

# Martin County JOURNAL

Year 10, Issue 7

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2019

Eight pages

www.martincountyjournal.com ~ courtney@martincountyjournal.com ~ 812-259-4309 ~ Fax: 888-380-2761 ~ P.O. Box 148, Loogootee, IN 47553



## Greenhouse grant

Duke Energy recently gave Shoals School Corporation \$1,000 that will go toward a greenhouse. The one pictured here is the current greenhouse that can be taken down but the new one will be permanent and larger.

-Photo provided

## City council debates speeding issue on Walker Street

BY COURTNEY HUGHETT  
Martin County Journal Publisher

The Loogootee City's Council's main topic of discussion at their meeting Monday night, February 11 was what to do about speeding vehicles on Walker Street. The issue has been discussed for four months and discussion has ranged from increased police presence to installing a stop sign to buying a flashing light that alerts speeders. The section of Walker Street, where speeders are a problem, is in the area of the senior citizen apartments and Vine Street.

At Monday night's meeting, Council Member Roger Downey spoke to the resident on Walker Street who had the initial complaint about speeding vehicles and said they just want the problem fixed. They don't care if it's a stop sign or a speed bump, they just want resolution. Downey said he was prepared to give them that resolution that evening.

Downey asked Police Chief Kelly

Rayhill if he knew how many warnings or tickets have been issued to speeding drivers on that section of Walker Street. Rayhill replied that he did not. Downey asked Rayhill to provide him with that information if possible.

Downey said the residents want something done about the speeding and he is not suggesting writing everyone a ticket, but he does feel that there needs to be a police presence and warnings given. He said his concern with installing a stop sign is that it changes the traffic pattern on that portion of roadway and could affect the senior living apartments' entrance and cause safety issues.

A speed bump was suggested and Chief Rayhill said that there are a lot of hoops to jump through to install a speed bump. Downey said he would like to have the city attorney look into what needs to be done to get a speed bump, if that's the way the council wants to go. It was noted by Utilities Superintendent Bo Wilson that the estimated cost for one speedbump is \$551

and the cost of a stop sign is \$400.

Council Member Nolley agreed with Downey saying she would also like to see if the police are issuing warnings or tickets for speeding in the area. Mayor Noel Harty said that if drivers see a police car they will slow down and doesn't see having police present in the area would help.

Members of the audience, include the mayor's secretary Phyllis Panko and resident Don Greene offered their opinions on speed bumps and police presence. Greene said he wanted a speedbump on Bloomfield Road several years ago and he couldn't get one approved. He said that if the council approves a speedbump on Walker Street, he wants one on Bloomfield Road as well. Panko said that policing issuing tickets will not stop speeders.

With the start of the audience offering input, everyone began talking at once. Council Member Downey broke in and made a motion to just resolve the issue by purchasing four flashing (See 'CITY COUNCIL' on page two)

## Food service inspections

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

### DECEMBER 18

**Bradley's Bar & Grill, 605 West Broadway Street, Loogootee**

No violations noted.

### DECEMBER 27

**Corner Café, 201 JFK Avenue, Loogootee**

No violations noted.

**Loogootee United Methodist Church, 208 West Main Street, Loogootee**

No violations noted.

**Los Bravos, 502 West Broadway Street, Loogootee**

Two non-critical violations:

-Build-up of dust on fan in dishwashing area

-Build-up of black substance on can opener

**Break Time Bar & Grill, 119 Cooper Street, Loogootee**

Two critical violations:

-Raw meat stored above lettuce in storage building cooler

-Temperature of items in Amana refrigerator in kitchen ranged from 46-48 degrees

**McDonald's, 106 East Broadway Street, Loogootee**

No violations noted.

**Knights of Columbus 732, 102 East Main Street, Loogootee**

No violations noted.

**VFW Post 9395, 300 West Vine Street, Loogootee**

No violations noted.

### DECEMBER 28

**VFW Post 8589, 320 Main Street, Shoals**

One non-critical violation:

-Mold growth on interior of ice machine door

(Operator response to inspection on 12/30/18 by Greg Sims, Bar/Manager, "Ice machine has been cleaned and sanitized per order of health department.")

**American Legion Post 61, 224 High Street, Shoals**

Two non-critical violations:

-Box of cups stored on floor in side room of bar area

-Grease in deep fryers not covered between use

**Velma's Diner, 308 Main Street, Shoals**

No violations noted.

**Fraternal Order of Eagles 2442, 207 South Main Street, Shoals**

No violations noted.

## Traffic stop results in arrest of two in Shoals

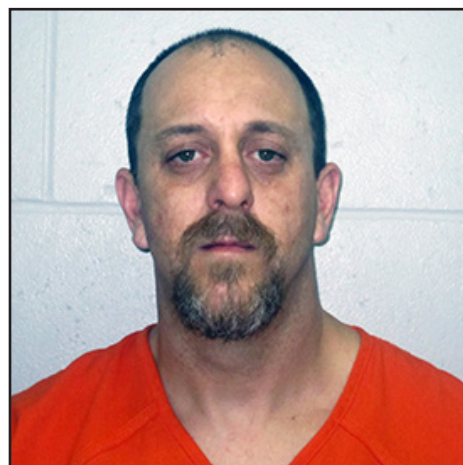
On Sunday, February 10, at 5:10 a.m., Martin County Sheriff's Office Corporal Tyler Reed was on patrol in Shoals when he observed a vehicle commit two moving violations. Corporal Reed initiated a traffic stop on the vehicle and Deputy Larry Gibson arrived to assist.

Corporal Reed made contact with the driver, Joshua E. Schmitt, 30, of Commiskey, and found Mr. Schmitt to have a suspended driver's license, with a prior conviction. A passenger, George B. Douglas, 41, of Commiskey, was also present. Corporal Reed asked Mr. Schmitt for consent to search the vehicle, which Mr. Schmitt granted.

The search of the vehicle resulted in Corporal Reed locating methamphetamine, marijuana, and paraphernalia.

Mr. Schmitt and Mr. Douglas were both arrested and transported to the Martin County Security Center, without incident.

During a subsequent search at the



GEORGE DOUGLAS

jail, jail staff and Deputy Gibson located additional methamphetamine and paraphernalia on Mr. Douglas's person including a bag containing over 2 grams of methamphetamine.

Schmitt was charged with possession of methamphetamine, a Level 6 Felony; driving while suspended (prior), a Class A Misdemeanor; possession



JOSHUA SCHMITT

of marijuana, a Class B Misdemeanor; and possession of paraphernalia, a Class C Misdemeanor

Douglas was charged with possession of methamphetamine, a Level 6 Felony and possession of paraphernalia, a Class C Misdemeanor.

All suspects are innocent until proven guilty.

## Meeting rescheduled

The Martin County Commissioners' meeting from Tuesday night was cancelled and has been rescheduled for Tuesday, February 19 at 5:30 p.m. in the commissioners' meeting room of the courthouse in Shoals.



# City of Loogootee Primary filing closed

The 2019 City of Loogootee Primary Election will be held May 7, 2019. This election only includes registered voters in Perry 1, 2, 3, and 4.

Monday, April 8, 2019 is the deadline to register to vote or make any changes to an existing registration. Please call the Martin County Clerk's Office to make sure your registration is correct at 812-247-3651 or you can go to [www.indianavoters.com](http://www.indianavoters.com). This website will also show you who is on your ballot and other election information.

You can call the clerk's office at any time to request an absentee ballot by mail. The last day to submit an application for absentee voting by mail is April 29, 2019. Absentee voting in the

clerk's office will begin on Monday April 22, 2019 and run through May 6, 2019. You can vote between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. Monday through Friday. They will also be open for voting on Saturday April 27, Saturday May 4 and Monday May 6 from 9 a.m. to noon. Closed on Sundays. For any questions regarding the election or voter registration, please call the county clerk's office at 812- 247-3651.

The following have filed and will appear on the May 7, 2019 Primary Democrat Ballot:

- Mayor City of Loogootee Roger S. Downey, Democrat
- Noel D. Harty, Democrat
- Loogootee City Clerk/Treasurer Carol (Jones) Harder, Democrat
- Loogootee City Council At-Large Ronald (Ron) Gilbert, Democrat
- James Richard Taylor, Democrat

- Loogootee City Council District 1 Teresa M. Nolley, Democrat
- Loogootee City Council District 2 Tim (Biggin) Lawrence, Democrat
- Ruth Smith, Democrat
- Loogootee City Council District 3 Carroll Rayhill, Democrat
- Loogootee City Council District 4 Donald Rick Norris, Democrat
- Collin J. Padgett, Democrat

Since the purpose of the Primary Election is for each party to select a candidate for the General Election on November 5, 2019, there will not be a Republican ballot printed for the Primary because there are no Republican candidates.

## Generations to offer tax counseling for the elderly

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

Volunteers have completed their certification with the Internal Revenue Service, and they are now available to complete tax forms at Loogootee Senior Center, 406 NW 1st Street. Appointments can be made on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays between noon and 3 p.m. beginning Monday, February 4, by calling 812-247-2525. The Martin County TCE Coordinator is Kenny Woods.



-Photo provided

## Walking trail

Hoosier Uplands donated \$7,800 to the Shoals School to help their construction class finish phase one of the school walking trail. Phase one will go around the school building and once it is completed the school will look for funding to complete phase two which will extend the trail around the track and baseball fields.

## CITY COUNCIL

(Continued from page one)

signs to alert drivers they are speeding. This quieted the audience however the motion died without a second.

More discussion ensued and in the end the council decided to purchase one moveable flashing speeding sign for up to \$7,000 and one stationary flashing speeding sign for \$2,500. The signs will flash when a driver is going too fast and show their speed. Bo Wilson noted that the signs can also track speed of drivers and it can give a report on the average speed. One of the signs will sit on Walker Street while the other will be relocated around the city as needed.

The council approved up to \$10,000 to hire Water Solutions Unlimited to create a cross connection ordinance for the city along with providing public information to educate residents.

Chief Kelly Rayhill requested that Officer Jim Floyd be promoted from the rank of patrolman to the rank of sergeant effective February 14. The board of public works approved. This will increase Floyd's salary by \$390 per year.

Utilities Superintendent Bo Wilson

told the board of public works that they have the opportunity to buy 186 radio read meters for the water department. If paid within 60 days, they will be \$210 each or \$39,060 or if paid in 120 days they would be \$215 each or \$39,990.

Wilson said it would be a good opportunity to move forward with radio read units at a lower rate. He said in order to get the savings they usually have to buy 500 at a time. There are currently only 215 radio read units installed and roughly 1,450 total meters.

The council approved an additional appropriation for \$10,000 for a part-time deputy clerk treasurer to fill in this year in the clerk-treasurer's office. The clerk-treasurer has been out of the office for several weeks due to health-related issues.

Tim Kinder, with the Martin County Alliance, told the council that the Alliance wants to pay \$4,100 for creation of a website for the city and \$360 for the first year of hosting. The city would take over the hosting of the website after the first year. The council approved.

**WAYNE Ferguson agency**  
[www.fergusonagency.com](http://www.fergusonagency.com)

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# CLASSIFIED ADS

## HELP WANTED

**THE LOOGOOTE POLICE DEPARTMENT IS CURRENTLY ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR FULL-TIME POLICE OFFICER**

Qualification standards require that an applicant:

- Must be a resident citizen of the United States.
- Must be 21 years of age to apply.
- Must have a high school diploma or GED certificate.
- Cannot have a felony conviction.
- Cannot have a misdemeanor conviction involving "domestic violence" that would prohibit the applicant from handling a firearm.
- Must possess a valid driver's license from their state of residence.
- Cannot have been dishonorably discharged from the military.
- Must pass a mandatory drug screening test.
- Must be willing to reside in the City of Loogootee
- Must be physically able to perform duties of a police officer.
- The Board of Works and Public Safety will make the final determination on which applicant will be extended an offer of employment.

**Applications may be picked up at the Loogootee Police Department, 401 JFK Ave. during normal business hours. Close date for this process is February 18, 2019.**

**PIG ROAST**

**FEBRUARY 23, 2019**  
**BENEFIT FOR DEBBIE BRATTON**

Where: Loogootee United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall  
 208 W Main St, Loogootee, IN 47553

Debbie has recently been diagnosed with advanced colon cancer and is now unable to work. Debbie is married to Shannon and is mother to Kendall, 22, Kirk, 17, and Kasey 5. Debbie has the most genuine heart that I have ever met. She has worked for Loogootee Nursing Center for the last 26 years and volunteered countless hours for Pioneer Club with her church. Please help us show her the difference that she has made to us and our community.

**Times:**  
 4:00 – 7:00 pm

**Menu:**  
 Barbecue Pork  
 Hot Dogs/chips  
 Cheesy Potatoes  
 Baked Beans  
 Salads  
 Desserts  
 Drinks  
 Free Will Donation

**Silent Auction**  
**Live Auction**  
 Starting at 6:00 pm

Sponsored by:  
 Loogootee UMC  
 Shoals Class of 1992  
 Loogootee Nursing Center



# Obituaries

## SCOTT WAGGNER

Robert Scott Waggoner passed away Saturday February 9, 2019 at the Villages at Oak Ridge in Washington. A resident of Loogootee, he was 63.



SCOTT WAGGNER

He was born October 29, 1955 in Daviess County; son of the late Bob and Margie (Cissell) Waggoner.

He was a member of St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church in Loogootee and the Knights of Columbus. He was an avid sports fan, loved the Loogootee Lions, St. Louis Cardinals and attending the Indianapolis 500. Scott worked as a Director of Radiology at IU Health Bedford Hospital.

He contributed to the book "History of Loogootee High School Boys Basketball 1905 - 2008", Loogootee Basketball History Facebook Page, and the "Hickory Huskers Website". Scott was known as a "History of Indiana Basketball Encyclopedia" with his keen memory. He could recite game statistics and play by plays from years past.

He was a great story teller and loved to spend time with his nieces and nephews and watch them play and continue to grow in their athletics.

Scott was preceded in death by his parents, Bob and Margie Waggoner.

He is survived by his siblings, Pam Fellers, Jan Waggoner, and Kim Fouty; his nieces and nephews, Nathan Waggoner, Sara Lemon, and Will Fouty; his great-nieces and nephews, Isabelle Waggoner, Isaac Waggoner, Madison Waggoner, Koen Waggoner, Emsley Waggoner, and Ellington Waggoner; and close friends of the family, Van and Jolene McAtee.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated by the Very Rev. J. Kenneth Walker at 10 a.m. Friday February 15 at St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church in Loogootee. Burial will follow in St. John Catholic Cemetery in Loogootee.

Visitation will be held on Thursday February 14 from 3 p.m. until 8 p.m. at Blake Funeral Home with a Rosary Service to follow.

In lieu of flowers, friends can contribute to an athletic scholarship to be made in Scott's honor in the future.

Online condolences can be made at [www.blakefuneralhomes.com](http://www.blakefuneralhomes.com).



## Doyle honored

-Photo provided

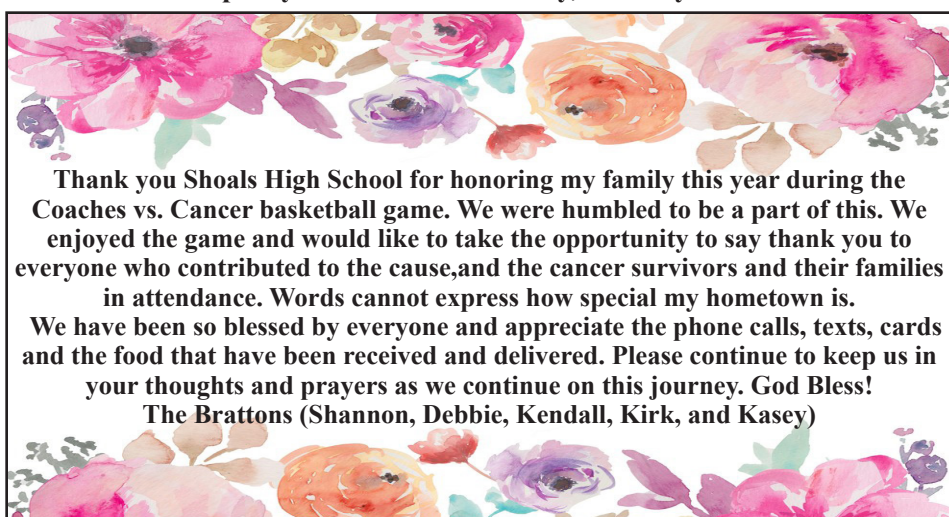
The Knights of Columbus Council #732 is now doing business as the Fred M. Doyle Memorial Corporation. Mr. Doyle is a deceased member of the Loogootee council. Fred served as Grand Knight from 1984 till 1986. He also served as Financial Secretary, as a member of the local Second Degree Team, bingo volunteer and as the facility manager for many prosperous years. Members of Fred's family joined council members on Sunday January 27 during Fellowship Day to make and celebrate the announcement.



## 73-Year Member

-Photo provided

The Knights of Columbus would like to recognize Frank Mathews for 73 continuous years as a member in good standing with Council #732 Loogootee, IN. Frank was Grand Knight of the organization from 1972 thru 1973. Additionally, Frank organized and led a team of bingo volunteers thru the 1980's. Frank is pictured with members of his family during the Knights annual Fellowship Day conducted on Sunday, January 27.



Thank you Shoals High School for honoring my family this year during the Coaches vs. Cancer basketball game. We were humbled to be a part of this. We enjoyed the game and would like to take the opportunity to say thank you to everyone who contributed to the cause, and the cancer survivors and their families in attendance. Words cannot express how special my hometown is. We have been so blessed by everyone and appreciate the phone calls, texts, cards and the food that have been received and delivered. Please continue to keep us in your thoughts and prayers as we continue on this journey. God Bless!  
The Brattons (Shannon, Debbie, Kendall, Kirk, and Kasey)



## Tri Kappa Week

-Photo provided

Pictured are Carla Hoffmann, Peggy Mattingly, Judy Treffinger, and Barb McFeaters with Mayor Noel Harty. The mayor had just signed a proclamation declaring February 17-23 as Tri Kappa Week in the City of Loogootee. The Loogootee-Shoals Delta Tau Chapter of Tri Kappa supports many local organizations with donations such as: the Martin County Humane Society, Martin County Historical Society, Cops for Kids, Martin County 4-H, Loogootee Public Library, Martin County Community Foundation, Loogootee Summerfest and more. Delta Tau also supports the Loogootee Schools donating to the libraries, art department, choral department, Musical, band camp, and Life skills class. Tri Kappa offers scholarships to graduating seniors and monetary awards to Loogootee and Shoals valedictorians and salutatorians. These are just some of the ways your local Tri Kappa chapter supports this community. This is all made possible through our two fundraisers of selling nuts and our birthday calendars. Delta Tau members would like to thank the community for their continued support of Tri Kappa.

### CITY OF LOOGOOTEE

MAYOR NOEL D. HARTY  
EXECUTIVE ORDER

### PROCLAMATION

To All To Whom These Presents May Come, Greetings!

**WHEREAS,** Kappa, Kappa, Kappa, Inc. is a philanthropic sorority; and

**WHEREAS,** Kappa, Kappa, Kappa, Inc. was founded in 1901 to promote charity, culture and education in Indiana; and

**WHEREAS,** Kappa, Kappa, Kappa, Inc. is celebrating their 117 year in the State of Indiana; and

**WHEREAS,** Kappa, Kappa, Kappa, Inc. membership is located solely in the State of Indiana; and

**WHEREAS,** Kappa, Kappa, Kappa, Inc. celebrated our membership and philanthropic activities in our Indiana communities the fourth week of February each year; and

**WHEREAS,** Kappa, Kappa, Kappa, Inc. membership celebrates the spirit of volunteerism and kindness throughout the State of Indiana;

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, Noel D. Harty,** Mayor of the City of Loogootee, Indiana, do hereby proclaim February 17-23, 2019 as

### TRI KAPPA WEEK

in the City of Loogootee, Indiana and invite all citizens to duly note this occasion,

*In Testimony Whereof, I have set my hand and cause to be affirmed the seal of Loogootee this 17<sup>th</sup> day of February in the Year of our Lord 2019 and of the Independence of the United States 229.*

BY THE MAYOR: Noel D. Harty



## Martin County Sheriff's Department log

### MONDAY, FEBRUARY 4

3:38 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Shoals. Martin County Ambulance responded but did not transport.

7:38 a.m. - Received a report of a reckless driver on SR 450, south of Dover Hill. Deputy Lents and ISP Officer Qualkenbush responded.

8:26 a.m. - Received a report of a dog hit on US 50, east of Loogootee. Animal Control Officer Hughett was advised.

8:58 a.m. - Received a dog complaint in Loogootee. Animal Control Officer Hughett was advised.

10:20 a.m. - Chief Deputy Greene assisted a motorist with a vehicle unlock in Loogootee.

12:14 p.m. - Jailer Gordon took one inmate to the doctor.

12:40 p.m. - Received a report of debris on US 50, east of Shoals. Chief Deputy Greene responded.

5:01 p.m. - Received a report of an accident in Loogootee. Loogootee Police Department, Loogootee Fire, and Martin County Ambulance responded. No one was transported.

8:27 p.m. - Received a report of a reckless driver on US 231, near Loogootee. Loogootee Sergeant Norris responded.

### TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 5

7:58 a.m. - Received a report of a horse out north of Loogootee. Chief Deputy Greene responded.

8:24 a.m. - Received a report of a domestic dispute southeast of Shoals. Chief Deputy Greene, Sheriff Roush, ICO Doane, ISP Trooper Qualkenbush, and Martin County Ambulance responded.

10:15 a.m. - Deputy Lents took one inmate to court.

11:09 a.m. - Deputy Shinn performed a vehicle unlock near Shoals.

11:28 a.m. - Received a report of a disabled semi south of Loogootee on US 231. ISP Trooper Lents responded.

12:20 p.m. - Chief Deputy Greene performed a vehicle identification check in Shoals.

1:23 p.m. - Deputy Wright assisted a motorist with a vehicle unlock in Shoals.

3:51 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance near Loogootee. Martin County Ambulance and Loogootee Fire responded. No one was transported.

### WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 6

8:04 a.m. - Sheriff Roush performed a vehicle unlock in Shoals.

8:37 a.m. - Received a report of a suspicious vehicle in Loogootee. Chief Deputy Greene responded.

8:46 a.m. - Received a request for lift assistance near Shoals. Shoals Fire responded.

9:47 a.m. - Received a report of a tree down on US 231, north of Loogootee. Loogootee Chief Rayhill and Loogootee Officer Todd removed the tree.

10:04 a.m. - Received a report of a possible break-in in Loogootee. Loogootee Chief Rayhill responded.

10:08 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance near Loogootee. Martin County Ambulance and Loogootee Fire responded. The subject was transported to Daviess Community Hospital.

10:23 a.m. - Deputy Lents took two inmates to court.

11:09 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Ambulance transported the subject to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

12:14 p.m. - Received a request for

lift assistance near Shoals. Shoals Fire responded.

2:35 p.m. - Jail Officer Gordon took one inmate to the doctor.

3:10 p.m. - Received a report of a suspicious person in Shoals. Deputy Wright responded.

4:50 p.m. - Received a report of a vehicle off the road south of Loogootee. ICO Mann responded.

### THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 7

8:18 a.m. - Jail Commander Brulla took one inmate to the doctor.

9:30 a.m. - Sergeant Keller took four inmates to court.

10:27 a.m. - Received a report of a tree down east of Shoals. Shoals Fire removed the tree.

11:34 a.m. - Received a request for a welfare check in Loogootee. Loogootee Chief Rayhill responded.

12:51 p.m. - Received a report of several trees down east of Shoals on US 50. Shoals Fire removed the trees.

12:51 p.m. - Received a report of a tree down south of Loogootee. County highway removed the tree.

1:19 p.m. - Jail Commander took one inmate to the doctor.

1:22 p.m. - Received a report of an abandoned van near Shoals. Deputy Wright responded.

1:28 p.m. - Received a report of a tree down on Gun Shop Road. Shoals Fire responded.

3:45 p.m. - Received a report of an accident in Loogootee. Loogootee Chief Rayhill, Loogootee Officer McBeth, Loogootee Fire, and Martin County Ambulance responded. No one was transported.

4:10 p.m. - Deputy Wright assisted a motorist west of Shoals.

4:38 p.m. - Deputy Wright assisted a motorist with a vehicle unlock in Loogootee.

4:48 p.m. - Received a medical alarm call in Loogootee. Martin County Ambulance transported the subject to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

4:49 p.m. - Received a report of a power line down and sparking near Shoals. Shoals Fire and REMC responded.

5:15 p.m. - Received an alarm call in Loogootee. Loogootee Police Department responded.

5:27 p.m. - Received a report of an accident in Shoals. Town Marshal Eckert responded.

6:05 p.m. - Received an alarm call near Shoals. Deputy Wright responded and all was secure.

8:05 p.m. - Received a report of an accident just east of Loogootee. Deputy Wright responded.

8:34 p.m. - Received a report of a suspicious vehicle in Loogootee. Loogootee Police Department responded.

8:49 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Shoals. Shoals Fire and Martin County Ambulance responded. The subject was transported to St Vincent's Hospital in Bedford.

9:45 p.m. - Received a report of a tree down near Loogootee. County Highway removed the tree.

### FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 8

7:30 a.m. - Sergeant Keller completed a vehicle unlock in Loogootee.

7:44 a.m. - Jail Commander Brulla took one inmate to the doctor.

9:15 a.m. - Captain Dant assisted a motorist on US Highway 50, west of Shoals.

9:56 a.m. - Received animal complaint in Shoals. Animal Control Officer Hughett was advised.

1:52 p.m. - Received a request for ambulance in Shoals. Martin County Ambulance responded.

2:00 p.m. - Received a report of tree down on Gunshop Road. Martin County Highway Department responded.

2:05 p.m. - Received a report of reckless driving on US Highway 50, near Loogootee. Loogootee Officer McBeth and Deputy Shinn responded.

2:57 p.m. - Received a report of accident on US Highway 150. Captain Dant, Deputy Wright, Reserve Deputy Gibson, ICO Doane, Martin County Ambulance and Shoals Fire Department responded.

4:21 p.m. - Received a request for ambulance on US Highway 150, east of Shoals. Martin County Ambulance responded and transported one subject to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

4:30 p.m. - Deputy Wright assisted a motorist on US Highway 50, west of Shoals.

4:45 p.m. - Received a report of civil dispute in Shoals. Deputy Wright responded.

5:10 p.m. - Received a request for ambulance in Shoals. Martin County Ambulance responded and transported one subject to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

5:15 p.m. - Received a request for ambulance in Loogootee. Southwest Ambulance Service responded.

9:38 p.m. - Jail Commander Brulla took one inmate to the doctor.

10:41 p.m. - Received a report of road damage due to water in Shoals. Reserve Deputy Gibson, Reserve Deputy Greene and Martin County Highway Department responded.

### SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 9

2:08 a.m. - Received a report of a suspicious individual south of Loogootee. Deputy Reed responded. Everything checked out okay.

2:10 a.m. - Received a request for ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Ambulance responded.

2:49 a.m. - Received a request for ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Ambulance and Loogootee Fire Department responded.

9:23 a.m. - Received a report of vandalism in Crane. Sergeant Keller responded.

10:36 a.m. - Received a report of icy roadway on US Highway 150. The state highway department was notified.

12:05 p.m. - Received a report of reckless driving near Loogootee. Loogootee Officer McBeth and Sergeant Keller responded.

1:59 p.m. - Sergeant Keller completed a vehicle identification check east of Loogootee.

5:15 p.m. - Received an animal complaint in Loogootee. Animal Control Officer Hughett responded.

6:01 p.m. - Received a request for ambulance in Shoals. Martin County Ambulance, Shoals Fire Department and Sergeant Keller responded. Martin County Ambulance transported one subject to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

6:15 p.m. - Received a request for an

ambulance south of Loogootee. Martin County Ambulance and Haysville Fire Department responded.

8:26 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Ambulance, Loogootee Fire Department, Loogootee Officer Floyd and Reserve Deputy Gibson responded. Martin County Ambulance transported one subject to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

9:55 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Ambulance and Loogootee Fire Department responded. Martin County Ambulance transported one subject to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

### SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 10

1:56 a.m. - Deputy Reed assisted a motorist near Loogootee.

9:54 a.m. - Received a report of an accident on US Highway 231, north of Loogootee. Loogootee Officer McBeth responded.

4:44 p.m. - Received a request for vehicle title check in Crane. Deputy Lents responded.

5:35 p.m. - Received a report of abandoned vehicle near Shoals. Deputy Lents responded.

6:46 p.m. - Received a request for ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Ambulance responded and transported one subject to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

### Real estate transfers

**Michael D. Elliott, Vonda M. Elliott, and Michel D. Elliott**, of Martin County, Indiana to **Kathi E. Fromme**, of Dubois County, Indiana, part of the southeast quarter of Section 12, Township 2 North, Range 5 West, Perry Township, Martin County, Indiana, containing 1.008 acres, more or less.

**Kevin Johnson and Emily Johnson**, of Martin County, Indiana to **Tina M. Kippenbrock and Kirk William Talbott**, of Martin County, Indiana, a portion of the southwest quarter of Section 18, Township 3 North, Range 4 West, Perry Township, Martin County, Indiana, containing 1.10 acre.

**Parrish James Peachee**, of Boone County, Indiana and **Preston Phillip Peachee, II**, of Dubois County, Indiana to **Peachtree Farms, LLC**, of Boone County, Indiana, a part of the northeast quarter of Section 32, Township 4 North, Range 4 West, containing 15.15 acres, more or less.

**Michael K. Braun**, of Dubois County, Indiana to **Braun Family Properties, LLC**, of Dubois County, Indiana. Tract I: Part of the northeast quarter of the southeast quarter of the northwest quarter of Section 17, Township 4 North, Range 3 West, containing 6.35 acres, more or less. Tract II: A part of Section 17, Township 4 North, Range 3 West, situated in Mitcheltree Township, Martin County, Indiana, containing 63.46 acres, more or less. Tract III: The east half of the northwest quarter of the northwest quarter of Section 17, Township 4 North, Range 3 West, containing 17.85 acres, more or less.

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# COURT NEWS

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

## CRIMINAL CONVICTIONS & SENTENCING

**January 15**

Thomas C. Earl, convicted of maintaining a common nuisance – controlled substances, possession of marijuana, a Class B Misdemeanor and possession of paraphernalia, a Class C Misdemeanor. Sentenced on the first count to serve 856 days with 0 days suspended and credit for 428 actual days previously served plus 428 Class A credit days. Sentenced on the second count to serve 92 days with 0 days suspended and credit for 46 actual days previously served plus 46 Class A credit days. Sentenced on the final count to serve 60 days with 0 days suspended and credit for 30 actual days previously served plus 30 Class A credit days.

Gary L. Hughes, convicted of possession of methamphetamine, a Level 6 Felony. Sentenced to serve 900 days with 780 days suspended and credit for 60 actual days previously served plus 60 Class A credit days. Defendant received 26 months of probation.

**January 17**

James P. Barnard, convicted of domestic battery, a Class A Misdemeanor. Sentenced to serve 365 days with 231 days suspended and credit for 67 actual days previously served plus 67 Class A credit days. Defendant received 7 months of probation.

**January 31**

Virgo Dupcil, convicted of operating a vehicle while intoxicated endangering a person, a Class A Misdemeanor. Sentenced to serve 365 days with 333 days suspended and credit for 16 actual days previously served plus 16 Class A credit days. Defendant received 12 months of probation.

## CRIMINAL CHARGES DISMISSED

**January 15**

Thomas C. Earl, possession of methamphetamine, a Level 5 Felony, dismissed; forgery, a Level 6 Felony, dismissed; habitual offender sentence enhancement, dismissed.

Gary L. Hughes, possession of paraphernalia, a Class C Misdemeanor, dismissed.

**January 31**

Virgo Dupcil, operating a vehicle with an ACE of .08 or more, a Class C Misdemeanor, dismissed.

## CIVIL COURT

**New Suits Filed**

**February 1**

Capital One Bank vs. Brent Wessel, civil collection.

United States of America vs. Christopher C. Bledsoe, mortgage foreclosure.

**February 4**

Crane Credit Union vs. David T. Griffith, civil collection.

**February 5**

Discover Bank vs. David Schriefer, civil collection.

Savannah A. Kidwell vs. Christopher L. Kidwell, petition for dissolution of marriage.

## CIVIL COURT JUDGMENTS

**February 11**

Judgment in favor of the plaintiff Jefferson Capital Systems, LLC and against the defendant Ruth E. Gilbert in the amount of \$1,020.29.

Judgment in favor of the plaintiff Capital One Bank and against the defendant Cameron D. Harger in the amount of \$1,176.85.

## SMALL CLAIMS COURT

**New Suits Filed**

**January 31**

Medical of Dubois vs. Kristin Riggin, complaint.

Medical of Dubois vs. Stephanie Flores-Maldonado, complaint.

Medical of Dubois vs. Unisha Pearson, complaint.

Medical of Dubois vs. Ryan Swartzentruber, complaint.

Medical of Dubois vs. Deanna R. Asbury, complaint.

Medical of Dubois vs. Timothy R. Strange, complaint.

Medical of Dubois vs. Benjamin J. Davisson, complaint.

**February 5**

Crane Credit Union vs. Cynthia D. Dwyer, complaint.

## SMALL CLAIMS JUDGMENTS

**February 11**

Judgment in favor of the plaintiff Hoosier Accounts Service and against the defendant Don Breeden in the amount of \$6,118.74.

Judgment in favor of the plaintiff Crane Credit Union and against the defendant Larry Clark in the amount of \$1,930.

Judgment in favor of the plaintiff Hoosier Accounts Service and against the defendant Tara J. Cronin in the amount of \$1,752.52.

Judgment in favor of the plaintiff Hoosier Accounts Service and against the defendant Joshua Payne in the amount of \$3,042.02.

Judgment in favor of the plaintiff Capital One Bank and against the defendant Tanya A. Stout in the amount of \$2,376.03.

## MARRIAGE LICENSES

**February 12**

Heather Foll of Shoals and Benjamin Hill of Shoals.

# ARRESTS

## MONDAY, FEBRUARY 4

1:27 a.m. - Chelsea Dunbar, 30, of Bicknell, was arrested by Deputy Reed for possession of marijuana and is being held without bond. Sheriff Roush, Reserve Deputy Gibson and K9 Officer Virka assisted.

1:27 a.m. - Paul Adkins, 41, of West Virginia, was arrested by Deputy Reed and charged with possession of heroin, possession of methamphetamine, possession of marijuana, and possession of paraphernalia. He is being held without bond. Assisting with the arrest were Sheriff Roush, Reserve Deputy Gibson and K9 Officer Virka.

## TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 5

3:04 a.m. - Courtney Hawkins, 29, of West Baden, was arrested by Deputy Shinn and charged for operating while intoxicated and operating while intoxicated endangerment. She is being held without bond.

9:35 a.m. - Billy Craft, 38, of Shoals, was arrested by Chief Deputy Greene and charged with battery causing bodily injury and possession of methamphetamine. He is being held without bond. Assisting with the arrest were Sheriff Roush, ICO Doane, and ISP Trooper Qualkenbush.

10:33 p.m. - Brian Dant, 47, of Loogootee, was arrested by Loogootee Officer Floyd and charged with operating while intoxicated and operating while intoxicated endangerment. He is being held on a \$20,000 10% bond.

6:22 p.m. - David Jenkins, 58, of Loogootee, was arrested by ISP Trooper Nolan and charged with operating while intoxicated refusal and is being held on a \$20,000 10% bond.

## THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 7

1:30 a.m. - Kade Tretter, 20, of Dubois, was arrested by ISP Trooper Nolan

# Loogootee Police log

## MONDAY, FEBRUARY 4

8:58 a.m. - Caller reported a dog complaint. Animal Control was contacted.

11:07 a.m. - Chief Rayhill responded to a business alarm.

5:04 p.m. - Caller reported a property damage accident near McDonalds.

8:27 p.m. - Caller reported a possible intoxicated driver on US 231.

9:45 p.m. - Caller reported a suspicious vehicle on SW 2<sup>nd</sup> Street.

## TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 5

9:45 a.m. - Male came on station for a vehicle identification check.

3:13 p.m. - Chief Rayhill responded to a business alarm.

6:56 p.m. - Caller reported hearing a loud boom near Park Street.

## WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 6

12:17 a.m. - Officer Floyd assisted with a medical issue.

9:47 a.m. - Caller reported a tree over the road on US 231.

10:05 a.m. - Female reported a violation of a protective order.

10:08 a.m. - First responders were requested on US 231 for a medical call.

11:01 a.m. - Male came on station to request a transient voucher.

3:30 p.m. - Chief Rayhill assisted the county with a civil matter.

3:59 p.m. - Chief Rayhill and Officer Floyd assisted the county with a search warrant.

4:52 p.m. - Caller reported a reckless driver on Hwy 50.

5:34 p.m. - Officer Floyd assisted ISP with a traffic stop.

## THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 7

12:41 a.m. - Female reported two suspicious vehicles in the Dollar General parking lot.

11:17 a.m. - Caller requested a wel-

fare check on a female.

11:34 a.m. - Chief Rayhill assisted child protective services.

11:45 a.m. - Officer McBeth assisted with a funeral procession.

2:25 p.m. - Male came on station to request transient assistance.

3:45 p.m. - Caller reported a personal injury accident at the intersection of 50 and 231.

4:50 p.m. - First responders were requested on Cedar Street for a medical call.

5:30 p.m. - Officer McBeth responded to a business alarm.

7:52 p.m. - Caller reported the traffic light out near McDonalds.

8:11 p.m. - Officer Floyd assisted the county with a property damage accident.

8:35 p.m. - Caller reported a suspicious vehicle on Dewey Street.

11:16 p.m. - Officer Floyd assisted Daviess County with a traffic stop.

## FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 8

10:45 a.m. - Officer McBeth responded to a business alarm.

2:05 p.m. - Caller reported a semi all over the road on Hwy 50.

5:18 p.m. - First responders were requested on Mt. Calvary Road for a medical call.

9:43 p.m. - Caller reported suspicious persons on Broadway Street.

## SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 9

2:49 a.m. - First responders were requested on Cedar Street for a medical call.

12:05 p.m. - Caller reported a possible intoxicated driver on Broadway Street.

5:03 p.m. - Caller reported an animal complaint. Animal Control was contacted.

6:56 p.m. - Male reported a lost dog.

8:30 p.m. - First responders were requested on John C. Strange Street for a medical call.

9:58 p.m. - First responders were requested on East Broadway Street for a medical call.

## SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 10

9:54 a.m. - Officer McBeth assisted the county with a property damage accident on US 231.

12:13 p.m. - Caller requested a welfare check on a male.

5:33 p.m. - Female reported a theft.

6:50 p.m. - First responders were requested on Mt. Calvary Road for a medical call.

9:48 p.m. - Caller reported a reckless driver on Hwy 50.

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## More Neat Stuff



By Ann Ackerman



### DID YOU KNOW?

**THE MYTH:** Abraham Lincoln composed his most famous speech – the Gettysburg Address – on the back of an envelope while riding on a train from Washington, D.C., to the site of the speech in Gettysburg.

**BACKGROUND:** The story apparently originated with Lincoln's son, Robert, who first created it in a letter he wrote after his father was assassinated.

**THE TRUTH:** Lincoln actually started writing the speech two weeks before the event, and wrote at least five drafts before even leaving Washington for Gettysburg. He wasn't particularly keen on speaking spontaneously – in fact, he refused to say anything to the crowd that met him at the Gettysburg train station because he was afraid he might say something foolish.

### RIDDLES:

1. What happens to a frog's car when it breaks down?
2. Is Google male or female?
3. What did the duck say when he bought lipstick?
4. Why was six scared of seven?
5. Why couldn't the blonde add 10 + 5 on a calculator?
6. Why did the witches' team lose the baseball game?
7. Why couldn't the leopard play hide and seek?
8. Why did the can crusher quit his job?
9. Why does Humpty Dumpty love autumn?
10. What do you call a pig that does karate?
11. What do computers eat for a snack?
12. Why can't you trust an atom?

A boy asks his father, "Dad, are bugs good to eat?"

"That's disgusting. Don't talk about things like that over dinner," the dad replies.

After dinner the father asks, "Now, son, what did you want to ask me?"

"Oh, nothing," the boy says. "There was a bug in your soup, but now it's gone."

A mom texts, "Hi Son, what does

IDK, LY, and TTYL mean?

He texts back, "I don't know, Love you, and Talk To You later."

The mom texts him, "It's OK, don't worry about it. I'll ask your sister, love you too."

### ANSWERS:

1. It gets toad away.
2. Female, because it doesn't let you finish a sentence before making a suggestion.
3. "Put it on my bill."
4. Because seven "ate" nine.
5. She couldn't find the "10" button.
6. Their bats flew away.
7. Because he was always spotted.
8. Because it was soda pressing.
9. Because Humpty Dumpty had a great fall.
10. A pork chop
11. Microchips
12. Because they make up everything

Make someone smile today!

## ANIMAL SHELTER Pet of the Week



**ASIA** is a female cattle dog mix, around 2 years old. She is very sweet, loves attention and is fine with other dogs. She is high energy so would need a home where she would get a lot of playtime and exercise. She is spayed and up to date on shots. Adoption fee is \$80. The Martin County Humane Society Animal Shelter is located at 507 N. Oak Street in Loogootee. For info or to see all the dogs and cats available for adoption, visit [www.humanesociety-ofmartincounty.org](http://www.humanesociety-ofmartincounty.org).

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### Shoals School Board meeting

The Shoals School Board will meet Thursday, February 14 at 6 p.m. in the central administration office. The meeting is open to the public.

### Public Records meeting

The Martin County Commission on Public Records will meet at the Martin County Courthouse on Tuesday, February 19 at 10:30 a.m. in the commissioners' room. If unable to attend this meeting, please submit all forms to the clerk's office before the scheduled meeting date.

### Chamber meeting

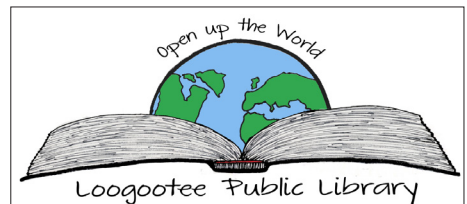
The Martin County Chamber of Commerce will meet Wednesday, February 20 at noon at West Boggs Park Activity Center. Anyone interested in activities of the Chamber are welcome to attend.

### ACCTS Banquet

The 17<sup>th</sup> Annual ACCTS (Area Churches Honoring Christ Together in Service) Banquet will be held Friday, February 22 at 6 p.m. in the lower level of St. John's Center in Loogootee. The meal is free of charge and everyone is invited to attend.

### Broadband summit

There will be joint meeting to educate and discuss ways to remove barriers for the expansion of broadband services in Martin County. The meeting will pull together elected officials from the Martin County Commissioners, Martin County Council, Town of Crane, City of Loogootee and the Town of Shoals. The meeting will take place on Thursday, February 21 at the Martin County Community Building. The meeting will start at 6 p.m. and is being convened by the Martin County



### BY DARLA WAGLER

Librarian, Loogootee Public Library

The library will be closed Monday, February 18 for President's Day.

Recently, the library staff has been busy planning the 2019 summer reading program. The theme this year is "A Universe of Stories" and centers around space. There will be many opportunities for children to participate. I am positive that our new children's librarian will contribute ideas resulting in a fun program that promotes reading as well as encouraging learning during the summer months.

I have had a few people stop in the library and inquire about the building and our plans for it after we move into the new library. The library board plans to sell the current building. If you are interested in the building, you can call the library board president Pat Hale.

Friends of Loogootee Library (FOLL) meetings are on the first Thursday of the month at 4 p.m. Library board meetings are held on the second Monday of the month at 5 p.m.

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

Alliance. The meeting is open to the public and press.

### Food pantry hours

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

### Free lunch for kids

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

### SOAR Tutoring

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

### Tourism meetings

The MCCC Tourism Committee meets on the third Thursday of each month at 5:30 p.m. at Loughmiller Machine, 12851 E 150 N, Loogootee. The public is invited to attend.

### Humane society meetings

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

### Solid waste board

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

### Soil and Water meetings

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

## THANK YOU

Thank you to all those individuals who purchased pizzas or just donated money during the recent pizza fundraiser for my family. Thanks goes out to those took orders, those who made them and the individuals who were out in the weather that morning to deliver them. It is much appreciated.

Sincerely,  
The Bratton family




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## Climate report to show shifts in Indiana energy demand, sources

BY BRIAN WALLHEIMER  
Purdue University News Service

Indiana's warming climate will change Hoosier demands for heating and cooling energy, and energy sources will shift further away from coal, according to the next report from the Indiana Climate Change Impacts Assessment team.

The IN CCIA team, based at Purdue University, will share projections for Indiana energy demand and shifts in energy sources when it releases "Climate Change and Indiana's Energy Sector" during a community briefing at 2 p.m. Tuesday, February 19, at the University Library Room, UL 1116, at Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis. The event is open to the public.

As of 2017, about 75 percent of Indiana's electricity is generated by coal and only 5 percent comes from renewable sources, such as wind power. The report's authors predict a significant shift by mid-century toward natural gas and renewable sources. The pace of this transition will depend on energy prices and potential energy policies. Even modest policies, models show, can have a significant impact on renewable energy adoption and carbon emissions.

The report focuses on residential and commercial use of energy since those sectors are the most sensitive to climate change. Research has shown climate has little effect on industrial or transportation energy consumption.

"Our need for energy to transport ourselves or to manufacture things may not depend on climate, but the demands for heating and cooling our homes and businesses are going to change," said Jeff Dukes, director of the Purdue Climate Change Research Center. "While Hoosiers can expect to run their furnaces less in the winter, they'll be more reliant on air conditioning in the summers to deal with longer hot periods and

more instances of extreme heat."

Purdue and IUPUI researchers contributed to the report. The lead author is Leigh Raymond, Purdue professor of political science.

The Indiana Climate Change Impacts Assessment (IN CCIA) has compiled the latest scientific research into a series of easily understandable reports about climate change impacts in ten topic areas: climate, health, forest ecosystems, aquatic ecosystems, urban green infrastructure, tourism and recreation, agriculture, water resources, energy and infrastructure.

The reports that have been previously released are available on the IN CCIA website at <http://indianacclimate.org/>. For more information about the IN CCIA, go to the website or follow on social media at @PurdueCCRC, #ClimateChange, #INCCIA.

### Cattle meeting to focus on desired market traits

The Dubois County Cattle Association and Purdue Extension - Dubois County will host their annual cattle meeting on Thursday, March 14. The event will focus on developing cattle traits and characteristics for market needs, with the meeting beginning at 6:30 p.m. (EST) at the Southern Indiana Purdue Ag. Center (SIPAC) near Dubois.

Speakers and topics will include:

\*Joe Higgins, cattle buyer supervisor for Tyson Fresh Meats, will speak on traits and characteristics wanted by area cattle markets.

\*Representatives from ADM/Moorman's Feeds and Hopf Equipment, Inc., sponsors for this year's meeting, will discuss services available to cattle producers.

Reservations to attend are required by March 2 and should be directed to the Purdue Extension - Dubois County office at 812-482-1782, or [duboisces@purdue.edu](mailto:duboisces@purdue.edu).



This week's column is a milestone event—number 600 for "In the Garden". About twelve years ago, I began writing this column as a way to earn volunteer hours to reach my goal of becoming a Gold-level Master Gardener. I reached that goal several years ago, but at the urging of my faithful readers, I have continued. Over the years, the number of publications which run the column has increased. It runs in both print and internet publications and is available to thousands of people in southern Indiana each week.

It was never meant to be a question-and-answer column, but I have attempted to answer the questions when readers have contacted me. Sometimes that has meant spending some time researching, which has made me a better gardener. I have listened to suggestions for column topics and most of the time I have been able to learn enough about the suggested topics to include them in the column.

I have taken you with me on trips around the country and to several other countries. Many of my excursions include stops at botanical gardens, garden centers and private gardens that have been opened to me. I have made friends with gardeners everywhere and have introduced you to some great characters in the horticulture field. Several people have let me know that because of my descriptions of some gardens, they made it a point to visit the same gardens on their vacations.

I have invited you into my beloved Sandhill Gardens. My roots run very deep on this rocky ridge in Orange County. My maternal grandmother was a gifted gardener and many of the mature flowering shrubs that make up the bones of the gardens were planted by her nearly a century ago. There are also

several perennials here that she planted. Her peonies and the white-blooming tall sedum have been shared with many friends and family members, and most of my gardening friends have a start of grandma's fragrant pink shrub rose.

Besides plants, I have endeavored to share design tips and even some garden art. We have shared some crafts and some of you have even come to the gardens for some workshops. Others have come for some plant exchanges and some have just visited to tour the gardens. There is little that I like better than showing people around the gardens and sharing my love of the plants.

The information exchange has been far from one-sided. Many of you have responded when I have been looking for a particular heirloom plant or for some piece of garden art. Some of you have brought me rocks for my many projects. (I am still hoping someone will one day locate an affordable millstone for that special project I have in mind.) You have contributed many times to my collection of garden antiques. One reader sent me a garden book from the 1920's and another gave me a 1940 seed catalogue. They may have been just things that needed to be removed from their attics, but they are treasures to me. I hope someday to have a venue where these items and the old tools can be on display.

This column has been a place for sharing. I want to thank those of you who have been reading since the beginning and those of you who have only recently begun to read it. I thank you for your encouragement and your participation. I hope you continue to read and enjoy my attempts to educate the public on garden themes. Stop by Sandhill Gardens and visit sometime.

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## AG reaches \$269.2 million settlement with Walgreens over alleged fraud and overbilling

Attorney General Curtis Hill announced that Indiana has joined the United States,

the District of Columbia and other states in settling two “qui tam” (whistleblower)

lawsuits against Walgreens Boots Alliance (Walgreens).

The agreements resolve allegations that Walgreens knowingly engaged in fraudulent over-dispensing of insulin pens to Medicare and Medicaid beneficiaries and billed Medicaid for certain prescription drugs at rates higher than its usual and customary rates. Walgreens, headquartered in Deerfield, Ill., and incorporated in Delaware, operates the largest retail pharmacy chain in the United States with 8,309 locations across all 50 states.

Attorney General Hill, through his offices Medicaid Fraud Control Unit, participated in the investigations and negotiations leading to these settlements.

“It is troubling, to say the least, whenever companies overcharge the Medicaid program through fraudulent or otherwise improper tactics, Attorney General Hill said. Many Hoosiers find such conduct especially disconcerting when it comes from well-established companies they have come to know and trust. My staff and I are totally committed to holding businesses accountable whether they are large or small, known or unknown. Safeguarding the funds that are meant to provide health care to the neediest Hoosiers is one of our highest priorities.

### Insulin Pens Settlement

Under the Insulin Pens Settlement, Walgreens will pay the United States and the states \$209.2 million. Of this amount, \$89.1 million will go to the state Medicaid programs to resolve civil allegations that Walgreens unlawful over-dispensing of insulin pens caused false claims to be submitted to the Medicaid health care programs. As part of the settlement, Indiana Medicaid will receive \$2.9 million in restitution and other recovery.

The investigation resulted from a “qui tam” action alleging that from January 1, 2006, through December 31, 2017, Walgreens knowingly over-dispensed insulin pens and overbilled government programs in violation of the federal False Claims Act and similar state statutes.

Pursuant to the settlement, Walgreens admitted to programming its computer system to define a full box of five insulin pens as the minimum dispensing package size. This definition prevented Walgreens pharmacists from being able to dispense fewer than five pens even though a patient’s prescription called for fewer pens than a box of five. Thus, Walgreens repeatedly reported information to state Medicaid programs different from, and lower than, the correctly calculated supply according to standard pharmacy practice and as required by state pharmacy laws. This resulted in state Medicaid programs paying for a substantial number of claims that the programs would not have approved if Walgreens had reported the correct supply of medication based on the prescription. This conduct also opened the door to potential healthcare risks and abuse, such as

the improper resale of insulin pens on the Internet.

A National Association of Medicaid Fraud Control Units (NAMFCU) Team conducted the investigation and participated in the settlement negotiations with Walgreens on behalf of the states. Attorney General Hill thanked three of his staff members

Deputy Attorney General Steve Hunt, Investigator Diane Hedges, and Data Analyst Gwen Taylor for their efforts in leading the NAMFCU Team in its investigation and settlement of this matter.

### Discount Drug Pricing Settlement

Under the Discount Drug Pricing Settlement, Walgreens will pay the United States and the states \$60 million. Of this amount, \$27.9 million will go to the state Medicaid programs to resolve civil allegations that Walgreens submitted claims to the state Medicaid programs in which the prices it identified as the usual and customary prices for certain prescription drugs that it sold through its Prescription Savings Club (PSC) program were higher than the prices it charged for those drugs under the PSC program. This practice allegedly enabled Walgreens to get more money in reimbursements from the state Medicaid programs than the amounts to which it was legally entitled. As part of the settlement, Indiana Medicaid will receive \$953,742.96 in restitution and other recovery.

This investigation resulted from a “qui tam” action alleging that from January 1, 2008, through December 31, 2017, Walgreens knowingly failed to follow statutorily prescribed reimbursement guidelines and misrepresented the usual and customary prices for prescription drugs. As a result, Walgreens allegedly overbilled government programs in violation of the federal False Claims Act and similar state statutes.

A National Association of Medicaid Fraud Control Units (NAMFCU) Team including representatives from the Office of the Indiana Attorney General conducted the settlement negotiations with Walgreens on behalf of the states.

## Radius Indiana completes first regional wage and benefits study

A comprehensive survey of businesses in southwestern Indiana reveals positive news about the labor market in the region.

Radius Indiana’s regional survey of wages and benefits showed that 71 percent of companies in a 15-county region expect to add workers in the next year, while only 5 percent anticipate potential layoffs.

Employers also anticipate increases in labor costs; 94 percent indicated that they expected to deliver pay increases in the following twelve months. And the employers reported that they added a median average of more than five new employees in the preceding six months, they averaged zero layoffs in the same period.

Radius carried out the survey of 76 companies in September and October of 2018, gathering information on wages and benefits for 14,640 employees in 63 occupational categories. No employee names or other personal information was reported to Radius in the production of the report.

Information gathered is intended to

## NSWC Crane demonstrates continued support for NASA energy storage life cycle testing for more than 60 years

Naval Surface Warfare Center, Crane Division (NSWC Crane) has supported National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) and other programs for more than 60 years in energy storage life cycle testing. Currently, NSWC Crane is conducting tests for the NASA Glenn Research Center (GRC) International Space Station (ISS) Lithium-ion Program, which replaces outdated units to allow longer energy storage for ISS missions. This testing allows ISS to complete critical scientific research in space.

Since the 1950’s, NSWC Crane has been a trusted energy storage device research, development and test organization due to the expertise of its personnel and state-of-the-art facilities and equipment. Crane’s capabilities have adapted on pace with the evolution of military, aerospace, and commercial battery technologies.

“Nickel-hydrogen technology was commonly used for space applications from around the late 1970’s to early 1980’s,” says Brian Brock, a Branch Manager at NSWC Crane. “Certain materials in nickel-hydrogen technology became unavailable over the years, so the switch to the new lithium-ion energy storage technology was critical for the ISS mission.”

Lithium-ion battery technology is a modern energy storage method used for various purposes, such as common portable electronics. The ISS Lithium-ion Program is dedicated to replacing obsolete energy storage units aboard the ISS.

Since 2012, NSWC Crane has conducted regular, ongoing tests on this new technology to determine battery performance over time.

“Normal life cycle testing reduces program risk by cycling the battery in the most flight-like manner possible,” says Brock. This testing is absolutely necessary to have

high confidence that the batteries will complete their mission.”

Dr. Adrian Parker, Engineer and Task Lead of the Aerospace portfolio at NSWC Crane, took part in the Naval Engineering Education Consortium (NEEC) during his research on lithium-ion batteries.

“I went from building these batteries in an academic lab for my doctoral work, to testing them at Crane,” says Dr. Parker. “It was beneficial to understand the batteries at a fundamental level to be able to do the testing.”

“The expert workforce here is dedicated to their work,” says Brock. “This group is working around the clock for a mission and customer whom they will never meet. People want to know they make a difference, and though they may never see the products of their labor first-hand, they know they have a direct mission impact. It is inspiring as a branch manager to continue that culture in the future.”

Brock says upgrading the technology is efficient, saving time and money for not only NASA, but for other entities that use battery technology.

“By using lithium-ion technology, the overall weight and volume of the energy storage devices decrease, saving millions of dollars,” says Brock. “Crane also does modeling and simulation for this technology and is able to share that data to ensure NASA and other entities can be as effective as possible.”

NSWC Crane is a naval laboratory and a field activity of Naval Sea Systems Command (NAVSEA) with mission areas in Expeditionary Warfare, Strategic Missions and Electronic Warfare. The warfare center is responsible for multi-domain, multi-spectral, full life cycle support of technologies and systems enhancing capability to today’s Warfighter.

help the local companies that participated in the survey have up-to-date, real-world information about the labor market, to help them best hone their competitive compensation packages. The companies that responded to the survey were heavily, but not exclusively, representative of the manufacturing sector.

A sampling of 17 common positions that were covered by the survey showed that in the Radius region, 10 of the positions received lower mean salaries than the state and the national averages, while in five categories, the Radius mean salary was between the state and national averages, and in two cases, the Radius regional mean salary was above both the state and the national averages.

“Information from the wage and benefits survey allows us to better understand how local companies are positioned in the labor market. It is imperative that we stay up to date regarding compensation trends and, most importantly, use this data to be more impactful in economic development

decisions,” said Shance Sizemore, CEO of the Lawrence County Economic Growth Council.

Radius average salaries for positions like Human Resource Manager and Plant Manager were below state and national averages. Office managers and forklift operators were between the state and federal levels in the Radius region, while IT/Technical Support employees earn a higher median salary in the Radius region than the state and national averages.

“Radius appreciated the opportunity to work with the Southwest Indiana Development Commission on this survey, and we also worked on behalf of our partner organization, Regional Opportunity Initiatives, to develop a comprehensive and valuable tool for our part of the state,” Radius CEO Jeff Quyle reported. “We want to help our local economic development organizations prove their value to their local business communities by helping to carry out a collaborative project such as this. It’s a part of our region’s culture for us to want to work with one another.”