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Eight pages

Loogootee Council discusses multiple issues in meeting

BY COURTNEY HUGHETT
Martin County Journal Publisher

The Loogootee City Council discussed several issues in their almost two-and-a-half hour meeting Monday night, February 13.

City Superintendent Bo Wilson again talked to the council about the need make some changes in staffing in his department. He has brought up the issue for the past few months due to senior staff who has or will be retiring. One long-time employee, Jeff Sanders, and Wilson, along with Don Mann and JD Green, will be leaving within the next few years. Wilson had requested in December that Daniel Shoultz be promoted to foreman of public works, to replace Sanders, and to promote Devon Stoll from part-time to full-time to cover Shoultz. He also asked that Don Mann be promoted to step three laborer/equipment operator, up from step two. He also asked that Amber Gilbertson, a clerk in the water office, be moved from part-time to full-time.

Wilson told the council on Monday night that he went ahead and promoted Shoultz and Mann and moved Stoll to full-time. He said the demands on the staff are greater than what they can handle and providing those promotions, with small salary increases does help but doesn't stop the increased workload. He requested hiring another full-time employee to help.



M/TRP JARROD LENTS Lents named 2022 Trooper of the District

At a recent post-meeting, Lieutenant Jason Allen, Jasper District Commander, announced Master Trooper Jarrod Lents has been selected as the 2022 "Trooper of the District." M/Trp. Lents will be recognized later this year in Indianapolis by Superintendent Douglas G. Carter, along with other troopers who were selected by their respective districts. "This honor is bestowed upon a deserving trooper that exemplifies the department's high standards and expectations as related to the overall mission," emphasized Lt. Allen, "and a trooper's professionalism, integrity, well-rounded work ethic, service to the community both on and off duty, and assigned responsibilities are just a few areas taken into consideration when nominated."

M/Trp. Lents graduated from Bedford North Lawrence High School in 1999. In (See 'LENTS' on page 2)

Wilson said he has more than 34 years with the city and that knowledge, right now, leaves with him if something were to happen. "Right now, if something happens to me, my certification goes with me. It's going to cost the City of Loogootee a lot of money," he said. The city would have to hire an outside company to handle the operations as certification is a requirement.

"We need to come up with a plan," Wilson said. "It's getting difficult to keep up." He said the stormwater system and roads are failing and although this is going on all over the country, they are doing their best to do preservation but it's a band aid.

Wilson then requested they promote part-time clerk, Amber Gilbertson, to full-time. He said the workload is not going away and he does realize benefits come with the move to full-time. He said they could hire another part-time person, but employee retention is an issue. He said employees want benefits and will continue to look for full-time employment somewhere else which turns the city into a training ground for the person to move on.

Council Member Teresa Nolley said she didn't know the recommendations for promotions had already been done without council approval. She said she was going to recommend those promotions but is not in favor of adding positions or moving anyone from part-time to full-time, due to the budget.

She said she agrees they need to make a plan but said employees can only be discussed in executive session, so she suggested the council schedule a closed door meeting.

She added that they want to eventually create a separate street department to take the load off the water and sewer departments and then once that is done, they can work on finding Wilson's replacement.

"Let's get it done. Let's make a plan," said Wilson. He said he has been asking for this for a while. "I'm going to present this every month until something gets done," said Wilson.

The council decided to hold an executive session this Saturday at 1 p.m. The meeting is not open to the public. Brian Ader, who was in the audience, asked if they would have an open meeting after their executive meeting. Nolley said they could schedule an open meeting later if they get organized.

Tim Hudson, who was in the audience, said he sees the part-time utility clerk sitting at the school at 3 p.m. every day and he's not sure what good it would do for the city to pay someone full-time who leaves at 3 p.m. The utility clerk, who was also present, said her hours are from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Someone in the audience noted that Hudson meant if she moves to full-time and gets benefits and her hours were extended. Mayor Noel Harty changed the subject before the argument continued.

Superintendent Wilson talked to the council about trading in the city's backhoe and Bobcat. He said they have the opportunity to buy a two-year-old backhoe for \$108,900 minus the value they would get as trade in for the current backhoe of \$57,500. He said a new backhoe would run around \$200,000.

(See 'LOOGOOTE' on page 2)

Recycling center will close without funding intervention

BY COURTNEY HUGHETT
Martin County Journal Publisher

The Martin County Solid Waste District Board met last Wednesday at noon at the recycling center. The solid waste district is out of money, only having \$19,000, as of the meeting date, to continue operations. The solid waste district operates the Loogootee Recycling Center and the Shoals collection center. According to Solid Waste Interim Director Robin Haulk, the district only has enough money to get through a few more weeks and then they will be unable to stay open.

The solid waste district requested a budget of \$445,500 this year. Of that, \$360,000 was for salaries and benefits, \$2,500 for office supplies, \$5,000 for operating supplies, \$2,000 for other supplies, \$15,000 for repair and maintenance supplies, \$1,000 for legal fees, \$2,000 for phone and internet, \$500 for printing and advertising, \$18,500 for insurance, \$13,000 for utilities, \$15,000 for repairs and maintenance contract services, \$10,000 for share accounts and \$1,000 for dues and promotions.

The solid waste district receives around \$2,000 in vehicle excise tax, around \$120,000 in the user fees collected on Martin County properties each year, and the rest through grants or recycling services provided by the recycling center. The income the center receives is from trash fees from those who come to the center and selling cardboard, aluminum, plastic, paper and clothing. Over the past several years, according to previous directors, the market for recycled materials has collapsed. The once money-making center is now struggling to make anything. China used to take recycled materials from the US but stopped saying the material was low quality and included too much trash.

The previous director of solid waste had requested, last summer, an increase in the annual user fee that residents pay on their property tax statements. Currently, that amount is \$24 per year. The request was to increase it by \$12 per year per parcel of

Commissioners hold special meeting to decide on funds for solid waste district

BY COURTNEY HUGHETT
Martin County Journal Publisher

The Martin County Commissioners held a special meeting Tuesday morning, February 14 to discuss whether they wanted to give ARPA (American Recovery Plan Act) funds to the solid waste district to help keep the recycling center open. On Monday night, the City of Loogootee gave \$15,000 from their ARPA funds contingent on the commissioners agreeing to give \$30,000.

At Tuesday morning's meeting, Commissioner Paul George said the ARPA money was intended to help businesses affected by COVID, so he is in favor of giving the \$30,000.

Solid Waste Interim Director Robin Haulk said they will be receiving their portion of the property tax disbursement in June of around \$120,000, so \$45,000 would carry them until that time, barring any machine breakdowns.

Commissioner Cody Roush said the

The solid waste board will meet Wednesday, February 22 at 6 p.m. in the lower level of the St. John's Center in Loogootee. The meeting is open to the public.

land, containing some form of improvement. There was a large turnout, at the public hearing last year, against the increase in the user fee, so the solid waste board voted it down. Now that the solid waste district is almost out of money, the user fee is back up for discussion.

At last Wednesday's meeting, manager Haulk said adding on the \$12 extra per year would bring in an additional \$53,000. The center used to collect a levy from property values but switched over to the \$24 user fee in 2012. Haulk noted the user fee has not been raised since it was implemented.

Several members of the audience were okay with adding the extra money if it kept the recycling center open. Most in the audience also raised their hands when asked if they support the recycling center.

Solid Waste Board Member Paul George said he believes they need to take the time to look through the numbers before increasing the user fee because his concern is that increasing the fee would not keep the center open long-term and the board would be back again in a short period of time to try and figure out something else.

Several members of the audience, with dozens in attendance, asked how much each recyclable sold made, how much of the budget was spent on salaries, etc. but no answers were available. Board members had monthly figures, but they were not totaled.

Debbie Hackman, who serves on the Association of Indiana Solid Waste Districts, came to the meeting to provide information, and explained that solid waste districts were not designed to make money. She said Martin County's asset fee, collect- (See 'RECYCLING' on page 2)

recycling center needs to come up with a business plan. He recommended they hold an executive meeting this Thursday to go over a plan.

Commissioner George wanted it noted that it's not the commissioners plan to shut down the recycling center. He said they may just have to keep the business inside the county instead of going outside the county to pick up cardboard.

Gary Smith, who was in the audience and who works for the recycling center, said they haven't made money on selling recyclables in a while but they are close to breaking even. He said breaking even should be the goal along with not attributing to adding to the landfills. He said things are slow now but they are looking at it going up soon and they have to (See 'COMMISSIONERS' on page 2)

Candidate withdrawal

Floyd "Lonnie" Hawkins has withdrawn as a Loogootee City Council At-Large Candidate as of February 10, 2023.

LOOGOOTE

(Continued from page one)

He also requested they be allowed to trade in the current 13-month-old Bobcat for a larger model. He said one with more horsepower would be beneficial.

The council approved trading in the backhoe but will wait until the next meeting to get costs on the Bobcat.

Resident Jason Tinkle talked to the council about the drainage issue that he has been fighting for a few years on his property in Green Acres. Tinkle says his neighbor, Bruce Smith, brought in dirt causing a blockage of the city's easement and thus causing water to pool on his property. He has spent the last few years trying to get that blockage removed, including going through court proceedings and also being responsible for the county forming a drainage board a few months back. The drainage board, consisting of the Martin County Commissioners, met and decided, under advisement of the county attorney, that the City of Loogootee was responsible for maintaining their own easements. Tinkle was now before the council to see what was going to be done. Discussion ensued on what would be the proper way to solve the water issue and not cause the issue to affect a different property. Superintendent Wilson said he is working with Midwestern Engineers to come up with a plan of action to be a long-term solution and not just a quick fix. Tinkle explained that he brought this issue to the mayor two years ago and was told it was not the city's responsibility. He said after two years of research and litigation, it ended up being the city's responsibility all along. City Attorney Arianna Wright said the city isn't liable for what someone else put into the easement. She said the city is only supposed to maintain their easements.

Mayor Harty said they recently applied for a Community Crossings grant which Superintendent Wilson was asked to explain. Wilson said the grant, if received, would allow for the installation of new stormwater drainage and catch basins for the North Line Street, Green Street and Williams Street areas. He said this work, however, wouldn't solve the issue with the standing water. He said this would have to be something the city paid for. He said the goal is to find a permanent solution that would make everyone happy. Tinkle and Smith, who were both in the audience, went back and forth debating the issue. Wilson again said they need to all work together to find the best solution to the issue and practice a good neighbor policy.

The mayor said he and Wilson will meet with Midwestern Engineers to see what they propose as a solution. Smith asked if he could be a part of the discussion. Harty said Smith and Tinkle could participate. The council also voted to move forward with getting the issue taken care of once they get a proposal from Midwestern.

Police Chief Aaron Means had, at a previous meeting, brought forth a request to change the city ordinance to allow residents to have chickens. Currently chickens are prohibited however there have been residents who have requested a variance from the zoning board to bypass the ordinance. Council Member Nolley questioned how a city ordinance could be bypassed through a variance. She said only the city council is allowed to change ordinances. Mayor Harty said residents have been instructed on the process of getting a variance which he said requires certified letters be sent to neighboring property owners and then the variance has to be approved by the zoning board. The city attorney suggested permits be required regardless of whether they change the ordinance so residents can stay in compliance with rules set forth. Some suggestions made by Means were that the chickens be limited in number, be kept in an enclosure and that no roosters would be allowed.

No decision was made during that discussion but it was brought up later in

the meeting. Mayor Harty said they will look into it and bring it up again at next month's meeting.

Jim Higgins, CPA and advisor from LWG in Indianapolis, said he was asked to bring information to the council about creating a residential TIF district in the new housing development being planned off Country Court in Loogootee. He said a TIF district is formed for the purpose of generating money from that district to help the district. Currently, the empty acreage is on the tax rolls and would remain as is however if a TIF district is formed for that area, any new development, or any increase to the assessed value of that property, or one percent, would be captured by the TIF district. That money would be kept by a formed city redevelopment commission and used to invest back into the district in the form of improving roadways, sidewalks, retention ponds, etc. The new subdivision is planning to add 40 new homes eventually. The TIF district would last 25 years before those taxes would start going back into the county and city funds.

Higgins said the cost of his firm helping develop the TIF district would be \$5,000. Higgins said he was only at the council meeting to provide additional information and wasn't expecting the council to move forward at that meeting.

Council Member Nolley asked one of the developers, Jason Loughmiller, if they were planning to develop the land as each parcel is sold or if they plan to do it all at once. Loughmiller said they plan to do it all at once as this would be more cost effective.

So far, the city's portion of the infrastructure development will include \$600,000 in a grant from ROI, \$200,000 in EDIT (Economic Development Income Tax) funds, \$300,000 in ARPA funds, and \$100,000 from a community foundation grant.

Robin Haulk, interim manager of the solid waste district requested \$15,000 of city APRA (American Recovery Plan Act) funds to help keep the recycling center open. Haulk said the center is broke and does not have enough money to even pay employees this week. He said the center has had a lot of issues in the past year with breakdowns and loss of income due to COVID. He said the market for recyclable materials has plummeted and they are trying to keep the center going long enough for the market to recover. He said he has a solid waste board who refuses to meet and three commissioners who are refusing to give the center any ARPA funds unless the city agrees to give some first. He said without this money, they will have to close in the next few weeks. The commissioners had agreed, at last week's solid waste meeting, to give \$30,000 in ARPA funds if the city contributed \$15,000 of theirs.

Haulk said they also lost their cardboard baler which is going to cost \$174,000 to replace. He said cardboard is currently the center's "bread and butter" and with the equipment issues, they have been slow to get cardboard processed and make the money. They currently are able to do two bales an hour and the new machine would bump that to 11 bales an hour.

Council Member Nolley said she wasn't in favor of giving the money. She said they have spent most of their ARPA funds and she was told the center was holding off on approving ARPA funds from the county or city until a business plan was discussed. She said she doesn't see how the first move should be the city council's and the amount requested was too high.

The mayor said he recommends giving the \$15,000 contingent on the commissioners approving the \$15,000. He said if the commissioners decided not to give the \$30,000, then the city would not be out any money.

In the end, after more discussion, the council unanimously voted to give \$15,000 if the commissioners agreed to their \$30,000.

Haulk also told the council that he is in talks with Rumpke, who is opening a facility in Bloomington, to start taking in glass. He said the center has not been able to sell glass in the past so this will be another way for the center to bring in funds. He said the solid waste district will receive their annual property tax collection of around \$120,000 in June which will help the center continue to operate.

The council approved moving forward with paving of the municipal building parking lot for \$69,000. Clerk-Treasurer Roger Downey asked if the school was going to pay some of the cost since they use the parking lot for the JFK Gymnasium. The mayor said the school is not allowed to pay for the paving because they do not own the lot but he is working with the city attorney to come up with a lease agreement. He said the school can pay to lease the lot since they use it. He is going to recommend they pay \$2,500 a year.

RECYCLING

(Continued from page one)

ed on property tax statements, is quite low, one of the smallest in the state. She said Martin County's solid waste services are more extensive than what most county's offer. She said grants are available and she is working with Haulk on those however they are competitive. She said some other counties also use EDIT (Economic Development Income Tax) funds or the wheel tax (which Martin County doesn't have) to fund their solid waste districts.

Six months ago, and again last Wednesday, residents Clay and Jenny Dearwester had questioned why the center was driving to Dubois and Daviess counties to pick up cardboard from businesses for free. It was suggested, at last year's meeting, that out-of-county businesses pay a fuel surcharge to help cover the cost of taking trucks outside the county. At the meeting last summer, this suggestion was met with pushback from the former solid waste director and some members of the solid waste board as they were afraid adding a surcharge would cause them to lose customers. Since that time, according to the board, they have decided on a \$40 fuel surcharge but haven't charged anyone for it yet.

Another suggestion made last summer was for the board and director to do research to find different markets to sell recyclables. It was discussed last Wednesday that the center needs a marketing and outreach employee who could do this. It was also noted that the center is down to four employees in an effort to cut costs so staff shortage was an issue.

There has been discussion that the solid waste district sell the Shoals collection building however Gary Smith, who works at the collection site, said he had several customers ask that it stay open. He said the collection site is used frequently by Shoals residents.

At the end of the meeting, Commissioners George, Cody Roush and Aaron Summers, who all three serve on the solid waste board, asked Mayor Noel Harty if the city would be willing to give \$15,000 in ARPA (American Recovery Plan Act) money if the commissioners agreed to give \$30,000, to keep the center open temporarily, until something else can be worked out. Mayor Harty said he was all for it, but it was up to the city council. Council Member Teresa Nolley said no, she would not be in favor of giving that money. Commissioner Summers got heated and asked why the city council wouldn't be on board. Nolley said the solid waste district is a county-wide entity and she was not sure what the city planned to do with their ARPA funds. Summers then stormed out of the meeting.

The solid waste board will meet in closed door session this Thursday to discuss a business plan and then an open meeting will be held next Wednesday, February 22 at 6 p.m. in the lower level of St. John's Center in Loogootee.

COMMISSIONERS

(Continued from page one)

continue to do business outside of Martin County because they cannot collect enough here. He said a new baler will allow for increased productivity as there is currently a backlog of cardboard at the center. Haulk added that they have a room full of cardboard currently and he estimates that to be 8-10 loads.

Commissioner Roush said the recycling experts he talked to said the market will not come back for several years. He said China is not taking US recyclables anymore so no one knows when prices will pick back up. He said he is not interested in picking up cardboard from other counties if Martin County residents have to pay for that. He said they are going to have to start charging those out-of-county businesses.

"My tax dollars shouldn't be paying for Dubois County to stay green," said Commissioner Roush.

Haulk said that up until this past year, they were making money on cardboard. Commissioner George said a surcharge should have been put in place when fuel went up to \$6 a gallon.

The commissioners then approved giving \$30,000 to the solid waste district however that is contingent on what is decided on Thursday when they discuss a business plan.

Haulk asked how he is supposed to cover payroll this week without funds. Roush said the executive meeting is Thursday and payroll is not due until Friday. The Thursday meeting of the solid waste board is closed to the public.

LENTS

(Continued from page one)

May 2004, Lents graduated from Indiana State University with a BS in Criminology. In October 2004, Lents graduated from the 64th Indiana State Police Recruit class and was assigned to the Lafayette Post for two years before transferring to the Jasper District.

AWARDS:

Combat Action Award-2013

M/Trp. Lents was awarded the Combat Action Award & Purple Heart for his actions on June 17, 2013. M/Trp. Lents, at the time, a nine-year veteran of the Indiana State Police, responded to a report of a disturbance at the Black Oak Armament gun shop in Montgomery. The Daviess County Sheriff's Dispatch Center was listening to a 911 call from the gun shop owner, who was arguing and struggling with an individual in his store. During this initial confrontation, the suspect fired a round from his handgun, but thankfully no one was struck.

M/Trp. Lents arrived a short time later and parked behind the suspect's vehicle as he was attempting to leave the business. M/Trp. Lents exited his commission and approached the suspect's vehicle when the suspect pointed a 9mm handgun at him. M/Trp. Lents knocked the handgun away and proceeded to find a position of cover while exchanging gunfire with the suspect. M/Trp. Lents knew he had been shot at least two times during the initial contact with the suspect and believed his wounds were possibly fatal. M/Trp. Lents continued exchanging gunfire with the suspect until the suspect was fatally wounded. M/Trp. Lents was shot at least five times during the exchange but was wearing his ballistic vest, which most likely saved his life. The investigation later indicated that the suspect was attempting to rob the gun shop and had been prescribed medication two weeks prior that had drastically changed his demeanor.

Purple Heart- 2013

Jasper Post, Trooper of the District-2009

Jasper Post, Trooper of the District-2016

M/Trp. Lents resides in Martin County with his wife Susan and family.

DONNA KELSO

Donna S. Kelso passed away with her family by her side on Friday, February 10, 2023, at Sycamore Care Strategies in Loogootee. A resident of Alfordsville, she was 83.

She was born May 20, 1939, in Cannelburg; daughter of the late Harold and Olive (Harder) Taylor.

Donna attended Alfordsville High



School, graduating in 1957. She married Herman W. Tedrow on February 2, 1957, and he preceded her in death on June 17, 1990. She then married Marlin E. Kelso on August 18, 1995, and he preceded her in death on October 29, 2017.

Donna was a member of the Truelove United Methodist Church, where she had played piano and was a member of the Eastern Star.

She worked for Crane Army Ammunition Activity (CAAA) for over 35 years as a Quality Assurance Ammunition Inspector.

Donna is survived by her children, David (Bonda) Tedrow of Indianapolis,

Mark (Donna) Tedrow of Jasper and Barry (Lori) Tedrow of Alfordsville; eight grandchildren, Wilson Alexander (Karrissa) Tedrow, Nathan (Naomi) Tedrow, Katelen Tedrow, Jarrett (Andi Barnett) Tedrow, Stephanie (Joe) Reames, Logan (Jessica) Tedrow, Rachel (Matt Chirgwin) LeBrun and Billy (Racheal) LeBrun; six great-grandchildren, Cora, Evie, Liam, Taylor, Sydney and Jase; and one great-great-grandchild, Mason. She is also survived by her siblings, Linda Helderman, Deroy (Sharlie) Taylor and Bonnie (David) Hedrick, and several nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her first

husband, Herman; her second husband, Marlin; her parents, Harold and Olive Taylor; one granddaughter, Crystal Hudson; two brothers-in-law, Emery Helderman and John Ochs.

Funeral services were conducted Tuesday, February 14 at Blake Funeral Home in Loogootee. Burial followed in Truelove United Methodist Church Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions can be made to Truelove United Methodist Church Cemetery.

Condolences may be made online at www.blakefuneralhomes.com.

Blake Funeral Home is honored to serve the family of Donna S. Kelso.

WestGate Authority Board holds monthly meeting

The WestGate@Crane Authority met January 10 at the WestGate Academy and also virtually via Zoom. The meeting was called to order at 1:30 p.m.

Jerry Braun introduced Angie Sled with Westcott Development. She is helping to find purchasers for the new housing development in Greene County.

Authority Board members in physical attendance included John Mensch, Kent Parisien, Lonnie Hawkins, John Preble, Jerry Braun and Natalie Smith. Dana Strange and Joe Morris attended online.

Also in attendance were Greg Jones (SIDC), Samantha Nelson (PRF), Marilyn Hartman, Kirk White, Paul Quick, Jessica Potts, Kelsey Fitzgerald, Jill Hahn, Jason Salstrom, Morgan Thewes and Joe Carly.

Kent Parisien made the motion to approve the minutes from November 8, 2022, meeting. Jerry Braun seconded the motion and the motion passed with John Preble and Jerry Braun Abstaining.

Natalie Smith made a motion to elect John Mensch as president. Lonnie Hawkins seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Lonnie Hawkins made a motion to elect Jerry Braun as vice president and Natalie Smith as secretary. John Preble seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Marilyn Hartman gave a report on the GSA improvements to the WestGate Academy.

Drywall has been hung. Painters start Monday. Electrical outlets have been added. They need to finalize plumbing.

Greg Jones asked for some accounting assistance from Marilyn on which funds are considered expenses for the GSA contract.

Development Committee. Lonnie Hawkins gave an update on the second floor development. Midwest Engineers is close

to giving an estimate on the project. Lonnie Hawkins will send information to help decide about future improvements in February. Lighting has been updated in the parking lot. There are a few lights that need to be completed. Tenants have appreciated the lighting improvements.

The Governance Committee – Did not meet.

The Tenant Committee – Did not meet.

The White River Military Coordination Alliance Report – February 17 is the next meeting. The meeting will have the State of the Community address.

Uplands Science and Technology Foundation Joe Carly gave the report – Contract with Structurepoint is hours away from being signed. They have already started reviewing engineering and utility demand. There is a large coordination effort taking place and they have also begun master utility planning for the tech park. Joe Carly will be handing over responsibilities to USTF. USTF will be looking to hire for the new position. John Mensch gave a recap of the Microelectronics ribbon cutting and the implications for the region.

Crane Regional Defense Group – Kent Parisien gave the report. CRDG is up to 41 members. Key Leader series on February 3, 2023. Connect to Mission event on February 7 and will focus on spectrum warfare.

Financial reports were presented by Greg Jones. Jones provided an overview of the tax revenue (\$271,291.93), building maintenance (\$85,866.45), non-tax revenue (\$931,140.34), the SVBT CD (\$105,740.96), and the Crane Federal Credit Union Certificate (\$424,133.99).

Tax revenue: non

The executive committee renewed the SVBT CD for another 6 months to line up with when the Crane CD will come due in June 2023. John Preble made a motion to

ratify the decision to renew the CD. Lonnie Hawkins seconded the motion, and the motion was approved with Natalie Smith abstaining.

Kent Parisien made the motion to approve the financial report. Jerry Braun seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Jason Salstrom gave a foundry presentation for a proposed contract extension for the PRF.

Objectives for 2023 include: Regular Tenant Opportunity/Needs Assessments; What talent tenants need to grow; Talent Attraction R&D; How to appeal to the talent to come to WGA; Brand Development; Develop the media presence of WG with the aspirations of WG; Navy-Industry-University Engagement; Create competitive advantage for tenants; Coordination with USTF; Programming that assists in growth with the park.

Jason Salstrom would propose these changes to the existing contract and would like to work with the Governance Committee to refine that contract and duties under the extension. The contract expires in June of 2023.

Samantha Nelson gave a PRF update. PRF has been interviewing new hires to give a profile on why applicants are moving here.

Developing talent recruitment webinars Working with quarterly Connect to Mission events.

Isaiah Mentos from Mantech will speak on the February 1st Tuesday event.

ManTech has agreed to sponsor the conference room for 2023.

Kelsey Fitzgerald gave a facility report. Conference room partitions have been serviced. They are operating better.

Had exterior door issues and those doors were fixed.

Bunker Valley Roofing came to check out the roof. Provided a binder for roof improvements.

New co-working agreements have been signed.

There are some podiums that WGA would like to donate to local schools.

Kent Parisien discussed the new Tech-Park bills that are before the Indiana Senate and the House. They are seeking a sponsor and are targeting local sponsors. There is not a number for the bill. The board thanked Kent Parisien for taking on this initiative for the board.

John Mensch discussed committee for 2023. The board agreed to stay on the committees they were on in 2022. A listing of board members and committees follows:

Governance – Natalie Smith, Kent Parisien and Dana Strange

Development - Lonnie Hawkins, Joe Morris, John Preble and Mark Bartlow

Tenant Committee – Jerry Braun

New Business

Kelsey Fitzgerald asked for approval to clean the ducts. There are two quotes Stanley Steamer and Core Restoration. John Preble made the motion to approve Core Restoration if the quotes are similar in ser-

vices. Natalie Smith seconded the motion, and the motion was approved unanimously.

Exemptions were requested from the White River Military Coordination Alliance for two events in 2023. Natalie Smith made a motion to approve. Kent Parisien seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Exemptions were requested for the Conservation Properties Assistance (Sentinel Landscape Group). Lonnie Hawkins made a motion to approve the exemption. Jerry Braun seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Radius Indiana is sponsoring room 140. They will add a decal to the wall. Kent Parisien made a motion to approve. Natalie Smith seconded the motion and the motion passed with Lonnie Hawkins abstaining.

Lonnie Hawkins has been nominated to the Radius Board. He will be participating with the Radius Board of Directors in the future.

Ratify December Payment

Tax Revenue Account: Purdue Research \$214.59, Martin County Chamber \$50, Garmong Construction \$5,915, SIDC Administration \$1,333.33, SIDC Financial \$1,500, Sewage Disposal Works \$610, Hartman Law \$6,800, Eastern Heights Utility \$146.64, McCloud \$97.85, Danco \$24,192.00

Building Maintenance Account: Haley's Lock, Safe and Key \$452.50, Lewellyn Lawn Care \$954.95, E & L Services \$3,048.30, AED Brands \$134.00

Kent Parisien made a motion to ratify the claims for December. Lonnie Hawkins seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Tax Revenue Account: Purdue Research \$112.12, SIDC Administration \$1,333.33, SIDC Financial \$1,500.00

Sewage Disposal Works \$610, Clear Springs Design \$590, Jack Kinkel & Son Architects \$37,151.10, Hartman Law \$1,775.00, UDWI REMC \$13,775.05, Eastern Heights Utility \$146.64, McCloud \$97.85

Building Maintenance Account: E & L Services \$1,994.20, Lewellyn Lawn Care \$1,604.70, Commercial Service \$1,957, Bunkum Valley Roofing \$2,500

Non-Tax Revenue: RJL Solutions \$5,400.00

Kent Parisien made a motion to accept the tax revenue, building maintenance and non-tax revenue account claims for payment. John Preble seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Natalie Smith made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Jerry Braun seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 3:07 p.m.

"The most dangerous phrase in our language is, "We've always done it this way.""

-Admiral Grace Hopper

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Martin County Sheriff's Department log

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 6

5:28 a.m. - Received a 911 call reporting an accident north of Loogootee. Accident was in Daviess County. Called Daviess County with information. Captain Reed responded also.

6:53 a.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Medic 1 responded. No one was transported.

8:57 a.m. - Received an accidental 911 call.

9:15 a.m. - Received an accidental 911 call.

10:10 a.m. - Received a call reporting a possible traffic hazard east of Loogootee. INDOT was notified.

1:54 p.m. - Received a call reporting a field fire south of Loogootee. Loogootee Fire Department and Martin County Medic 1 responded. No one was transported.

2:18 p.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance north of Loogootee. Martin County Medic 1 and Loogootee Fire Department responded. Medic 1 transported one patient to Daviess Community Hospital.

3:20 p.m. - Received a 911 call reporting a possible impaired driver in Loogootee. Loogootee Chief Means and Sergeant Gibson responded.

4:16 p.m. - Received a 911 call reporting a field fire east of Loogootee. Loogootee Fire Department, Loogootee Officer Erwin, Sergeant Gibson and Deputy Hawkins responded.

4:36 p.m. - Received an accidental 911 call.

5:57 p.m. - Received a call requesting a vehicle identification number check on a camper southeast of Shoals. Deputy Hawkins responded.

6:34 p.m. - Received a call reporting a suspicious vehicle south of Shoals. Sergeant Gibson responded.

9:34 p.m. - Received an accidental 911 call.

10:09 p.m. - Received a call reporting a suspicious vehicle north of Loogootee. Captain Reed responded.

11:19 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 Daviess Community Hospital.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 7

1:00 a.m. - Received a call reporting a hit and run in Loogootee. Loogootee Officer Erwin responded.

5:46 a.m. - Received a call reporting possible trespasser southeast of Loogootee. Captain Reed responded.

5:52 a.m. - Received an accidental 911 call.

8:34 a.m. - Received a call reporting possible harassment in Loogootee. Chief Deputy Keller responded.

8:47 a.m. - Received a call from Duke Energy advising of a road closure at Vincennes and Mulberry in Loogootee.

10:31 a.m. - Deputy Pressley transported three inmates to court.

10:40 a.m. - Received a call reporting a disabled vehicle west of Shoals. Sergeant Gibson responded.

1:09 p.m. - Received a call from Duke Energy advising the road is now open in Loogootee.

1:30 p.m. - Deputy Pressley transported one inmate to court.

3:45 p.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Medic 1 and Loogootee Fire responded.

5:00 p.m. - Received a report of a reckless driver south of Shoals. Sergeant Gibson and Deputy Hawkins responded.

5:11 p.m. - Received a call reporting

cows out north of Loogootee in Daviess County. Called Daviess County with information.

5:14 p.m. - Received an animal complaint in Loogootee. Animal Control Deputy Hughett was notified.

5:28 p.m. - Received an animal complaint in Crane. Animal Control Deputy Hughett was notified.

5:41 p.m. - Received a call from Guardian Medical wanting to confirm an address. Advised caller that was in Daviess County.

5:55 p.m. - Received an animal complaint in Loogootee. Loogootee Officer Erwin and Animal Control Deputy Hughett responded.

9:22 p.m. - Received a call reporting a suspicious vehicle in Shoals. Deputy Hawkins responded.

10:49 p.m. - Received a call from Southwest Region dispatch advising of a wounded deer south of Loogootee. Captain Reed and Loogootee Officer Erwin responded.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 8

8:09 a.m. - Received a call from Duke Energy advising a section of Vincennes and Mulberry Street will be closed.

9:00 a.m. - Received a call requesting an officer in Shoals. Chief Deputy Keller responded.

10:12 a.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Medic 1 responded and transported one patient to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

10:56 a.m. - Received a call from Duke Energy advising Vincennes and Mulberry Street is now open.

11:08 a.m. - Received a report of a fire alarm in Shoals. Shoals Fire Department, Martin County Medic 2 and Chief Deputy Keller responded. No one was transported.

1:20 p.m. - Received an animal complaint northeast of Shoals. Animal Control Deputy Hughett was notified.

1:25 p.m. - Deputy Branham transported two inmates to court.

2:37 p.m. - Received a call requesting a vehicle unlock in Shoals. Deputy Hawkins responded.

3:25 p.m. - Received an animal complaint southeast of Shoals. Animal Control Deputy Hughett was notified.

6:22 p.m. - Received an animal complaint south of Loogootee. Animal Control Deputy Hughett was notified.

8:49 p.m. - Received a 911 call from a Daviess County address. Transferred call to Daviess County 911.

9:54 p.m. - Received a call requesting a welfare check in Loogootee. Loogootee Officer Sims responded.

10:28 p.m. - Received a call requesting an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Medic 1 responded and transported one patient to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

10:50 p.m. - Received a call reporting a possible domestic dispute in Loogootee. Loogootee Officer Sims responded.

11:08 p.m. - Received a call requesting an officer in Loogootee. Loogootee Officer Sims responded.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 9

4:02 a.m. - Received a call from Koorsen Fire and Security advising of a commercial burglar alarm in Loogootee. Loogootee Officer Sims responded.

6:34 a.m. - Received multiple 911 calls reporting an accident south of Loogootee. Captain Reed, Martin County Medic 1, Loogootee Fire Department and Big John's Towing responded. No one was transported.

7:30 a.m. - Received a call reporting a tree down southwest of Shoals. Martin County Highway Department responded.

7:55 a.m. - Received a call reporting a tree down east of Shoals. Shoals Fire De-

partment responded.

8:00 a.m. - Received a call from alarm company advising of a commercial burglar alarm north of Loogootee. Keyholder was notified.

9:29 a.m. - Received a call from Duke Energy advising a road closure today at Grant and Sherman streets.

9:55 a.m. - Received a call reporting a tree down southeast of Shoals. Martin County Highway Department responded.

9:57 a.m. - Deputy Pressley transported one inmate to court.

10:50 a.m. - Received a call from Duke Energy advising Grant and Sherman streets are open.

10:58 a.m. - Received a call reporting a tree down northeast of Shoals. Martin County Highway Department responded.

11:22 a.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance in Shoals. Martin County Medic 1, Shoals Fire Department and Daviess County EMS responded. Daviess County EMS transported one patient to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

1:44 p.m. - Received a call reporting a tree down east of Shoals. Shoals Fire Department and Corporal Wells responded.

2:34 p.m. - Received a report of a tree down south of Shoals. Martin County Highway Department responded.

3:58 p.m. - Received a call reporting a tree down south of Shoals. Lost River Fire Department responded.

4:05 p.m. - Received an accidental 911 call.

6:03 p.m. - Received a 911 call reporting a tree down south of Shoals. Lost River Fire Department responded.

9:08 p.m. - Received a call requesting an officer in Shoals. Corporal Wells and Indiana Conservation Officer Fuhman responded.

10:29 p.m. - Received an accidental 911 call.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 10

2:29 a.m. - Received a report of a neighbor dispute in Crane. Deputy Long responded.

6:45 a.m. - Received an accidental 911 call.

8:21 a.m. - Received a call from East Fork Water advising the power will be off at the tank on Windom Road today due to maintenance.

9:00 a.m. - Received a call from Duke Energy reporting they will be closing Sheridan Street today.

12:05 p.m. - Received an accidental 911 call.

12:40 p.m. - Deputy Branham transported two inmates to court.

4:45 p.m. - Received an accidental 911 call.

6:02 p.m. - Received an accidental 911 call.

8:27 p.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance east of Shoals. Martin County Medic 1 and Shoals Fire Department responded. Medic 1 transported one patient to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

8:31 p.m. - Received a call reporting a possible burglary in Shoals. Deputy Long responded.

9:31 p.m. - Received a call requesting a deputy in Loogootee. Deputy Long responded.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 11

12:00 a.m. - Received an accidental 911 call.

2:49 a.m. - Received a call requesting an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Medic 1 responded. No one was transported.

3:00 a.m. - Received an accidental 911 call.

5:00 a.m. - Received an accidental 911 call.

10:14 a.m. - Received a 911 call request-

ing an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Medic 1, Loogootee Fire Department and Corporal Wells responded. Medic 1 transported one patient to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

10:29 a.m. - Received a report of a traffic hazard in Shoals. Corporal Wells responded.

10:45 a.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance north of Shoals. Martin County Medic 2, Shoals Fire Department and Corporal Wells responded. No one was transported.

12:05 p.m. - Received a call reporting a controlled burn south of Shoals.

12:17 p.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Medic 1, Loogootee Fire Department and Corporal Wells responded. Medic 1 transported one patient to Jasper Memorial Hospital with a Dubois County medic on board.

12:42 p.m. - Received a call reporting possible trespassers in Shoals. Corporal Wells responded.

1:08 p.m. - Received a 911 call requesting officers in Loogootee. Reserve Officer Harmon, Corporal Wells and ISP Trooper Beaver responded.

1:25 p.m. - Received a call reporting a possible burglary south of Shoals. Corporal Wells responded.

2:24 p.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Medic 1, Corporal Wells and Deputy Branham responded. Medic 1 transported one patient to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

7:05 p.m. - Received a 911 call requesting assistance in Shoals. Deputy Long responded.

8:10 p.m. - Received an accidental 911 call.

8:29 p.m. - Received a 911 call reporting a reckless driver north of Loogootee. Deputy Branham, Deputy Long and Loogootee Officer Erwin responded.

9:59 p.m. - Received a call requesting an officer in Shoals. Deputy Branham responded.

10:58 p.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Medic 1 responded and transported one patient to Daviess Community Hospital.

12:34 a.m. - Received a call requesting an ambulance in Loogootee. Loogootee Officer Erwin, Loogootee Fire Department and Martin County Medic 1 responded. No one was transported.

1:13 a.m. - Received a call from Lawrence County requesting an ambulance in Bedford. Martin County Medic 1 responded. No one was transported.

4:07 a.m. - Received a call from Lawrence County reporting a domestic dispute northeast of Shoals. Deputy Long and Loogootee Officer Erwin responded.

8:04 a.m. - Received a 911 call reporting an accident northwest of Shoals. Deputy Hawkins, Martin County Medic 1, ISP Trooper Lents and Loogootee Reserve Officer Harmon responded. No one was transported.

8:57 a.m. - Received an accidental 911 call.

12:00 p.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Medic 1 and Loogootee Fire responded. Medic 1 transported one patient to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

3:39 p.m. - Received an animal complaint in Shoals. Animal Control Deputy Hughett was notified.

6:55 p.m. - Received a call reporting a possible theft south of Shoals. Deputy Branham and ISP Trooper Brummett responded.

COURT NEWS

CRIMINAL CONVICTIONS AND SENTENCING

February 1

Justin R. Boyd, convicted of criminal trespass, a Class A Misdemeanor. Sentenced to serve 204 days with 0 days suspended and credit for 51 actual days previously served plus 51 Class A credit days. Also convicted of theft, a Class A Misdemeanor. Sentenced to serve 94 days with 0 days suspended and credit for 47 actual days previously served plus 47 Class A credit days. Also convicted of operating a vehicle after being an habitual traffic violator, a Level 6 Felony. Sentenced to serve 450 days with 0 days suspended and credit for 107 actual days previously served plus 107 Class A credit days.

CRIMINAL CHARGES DISMISSED

February 1

Martin County real estate transfers

Kaleb P. Connell and Beth A. Connell, of Martin County, Indiana to **George A. Schroeder and Patricia E. Schroeder**, of Martin County, Indiana, the south half of the northwest quarter and part of the northeast quarter of the southwest quarter, all in Section 8, Township 1 North, Range 3 West, Lost River Township, Martin County, Indiana, containing 81.422 acres, more or less.

Tedrow's Wood Products, Inc. to **Flat Creek Woodworking, LLC**, a part of the northwest quarter of the northwest quarter of Section 17, Township 2 North, Range 3 West, Halbert Township, Martin County, Indiana, containing 11.353 acres, more or less. Also, a part of the northwest quarter of the northwest quarter of Section 17, Township 2 North, Range 3 West, Halbert Township, Martin County, Indiana, containing 3.323 acres, more or less.

Mark E. Tedrow, Bob W. Tedrow and Brian C. Tedrow, of Martin County, Indiana to **Flat Creek Woodworking, LLC**, part of the north half of the northwest quarter of the northwest quarter of Section 17, Township 2 North, Range 1 West, second principal meridian, Halbert Township, Martin County, Indiana, containing 7.86 acres, more or less. Also, a part of the northwest quarter of the north-

Justin R. Boyd, residential entry, a Level 6 Felony, dismissed; two counts of public intoxication, Class B Misdemeanors, dismissed; possession of methamphetamine, a Level 6 Felony, dismissed; operating a vehicle while intoxicated with prior conviction within 7 years, a Level 6 Felony, dismissed; possession of a controlled substance, a Class A Misdemeanor, dismissed; possession of marijuana, a Class B Misdemeanor, dismissed.

CIVIL COURT New Suits Filed

February 1

Portfolio Recovery Associates, LLC vs. Michael McCoy, civil collection.

CIVIL COURT DISMISSED

February 3

Norton Hospitals, Inc. vs. Andrew Hopkins, civil collection, dismissed.

west quarter of Section 17, Township 2 North, Range 3 West, Halbert Township, Martin County, Indiana, containing 0.990 acres, more or less.

Robert G. Lee and Rebekah D. Lee, of Martin County, Indiana to **Kristen Waggoner and Theodore Bridgewater**, of Martin County, Indiana, a part of the northwest quarter of the southeast quarter of Section 35, Township 4 North, Range 4 West, Center Township, Martin County, Indiana, containing 10.14 acres, more or less.

Natalie Brook Abner and Carl Matthew Abner to **Scott Vaught and Jill Vaught**, Lot Number 90 in the Town of Crane, situated in Martin County, Indiana.

The Trustees of Waggoner Chapel and Cemetery Association f/k/a Waggoner's Chapel Church, of Martin County, Indiana to **Friends of Waggoner Chapel, Inc.**, of Martin County, Indiana, part of the northeast quarter of Section 25, Township 2 North, Range 4 West, second principal meridian, Martin County, Indiana, containing 0.103 acres, more or less.

Betrice Lents, of Martin County, Indiana to **Crystal Bishop**, of Lawrence County, Indiana, .95 acres, more or less, in Section 4, Township 2 North, Range 3 West.

Loogootee Police log

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 6

8:02 a.m. - Caller reported a semi in a ditch on Highway 231 North, near the Burns City turnoff.

10:08 a.m. - Received a report of illegal dumping on West Washington Street.

1:46 p.m. - The Loogootee Fire Department was dispatched to a field fire on Dages Lane.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 7

11:59 a.m. - A caller reported a deer that had been hit.

12:50 p.m. - A caller reported a trespasser in her home.

1:30 p.m. - Chief Means assisted with a funeral procession.

2:54 p.m. - A caller reported a dog running loose on Park Street.

3:42 p.m. - The Loogootee Fire Department First Responders were dispatched to a medical call on East 350 North.

5:47 p.m. - Caller advised a loose dog on Park Street attempted to attack her dog.

7:11 p.m. - A caller reported a possible suicidal subject and Officer Erwin completed a welfare check.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 8

11:50 a.m. - Chief Means completed a vehicle check.

1:35 p.m. - A caller reported a missing dog.

1:41 p.m. - A male caller reported an unsettling encounter his wife had with a male in the parking lot of a local business.

2:46 p.m. - Caller reported trespassing by a landlord.

9:52 p.m. - Officer Sims completed a welfare check on Vincennes Street.

10:45 p.m. - Officer Sims responded to a domestic dispute on Vincennes Street.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 9

8:14 a.m. - A caller requested a security check of a shed on her property.

10:09 a.m. - A caller requested an officer to assist her in locating her daughter.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 10

4:52 p.m. - A caller from the Loogootee School Corporation advised a work truck had struck a mirror during its route this morning.

7:36 p.m. - Officer Sims spoke with a complainant regarding an unwanted individual in her residence.

8:13 p.m. - A caller reported erratic

driving and a property damage accident. Officer Sims spoke with the driver.

ARRESTS

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 7

2:11 a.m. - Makayla Cundiff, 22, of Loogootee, was arrested by Loogootee Officer Erwin and charged with leaving the scene of an accident. She is being held on \$5,000 10% bond.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 8

4:35 p.m. - James D. Holt, 33, of Loogootee, was arrested on a Martin County warrant for possession of methamphetamine and possession of paraphernalia. He is being held without bond.

6:13 p.m. - Glendon Dixon, 33, of Loogootee, was arrested by Loogootee Officer Sims and charged with burglary and residential entry. He is being held on a \$45,000 10% bond.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 10

1:20 p.m. - Kelly Winger, 60, of Loogootee, was arrested by Corporal Wells on a Martin County warrant for a probation violation. He is being held without bond.

2:13 p.m. - Regina Campbell, 36, of Washington, was arrested by ICO Fuhrman and charged with possession of methamphetamine and driving while suspended with a prior conviction. She is being held on \$10,000 10% bond.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 11

11:48 a.m. - James Wallisa, 40, of Loogootee, was arrested on a Martin County warrant. He is being held without bond.

2:11 p.m. - Ryan Terry, 29, of Shoals, was arrested by Deputy Branham on a Martin County warrant. He is being held without bond.

7:24 p.m. - Chelsey Heuser, 26, of Washington, was arrested by Deputy Branham on a Martin County warrant. She is being held without bond.

9:11 p.m. - Trevor Atherton, 44, of Evansville, was arrested by Deputy Long and charged with driving while intoxicated-endangerment with a prior. He is being held on \$15,000 10% bond.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 12

5:57 a.m. - Tabitha Boyd, 33, of Greenwood, was arrested by Deputy Long and charged with battery and criminal mischief. She is being held on \$5,000 10% bond.

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Loogootee Pickleball adding more clinics

Due to the success of the February pickleball clinics, the Loogootee Pickleball Committee will be adding more clinics. Loogootee Pickleball members will be holding beginner clinics for local adults in March and April at St. Martin's Hall in Whitfield.

You can do as many clinics as you like. There will be a maximum of eight participants for each clinic.

Below are the upcoming clinic dates.

February 26, 1-2:30 p.m. ****FULL****

March 5, 1-2:30 p.m.

March 19, 1-2:30 p.m.

April 2, 1-2:30 p.m.

April 16, 1-2:30 p.m.

April 23, 1-2:30 p.m.

To register, please contact Terri Smith at 812-661-2905. Cost is \$20 per session and is due the day of the clinic. Registrations will be first come, first served. Cash or checks made out to Loogootee Pickleball will be accepted. Money from these sessions will go toward the building of the new pickleball courts. Pickleball paddles and balls will be provided.

Veronica Delaney joins Loogootee Family Medicine

Memorial Hospital and Health Care Center has announced the addition of Family Nurse Practitioner Veronica Delaney to the staff at Loogootee Family Medicine. She will begin seeing patients in March.

Delaney received her associate and bachelor's degrees in nursing at Vincennes University in Vincennes. She received her master's degree in nursing from University of Southern Indiana



in Evansville. She is board certified by the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners and a DOT certified medical examiner. Delaney has seven years of nursing experience and three years of experience as a family nurse practitioner.

To schedule an appointment at Loogootee Family Medicine, please call (812) 295-2812. Loogootee Family Medicine is located at 105 Cooper Street in Loogootee.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Loogootee School Board meeting

The Loogootee School Board will meet Thursday, February 16 at 5 p.m. in the high school media center. The meeting is open to the public.

Redevelopment commission meeting

The Martin County Redevelopment Commission will meet Thursday, February 16 at noon at the Martin County Learning Center at 2666 US Hwy 50, Loogootee, IN 47553. The meeting is open to the public.

City council executive meeting

The Loogootee City Council will meet in executive session Saturday, February 18 at 1 p.m. in the municipal building council room. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss personnel. The meeting is closed to the public.

Dog/cat Wellness Clinic

The Martin County Humane Society Spay/Neuter Clinic 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 is required.

Mental Health Task Force

The Martin County Mental Health Task Force meets via Zoom. If interested in being a part of the tax force, email echristmas@youthfirst.org or toddamy@iu.edu.

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.

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 second Wednesday of each month at noon 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 or call at 295-3149.

Local recovery meetings

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

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Thank You To Our Customers!

We would like to thank everyone for their concern and prayers these last three months. It has been a difficult struggle in the hardware business with the collapse of the building. It was nothing more than God's hand over us that no one was injured or even worse.

We want everyone to know we have never closed and are set up to do business across the street from the original hardware store.

Our new address is 106 Mill Street. You can still call the same phone number as before, 812-295-3597, if you want to check stock on an item or if you are having trouble locating us.

Our hours are Monday through Friday, 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and Saturday, from 8 a.m. until 12 Noon.

We couldn't have done this without our loyal customers and the great citizens of Martin and Daviess County. We ask everyone to continue to be patient with us as we make this transition to our new location. It will take some time to get things cleaned up and to restock.

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Martin County Chamber of Commerce
and Martin County Alliance

ANNUAL DINNER

Thursday, March 16 at 6 p.m.

St. John's Center Lower Level

Tickets: \$25 • Table Sponsor \$250

Guest Speaker: Denny Spinner, Director of OCRA

Tickets are available for purchase at
German American Bank, Crane Credit Union
and the Martin County Chamber Office





It is early in the season, but it looks like a banner year for the hellebores. The first blooms came early, and this week, several clumps have burst forth with numerous flowers. The flowers are quite large, and the colors are vivid. Of course, there are still several clumps that have not started to bloom, so I can look forward to hellebores for several months.

With the hellebores in bloom, I have begun spring garden clean-up. I recommend leaving as much stubble as possible until we have had a week with temperatures consistently in the fifties. The debris from last year's garden provides winter shelter for a host of insects, and most will not emerge until spring warmth arrives. However, the old hellebore foliage certainly detracts from the beauty of the blooms, so I have begun cutting the old leaves off at the soil level. I have not determined that there are any beneficial insects that specifically over-winter in hellebores; after all, they are not native to our area. Still, I will refrain from shredding the leaves at this time. Instead, I will create a bin for the leaves at the edge of the garden. Later in the spring, I will shred the leaves and add them to the regular compost bin.

It is also time to begin vegetable gardening. While winter is far from over, we will have some nice days when outside work is possible. I would not recommend gardening in traditional garden beds until the soil dries. Walking on saturated soils will result in compaction, and that could mean adverse effects for the future. However, for those who garden in raised beds and who are able to work the soil from the outside of the beds, some early planting is possible. One crop that can be planted early is potatoes. As regular readers may remember, I have been raising potatoes on top of the ground. Raised beds filled with compost are perfect for starting this process. One need simply place the seed potatoes, making sure each section contains a couple of

"eyes", on the ground and cover with at least six inches of compost. In this cold weather, it will likely be a few weeks before any leaves sprout. As the plants grow, fill in around them with compost or shredding plant material. I usually use straw, shredded leaves and even some shredded paper. When it comes time to harvest, it is easy to push back the shredded material and pull out the potatoes.

Of course, this planting method has attracted the attention of garden supply companies, and each company has developed some sort of growing bag, bucket or bin specifically designed for raising potatoes in this way. Some even have doors at the bottom which one can open and take out a few potatoes while the plant continues to grow. If you have the money for such bins, go ahead. However, I will attest that this method works just fine using buckets, barrels and even tires, from which the sidewalls have been cut.

By early March, garden peas may be planted. Again, raised beds are more likely to be accessible at this time of the year, but for anyone who prepared a spot last fall, early peas can be a great crop. I recommend using an inoculant on the peas, and soaking the seed overnight will increase germination. I also recommend planting peas along a fence or some sort of trellis. It is easier to have that in place from the beginning than to add support when the plants start to vine. Growing peas on supports will keep the vines off the ground, helping reduce disease. It also makes it easier to pick the peas when they are ready.

Valentine's Day is a traditional day for planting lettuce. Most cool-weather leafy greens will do well in cold frames. Keep the frames covered when temperatures are below freezing but remember to open the cover on days when temperatures rise above fifty degrees. Plant a few onion sets in the bed and in a few weeks, you will have the makings for wilted lettuce.

Federal grant funds available for specialty crop industry

The Indiana State Department of Agriculture (ISDA), beginning February 15, will seek project proposals from Indiana's specialty crop sector for funding from the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Specialty Crop Block Grant Program.

"Specialty crops are big business in Indiana," said Lt. Gov. Suzanne Crouch, Indiana's Secretary of Agriculture and Rural Development. "This unique sector is quite large in Indiana, after all 80 percent of our state is farmland and forests. We are excited to use this federal funding to bolster our large specialty crop sector and research initiatives."

The USDA Specialty Crop Block Grant Program offers federal funding annually to state departments of agriculture to support their specialty crop industries. This year, Indiana's allocation is \$484,966.

Eligible projects must enhance the competitiveness of specialty crops in Indiana, defined as fruits, vegetables, tree nuts, horticulture and nursery crops.

Funding will not be awarded to projects that benefit a particular commercial product, or provide a profit to a single organization, institution or individual.

Each project must identify at least one of the new USDA performance measures that specifically demonstrate the project's impact on enhancing the competitiveness of eligible specialty crops.

ISDA is seeking projects that have objectives such as: increasing consumption and consumer purchasing, increasing access and distribution, increasing food safety knowledge and processing, developing new seed varieties and improving environmental sustainability, among other things. Click here or visit ams.usda.gov to see the full list of performance measures.

ISDA and USDA encourage applications that benefit smaller farms, new and beginning farmers, underserved producers, veteran producers and underserved communities.

Applications open today, February 15, 2023 and are due by 12 p.m. ET March 10, 2023. Proposals must be submitted online through the Indiana State Department of Agriculture's Grants Management System. Indiana Specialty Crop Block Grant application resources are located on ISDA's Grants and Funding Opportunities website at www.in.gov/isda/grants-and-funding-opportunities.

Funding available to reclaim long abandoned mining land

Recently approved federal funding of up to \$385 million over the next 15 years will allow Indiana to reclaim more former coal mines to their pre-mining status. Hoosiers who own such property are encouraged to report it to the Indiana Department of Natural Resources (DNR) — even if you don't want the work done right away.

Reclamation is the process by which adverse safety, health, and environmental effects of formerly unregulated surface mining are minimized and mined lands are returned to a beneficial end use. In Indiana, more than 2,000 reclamation projects have been completed since 1982 on both public and private lands.

Because reclamation funding is distributed based on need, the DNR Division of Reclamation's Abandoned Mine Land program (AML) is cataloging future projects. Indiana's eligibility for these federal grants depends upon the state's inventory of abandoned mine land. To qualify for funding, the mining land must have been abandoned prior to 1977.

Owners of such land should call 1-800-772-MINE (6463) or the Reclamation office number, 812-665-2207, or email their information directly to the

AML program at abandonedmineres-toration@dnr.IN.gov.

Once reported, an AML project manager and the landowner will review the site to determine if the impact on the property was caused by mining. They will talk with the landowner to determine what needs to be done and discuss accommodating other requests in the reclamation design. The project manager will work closely with the landowner during the design process to ensure the property's needs are met. If the landowner approves the design, the project is put up for bid through the state public works process.

The contractor who wins the bid then completes the work under the supervision of the AML program. When the project is complete, AML conducts a meeting to assess the work and make sure all requirements and agreements have been met. Most reclamation projects can be completed within a year.

"We can't bring every eligible property to construction right away, but we need Hoosiers to report their problem areas to us as soon as possible," said Kit Turpin, who leads the AML program for DNR. "We must have a complete inventory to ensure funding is available in the future."

Indiana pesticide rules changed at the start of 2023

There were some recent revisions to the Indiana pesticide rules that affect applicators, particularly those who apply Restricted Use Pesticides (RUPs). These revisions have been in process since 2018 and became a part of the rules in January 2023.

One change involves record keeping. As previously required, all applicators (both private and commercial) using RUPs and all commercial applicators using any pesticide at schools or golf courses or for termite control must keep records of those applications for at least two years. The required record keeping items remain largely unchanged, with the notable addition of a start and stop time for each application.

The biggest change, however, is that only fully certified applicators (private and commercial) are now allowed to apply Restricted Use Pesticides (RUPs). The previous rule was that RUPs could be applied by anyone who was supervised by a private or commercial fully licensed applicator.

Since the changes were announced, there have been several conversations with local farm families. In all these cases, the father holds a Private Applicator's license, but the son has been doing most of the RUP applications under the father's supervision, as was permitted by the old rules. Under the new rule, the son would need to get his own license if the son is to continue to apply RUPs. Likewise, hired help will now be required to be licensed if they have previously been doing RUP applications under the supervision of a license holder.

So, how do you obtain a Private Applicator license? The most popular way to take the exam has been to obtain the training manual for the CORE exam (PPP-13), study the manual at home, and then take the exam at the Ivy Tech Community College in Evansville (other testing locations available at <https://tinyurl.com/5kb6898w> or ph. 877-533-2900). The test is administered by the Metro Institute, and Ivy Tech merely provides the supervision during the exam.

To prepare for the exam, the study manual can be purchased for \$40 plus shipping at <https://tinyurl.com/yjxswt5> or by calling 765-494-6794. Manuals are available in English and Spanish.

Once you receive a manual, go on-line to <https://tinyurl.com/5yy5xay6> or call 1-877-533-2900 to schedule an appointment to take the exam. Leave a message and let them know when the best time is to reach you. Everyone taking the exam must show a government-issued photo ID. Contact the Indiana State Chemist at 756-494-1492 for alternative identification, if needed. A person is allowed three attempts to take the exam in 12 months' time. There is a \$55 fee for use of facilities through Ivy Tech.

For private applicators wishing to attend training towards the OISC exam for both pesticide and fertilizer application, Purdue is also offering in-person training for farmers and private applicators planning to take the exam (training not required for the on-line exam). The Purdue OISC Core and Category 14 Training and Testing Workshop (flyer attached) will offer sections taken directly from the OISC manuals to better assist applicators in understanding key subjects while also preparing for their exams. Training will take place on Friday, February 17, 2023, from 8:30 a.m.-12 p.m. CST (9:30 a.m.-1 p.m. EST) at Ivy Tech Community College in Evansville with reservations required with the Purdue Extension – Warrick County office at (812) 897-6100. The exam will not be given during this training, with participants responsible for setting up exams themselves through Metro Institute.

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-Photos provided

Shown above is the Jug Rox Robotix 9864 team. In the front row, from left to right, are Rator Hoffman, Ashur Dishman, Lydia Cook, Hanna Cook, Alexis Rush, and Austin Rasico. In the back row, from left to right, are Skylar Smith, Nick McCracken, Malachi McNabb, and Luke Troutman. The 9864 Jug Rox Robotix is coached by Dean Troutman and Megan Hawkins. They are assisted by Lorna Troutman.



Shown above is the Rox-Paper-Scissors Shoals Robotix Team. From left to right are Kade Weidenbenner, Landon Douglas, Brooklyn Greene, Dayson Bauernfiend, and Jasmine Jones. The 22871 Rox-Paper-Scissors is coached by Dean Troutman and Megan Hawkins. They are assisted by Jessica Sheetz.

Rox Robotics compete in tournament

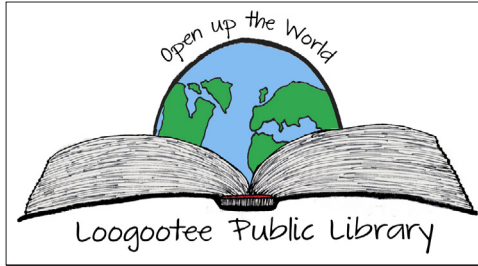
Shoals Community Schools had two teams compete at the FIRST Tech Challenge South League Robotics Tournament on February 11 held at Westgate Academy. The teams competing were team 22871 Rox-Paper-Scissors and team 9864 Jug Rox Robotix.

FTC team 22871 Rox-Paper-Scissors is a rookie team, made up of 8th and 9th graders. They were ranked 7th in the league and got top rookie seed at the South League Robotics Tournament. They were also picked as an alliance partner for the playoff rounds and got 3rd place for the Think Award.

FTC team 9864 Jug Rox Robotix qualified for the Indiana State Championship on February 11 at the Indiana FTC Southern League Championship. Jug Rox Robotix had a record of 13 wins and two losses and ranked 2nd out of 15 teams at the championship after match play. The

Jug Rox teamed up with I.C.E. Robotics from Bloomington and was undefeated in the final rounds, making them the winning alliance at the championship.

Jug Rox Robotix also won the Connect Award for their efforts in helping the community understand FIRST, the FIRST Tech Challenge, and the team itself. They were also the 3rd place Inspire award winner. Now it's on to the Indiana State Championship on February 25 at the Tippecanoe County Fairgrounds in Lafayette. The robotics teams thank their many sponsors and the community for their support.



BY DARLA WAGLER

Librarian, Loogootee Public Library

New library hours: Closing at 6 p.m. on Tuesday and Thursday evenings.

Saturday, February 11, 2023 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Mr. Hamlin (WorkOne VU) will be available for computer class. If you are interested in learning how to use a computer, this class is geared for you. It is a free program.

New puzzles will be available to the public to check out starting the week of February 27. Puzzles for adults and kids will be available.

Arthritis Workshop presented by Advanced Rehabilitation, INC's Dr. Adam Gilbert will be held on Monday, February 27 at 10:15 a.m.

Federal and state tax forms are available at the library.

New Books:

Mystery: "3 Days to Live" by James Patterson.

Fiction: "A Calder Heart" by Janet Dailly.

Inspirational Fiction: "The Last Chance Cowboy" by Jody Hedlund, "Every Good Gift" By Kelly Irvin, and "Daughter of Eden" by Jill Eileen Smith,

Nonfictions: "Spare" by Prince Harry.

Library hours: Monday 10-6, Tuesday 10-5, Closed on Wednesday, Thursday 10-6, Friday 10-5, and Saturday 9-1. The library phone number is 812-295-3713 and check out the website www.loogootee.lib.in.us or like us on Facebook. The library has free Wi-Fi service available for patrons.

Free screening event

The Indiana University School of Public Health operates the Southern Indiana Heart Healthy Hoosiers Program to promote heart health. This program provides free preventative cardiovascular health screenings, rapid glucose test with resource referral coaching and mentoring, rapid lipid panel testing with resource referral, coaching, and education, healthy lifestyle coaching, tobacco cessation resources, and carbon dioxide level test and nicotine test.

A free screening event will be held March 3 from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. at All Saints Hall, 1049 N. 900 E, Cannelburg IN 47519.

Please contact Gina Townsend, BSN, RN, Faith Community Nurse Coordinator at gina.townsend@ascension.org or complete the initial survey at <https://redcap.isdh.in.gov/surveys/> with the code 3XHRHA477.

This program is offered in partnership with the IU School of Public Health and the IU Center for Rural Engagement as part of the Indiana Healthy Opportunities for People Everywhere (I-HOPE) initiative. This program is supported by funds made available from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Center for State, Tribal, Local and Territorial Support, under NH75OT000073.

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VERONICA DELANEY NURSE PRACTITIONER

Memorial Hospital and Health Care Center is pleased to announce the addition of Family Nurse Practitioner Veronica Delaney to the staff at Loogootee Family Medicine. She will begin seeing patients in March.

Delaney received her associate and bachelor degrees in nursing at Vincennes University in Vincennes, Indiana. She received her master's degree in nursing from University of Southern Indiana in Evansville, Indiana. She is board certified by the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners and a DOT certified medical examiner. Delaney has seven years of nursing experience and three years of experience as a family nurse practitioner.

To schedule an appointment at Loogootee Family Medicine, please call (812) 295-2812. Loogootee Family Medicine is located at 105 Cooper Street in Loogootee, Indiana.

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