

Martin County JOURNAL

Year 15, Issue 7

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2024

Eight pages

CALL group nominating portion of Loogootee as historic district

Community Action Leading Loogootee (CALL) is spearheading an effort to have a portion of downtown Loogootee nominated to the National Register of Historic Places to recognize its historic and architectural significance. The National Register of Historic Places is the official list administered by the National Park Service, of sites, buildings, structures, districts and objects important to our history.

This designation is primarily honorary and would not place any restrictions on property owners within the district; however, it would qualify those owners to use rehabilitation tax credits to help offset qualified rehabilitation costs. The district encompasses the general area between the railroad tracks, NE 1st Street, Jack Butcher Avenue and NW 1st Street. The Loogootee Commercial Historic District lines roughly four blocks on each side of John F. Kennedy (JFK) Avenue and features a concentration of late 19th and early 20th century commercial buildings in Italianate and Neoclassical styles, most of which front a small public square in the

center of the district. Mid-century architecture is represented from a late building boom on JFK Avenue, the main corridor, in a two-block area north of the square. Of note are the number of Mesker company cast iron storefronts in the district.

A map to view the area is available at The Loogootee Public Library and on the CALL web page. Garner Consulting of Plymouth, Indiana, was hired by CALL to draft and submit a nomination which included doing research on the history of Loogootee and its development, preparing maps, and photographing and writing brief architectural descriptions of the buildings in the district. CALL applied for and received a grant through the Martin County Community Foundation to hire the consulting firm.

A public meeting will be held later this year to answer any questions and collect public input about the nomination. Details will be provided about the date, location and time closer to the meeting.

More information about the National Register of Historic Places is available at

www.in.gov/dnr/historic-preservation/help-for-owners/national-and-state-registers/. More information can be provided by contacting Southern Indiana Landmarks at 812-284-4534 or south@indianalandmarks.org.

Listing a property in the National Register DOES:

- Give a property prestige and publicity
 - Provide protection for the property from federally assisted projects
 - Permit the owners of contributing properties to use tax credits for certified rehabilitation
 - Allow owners of certain publicly owned or publicly accessible, non-income-producing properties to apply for federal rehabilitation grants
- Listing DOES NOT:
- Prevent private owners from altering their property
 - Restrict the use or sale of the property
 - Establish certain times that the property must be open to the public

CALL maintains a website caalogootee.in.gov and a facebook page.



Final list of Primary candidates now set

Filing period is for the Martin County Primary Election has ended.

The following are final local candidate filings for the Primary Election:

Martin County Auditor
Michelle Norris (D)
Martin County Recorder
Sheri Crandall (R)
Martin County Treasurer
Rhonda Sanders (R)
Martin County Coroner
Tony Abel (R)
Mark Franklin (R)
Martin County Surveyor
Nathan Hoffman (R)
Martin County Commissioner District 1

Kevin R. Boyd (R)
J. Cody Roush (R)
Retha Warner (R)
Martin County Commissioner District 3

John L. Daniel (R)
Dana Tom Strange (R)
Aaron "Moose" Summers (R)
Martin County Council-at-Large (three seats open)

Warren D Albright (R)
Matthew Matt Ray Copeland (R)
Gerald D Montgomery (R)
Stephen Shout (R)
Jim Woody (R)

Republican Precinct Committee-men

Monty Gregory (R), Perry 6
Aaron Moose Summers (R), Perry 6
Dean Crandall (R), South Center
Adam Greene (R), South Center
Nathan Dale Hoffman (R), South Center

Kevin R Boyd (R), East Memphis
J. Cody Roush (R), East Memphis
Four Republican Convention Delegates-at-Large.

Warren D Albright (R)
Kevin R Boyd (R)
Mike Engleman (R)
Adam Greene (R)
Nathan Dale Hoffman (R)
Gerald D Montgomery (R)
J. Cody Roush (R)
Aaron Moose Summers (R)

The below positions WILL NOT appear on the May 7th Primary Ballot since they are NOT contested.

Republican Precinct Committee-men

Carolyn Sue McGuire (R), Perry 1
Brian S Boyd (R), Perry 3
Brian T Ader (R), Perry 4
David A Smith (R), Perry 5
Charles H Parcels, Jr (R), Crane
Terry J Street (R), Rutherford
Becky L. Sellers (R), Mitcheltree
Benjamin "Snoop" Shaw (R), North Center

(See 'PRIMARY' on page 2)

Martin County awarded grant funds for invasive species specialist

The Indiana State Department of Agriculture and the State Soil Conservation Board awarded \$2,313,287 in matching grant funds to 26 projects within soil and water conservation districts (SWCDs) and soil health organizations through the Clean Water Indiana program. Martin County, in collaboration with Daviess and Orange counties received \$135,282 for a tri-county invasive species specialist.

This project will increase invasive species education, outreach and assistance for landowners in three southern Indiana counties, and build district capacity for the Martin County SWCD. The Martin SWCD will use project funds to hire a full-time Invasive Species Specialist to cover Martin, Daviess and Orange counties.

The specialist's duties will include working closely with landowners to control invasive species on private lands.

Including providing technical assistance, site visits, written invasive management plans and referrals to partner agencies as needed.

"Providing farmers and landowners with tools and funding to keep our Indiana waterways clean and their soil structure healthy is key to keeping Indiana agriculture thriving," said Lt. Gov. Suzanne Crouch, Secretary of Agriculture and Rural Development. "This funding will allow 48 organizations across 26 projects to improve their local water systems, keep their soil healthy and keep their communities thriving. Last year's increase in Clean Water Indiana funding from the general assembly is already making a lasting impact."

The Clean Water Indiana program is administered by the state's soil conservation board. The program, led by the Indiana State Department of Agriculture (ISDA), provides financial assistance to

landowners and conservation groups that are working to reduce runoff from non-point sources of water pollution, whether it's on agricultural land, urban areas or eroding streambanks.

Once received, districts can use the funds to partner with other counties or address specific needs within their jurisdiction. Some examples include participating in a cost share program, hiring staff, providing technical assistance, implementing cover crop incentive programs or increasing watershed capacity.

Gene Schmidt is chair of the State Soil Conservation Board and is looking forward to seeing the work done on the grassroots level by the soil and water district (See 'SOIL & WATER' on page 2)

Grants available for Martin County residents for home improvements

The Southern Indiana Development Commission (SIDC) has received a grant from USDA Rural Development for the purpose of an owner-occupied housing rehabilitation grant in the corporate limits of Martin County, including cities and towns. The grant will provide rehabilitation on houses owned by low- and moderate-income persons living within any area of Martin County. SIDC will accept applications from any homeowner within the Martin County limits. You must own the house and be living in the house. Contract sales are not eligible and single-wide trailers are not eligible. The property cannot be located in a 100-year floodplain.

Assistance is based upon household size and income. SIDC will qualify homeowners for assistance. If you are interested in being considered for this program, call the SIDC at 812-295-3707 and speak with Jenny Dearwester, Housing Program Manager. If she is not available, please leave a message.

At this time, SIDC will place interest- (See 'GRANTS' on page 2)



Penny wars

The Loogootee High School Student Council recently held a penny wars fundraiser and chose the Martin County Humane Society as the charity to receive the funds of \$450. Shown above, from left to right are Martin County Humane Society Volunteer Emily Duvall, LHS sophomores Bailee VanMeter, Julianna Baker, Brooklyn Carrico and Chloe Lawson and Student Council Sponsor Brian Whitney.

-Photo provided

SOIL & WATER

(Continued from page one)

KRB Disposal
Pickup household trash weekly
NOW serving Martin & Daviess counties



812-247-3115 or
812-247-3604

PAUL BEVERS

Paul Edward Bevers passed away Tuesday, February 6, 2024, at the Veteran's Hospital in Louisville. A resident of Shoals, he was 78.

He was born November 5, 1945, in Terre Haute; son of Bob and Betty Sherrick.

Paul graduated from Shoals High School then entered the United States Army, serving in the Vietnam War. Following the military, he went to school for law enforcement and was an investigator with the Washington Police Department.

Paul enjoyed woodworking and driving his truck across the country.

Surviving are his son, Thomas Bevers and stepchildren, Chuck (Beth) Hembree and Kevin Hembree.

He was preceded in death by his parents.

Cremation was chosen and a private family burial will be held at a later date.

Online condolences may be sent to the family at www.queenlee.com.

MERVIN HOLT

Mervin Robert Holt passed away Monday, February 5, 2024, at Good Samaritan Hospital, Vincennes. A resident of Shoals, he was 69.

He was born September 9, 1954 in Shoals; son of Robert and Ruby (Gilbert) Holt.

Mervin loved Martin County and loved to talk about the history and his family's genealogy.

Surviving are his siblings, John R. Holt, Matilda Brown, and Charlotte Tull and several nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Robert and Ruby Holt and siblings, Edward and Janice Holt.

Cremation was chosen and a private family burial will be held at Spring Hill Cemetery at a later date.

Online condolences may be sent to the family at www.queenlee.com.

DAVID TOW

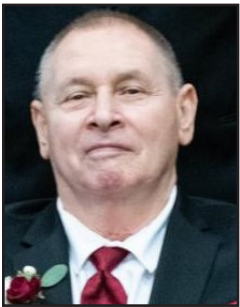
David P. Tow passed away on Sunday, February 11, 2024, at Bell Trace, Bloomington. A resident of Shoals, he was 81.

He was born November 14, 1942, in Shoals; son of Luther and Mamie (Denny) Tow.

David married Julia Logsdon in 1971 in Lawrence County, and she survives.

He graduated from Shoals High School with the class of 1960.

David served in the United States Army in the Vietnam War from March of 1964 to February of 1966; he was a



DAVID TOW

He retired from NWSC Crane where he worked as an Ammunition Inspector and retired from the Martin County State Forest.

David enjoyed hunting, fishing, camping, being outdoors, and watching his children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren play sports. He was an avid Indiana Hoosiers and Los Angeles Dodgers fan.

Surviving to cherish his memory are his wife, Julia Tow of Avoca; two sons, Toby (Teresa) Tow of Avoca, and Jeff (Joyce) Tow of Nineveh; five grandchildren, Cherith (Kyler) Smale, Tanner (Megan) Tow, Carrie (Greg) Vavul, Jessica (Jamie) Rund, and Codi (Keith) Hernandez; 13 great-grandchildren, Angelo and Santino Peña, Tucker, Walter, and Everett Smale, Lennon Julia and Blake David Tow, Addie and Wyatt Rund, Allison and David Vavul, Rowan Mellichamp, and Ellis Hernandez; and several nieces, nephews, and cousins.

He was preceded in death by his parents; granddaughter, Brittani Peña; one sister, Betty Albright; and one brother, Albert Tow.

Funeral service will be at 1 p.m. Thursday, February 15, at the Queen-Lee Chapel of George Funeral Care with Pastor Mark Fugate and Bro. Jeremy Fox officiating. Burial will be in Spring Hill Cemetery. Military Rites will be accorded at the grave by the Shoals American Legion.

Visitation will be from 10 a.m. until the service hour on Thursday at the Queen-Lee Chapel.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Martin County Humane Society, Shoals Little League, and the Shoals American Legion.

Online condolences may be sent to the family at www.queenlee.com.

CHARLES ELLIOTT

Charles Anthony "Tony" Elliott passed away peacefully on Thursday, February 8, 2024, surrounded by his family. A resident of Indianapolis, he was 77.

He was born April 13, 1946, in Washington; son of the late Clarence and Ada (Doyle) Elliott. He married Debbie Lynch on September 23, 1972.

member of the National and Shoals American Legion; Vice-President of the Martin County Fair Board; and past President of the Shoals Baseball League.

He retired from NWSC Crane where he worked as an Ammunition Inspector and retired from the Martin County State Forest.

Tony was an incredibly loving father and grandfather, an honorably discharged Vietnam veteran, an MBA graduate from University of Notre Dame, and a retired Mechanical Engineering Manager at RCA, where several of his inventions earned patents.

He loved classic cars and Corvettes, was an avid Notre Dame Football fan, enjoyed watching western movies, making pancakes ("world famous" according to both his children and grandchildren), gardening, taking impeccable care of his lawn, home renovation projects, retreating to warm weather, reading a good book and gathering with his siblings and cousins, but most of all he loved caring for and spending time with his wife, his kids, and his grandkids.

He will be deeply missed by all who knew him well.

Tony is survived by the love of his life, Debbie Lynch Elliott; children, Chad Elliott (Pamela), and Kelly Haskett (Chris); five grandchildren, Gregory McCullough, Max Haskett, Joshua Elliott, Jordan Elliott and Ellie Haskett; siblings, Donna VanWinkle, Mike Elliott; sisters-in-law, Irene Elliott, Rita Elliott, Mary Elliott, Thelma Elliott, Carolyn Sinnott; and brother-in-law, Mike Lynch.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Clarence and Ada (Doyle) Elliott; sisters, Naomi (Rocky) Walters, Martha (Merrill) Wolford; brothers, Clarence Jr. (LaVon), Carl (Marie), Curt, Fred (Georgia), Norbert, Larry, and Doyle Elliott; sister-in-law, Vonda Elliott; and brothers-in-law, Bob VanWinkle and Chuck Lynch.

A Life Celebration and visitation for Tony will be held this evening, Wednesday, February 14, from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m., at O'Riley - Branson Funeral Service and Crematory, 6107 S. East Street, Indianapolis, Indiana 46227. Additional visitation will be Thursday, February 15 from 9-9:45 a.m. at the funeral home. A Funeral Mass will be held Thursday, February 15 at 10 a.m. at St. Mark Catholic Church, 535 Edgewood Ave., Indianapolis, Indiana 46227. Burial to follow at Mt. Pleasant Cemetery, Greenwood.

Please visit www.OrileyBranson.com to share a favorite memory or to sign the online guest registry.

In lieu of flowers you may make contributions to the Riley Children's Health <https://www.rileychildrens.org>

Martin County JOURNAL

A weekly online newspaper published every Wednesday

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FREE COMMUNITY SOUP MEAL

Saturday, March 2

2-4:30 p.m. at

Shoals United Methodist Church

(5th & Main Street in Shoals)



Goodwill offerings will be accepted.

THE PUBLIC IS INVITED TO ATTEND!



Stay for a concert from By Faith Quartet at 5 p.m.

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DCHOSP.ORG/DAVINCI

Martin County Sheriff's Department activity log

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 5

4:15 a.m. - Received a call from Lifeline advising of a detected fall southeast of Shoals. Lost River Fire Department responded.

6:56 a.m. - Received 911 call reporting possible trespassers in Loogootee. Loogootee Chief Long responded.

7:34 a.m. - Received a report of a controlled burn southwest of Shoals.

7:34 a.m. - Received a 911 call reporting a reckless driver on US 231S traveling north. Loogootee Chief Long and Captain Gibson responded.

8:51 a.m. - Received a report of a controlled burn southeast of Shoals.

9:31 a.m. - Received a report of a controlled south of Loogootee.

10:23 a.m. - Received a report of a reckless driver north of Loogootee. Chief Deputy Keller responded.

10:45 a.m. - Received a call requesting a vehicle identification number check on a boat north of Shoals. Corporal Hawkins responded.

11:50 a.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Medic 1 and Loogootee Fire Department responded. Medic 1 transported one patient to Daviess Community Hospital.

12:03 p.m. - Received a 911 call reporting a rock hitting a windshield in Loogootee. Loogootee Chief Long responded.

12:29 p.m. - Received a call requesting a vehicle identification number check on an RV trailer southeast of Shoals. Sergeant Wells responded.

1:24 p.m. - Received a call reporting a suspicious person west of Shoals. Corporal Hawkins responded.

1:50 p.m. - Received a call requesting an officer to check a residence northeast of Shoals. Corporal Hawkins responded.

2:38 p.m. - Received a call reporting a suspicious vehicle in Shoals. Sergeant Wells responded.

2:44 p.m. - Received a call from Lifeline requesting an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Medic 1 and Loogootee Fire Department responded. Medic 1 transported one patient to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

3:49 p.m. - Received a report of a reckless driver in Loogootee. Deputy Doane responded.

4:52 p.m. - Received a 911 call reporting a possible traffic hazard in Loogootee. Sergeant Wells responded.

6:10 p.m. - Received a 911 call reporting an accident with injuries south of Loogootee. Martin County Medic 1, Medic 2, Medic 3, Medic 4, Loogootee Fire Department, Captain Gibson, Sergeant Wells, Corporal Hawkins, Deputy Doane, Loogootee Officer Davis and Big John's Towing responded. Medic 1 transported to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

6:33 p.m. - Received a report of a car-deer accident east of Shoals. Deputy Doane responded.

7:48 p.m. - Received a call requesting to speak with an officer. Corporal Hawkins responded.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 6

2:50 a.m. - Received a call from IU Health Line requesting transport from IU Paoli. Martin County Medic 4 responded and transported one patient to Floyd Baptist Hospital.

4:02 a.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Medic 1 and Loogootee Fire Department responded. Medic 1 transported one patient to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

7:58 a.m. - Received a call requesting a vehicle identification number check south of Shoals. Captain Gibson responded.

8:13 a.m. - Received a report of a traffic hazard in Shoals. Captain Gibson, Depu-

ty Baumgart, Shoals Fire Department and INDOT responded.

8:21 a.m. - Received a call reporting a disabled vehicle west of Shoals. Chief Deputy Keller responded.

11:22 a.m. - Received a call from VRI Alarms advising of a fall detection south of Loogootee. Loogootee Fire Department responded.

11:30 a.m. - Received a report of an accident with no injuries in Loogootee. Loogootee Chief Long and Captain Gibson responded.

1:04 p.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance in Shoals. Martin County Medic 1, Captain Gibson, Corporal Hawkins, and Shoals Fire Department responded. Medic 1 transported one patient to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

1:27 p.m. - Received a call requesting an ambulance south of Loogootee. Martin County Medic 2 responded but did not transport.

4:14 p.m. - Received a request for officers in Crane Village. ISP Trooper Brumett and Martin County Deputies responded.

10:44 p.m. - Received a noise complaint in Loogootee. Loogootee Officer Davis responded.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 7

6:27 a.m. - Received a 911 call reporting a car-deer accident north of Loogootee. Major Reed responded.

6:51 a.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Medic 1 responded and transported one patient to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

9:33 a.m. - Received a call reporting possible harassment northeast of Shoals. Corporal Hawkins responded.

10:18 a.m. - Received a call requesting to speak with an officer. Captain Gibson responded.

12:24 p.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Medic 1 and Loogootee Fire Department responded. Medic 1 transported one patient to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

3:16 p.m. - Received a call reporting a disabled vehicle west of Shoals. Captain Gibson responded.

3:26 p.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Medic 1, Captain Gibson, Sergeant Wells, Corporal Hawkins, Loogootee Officer Wagoner and Loogootee Fire Department responded. Medic 1 transported one patient to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

5:08 p.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Medic 1, Medic 2 and Loogootee Fire Department responded. Medic 1 transported one patient to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

6:45 p.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Medic 1 and Medic 2 responded. Medic 1 transported one patient to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

7:00 p.m. - Received a call reporting a controlled burn south of Shoals.

9:18 p.m. - Received a 911 call from a Daviess County address. Transferred call to Daviess County 911.

9:18 p.m. - Daviess County Deputy request assistance west of Loogootee. Deputy Doane responded.

11:21 p.m. - Received a call reporting a noise complaint in Loogootee. Loogootee Officer Wagoner responded.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 8

8:04 a.m. - Received a call from Loogootee High School advising they will be completing a fire drill today.

8:59 a.m. - Received a call from Area 1 Protection advising of the Loogootee School fire alarm. Advised company of the fire drill.

9:26 a.m. - Received call from Crane

Naval Base advising of training. Advised all Martin County Law Enforcement.

12:43 p.m. - Received a 911 call requesting a property check in Loogootee. Deputy Branham responded.

3:03 p.m. - Received a 911 call reporting an accident in Loogootee. Loogootee Officer Wagoner and Martin County Medic 1 responded. Medic 1 transported one patient to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

3:12 p.m. - Received a call requesting a welfare check in Shoals. Corporal Hawkins responded.

3:23 p.m. - Received a call advising of suspicious activity north of Shoals. Sergeant Wells responded.

3:44 p.m. - Received 911 call requesting a deputy and medical assistance south of Loogootee. Chief Deputy Keller, Sergeant Wells, Corporal Hawkins, Loogootee Officer Wagoner, Indiana Conservation Officer Mann, and Martin County Medic 2 responded. Medic 2 transported one patient to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

4:25 p.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance east of Shoals. Deputy Shields and Martin County Medic 1 responded. Medic 1 transported one patient to IU Bedford Hospital.

5:06 p.m. - Received a call reporting a theft in Shoals. Deputy Shields advised.

6:19 a.m. - Received a report of a field fire in Loogootee. Loogootee Fire Department responded.

6:36 p.m. - Received a call of a possible traffic hazard in Loogootee. Loogootee Officer Wagoner responded.

6:47 p.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance in Shoals. Corporal Hawkins, Martin County Medic 1 and Shoals Fire Department responded. Medic 1 transported one patient to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

7:45 p.m. - Received a call reporting a suspicious vehicle southeast of Shoals. Deputy Shields responded.

8:10 p.m. - Received a 911 call reporting a car-deer accident south of Loogootee. Loogootee Officer Wagoner, Loogootee Fire Department, and Big John's Towing responded.

8:13 p.m. - Received a 911 call reporting a reckless driver in Loogootee. Loogootee Officer Wagoner responded.

10:28 p.m. - Received a call requesting to speak with a deputy. Deputy Erwin responded.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 9

12:55 a.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Medic 1 responded and transported one patient to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

12:59 a.m. - Received a 911 call requesting assistance southeast of Shoals. Shoals Fire Department and Martin County Medic 2 responded. No transport was needed.

7:26 a.m. - Received a report of a possible theft in Shoals. Chief Deputy Keller and ISP responded.

7:55 a.m. - Received a call requesting a vehicle unlock in Shoals. Deputy Baumgart responded.

8:37 a.m. - Received a call reporting a possible scam. Deputy Branham responded.

9:03 a.m. - Received a call requesting a vehicle identification number check in Shoals. Deputy Branham responded.

11:38 a.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance in Shoals. Martin County Medic 1 and Shoals Fire Department responded. Medic 1 transported one patient to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

1:38 p.m. - Received a report of a reckless driver on US 50, traveling east. Deputy Branham responded.

2:22 p.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance in Shoals. Martin County Medic 1, Chief Deputy Keller and

Shoals Fire Department responded. Medic 1 transported one patient to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

3:10 p.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Medic 2 and Loogootee Fire Department responded. Medic 2 transported one patient to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

5:40 p.m. - Received a call reporting a suspicious person northeast of Shoals. Deputy Shields responded.

5:45 p.m. - Received a call from Lifeline advising of an alert southeast of Shoals. Martin County Medic 1 responded but did not transport.

8:28 p.m. - Received a report of possible harassment north of Loogootee. Deputy Erwin responded.

9:14 p.m. - Received a report of an accident with no injuries in Shoals. Loogootee Reserve Officer Shaw responded.

9:44 p.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Medic 1 responded but did not transport.

11:24 p.m. - Received a noise complaint in Loogootee. Loogootee Officer Wagoner responded.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 10

3:34 a.m. - Received a 911 call from a Daviess County address. Transferred call to Daviess County 911. Loogootee Fire 303 also responded.

5:09 a.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Medic 1 and Loogootee Fire Department responded. Medic 1 transported one patient to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

10:57 a.m. - Received a call requesting a vehicle identification number check south of Shoals. Deputy Branham responded.

12:43 p.m. - Received a call requesting a vehicle identification number check on an ATV north of Shoals. Deputy Branham responded.

5:35 p.m. - Received a report of a controlled burn east of Loogootee.

7:30 p.m. - Received a call reporting a possible trespasser northeast of Shoals. Deputy Erwin responded.

7:32 p.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Medic 1 responded and transported one patient to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

8:00 p.m. - Received a report of vehicle repossession in Loogootee.

9:21 p.m. - Received a call requesting a welfare check in North Vernon. Called Jennings County Sheriff's Office with information.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 11

3:43 a.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance in Crane Village. Martin County Medic 1, Medic 3 and Crane Fire Department responded. Medic 1 transported one patient to IU Health Bloomington.

7:10 a.m. - Received a report of a controlled burn northeast of Shoals.

10:59 a.m. - Received a call from Lifeline advising of a lift assist requested southeast of Shoals. Shoals Fire Department responded.

11:57 a.m. - Received a 911 call requesting officers and medics in Loogootee. Martin County Medic 1, Medic 3, Loogootee Officer Davis, Corporal Hawkins, ISP Trooper Lents, and Loogootee Fire Department responded. No transport was needed.

12:50 p.m. - Received a call reporting a possible theft in Shoals. Corporal Hawkins responded.

1:27 p.m. - Received a report of a controlled burn in Loogootee.

3:50 p.m. - Received a call requesting a vehicle identification number check southeast of Shoals. Deputy Doane responded.

9:15 p.m. - Received a call from ADT advising of a residential burglar alarm in Loogootee. Loogootee Officer Wagoner responded.

COURT NEWS

CRIMINAL CONVICTIONS AND SENTENCINGS

January 31

DeWhawn L. Fleming, convicted of operating a vehicle with suspended or revoked registration, a Class C Misdemeanor. Sentenced to serve 0 days with 0 days of probation.

Brian K. Wagler, convicted of operating a vehicle while intoxicated, a Class C Misdemeanor. Sentenced to serve 60 days with 56 days suspended and credit for 2 actual days previously served plus 2 Class A credit days. Defendant received 12 months of probation.

David W. Stoll, convicted of operating a vehicle while intoxicated endangering a person, a Class A Misdemeanor. Sentenced to serve 365 days with 363 days suspended and credit for 1 actual day previously served plus 1 Class A credit day. Defendant received 12 months of probation.

Robert P. Miles, convicted of reckless driving, a Class C Misdemeanor. Sentenced to serve 60 days with 58 days suspended and credit for 1 actual day previously served plus 1 Class A credit day. Defendant received 2 months of probation.

February 6

Fredrick E. Smeltzer, convicted of driving while suspended, a Class A Misdemeanor. Sentenced to serve 365 days with 359 days suspended and credit for 3 actual days previously served plus 3 Class A credit days. Defendant received 12 months of probation.

Taylor Truitt, convicted of domestic battery, a Level 6 Felony. Sentenced to serve 540 days with 498 days suspended and credit for 21 actual days previously served plus 21 Class A credit days. Defendant received 16 months of probation.

Kevin C. Vandersloot, convicted of theft, a Class A Misdemeanor. Sentenced to serve 365 days with 363 days suspended and credit for 1 actual day previously served plus 1 Class A credit day. Defendant received 12 months of probation.

CRIMINAL CHARGES DISMISSED

January 31

David W. Stoll, refusal to submit to breath or chemical test, a Class C Infraction, dismissed.

Robert P. Miles, operating a vehicle with an ACE of .08 or more, a Class C Misdemeanor, dismissed; refusal to submit to a breath or chemical test, a Class C Infraction, dismissed.

February 6

Kevin C. Vandersloot, theft where value of property is between \$750 and \$50,000, a Level 6 Felony, dismissed.

CIVIL COURT

New Suits Filed

February 1

DNF Associates, LLC vs. Tammy Clark, civil collection.

Amanda Gardner vs. Matthew Gardner, petition for dissolution of marriage.

February 6

Liberty Federal Credit Union vs. Amanda Miller and Thomas Miller, civil collection.

CIVIL COURT DISMISSED

January 31

Cavalry SPV I, LLC vs. Megan Padgett, civil collection, dismissed.

LVNV Funding, LLC vs. Sarah VanMeter, civil collection, dismissed.

February 2

Cavalry SPV I, LLC vs. Mitchell Pfau, civil collection, dismissed.

SMALL CLAIMS DISMISSED

February 1

Cassandra Sumner vs. Wild Flower Photography, LLC and Lexy Hamm, complaint, dismissed.

MARRIAGE LICENSES

February 7

Jon David Flynn of Crane and April Dawn King of Crane.

Samantha Mariann Carpenter of Loogootee and Kaylenn Jean Fraley of Loogootee.

ARRESTS

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 5

10:38 p.m. - Noah Whittaker, 21, of South Carolina, was arrested by Sergeant Wells and charged with operating while intoxicated-endangerment, possession of marijuana and possession of paraphernalia. He is being held on \$20,000 10% bond.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 8

9:40 p.m. - Robert Hawkins, 42, of Shoals, was arrested by Captain Gibson and charged with dealing in methamphetamine, unlawful possession of a syringe, and possession of paraphernalia. He is being held with no bond.

9:50 p.m. - Autumn Roberts, 43, of Shoals, was arrested by Deputy Erwin and charged with dealing in methamphetamine, possession of methamphetamine, unlawful possession of a syringe, and possession of paraphernalia. She is being held with no bond.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 9

10:20 p.m. - Leslie Wildman, 81, of Shoals, was arrested by Sergeant Wells and charged with operating a vehicle while intoxicated. He is being held on \$3,000 10% bond.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 11

2:23 a.m. - Christopher Moto, 36, of Anderson, was arrested by Deputy Erwin and charged with failure to register as a sex offender and failure to provide identification. He is being held on \$15,000 10% bond.

12:52 p.m. - John Mattingly, 45, of Loogootee, was arrested by Loogootee Officer Davis and charged with battery with a deadly weapon, resisting law enforcement and disorderly conduct. He is being held on \$30,000 10% bond.

Loogootee Police log

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 5

6:56 a.m. - Chief Long responded to a call on Mulberry Street.

9:18 a.m. - Chief Long responded to a call near Smoker's Host.

11:51 a.m. - Loogootee Fire Department and Chief Long responded to a medical call on High Street.

12:05 p.m. - Chief Long responded to a call at Marathon gas station.

2:44 p.m. - Loogootee Fire Department, Chief Long and Officer Davis responded to a medical call on Church Street.

6:10 p.m. - Officer Davis responded to a call on Mount Pleasant Road.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 6

4:02 a.m. - Loogootee Fire Department responded to a medical call at Marathon gas station.

11:27 a.m. - Loogootee Fire Department responded to a medical call on US Highway 231 South.

11:27 a.m. - Chief Long responded to a call on Cooper Street.

11:42 a.m. - Chief Long responded to a call on Cedar Street.

4:10 p.m. - Officer Davis responded to a call on Blandy Street.

10:44 p.m. - Officer Davis responded to a call on Sherman Street.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 7

11:35 a.m. - Chief Long performed a funeral detail.

12:25 a.m. - Loogootee Fire Department responded to a medical call on Cedar Street.

3:27 p.m. - Loogootee Fire Department, Chief Long and Officer Wagoner responded to a medical call on North Oak Street.

3:43 p.m. - Officer Wagoner responded to a 911 CVS hangup call.

4:45 p.m. - Officer Davis responded to a call at Taco Bell.

5:08 p.m. - Loogootee Fire Department responded to a medical call on Southwest Third Street.

11:21 p.m. - Officer Wagoner responded to a call on Ackerman Drive.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 8

12:06 p.m. - Chief Long responded to a call near Marathon gas station.

1:30 p.m. - Chief Long responded to a vehicle unlock at the methodist church.

3:03 p.m. - Officer Wagoner responded to an accident at CVS.

3:46 p.m. - Chief Long and Officer Wagoner responded to a call on State Road 550 South.

6:19 p.m. - Loogootee Fire Department responded to a call on Park Street.

6:36 p.m. - Officer Wagoner responded to a call on US Highway 231 and US Highway 50 West.

8:10 p.m. - Loogootee Fire Department and Officer Wagoner responded to a call on US Highway 231 South.

8:13 p.m. - Officer Wagoner responded to a call on US Highway 231.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 9

3:11 p.m. - Loogootee Fire Department and Officer Stivers responded to a medical call on Cedar Street.

11:24 p.m. - Officer Wagoner responded to a call at the Eldorado Motel.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 10

3:34 a.m. - Loogootee Fire Department responded to a medical call on 200 South.

5:09 a.m. - Loogootee Fire Department responded to a medical call on Queen Street.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 11

11:57 a.m. - Loogootee Fire Department and Officer Davis responded to a call on Dewey Street.

9:15 p.m. - Office Wagoner responded to a call on Clark Street.

Martin County
Recycling Center

Shoals Location
Hours Change

Effective February 21
OPEN

Wednesdays
11:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Saturdays
8 a.m. - noon

CLOSED

Mondays

(February 12th will be the last
Monday we will be open in Shoals,
as the 19th falls on a holiday)

812-295-4142

PAPER

GLASS

PLASTIC



Nolan Lottes

Local beef by the 1/4, 1/2, or whole
Hogs by the 1/2 and whole
Individual beef orders available

 (812)-787-2186

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 Loogootee, Indiana



Give Her Your Heart
This Valentine's Day



Free Box of Chocolates from Chocolate Bliss
Free Valentine's Day Card
& Free Gift Wrapping
with any purchase of \$129 or more.



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More Neat Stuff



By Ann Ackerman



THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW IF YOU MOVE TO SOUTHERN INDIANA

1. A possum is a flat animal that sleeps in the middle of the road.
 2. There are 5,000 types of snakes and 4,998 of them live in Southern Indiana.
 3. There are 10,000 types of spiders. All 10,000 of them live in Southern Indiana, plus a couple no one's seen before.
 4. Onced and Twiced are words.
 5. It is not a shopping cart; it is a buggy!
 6. There is no such thing as lunch. There is only dinner and then there's supper.
 7. Iced tea is appropriate for all meals, and you start drinking it when you're two.
 8. All the festivals across the state are named after a fruit, vegetable, grain, insect, or animal.
 9. You carry jumper cables in your car for your OWN car.
 10. The local papers cover national and international news on one page, but require 6 pages for local high school sports, motorsports, and gossip.
 11. You think that the first day of deer season is a national holiday.
 12. You know what a hissy fit is.
- AND one more:
13. Why did the chicken cross the road? To show that stupid possum that it CAN be done!

RIDDLES

1. What do you get when you put oil on a racing dog?
2. How do you know if your wife or your dog loves you more?
3. What do you get when you cross a

Consumer alert: From bedding to boots, don't kick off 2024 with these flawed products

Attorney General Todd Rokita is alerting Hoosiers of important consumer protection concerns for products recalled as we celebrate the new year.

"January should be full of hope and positivity – not anxiety or concern about your purchased products," Attorney General Rokita said. "Do not allow a flawed product to put your family in danger. Please stop using recalled items immediately and pursue resolution from the manufacturer."

According to the Consumer Product Safety Commission, the following consumer products were recalled in January:

Bokser Home Recalls Mattress Pads Due to Fire Hazard and Violation of Federal Mattress Pad Flammability Regulation

Home Design Recalls Upholstered Low Profile Standard and Platform Beds Due to Fall and Injury Hazards

- frog with a dog?
4. How do you know if you have a slow dog?
 5. After accidentally swallowing Buzz Lightyear, what did the dog say to Woody?

THOUGHTS

- *Them: What do you do for a living?
Me: I drink coffee and do my best, Okay?
- *Young at heart. Old everywhere else.
- *I like to party, and by party, I mean to sit on the couch with my dog and eat snacks.
- *Maybe someday I'll get lost on my way to work and end up on a beach in Key West.
- *I told my wife I wanted to be cremated. She made me an appointment for Friday.
- *I am the human version of tangled Christmas lights.
- *You don't realize how old you are until you sit on the floor and then try to get back up.
- *I am not interested in your latest workout routine. I'm happy to just get my leg through my underwear without falling down.
- *Cowboys would put a lantern on their saddle at night so they could find the trail when they were far from home. This was early Saddle Light Navigation.

- ANSWERS 1. Grease lightning 2. Just lock them both in a crate for a few hours and once you open it see which one is glad to see you. 3. A Croaker Spaniel 4. He chases parked cars. 5. You got a friend in me.

Make someone smile today!

Boot Royalty Recalls Men's Leather Work Boots Due to Crush Hazard

H.H. Brown Shoe Company Recalls Redeemer Work Boots Due to Injury Hazard

UBBCARE Play Yard Mattresses Recalled Due to Suffocation Hazard for Infants; Violation of the Federal Safety Regulation for Crib Mattresses; Sold Exclusively on Amazon.com by UBB-CARE

There are many more items that need to be double checked before using regularly.

If you believe you recently purchased a recalled product, stop using it, and check its recall notice. Then, follow the notice's instructions, including where to return the product or what steps must be taken to receive a replacement product.

To view recalls issued prior to January, visit the www.cpsc.gov/Recalls.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Loogootee School Board meeting

The Loogootee School Board will meet Thursday, February 15 at 5 p.m. in the high school media center. The meeting is open to the public.

Tourism meeting

The Martin County Tourism Council will meet Tuesday, February 20 at 5 p.m. at 404 JFK Avenue in Loogootee. The meeting is open to the public.

Farmers' Breakfast

A Farmers' Appreciation Breakfast, sponsored by the Shoals FFA, Shop Class and Culinary Departments, will be held Thursday, February 22 at 9 a.m. at the Shoals High School. Reservations are encouraged so the classes know how much food to prepare, but not required. RSVP by calling 812-247-2090, extension 2, by Friday, February 16. All local farmers are invited to attend.

Celebrate Recovery meetings

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

Dog/cat Wellness Clinic

The Martin County Humane Society hosts a wellness clinic on the third Friday of each month from 5-6 p.m. The clinic offers low-cost vaccines, testing, nail trims, etc. No appointment needed.

St. Vincent Food Pantry

The St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry, on Park Street in Loogootee, is open the fourth Thursday of the month except November and December when they are open the third Thursday. The hours are 9 a.m.-noon and 1-3:30 p.m.

Free lunch for kids

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

SOAR Tutoring

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

LUMC Food Pantry

The Loogootee United Methodist Church Food Pantry is open every Thursday (except the fourth Thursday) from 11 a.m.-1 p.m.

Solid waste board

The Martin County Solid Waste Board holds their monthly meetings on the third

Tuesday of each month at 8:30 a.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 Soil & Water Conservation District (SWCD) meets the third Tuesday of the month at the SWCD office located at 404 JFK Avenue in Loogootee. The meetings are at 7:30 p.m. (April-October) and at 6:30 p.m. (November-March). Office hours are 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Thursday. Please call 812-295-3149 for assistance.

Be aware of recent Social Security scam

- Identify the scam
- If you receive a call, text, email, letter, or message on social media that:
- Threatens to suspend your Social Security number, even if they have part or all of your Social Security number
 - Warns of arrest or legal action
 - Demands or requests immediate payment
 - Requires payment by gift card, prepaid debit card, Internet currency, or by mailing cash
 - Pressures you for personal information
 - Requests secrecy
 - Threatens to seize your bank account
 - Promises to increase your Social Security benefit
 - Tries to gain your trust by providing fake "documentation," false "evidence," or the name of a real government official
- It is a SCAM!

Scammers may use legitimate names and phone numbers of Social Security Administration (SSA) or SSA Office of the Inspector General (OIG) employees. Do not rely on names or caller ID to verify that the caller is a government employee. Many scam calls "spoof" official government phone numbers, or even numbers for local police departments. It is a scam!

Phone scammers may send official-looking letters or reports by U.S. mail, email, text, or social media message to convince you they are legitimate. The letters may appear to be from SSA or SSA OIG, with official letterhead and government jargon. They may also contain misspellings and typos. It is a scam!

Generally, SSA mainly calls people who have recently applied for a Social Security benefit, someone who is already receiving payments and requires an update to their record, or a person who has requested a phone call from the agency. If a person is not in one of these situations, they normally would not receive a call from the agency.

TOY'S AUTO PARTS, INC.

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

Upcoming Program



Dr. Priya Alex & Veronica Delaney, FNP-C

New Year New You: Get Your Body Moving

It has been proven that getting more movement throughout your day is beneficial for your body and mind. Daviess County YMCA and Susan Ramsey Fitness are partnering with Memorial Hospital for this free presentation, which will include information on local gyms, memberships and demonstrations of low impact exercises and weight lifting techniques.

Thursday, February 29, 2024
6:00 - 7:15 pm ET
Light snacks will be provided.

Martin County 4-H Fairgrounds
Community Building
2668 US Hwy 50
Loogootee, IN, IN

Pre-registration is required.

To pre-register for this free event, visit www.mhhcc.org and search for the program in "Classes & Events" or call 812-996-2352.

Deadline to register is February 26, 2024.

MEMORIAL HOSPITAL AND HEALTH CARE CENTER



In the Garden

By Ralph Purkhiser,
Purdue University Master Gardener

I got back from a trip to Indianapolis over the weekend and found hellebores in bloom at Sandhill Gardens. This is a signal that I have work to do. The foliage from last year needs to be cut, and as the new foliage comes up, it makes it difficult to cut the old. It is time-consuming, but it is best to use some sharp scissors or pruners and cut one stem at a time. Trying to shear off clumps will almost certainly result in cutting off flowers and the foliage for this year. The good news is that this is the only real care the hellebores will need for the year, unless I decide to dig some and re-plant them. For this work, they will reward you with blooms that sometimes continue into July and nice foliage that adds a different texture to shade gardens. I have a couple of clumps that have variegated foliage, adding another form of interest.

In addition to the hellebores, winter aconite and some early crocuses are in bloom. These are tough flowers, and though very cold nights may cause them to wilt down, it will not kill them. Actually, the cooler weather will cause the blooms to last longer.

In a recent column, I gave instructions for winter sowing of seeds that need a cold treatment for stratification. Now, it is getting time to begin sowing seeds for tender plants. This must be done in-

Spring Mill State Park hosts Lincoln show, Civil War event

Spring Mill State Park will host an Abraham Lincoln show and a Civil War re-enactment at its Pioneer Village February 17 and 18.

All events happen both days. The village will be open to guests from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. At 12:45 p.m., Danny Russel will perform "Abraham Lincoln, A Hoosier Hero" in the grist mill. His one-man show focuses on Lincoln's years in Indiana when he lost his mother and sister, taught himself to read, and learned lessons that would shape the rest of his life. Russel's performance is thanks to a grant from Lawrence County Tourism.

At 1:50 p.m. guests wanting to watch a re-enacted tactical battle for the village will be directed to viewing areas for the 2 p.m. program. Before and after the event, guests will be welcome to tour the village and visit with the re-enactors.

Park admission is \$7 per vehicle for in-state residents and \$9 per vehicle for out-of-state residents.

For more information on this and other upcoming park events, contact Coletta Prewitt, 812-849-3534 or springmillstatepark@dnr.IN.gov.

Spring Mill State Park (on.IN.gov/springmill) is at 3333 State Road 60 East, Mitchell, 47446.

side or in a hot bed, as these plants will not survive freezing temperatures. For vegetables, including tomatoes, peppers and eggplant, count back six weeks from our frost-free date to get the date to sow them. May 10 has traditionally been the day of being safe from freezing temperatures, but it has been a long time since we have had freezes that late. Also check the "days to germination" information on the seed packet. Some peppers are slow to germinate without bottom heat, so they may need to be sowed earlier. If you do not have a heat mat on which to set them, you may want to put the trays on top of your refrigerator until they have sprouted.

Caring for the seedlings inside can be a challenge. Started too early, they tend to get spindly before time to set them out. This is usually because they do not get enough light. If you want to grow good transplants, consider purchasing a grow light with a timer. Leave the light on for about 16 hours a day to give the plants the light they need to develop properly. If you have a sunny window, you may be able to grow without a grow light, but just as the houseplants we discussed last week, they will need to be rotated frequently to keep them growing straight. The plants will grow toward the sun, which means they will grow toward the window. Keep an eye on them. They may need to be turned more than once a day!

I have had some questions concerning cold frames and hot beds, and how they are different. In general, they are the same on the surface, but a hot bed has a heat source. Usually, rotting manure in the bottom of the bed supplies heat. If you wish to build a hot bed, dig down about a foot. Fill that area with fresh manure. Horse manure is favored by many, as it gets hotter than some other manures. Then you need to build a frame around the bed and fill the frame with compost or garden soil. The bed then must be covered with glass or clear plastic to hold that heat in. You have to watch the bed daily. If it is a sunny day, the temperature in a hot bed may get too hot, and you will need to open the top. The outside temperature will be the deciding factor on just how much to open the bed. Sometimes, it just needs to be open a few inches for ventilation, and other times it needs to be fully open. Just be sure to close the lid if freezing temperatures are predicted at night.

Crops like cabbage, lettuce, broccoli, cauliflower and related crops do quite well in a cold frame, but tomatoes, cucumbers, squash and other warm-season crops will need the heat of a hot bed if you wish to start the seeds early.

Stop by and see the hellebores some time. I might even let you do some trimming of the old foliage.

Weakened commodity prices cast a shadow on farmer sentiment

BY ERIN ROBINSON
Purdue University News Service

The most recent findings from the Purdue University/CME Group Ag Economy Barometer reveal a downturn in farmer sentiment at the start of 2024.

The January barometer fell to a reading of 106, 8 points lower than in December. Producers expressed a more pessimistic perspective about their farms' current situation and future prospects. The Current Conditions Index fell 9 points, and the Future Expectations Index dropped by 7, both compared to December. The anticipation of weaker farm income in 2024 contributed to the overall decline, reflected in the Farm Financial Performance Index at 85, a 12-point decrease from the previous month. This month's Ag Economy Barometer survey was conducted from January 15-19.

"The number of producers pointing to lower commodity prices and lower farm income in 2024 significantly influenced the decline across all indices," said James Mintert, the barometer's principal investigator and director of Purdue University's Center for Commercial Agriculture.

There was an increase in the proportion of producers anticipating a decline in financial performance for the upcoming year, with the figure rising from 20 percent in December to 31 percent in January. Concurrently, the percentage of those expecting income levels to remain stable decreased from 63 percent to 53 percent.

"For the first time, the percentage of producers choosing lower commodity prices as a top concern matched the percentage of producers who chose higher input costs. This alignment indicates that U.S. farmers are worried about a possible cost/price squeeze leading to lower farm

incomes," Mintert said.

The Farm Capital Investment Index fell to 35, 8 points lower than in December. This month, a shift occurred as fewer producers attributed their hesitation to make large investments to rising interest rates, which reversed a trend observed throughout much of 2023. Instead, more farmers cited high machinery and construction prices as reasons to defer investments. Meanwhile, among those deeming it a favorable time for large investments, an increased number pointed to expansion opportunities, while fewer referenced the rise in dealers' farm machinery inventories as a motivating factor for investment.

This year, a greater number of producers expect their operating loan size to remain steady compared to last year, with fewer anticipating a larger loan. Of those expecting an increase, 61 percent cite rising input costs, down from 80 percent last year, while 23 percent attribute it to farm expansion, up from 15 percent in 2023.

While the Short-Term Farmland Value Expectations Index declined to 115, indicating reduced optimism on the part of producers, the long-term index held steady at 150, suggesting enduring optimism. Notably, the proportion of producers anticipating a decline in farmland values for the upcoming year rose to 16 percent, up from 10 percent just three months ago, with a simultaneous drop in those expecting higher values from 35 percent to 31 percent.

Additionally, the January survey reveals a consistent interest in carbon capture, as 8 percent of respondents reported engaging in discussions about carbon contracts. Among those, 61 percent were offered payment rates below \$10 per metric ton, and 12 percent were offered a rate of \$30 or more per ton.

TOTAL
ECLIPSE
IN THE HEART OF...
SHOALS
SHOALS COMMUNITY PARK
APRIL 8, 2024
12:00-4:00 PM

»» A FAMILY FUN EVENT FOR ALL AGES! ««

ECLIPSE VIEWING AREA AT THE BALL DIAMOND
(FOOT TRAFFIC ONLY, BRING A LAWN CHAIR)

live music food activities

Garrett McConnell

Jug Rox Farm
Shoals, IN

Crafts for children
provided by Friends of
the Shoals Public
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~LETTERS TO THE EDITOR~

'Let's not become that divided house'
To the editor of the *Martin County Journal*,

Has anyone taken the time to ask our Amish neighbors what they think of the Mid-States Corridor project? How do they feel about their quiet community being disrupted with construction? With increased traffic noise? With their roads dead-ending into a four-lane highway? With their farms being cutoff? With minimal safe crossings? With their businesses losing traffic due to bypasses?

Although they are pretty self-sustaining will they benefit, or will their way of life be forever changed? Can they be assured these changes will have a positive impact on them and their futures? Will the quaint, pastoral life be preserved? Or will it belong to the past? Could it all be gone with the wind?

Let us not forget that we are all neighbors, and we are all in this together. Lincoln was correct in saying that "A house divided against itself cannot stand". Let's not become that divided house. Let's rally together and continue to oppose the Mid-States Corridor project.

Jim Arvin
Rutherford Township
Martin County

'Things you should know before you vote'

To the editor of the *Martin County Journal*,

The Martin County Clerk's Office has received many questions regarding elections. I thought it would be a good idea to share those questions and answers.

Q. If I don't vote in the Primary can I vote in the General?

A. Yes, as long as your registration is up to date. Your registration remains active until you don't vote in two General Elections. Deadline to update/register to vote in the May Primary is April 8, 2024.

Q. I am a registered Democrat/Republican and I want to change parties?

A. In Indiana, you are a registered voter. You are not tied to any particular party. You do have a vote history, but you can change your party preference at any time by choosing that party's ballot in the Primary. For the General, all candidates appear on the same ballot. You can

choose any party for any race. It does not have to be the same party.

Q. Why do we have to pick a party in the Primary?

A. The Primary is used to select candidates for the General ballot. If more than one candidate files for the same office and the same party, we need to eliminate candidates. So, the highest vote getter in each race will move on to the General. For example: On the Primary Ballot this year we have six Republican candidates running for county council at large. We have three seats to fill, therefore, the three highest vote getters will move to the General ballot. They will have to face any Democrat candidates (up to three). The three top vote getters, no matter what party, will be the candidates elected to office.

Q. Do I need to mark every contest?

A. No, you only need to vote for the contests you want. If you are unfamiliar with the candidates, you may want to skip over that race. You can turn in a blank ballot if you choose.

Q. I want to vote a "straight party ballot" but one of the candidates is a different party. What should I do?

A. Straight party is only available on the General Election ballot. At the beginning of the ballot, it asks you if you want to vote straight party. If you choose one of the parties, you will be casting a vote for all the candidates for that party. If there is a particular contest that you want to vote for the other party, you can go to that particular contest and mark your candidate. This will override the "straight party" selection you marked previously for this contest only. All other contests will still coincide with the "straight party" you selected earlier. However, if you choose to vote "straight party" you still need to choose your candidates for school board which is non-partisan. You will also need to select candidates for county council at large, because these contests are a "choose three candidates" the "straight party" selection will not include these contests.

I hope this helps you to be a more informed voter. If you have any other questions feel free to contact the clerk's office at 812-247-3651.

Julie Fithian
Martin County Clerk



Project ASPIREE students celebrate a year of success and transformative opportunities at VU

2023 stands out as an outstanding year for Vincennes University's Project ASPIREE (Achieving Success through Participation in Reaching Educational Excellence) high school and middle school students, marked by unique experiences, thrilling accomplishments, and memorable camaraderie.

With their shared passion for excellence, students immerse themselves in transformative experiences, engaging in various activities that provided them with valuable insights into diverse career paths and opportunities. Project ASPIREE students from North Central at Farmersburg, Dugger Union, Washington Catholic, North Daviess, Barr-Reeve, Loogootee, and Shoals enjoyed a plethora of extraordinary events and experiences on the Vincennes Campus, ranging from campus tours to interacting with state-of-the-art robots to hanging out at the Aquatic Center. Students also explored health careers in the College of Health Sciences and Human Performance as well as College of Technology careers, including Surveying.

"This free program doesn't just cultivate students, it nurtures future leaders and innovators," Project ASPIREE Director Kimberly Fields said. "Project ASPIREE underscores the importance of

empowering students with knowledge, skills, and a shared commitment to excellence, ensuring they embark on journeys of success that transcend the classroom."

Middle school and high school students in Daviess, Martin, and Sullivan counties are encouraged to apply for Project ASPIREE. Project ASPIREE is for students from income-eligible backgrounds or potential first-generation students, and it is free for students, parents, and participating schools.

The program is federally funded and is supported by the Department of Education. Project ASPIREE offers students ACT/SAT waivers, SAT/ACT prep, test registration assistance, college application fee waivers, assistance with filling out college applications, cultural and educational field trips, general financial literacy, college and career exploration, campus visits, academic advising/course selection, scholarship and financial aid information, guidance in filling out the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), tutoring, personal counseling, and help with goal setting, study skills, time management, organization. Workshops are also offered to students and their families.


For more information, visit vinu.edu/web/project-aspiree.

Martin County Humane Society

WELLNESS CLINIC

No Appointment Needed

Open to all counties, not just Martin



Payment by Credit Card or Cash

No personal checks

Friday, February 16 • 5-6 p.m.

507 N Oak Street, Loogootee IN 47553

www.humanesocietyofmartincounty.org

info@humanesocietyofmartincounty.org • 812-295-5900

PACKAGES

Dogs - The Works - \$100

Includes: Ear Cleaning, Nail trim, Microchip, DAPP+Lepto vaccine, Kennel Cough Vaccine, Rabies Vaccine, Flex4 Test

Cats (6 months and older) - The Works - \$90

Includes: Ear Cleaning, Microchip, FVRCP+Leukemia Booster Vaccine, Rabies Vaccine, FIV/FelV testing

A la carte Dogs

Nail Trim (\$10) • Flex 4-Heartworm/Lyme/E. canis/Anaplasmosis test (\$25) • Microchip (\$20)

DAPP+Lepto Vaccine (\$15) • Bordetella(Kennel Cough) Vaccine (\$15)

Rabies Vaccine (\$15) • Ear Cleaning (\$8) • Dental Evaluation (\$15)

A la carte Cats


FVRCP Vaccine (\$15) • FVRCP+Leukemia- cats 6 months or older only (\$25) • Microchip (\$20)

Ear Cleaning (\$8) • FIV/FelV Testing (\$30) • Dental Eval (\$15) • Nail Trim (\$10) • Rabies Vaccine (\$15)

Also available for purchase (prices vary)

Heartworm preventative • Dog or Cat Flea/Tick medicine

Hill's Science Diet Food • De-Worming Medication



Corner Cafe

201 N JFK Avenue, Loogootee

812-295-4243

Monday-Friday 6:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Saturday (Breakfast Only!) 6:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.

Sunday (Breakfast Only!) 7:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

Truelove United Methodist Church

SOUP SUPPER

Saturday, February 24

4 p.m. to 7 p.m.

at the church, 1195 Truelove Church Rd, Loogootee

Menu includes:

Chili, Mock Turtle Soup, Hot Dogs, Desserts & Drinks for a free-will donation

Gallon of soup for \$12

To pre-order, call 812-639-0508

