes a great balance, because not only will this increase safety and give law enforcement more tools to accurately access penalties, but it will also allow those who have had their driving privileges temporarily suspended to use a Class B MDC. This will ensure that people are still able to get to work, support their families and turn their situation around.

On Tuesday, the day after the third reading deadline, we returned to the Statehouse for a very brief session where we handed down a bill list containing the first 40 bills to come over from the Senate.

Our next day of session is not until Monday, February 10. While I am eager to dive into debate on a whole new round of bills, I also welcome this short break as it affords me more time back home in our district. I look forward to the added time with my family and the opportunity to recharge before heading back to Indianapolis for the final stretch.

Rep. Messmer (R-Jasper) represents portions of Daviess, Dubois, Pike and Martin counties.

Senate Democratic leaders vote to oppose HJR 3

The Senate Rules and Legislative Procedure Committee on Monday voted 8-4 to send House Joint Resolution (HJR) 3, an amendment to place Indiana's existing law banning same-sex marriage into the state's constitution, to the full Senate for consideration. Committee members from the Indiana Senate Democratic Caucus voted in unison to oppose the amendment and issued the following statement:

Senate Democratic Leader Tim Lanane (D-Anderson):

"I'm certain if the Senate is guided by the principles of fairness and decency, and what's in the best interest of the future of Indiana, discrimination will ultimately be defeated.

Indiana, discrimination will ultimately be defeated.

"This debate affects the lives of our neighbors, the lives of our friends, the lives of Hoosiers.

"It's time to listen. Nearly 60 percent of those folks oppose locking discrimination into our constitution."

Assistant Senate Democratic Leader Jean D. Breaux (D-Indianapolis):

"Strong communities are the cornerstone of a thriving economy. Strong communities are not built by limiting the rights of some. They are instead founded on the notion that every Hoosier has the opportunity to pursue happiness."

Senate Democratic Caucus Chair Jim Arnold (D-LaPorte):

"If job creation is job one, why then are we making it more difficult for some of Indiana's top employers to recruit and retain top talent?"

"What sort of signal does locking intolerance into our state's guiding document send to prospective employers? To future generations?"

Senate Democratic Caucus Whip Lindell Hume (D-Princeton):

"Real leadership is standing up for what's right. Real leadership recognizes the value of setting aside this divisive amendment and focusing on issues that bring our state together."

For more information on the Indiana Senate Democratic Caucus agenda or other State Senate business, call 1-800-382-9467 or visit www.senatedemocrats.in.gov.

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The Mayor's Den

By Loogootee Mayor Noel Harty



A new year! Starting with this Den, I am going to say a few words about a different city employee each month, beginning with Mike Taylor. Mike is a 1974 graduate of LHS and has always been an avid Lions fan. In the 26 years he has worked for the city, Mike has worked in the wastewater and the water and street departments. He currently serves as foreman for the departments and enjoys his new position. Mike is married to Janice (Wildman) Taylor who works for the Southern Indiana Development Commission, and they have one daughter, Miranda, who is a freshman at Vincennes University. Mike is a real asset for our city.



MIKE TAYLOR
City of Loogootee employee

New Year's Day was spent mostly reflecting on last year and looking towards our new year. I spent most of Thursday the 2nd and Friday the 3rd in the office. In the evening of the 3rd, I watched two very exciting games of play at Jack Butcher Arena. Both the varsity and junior varsity played very well with great effort and enthusiasm from both teams – although neither game ended the way we all wanted. Saturday the 4th the third and fourth grade Lions played in tournament action at North Daviess. The 3rd grade came in first place while the 4th came in second. Congratulations to both teams.

we have both these knowledgeable individuals working with us to complete this essential task. Thursday evening, I headed back to Jack Butcher Arena to watch our Lady Lions take on the Wood Memorial Lady Trojans. Friday the 10th, Department of Public Works Superintendent Bo Wilson, Foreman Mike Taylor, and I met with president of Midwestern Engineers, Richard Burch, to discuss a storm water grant the city is pursuing. That evening, I watched the junior varsity and varsity boys' basketball teams take on the Cougars of North Daviess at Jack Butcher Arena, both exciting matchups. Our junior varsity pulled out the win while the varsity only fell short by a few points. Saturday the 11th, I had the privilege of driving our 5th and 6th grade Lady Lions to Otwell in the early morning and got to enjoy watching both matches. The 5th grade fell short in the end but played very hard. The 6th grade came up with the win while also playing very competitively.

Sunday the 5th, the temperature dropped and the snow began to fall, and I watched it from inside! We luckily didn't get all the predicted snow, but the very cold temperatures put most, if not all, area schools out of commission for the first three days of the first week back after Christmas break. Thursday the 9th, I met with John Craig and Julie Berry, of Midwestern Engineers, to discuss the process of updating our five-year comprehensive plan. I am so pleased

Monday the 13th started with the monthly school safety council meeting, this month

at Shoals School, covering many issues involving school safety. Following the meeting, I met with John Gregg with Greenbaum Doll and Associates to discuss any upcoming projects they may be able to assist with. That evening was our monthly board of works and city council meetings. Main topics of discussion were the appointments for the 2014 calendar year, department of public works issues, and the Bowling Manufacturing project. I am hoping when the weather warms up, more people will come to the monthly city council meeting and give their input. Tuesday the 14th was the quarterly Martin County Chamber of Commerce Meeting, held this quarter at Dairy Master. The main topic of discussion was this year's annual chamber dinner. That evening, I attended the monthly school board meeting. Many issues were discussed with the highlights being economic development, students' success, and staff changes. Following the chamber meeting, I attended a church meeting and finished the day by catching an exciting game of Lady Lions Varsity action. The Lady Lions played very hard the whole match which ended in overtime with only a one point deficit. Wednesday the 15th, I started the day at Loogootee Elementary performing my weekly duties with document duplication. After that, Supt. Wilson, Foreman Taylor, and I went to The Lodge for a lunch meeting with Richard Burch, President of Midwestern Engineers, to further discuss the possible storm drainage project the city is currently working on in conjunction with Rex Knight and Rhonda Rumble with SIDC. That evening was the monthly park and recreation board meeting. The main topic was the discussion of the possibility of camera installation at the park and recreation properties. Following that meeting, I headed to the Martin County Recycling Center for the monthly solid waste meeting where among other topics, we focused on reorganization and the discussion of illegal dumping.

tioning and look for ways to possibly make the department even stronger. Much discussion took place and some action was taken. Wednesday the 22nd I spent most of the day at the office. Thursday the 23rd, I met with David Sanders with Western Southern who wanted to update me on services his company continues to provide and new products now available. Friday the 24th, I drove to Bloomfield to watch the Lions Varsity and Junior Varsity boys basketball teams take on the Cardinals. The junior varsity played hard and was able to pick up a very strong win; the varsity played equally as hard but didn't come away with the win. The evening of Saturday the 28th, I watched the Lions Varsity and Junior Varsity take on the Jeeps of Northeast Dubois at Jack Butcher Arena. Both junior varsity and varsity played hard and successfully dominated the Jeeps in both matches. Sunday the 26th, was the annual "Fireman Chili Supper" at Loogootee United Methodist Church. The event turned out to be a great success and the awesome variety of soups served hit really the spot on that cold, cold day. Monday the 27th I met first thing in the morning with Amy Mings, of Harding, Shymanski and Company PSC. Miss Mings and Loogootee native Kyle Winniger are assisting us with a new fraud protection program the city is heading up. That evening, I went to the Martin County Community Building to attend the Annual Soil and Water Conservation Meeting. Individual award winners for this year's event were Dale Divine and Gene Sherfick; and the Farm Family of the Year Award went to the Gene Sherfick Family. This year's guest speaker was Bill Greene, who spoke about the History of Hindostan. Bill and his father, the late Bob Greene, have done extensive research on the location and Bill's presentation was very interesting. Tuesday the 28th, Tim Kinder, with the Alliance for Economic Development, and I met to discuss a possible project for in the near future. In the evening, I went Washington Four Rivers Red Door Facility for the quarterly Healthy Families and Four Rivers Red Door meeting. Many issues were discussed in both meeting such as facility updates, funding requirements, and staff changes. Wednesday the 29th was our first Summerfest planning meeting for this year. Many plans are already in motion to make this year's event a huge success as in years past; and we are hoping to have a lot of volunteers to help. Thursday the 30th, I met with Paula Ringwald with "Relay for Life" to discuss upcoming events planned for this year. Following that meeting, Paula and I met with Mrs. Pepper Mulherin with AT&T phone service. Mrs. Mulherin updated me on ongoing projects throughout the area. In the afternoon, Dan Myers, with German American Bank, stopped in to introduce himself as he will be working with the firm in investments. In the evening, I went back to Jack Butcher Arena to watch our Lady Lions take on the South Knox Warriors. The evening was very special as it also served as senior night for the Lady Lions. We will all truly miss seeing Taylor Hayes, Kenedi Rohlman, and Christina Ziegler on the floor next year, and wish each and every one of them the best in all they do in the future. Unfortunately although the Lady Lions played very hard in both games, they weren't where they wanted to be at the end.

The evening of the 16th, I was back at Jack Butcher Arena watching our Lady Lions take on the Vincennes Rivet Patriots. The Lady Lions played very hard but were unable to stay balanced with the Patriots. I spent Friday the 17th mostly in the office working on day-to-day operations. Saturday the 18th, I headed for Jack Butcher Arena as our Lions took on the Barr Reeve Vikings – a very special evening as all members of the 1,000 point club were presented or represented by a family member to be recognized. The Lions played very hard in the evening games but the Vikings prevailed. Sunday the 19th, I attended the Farewell Reception for Fr. Joseph (Effie) Erbacher at St. John's Center. Fr. Effie has been pastor of the Martin County Catholic Churches for almost 10 years. In his time here, he worked very hard restoring all facilities back to their natural beauty while also taking on a strong financial management of the parishes. Approximately 350 persons attended to pay honor and tribute to him; and he will be missed in our community. Monday the 20th (Martin Luther King Day) I spent a great deal of the day thinking about how far we have come as a society and all of the positive effects Martin Luther King achieved in his short life that made the world a much better place to live. That evening I watched the Loogootee Lady Lions 5th and 6th grade teams take on the Jasper Wildcats, both of which were hard fought games. Tuesday the 21st was the monthly Alliance for Economic Development meeting at the Martin County Learning Center. That evening, the city council met in special session to discuss the department of public works. The purpose was to take a look at the department, compare how it was previously run to how it is currently func-

Friday the 31st, Dave Abel with IDEM stopped in to update me on some procedure changes taking place with the organization. Dave Abel is also a former Mayor of Washington. I wish each and every one of you a very blessed February. I'd also like to remind everyone to check out the Loogootee.com website for all kinds of local information. Mr. Bruce Smith owns the website and does a great job keeping it updated and fresh!

~LETTER TO THE EDITOR~

The mainstream media – my take

To the editor of the *Martin County Journal*,

Who are the "mainstream media"? I consider the "mainstream media" to be NBC, ABC, CBS, MSNBC, CNN, The New York Times and The Washington Post. There are others, but these are the main culprits. What do they do? I believe that in their bias they intentionally favor and promote the "liberal" or "progressive" side of each issue. They portray in a negative light all conservatives and the conservative viewpoint – even if they have to twist the facts. They always seem to favor any big government policy. They always seem to favor choice (i.e. abortion). They always seem to favor higher taxes and more regulation. They always seem to favor taking money from those who have earned it and giving to those who have not. They are curiously unaware of or uninterested in how this scheme of redistributing wealth is used by politicians to buy votes. They believe that if you rob Peter to pay Paul, Paul will never object. They always seem to consider the Constitution of the United States to be an impediment to progressive public policy. They favor the policies of the Obama administration to the extent they have literally begun to function as its propaganda arm. As such, they underplay or ignore scandals like Fast and Furious, Solendra, Benghazi, IRS and the

destruction of the economy through Obamacare.

Why is that bad? Well, for starters, the founding fathers believed that the media (newspapers in their day) would by their very nature be objective and expose the good and bad about all politicians to "We the People". That is extremely important in our representative form of government. If we do not know what our government is doing, we cannot vote intelligently.

How then can "We the People" get "the rest of the story" about our government's actions and policies? May I offer just a couple of suggestions for information sources that can be accessed each day free of charge. One would be to watch FOX News. FOX News, in spite of its center-right orientation makes an exhaustive effort to present both sides of each issue. Another suggestion would be to listen to Rush Limbaugh on the radio. Rush can be heard each weekday from noon to 3 p.m. on WHAS in Louisville (850 AM on your dial). In addition to being funny and very entertaining, Rush is an astute observer. He gives the conservative side of each issue – he considers that he is the balance.

I think that it is important for each of us to know both sides of each issue. What do you think?

Dennis Jones
Shoals, Indiana

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Calendar of Events

Shoals School Board meeting

The Shoals School Board will meet this Thursday, February 13 at 5 p.m. in the central administration office. Some items on the agenda include discussion of snow make-up days, the 2014-15 calendar, and professional leave. The meeting is open to the public.

Concert at The River

The high-energy Christian Rock/worship band "Building Nations", will be live in concert at The River Church on Saturday, February 15 at 6 p.m. The church is located at 125 Water Street, behind the courthouse, in Shoals.

City pool fundraiser

On Sunday, February 16, from 11 a.m.-1 p.m., Loogootee UMC at 208 West Main Street in Loogootee will be hosting a fundraiser to rebuild the city's pool. They will be serving chili, vegetable, and chicken noodle soup along with hot dogs, desserts and drinks (all these items are being donated). All you need to do is show up and share in a freewill donation for the pool fund. Call 295-3049 for more information.

Sons of the American Revolution meeting

The quarterly meeting of the Daniel Guthrie Chapter, Indiana Society Sons of the American Revolution will meet at the Free Methodist Church on R Street and 7th in Bedford, on February 18. Dinner is at 6 p.m. and the cost is \$13. The meeting begins at 7 p.m. This will be the chapter's annual awards night where they will present the Firefighter, EMT and Heroes of the Year, Eagle Scout and many other awards.

Little league taking sign-ups

The Loogootee Little League will be having sign-ups Wednesdays, February 19th, 6-8 p.m. and February 26 from 6-8 p.m. Both sign-ups will be held at The Lee Kavanaugh Gymnasium, formerly St. John Gym. If you cannot make one of these dates, please return your registration form(s) and check(s), payable to Loogootee Little League, to any board member before March 2. The cost to participate in little league will remain the same as last season; \$40 for one child, and \$30 for each additional child, with the family maximum being \$100. To be eligible to play, boys/girls must be four by April 30, 2014. Boys who do not turn 13 years old by April 30, 2014 are allowed to play, along with girls who were 12 or under by December 31, 2013.

Tea Party meeting

Washington, Indiana native Eric Bassler will be the guest of the Martin County Indiana Tea Party on Thursday evening, February 20. Eric Bassler (R) is challenging State Senator John Waterman (R), District 39, in the May 6 Primary Election. The Martin County Tea Party meets the third Thursday of the month at 7 p.m. in the

Shoals Public Library. The library is located at the corner of High Street and Hwy 50. The public is welcome to attend.

Loogootee School Board meeting

The Loogootee School Board will meet Thursday, February 20 at 5:30 p.m. in the meeting room off the superintendent's office. Some items on the agenda include teacher of the quarter and elementary STEM grant/Lego robot demonstration. The meeting is open to the public.

LUMC Soup & Sandwich Dinner

The Loogootee United Methodist Church will host a soup and sandwich dinner Wednesday, March 5 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the church, 208 W. Main Street, Loogootee. Cost is \$6 for soup, a sandwich, dessert and drink.

Boy Scouts

Boys interested in Boy Scouts, please call 295-6652 or 854-7837 for information on joining.

GED exam fees

Catholic Charities is happy to announce that they will be sponsoring GED exam fees. If you are ready to take your GED exam, give them a call at 812-423-5456 or email us at ccordovilla@evdio.org.

SOAR Tutoring

Need Skills? SOAR tutors can help! Free and confidential. Call or text Beverly at 812.709.1618 to learn more. Located in the Martin County Community Learning Center Improve Your Skills, Improve Your Life!

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.

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 7 p.m. Members of the humane society are invited to attend. To find out how to become a member, call the shelter at 812-295-5900 or email mchs@frontier.com.

Tourism meetings

The MCCC Tourism Committee meets on the second Wednesday of each month at 7 p.m. in the Martin County Community Learning Center on the fairgrounds.

Soil and Water meetings

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

Ceramics & Sculpture Invitational exhibition opens Tuesday

Vincennes University's Shircliff Gallery of Art will host a Ceramics and Sculpture Invitational exhibition, February 18 through March 20, featuring the works of 11 art educators from four universities. The opening reception will be held February 18 at 11 a.m. (EST) in the Gallery which is located inside the Shircliff Humanities Building at the corner of Second and Harrison Streets.

One of the artists, Kira Kalondy Enriquez from Indiana State University, will present a lecture about her work on February 27, 2 p.m., in Shircliff Auditorium.

Admission is free and the public is invited to attend both the reception and the lecture.

Additional artists whose works will be on display include Mike Calway-Fagen, Tim Mathers, Payson McNett, Tom Scicluna, and Malcolm Smith, all from Indiana University; Julie Hope, University of Evansville; Lenny Dowhie, Alisa Holen, Rob Millard-Mendez, all from the University



Southern Indiana; and Dee Schaad, University of Indianapolis.

Gallery hours are 8 a.m. to 9 p.m., Monday through Thursday; 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Fridays; and noon to 3 p.m. on Sundays.

The Gallery will be closed March 8-16 during VU's Spring Break.

For more information contact Morgan Ford-Willingham, Shircliff Gallery director and assistant professor of Art and Design, 812-888-4316, mwillingham@vinu.edu.

Notes from the WIC Nutritionist

BY ELIZABETH WHITE
Martin County WIC Nutritionist

I get a lot of questions about the best time to wean babies from breast milk and formula. Weaning basically means changing or stopping a behavior. The first time you offer your baby something other than breast milk or formula you are actually starting the process of weaning. WIC recommends nothing but breast milk or formula for the first six months. At six months you can start offering baby food and baby cereal. It is important to remember that the main nutrition for babies should still be breast milk or formula until the baby is 1 year. The baby food/cereal is more like a treat or an addition to the baby's meals.

If you are using a bottle, baby, should be weaned very quickly to a sippy cup after the baby's first birthday. This will help with oral health. Also at 1 year it is ok to offer whole milk in the place of the formula. Remember you should never lay your baby down with a bottle or a sippy cup.

REMC offers energy saving tips as consumers see higher than normal power bills

While some people are trying to forget January's subzero temperatures, power bills are providing a chilling reminder of this winter's record cold weather. According to Daviess-Martin County REMC, temperatures in January 2014 were approximately 28 percent colder than last year's.

"Those extreme temperatures directly affect power bills. As a cooperative, we're always looking out for ways to help our members," said Janet Chestnut, manager of communications/member relations. "Through Team Up To Save, we offer programs to help co-op members use energy more efficiently and manage their power bills. For example, we offer rebates on heating and cooling system upgrades and an energy management program. We're here to help people use electricity more wisely."

In addition, Daviess-Martin County REMC, suggest these winter energy-saving tips:

- Lower your water heater thermostat to 115 degrees;
- Limit showers to 5 to 7 minutes;
- Repair dripping faucets;
- Wash clothes in cold water and do only full loads of laundry;
- Make sure the dryer vent is cleaned regularly and not kinked;

Robots will go head to head in competition at VU

Twenty-two student teams from three states - Indiana, Ohio, and Illinois - will travel to Vincennes University on February 22 for the 2013-14 Indiana FIRST® Tech Challenge (FTC) Qualifying Tournament. The technology competition is being hosted by VU's Computer-Integrated Manufacturing program.

FTC is a competition designed for students in grades 7-12. Teams are responsible for designing, building, and programming robots to compete against other teams. The robot kit is reusable from year to year and is programmed using a variety of languages. Teams - including coaches, mentors and volunteers - are required to develop strategies and build robots based on sound engineering principles. Awards are given for the competition as well as for community outreach, design, and other real-world accomplishments.

FIRST® (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) was founded in 1989 by inventor Dean Kamen to inspire young people's interest and participation in science and technology. "We want to change the culture by celebrating the mind. We need to show kids that it's more fun to design and create a video game than it is to play one," said Kamen.

FTC is a global robotics program that ignites an enthusiasm for science, technology, and discovery in young people and teaches

There is no recommendation for when you should totally wean your baby from breastfeeding. In fact there is research showing many benefits of continued breastfeeding after the first year. The World Health Organization recommends breastfeeding for two years and beyond. WIC encourages moms and babies to breastfeed as long as they want, whether they breastfeed for two days or past two years. According to research most babies will self-wean sometime after they turn two (kellymom.com). WIC moms who breastfeed have more food on their food package, and receive those benefits for a longer period of time than non-breastfeeding moms.

The WIC program provides supplemental nutritional foods, referrals, breastfeeding support, and nutrition education for pregnant women, nursing women, infants, and children 1-5 years. The Martin Co WIC clinic is open Monday and Friday 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and Tuesday 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Please call 247-3303 to make an appointment. This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

ularly and not kinked;

-Use countertop cooking appliances instead of the range;

-Use the microwave when possible;

-Turn off unnecessary lights and appliances;

-Set your thermostat to 68 degrees or lower;

-When using portable heaters, do so safely and avoid using from 7 a.m. to 9 a.m. and 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.;

-Make sure windows are tightly closed and locked;

-If windows are old or leak, cover with heavy-duty clear plastic;

-Close drapes except when the sun is shining; and

-Don't cover or block heat registers with rugs, furniture or drapes.

According to Chestnut, co-op members can sign up for Budget Billing to even out the amount consumers pay each month for electric service, providing a predictable amount for family budgets.

For information about your co-op's services, contact Janet Chestnut at 800-762-7362. You can also go to TeamUpToSave.com, [Facebook/TeamUpToSave](https://www.facebook.com/TeamUpToSave) or TogetherWeSave.com for more suggestions and detailed information.

them STEM skills and concepts, principles of leadership, and how to work as a team.

The competitions are the result of focused brainstorming, dedicated mentoring, project timelines, and teamwork. Paired with technical mentors, teams learn from and play with the "pros" to experience engineering problem solving first-hand.

The VU competition will feature the game "Block Party," which is played on a 12'x12' field with a foam mat playing surface. Two randomly selected teams are paired together as an Alliance to play against a second Alliance. Each Alliance starts with their robots touching the outer field perimeter wall on their side of the playing field. Matches have two distinct periods of play: a 30-second Autonomous period where robots are operated via pre-programmed instructions only, followed by a two-minute Driver-Controlled period.

Teams from Indiana include System X and STEMBotics from Connersville; Tobor, Plumber, and Commodores from Crawfordsville; Red Alert II from Edinburgh; Autobotics from Elmore; Red Alert and Team A from Greenwood; Shelby Ender Dragons from Indianapolis; Team B from Kokomo; AndyMark from Leopold; Revolutionary Robotics from Lincoln City; Mechahampsters from Martinsville; and Pterobytes from New Castle.