

# Martin County JOURNAL

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Ten pages

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## Programs available to help residents with employment

BY COURTNEY HUGHETT  
*Martin County Journal Publisher*

According to the most recent data from the US Census Bureau, 12 percent of Martin County residents, age 25 or older, do not have a high school diploma or equivalency. Also, only 20 percent of the same age group has an associate's degree or higher.

The Martin County Journal recently sat down with Vicki Conrad, adult education instructor with Vincennes University, and Beverly McIntosh, director of Martin County SOAR (the county's adult literacy program). Conrad and McIntosh, who work together to improve the skills

of Martin County residents, explained the various programs provided by Work One.

McIntosh began by saying that there are few companies anymore that will hire someone without a high school diploma. For instance, McIntosh spoke about a middle-aged man who contacted SOAR recently because he had to find a new job because his current employer was relocating. The man did not have a high school diploma or equivalent and found that he could not get hired anywhere he had applied – including a local home improvement retailer. He contacted SOAR for help getting tutored to acquire his high school equivalency. He was very

surprised that he had such a difficult time finding employment, and noted that things had changed in the workforce since he got his current job decades before.

The Indiana HSE (High School Equivalency) is an alternative for earning a high school diploma. HSE Diplomas can be earned after completing a test based on five subject areas (math, reading, writing, science and social studies). The skills you are taught and eventually tested on are at the same level as those of graduating high school seniors. Workers who have a high school diploma earn over \$8,000 more per year than those who do not. Conrad noted that there is

some misinformation regarding the new testing structure and that it is not as difficult of a test to pass as some say it is. She said on some areas of the test, five correct answers out of 20 is passing. She noted that it doesn't matter what you get on the test, all employers want to know is if the HSE test was passed.

High School Equivalency (formerly known as the GED) classes are offered in Loogootee at the Work One office on Monday and Thursday from 1:30 p.m. until 4:30 p.m. Prospective students should show up at the beginning of class and plan to stay for 2.5 to 3 hours to register and begin assessment testing. There (See 'HELP' continued on page 2)



## LNC Valentine Royalty

*-Photos provided*

Loogootee Nursing Center recently held their annual Valentine's Day King and Queen Contest. King candidates, from left were Loland Troutman, Robert Norman, and Dale Kalb and queen candidates were Mildred Warner, Alice Wildman, and Katie Stoll. Winning the king contest, and shown in the photo on the left, was Dale Kalb. Winning the queen contest, and shown in the photo on the right, was Mildred Warner.

## Shoals School Board approves personnel actions, other monthly business

The Shoals School Board met last Thursday, February 11.

The board approved the following personnel actions:

-Renew the administrative contracts of Lucas Calhoun, Austin Malone, and John Kirtland for a period of two years.

-Salary exempt pay status for Wayne Underwood in position of head maintenance/custodian manager effective February 22, 2016.

-Resignation of Christy Farhar from position of Title I Teaching Assistant.

-Retirement of Kenneth Macy effective at the end of the 2015-16 school year.

-Approval of Kyle Turpin as a substitute teacher.

-Approval of Heidi Hoffman as Title I Teaching Assistant.

-Resignation of Mitch Green from position of varsity track coach.

-Resignation of David Qualkenbush from position of junior high girls' track coach

-Medical leave request from Lisa Elliott as well as permission to hire temporary replacement.

-Permission to post teaching position to be vacated upon the retirement of Mr. Macy, open Title I Teaching Assistant position, librarian, as well as several open spring coaching positions.

The board approved the Positive Behavior Intervention System (PBIS) contract with Martin County Community Corrections. The contract will be for a period of one year and will begin upon receipt of the program funding.

The board approved an addendum

to contract of school bus routes. This addendum will remove the escalator/de-escalator provision from the individual contract of John Gore #4, Eva Neeley #3 and #13, Keith Emmons #5, Teddy Emmons #6, Todd Winger #8, and Cecil Ragsdale #12. Board Members Dianna Ragsdale and Eva Neeley abstained from the vote but it passed 3-0-2.

The board held the first reading of policy #3760 – Threshold for Loss or Theft of School Funds or Property. The second reading is scheduled for the March 10 board meeting.

The board approved the 2016-17 school calendar and the head maintenance/custodian manager job description. Board Member Eva Neeley voted against approving the job description.

The board approved the following facility usage requests, with fees waived:

-Shoals Lions Club to hold boys' basketball banquet in the cafeteria on February 29, 2016.

-Shoals Lions Club to hold Easter Egg Hunt on school grounds March 26, 2016.

The board approved the elementary Math Bowl team to take field trip to Throop Elementary School in Paoli for competition on February 25, 2016 and (See 'SHOALS' continued on page 2)

## Brooks Bridge now open

According to the Martin County Commissioners, Brooks Bridge is now open after repairs were made to the bridge structure, but the load limit has been reduced to nine tons.

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# SHOALS

(Continued from page one)

the sophomore students to take a field trip to visit North Lawrence Career Center on February 19.

The board approved a substitute pay increase of \$5 per day effective at the beginning of the next pay period, February 22, 2016. New pay amounts will be as follows:

- High School Diploma \$55 per day
- Associate's Degree \$60 per day
- Bachelor's Degree \$65 per day
- Licensed Teacher \$70 per day

The board approved the distribution of teacher performance grant money in form of stipend payable in February 2016. They also approved the stipend for administrators and non-certified employees as follows:

- \$500 stipend for all non-certified staff members
- \$1,000 stipend for administrators, Austin Malone, Lucas Calhoun, and John Kirtland

The board approved the following fundraisers:

- Junior Beta to hold Thirty-One Bingo Raffle February 2 through February 19

- Girls' varsity track and field to sell t-shirts March 11 through April 1

- Media Publications to sell school calendars April 1 through May 27

The board approved applying for an annual raffle license through Indiana Gaming Commission.

The board approved the following donations, with Board Member Lorna Troutman abstaining:

- \$75 from Daviess Martin County Retired Teachers for the junior/senior high school library
- \$500 from SAIC for Elementary LEGO Team

The board approved a proposal from the elementary elite volleyball program.

The board approved modification to the teacher evaluation plan.

Austin Malone, elementary principal, reported on the following:

- Continued effort to meet our attendance goal of 98 percent. Thank you to students, parents, and teachers for helping students achieve this goal.

-Mrs. Hovis' class earned a pizza party award for the class with the highest student attendance percentage for the first semester.

-Mr. Malone provided the board with breakdowns of 2015 student ISTEP test scores that were recently released by the Indiana Department of Education

-ISTEP testing for 2016 begins on Monday, February 29.

-They continue to work on possible areas of improvement in relation to the ever-changing ISTEP and IREAD3 testing standards.

-To celebrate the "100<sup>th</sup> day of school" the kindergarten students held a food drive. They collected over 100 canned goods and non-perishable food items and donated them within the local community!

-Thank you to bus drivers for getting students to school safely and navigating the hazardous road conditions lately and for the local road crews for making the roads ready for bus traffic. Also, thanks to Wayne Underwood and Roger Wraley for clearing the school parking lots and foot traffic areas of snow and ice.

-Thanks to Kim Showalter for the donation of multiple backpacks and binders for the students.

-Special thanks to Etta Franklin for her tireless volunteer work here for the students. She is truly an unsung hero for our school in so many ways.

Lucas Calhoun, junior/senior high school principal, reported on the following:

-Beta Club exceeded their blood unit goal and collected 51 units at the blood drive last Wednesday.

-Beta Club Literacy Drive collected over 100 books to be distributed within the Shoals Community.

-High School Robotics finished 8<sup>th</sup> at only their second competition.

-Seven Shoals Band students participated in the district level of the Indiana State School Music Association's Solo/Ensemble contest on Saturday February 6. The students brought home four gold medals and three silver medals. Alex Tedrow, Colton Mullins, and Lindsey Robinson all earned a gold medal with Alex Tedrow also qualifying for state contest which will be held on February 27 at North Central High School in Indianapolis. Earning silver medals were Ty Downey, Andrew Newland, and Tristan Peterson.

-They have a student representative at the Evansville Regional Scripps National Spelling Bee Saturday -Senior English classes attended To Kill a Mockingbird at the beautiful Indiana Repertory Theater and represented the school well with very good behavior by all students.

-ISTEP and ECA testing preparation is currently underway.

-English, biology, and math teachers all attending external professional development

-Principal attended math specific session

-Teacher meetings are underway with and without principal to coordinate and prepare.

-Various paper and computer-based preparatory methods being used.

-Preparation for graduation is ongoing.

-Date for the end of the 4<sup>th</sup> six weeks grading period will be determined after this weekend's weather forecast.

-Senior Night is scheduled during basketball game this Saturday the 13<sup>th</sup> starting at 7 p.m.

-Junior high dance is scheduled for February 26

-Thanks to the faculty, staff, and students for their daily dedication and hard work.

Superintendent Roush reported on the following:

-Boys' STEM night will be coming this spring

-Technology update- Sample student laptops are coming and the school will host a night for parents to come in and view the sample devices.

-Teacher professional development coming to help analyze student data

-Shoals will be participating in the sea, land, and air challenge at Crane in April where they will compete with the underwater robot. Thanks to the College Success Coalition for the \$200 donation that will help to pay for underwater sensors.

-The school is looking into finding a grant for a 3-D computer called z-space that can be used in the classrooms.

-The school is planning on having a full day preschool next year open to

## 38th Martin County Ag Day celebration March 12

The Martin County Ag Day Committee is gearing up for another great Ag Day Celebration. The event will take place at the Martin County Community Building located at the 4-H Fairgrounds from 8 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. EST. Booth space is available for \$50 which includes a 6-foot or 8-foot table and two breakfast tickets. Wall space and electrical supply is limited so reserve your space now.

The day will start with opening ceremonies followed by breakfast served by the Martin County Jr. Leaders. Breakfast is \$3 per person. Lots of vendors with information and give-a-ways

## HELP

(Continued from page one)

is (no preregistration required, registration paperwork is filled out on the first day of class.

Who can take the HSE? Anyone living in Indiana for a minimum of 30 days before taking the test, those who have not already earned a diploma from an accredited high school in the United States, and students who are at least 16 years of age.

For more information on prepping for the HSE, contact Vicki Conrad at 812-936-2881. There is no cost for taking the

all students with potentially before and after school drop off times. The school will have preschool registration at the same time as kindergarten registration.

-The school is looking into the possibility of student clubs who would like to raise extra money by offering to clean the gym after ball games.

-Thank you to Ken Macy for his years of service and dedication to the Shoals Community School Corporation.

-They still have one Title 1 aide position unfilled and the school is still accepting applications.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

The next meeting of the board will be a special session on March 3, 2016 to consider renewal of the contract for the superintendent.

will be on hand to inform attendees on goods and services available to them. Music by local singers throughout the morning will lead up to the announcing of award winners for 2016. The day ends with the large door prize drawing.

The profit from Ag Day is used in many ways of community support such as 4-H Junior Leaders, FFA and the purchase of livestock at the 4-H Fair to name a few.

Please join us in celebrating the local farming community. For more information, please call the Martin County SWCD office 812-295-3149 or Chairman David Gregory 812-644-7599.

prep classes however to take the actual HSE does come with a fee. Contact Conrad for information.

Work One also helps workers who want to receive certification in a certain field. According to the Department of Workforce Development, one-third of Indiana's workforce does not have the skills necessary to succeed in today's workplace. That's more than 900,000 Indiana citizens. Work INdiana provides training opportunities in the fields of certified nursing aides (CNA), dental assistant with limited radiography license, medical assistant, computer support specialist, electronics technician, administrative assistant, bookkeeping, CNC machine operator, entry welder, heating and cooling technician, automotive service technician, and truck drivers. There are many other certification programs offered however those are determined by location. Contact the Work One office at 812-295-2722 for more information. Training and education to get the certifications are provided for free to students, paid for by federal and state funds. Work-INdiana began in August of 2011 and had a total enrollment of 3,600 students by the end of September of last year.

Anyone interested in High School Equivalency classes, college prep for placement tests, employment skill test prep, and classes for the free Work Indiana training programs may call Vicki Conrad at 812-936-2881 or the local Work One office at 812-295-2722.

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# Obituaries

## FREDDIE "BUDDY" DICKEY

Freddie P. "Buddy" Dickey passed away on Saturday, February 13, 2016 at the Tennessee State Veterans Home in Clarksville, Tennessee. He had resided at the facility since early January 2016. A lifelong resident of Shoals, he was 77.

He was born on January 9, 1939 in Shoals; the son of the late Fred and Martha (McDonald) Dickey. He married the love of his life, Wanda H Collins, at the Shoals Christian Church on

June 14, 1958.

Buddy graduated in 1957 from Shoals High School and the Indiana Barber College. He proudly served in the United States Army. Mr. Dickey was a barber in Shoals for many years, and retired as the supervisor of shipping at Perfect Fit Industries in Loogootee. He was a member of the Shoals American Legion Post #61 and Fraternal Order of Eagles Aerie #2442.

Left to cherish his memory is wife, Wanda of Shoals; son, Steven P. Dickey, and his wife Claudia, of Bellbrook, Ohio; daughter, Tami Jo Hardey, and her wife, Donna of Clarksville, Tennessee; grandchildren, Alea Mae, Tori Fay, and Mitchell; great-grandchildren, Madeline Rose, Camryn Mae, Kirsten, Adam, Kyle, Owen, and Charlotte; half-sister, Jewell Pridemore of Burns City; and half-brother, John Dickey of Texas.

He is preceded in death by his parents, brother, Robert Dickey; and sisters, Shirley Allen and Dorothy Bough.

Visitation will be from 11 a.m. until the hour of service at 1 p.m. on Saturday, February 20 at Queen-Lee Funeral Home in Shoals. Burial will follow in the Spring Hill Cemetery. Shoals American Legion Post #61 will accord military graveside rites.

Preferred memorials are to the Alzheimer's Association. Envelopes will be available at the funeral home.

Condolences may be made to the family at [www.queenlee.com](http://www.queenlee.com).

## RAY COMBS

Ray L. Combs passed away at 10:27 a.m. Thursday, February 11, 2016 at his home. A resident of Shoals, he was 54.

He was born February 21, 1961 in Washington; the son of Samuel and Josephine (Moffitt) Combs.

He was formerly a truck driver for Hall Brothers Trucking. He enjoyed fishing and mushroom hunting.

He is survived by two daughters, Jessica and Kacia both of Winslow; son, Dusty of Shoals; grandchildren, Ivory, Izik, Izayah and Jazlyn; one sister, Ruby "Sue" Campbell of Shoals, and four brothers, James D. "Teddy" Holt of Shoals; Bernard "Corkie" Holt of Shoals; Robert Dale Holt of Bedford, and William David Combs of Norfolk, Virginia.

He is preceded in death by his parents, brothers, Norman, Sherman, Lawrence and Dean Holt and a sister, Clara "Peggy" Combs.

A funeral service was held today, Wednesday, February 17 at Queen-Lee Funeral Home. Burial followed in Spring Hill Cemetery.

Condolences may be made to the family at [www.queenlee.com](http://www.queenlee.com).

## ALICE STONE

Alice Faye Stone, formerly of Loogootee, passed away at 3:37 a.m. Thursday, February 11, 2016 at her home. A resident of Ingalls, Indiana, she was 66.

She was born January 15, 1950 in Dav-



ALICE STONE

viess County; the daughter of the late George and Mamie (Street) Parsons. She married Michael Stone in June of 1972 in Shoals. While residing in Texas, Alice was a service station clerk, and upon returning to Indiana she worked in home health care and was a devoted caregiver to many.

She is survived by husband, Michael Stone of Ingalls; daughter, Michelle Stone-Estrada of Clute, Texas; son, Travis Stone of Clute, Texas; stepson, Michael Stone Jr. of Nashville, Tennessee; grandchildren, Josiah Estrada, Noah Grant, Crystal Estrada, Alissa Estrada, Jordan and Tiara Stone; great-grandchildren, Arian and Kai; three step-grandchildren; two step great-grandchildren; sisters, Ruby, and husband, Gerald Wilcoxon, of Shoals; and Mildred, and husband, Chris Cloud of Ingalls.

She is preceded in death by her parents, sisters, Vivian Franklin, Maudie Faith; and brothers, Michael Parsons, Les Parsons, Sam Parsons, Junior Parsons, and George Lee Parsons.

A funeral service was held Monday, February 15 at Queen-Lee Funeral Home in Shoals. Burial followed in the Spring Hill Cemetery.

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## Martin County Sheriff's Department log

### MONDAY, FEBRUARY 8

3:00 a.m. - Corporal Baker and the Loogootee Police Department assisted a motorist in Loogootee.

5:18 a.m. - Received a report of a car-deer accident south of Loogootee on US 231. Corporal Baker responded.

7:45 a.m. - Captain Dant assisted an individual in Loogootee.

10:00 a.m. - Sheriff Roush took one inmate to court.

10:33 a.m. - Received a report of a reckless driver north of Loogootee on US 231. The Greene County Sheriff's Department was notified.

11:25 a.m. - Captain Dant assisted two motorists in Shoals.

1:17 p.m. - Received a report of a drive off in Loogootee. Loogootee Captain Hennette responded.

1:20 p.m. - Received a report of an accident in Loogootee. Loogootee Captain Hennette responded.

7:23 p.m. - Received a report of an accident south of Loogootee on US 231. Chief Deputy Greene and Haysville Fire responded.

7:45 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Ambulance responded and transported the subject to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

8:50 p.m. - Received a report of an accident east of Shoals on US 50. Chief Deputy Greene and Shoals Fire responded.

### TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 9

9:30 a.m. - Captain Dant took two inmates to court.

10:30 a.m. - Captain Dant took one inmate to court.

2:14 p.m. - Received a report of a theft in Loogootee. Major Burkhardt responded.

2:54 p.m. - Received a report of mistreated animals near Shoals. Major Burkhardt responded.

3:45 p.m. - Received a report of a possible drunk driver in Loogootee. Major Burkhardt responded.

7:00 p.m. - Sheriff Roush and Chief Deputy Greene were on station with one inmate from the New Castle Correctional Facility for court.

7:01 p.m. - Received a report of a car-deer accident near Shoals. Major Burkhardt responded.

### WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 10

6:34 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance near Shoals. Martin County Ambulance and Shoals Fire Department responded. The subject was transported to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

7:04 a.m. - Received a report of a broken down semi near Crane. Captain Dant responded.

7:57 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Ambulance transported the subject to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

1:00 p.m. - Captain Dant took four inmates to court.

2:00 p.m. - Sheriff Roush and Deputy Reed took one inmate to court.

### THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 11

8:38 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Crane. Martin County Ambulance and Crane Fire responded. No one was transported.

9:30 a.m. - Sheriff Roush took one inmate to court.

9:46 a.m. - Received a report of an accident in Loogootee. Loogootee Captain Hennette responded.

10:14 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance south of Shoals. Martin

County Ambulance and Shoals Fire responded. No one was transported.

10:30 a.m. - Major Burkhardt and Deputy Reed took two inmates to court.

12:02 p.m. - Received a request for lift assistance south of Shoals. Lost River Fire Department responded.

12:30 p.m. - One inmate was transported to the doctor.

1:00 p.m. - Major Burkhardt and Deputy Reed took three inmates to court.

1:39 p.m. - Received a report of smoke in the Chicken Farm Road area. Sheriff Roush responded.

5:00 p.m. - Major Burkhardt did a vehicle identification check near Shoals.

10:10 p.m. - Received a report of people walking on US 150, east of Shoals. Orange County Sheriff's Office was notified.

### FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 12

5:14 a.m. - Received an alarm call in Loogootee. Corporal Baker responded and all was okay.

6:55 a.m. - Received a report of a deer that had been hit on US 231 in Loogootee. Loogootee Captain Akles responded.

8:44 a.m. - Received a report of harassment south of Loogootee. Chief Deputy Greene responded.

8:58 a.m. - Received a report of an accident east of Shoals on US 150. Chief Deputy Greene, Deputy Reed, Shoals Fire Department, and Martin County Ambulance responded. No one was transported.

11:00 a.m. - Deputy Reed took one inmate to court.

11:52 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Ambulance transported one subject to Daviess Community Hospital.

11:55 a.m. - Received a report of a semi broke down on US 50, east of Shoals. Chief Deputy Greene and Shoals Fire Department responded.

12:26 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Ambulance responded and transported the subject to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

2:10 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Ambulance transported the subject to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

2:30 p.m. - Deputy Reed performed a vehicle identification check south of Shoals.

7:17 p.m. - Received a report of a possible domestic situation near Loogootee. Chief Deputy Greene and Corporal Baker responded.

### SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 13

1:33 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance near Shoals. Shoals Fire and Martin County Ambulance responded. The subject was transported to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

6:14 a.m. - Received an alarm call in Loogootee. Corporal Baker responded and all was okay.

9:15 a.m. - Received a report of a possible theft in Loogootee. Loogootee Captain Akles responded.

11:37 a.m. - Received a report of a reckless driver on US 150 near Shoals. Chief Deputy Greene responded.

2:37 p.m. - Received a report of an accident in Loogootee. Loogootee Captain Akles responded.

2:49 p.m. - Received a report of a theft near Shoals. Corporal Baker re-

sponded.

2:50 p.m. - Chief Deputy Greene transported one inmate to the hospital.

8:25 p.m. - Received an alarm call in Loogootee. Loogootee Police Department responded and all was okay.

### SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 14

12:15 a.m. - Received a report of a reckless driver south of Loogootee on US 231. Loogootee Officer Nolan checked the vehicle.

12:33 a.m. - Received a report of a reckless driver on US 50 near Loogootee. Loogootee Officer Nolan respond-

## Martin County real estate transfers

**Frank L. and Pamela S. Fields**, of Hendricks County, Indiana to **Fraberg Enterprises, LLC**, of Morgan County, Indiana. The west half of the southeast quarter of the northeast quarter of Section 36, Township 3 North, Range 4 West, containing 36.67 acres, more or less.

**Tom Buzan and Doris Buzan**, of Martin County, Indiana to **Timothy J. Buzan**, of Kansas City, Missouri, a portion of the south half of the southwest quarter of Section 31, Township 2 North, Range 4 West, Rutherford Township, Martin County, Indiana, containing 4.360 acres.

**L. Steve Swartzentruber and Katherine S. Swartzentruber**, of Martin County, Indiana to **Todd E. Humerickhouse and Stacey L. Humerickhouse**, of Martin County, Indiana, a part of the southeast quarter of the northwest quarter of Section 24, Township 4 North, Range 5 West, Perry Township, Martin County, Indiana, containing 1.196 acres, more or less.

**Edward L. Seals**, of Martin County, Indiana to **Cindy Nicholson and Kayla Nicholson**, of Martin County, Indiana, a part of the southeast quarter of the southwest quarter of Section 31, Township 2 North, Range 4 West, containing 1.5 acres, more or less.

**Tracy Beth Graber**, of Daviess County, Indiana to **David Lee Graber**, of Daviess County, Indiana. Tract I: The southeast quarter of the northeast quarter of Section 28; also, all that part of the northeast quarter of the northeast quarter of Section 28, lying south of the present public improved

## ARRESTS

### FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 12

7:40 p.m. - Joshua Wininger, 25, of Shoals, was arrested by ISP Officer Sexton and charged with possession of marijuana, possession of paraphernalia, and maintaining a common nuisance. His bond has been set at \$25,000 10%.

## Accident reports

### MONDAY, FEBRUARY 8

1:45 p.m. - Daniel McTarsney, of Franklin, was operating a 2015 Peterbilt in the Marathon parking lot. At this time, the cargo he was hauling struck the canopy. Captain Hennette investigated.

### SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 13

2:37 p.m. - Eva Rainey, of Shoals, was operating a 1990 Olds and exiting the IGA parking lot. At this time, Rainey's vehicle struck a 2005 Jeep operated by Elaine Carrico, of Loogootee. Captain Akles investigated.

ed.

3:14 p.m. - Received a report of an accident near Loogootee. Sheriff Roush responded.

4:34 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Ambulance transported the subject to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

5:59 p.m. - Chief Deputy Greene assisted a motorist near Shoals.

8:31 p.m. - Received a report of an accident near Loogootee. Corporal Baker and ISP Trooper Beaver responded.

highway, all in Township 3 North, Range 4 West. Tract II: The west half of the northwest quarter of Section 27, Township 3 North, Range 4 West, containing 65.68 acres, more or less.

**Leo C. Arvin and Carolyn R. Arvin**, of Martin County, Indiana to **Scott A. Arvin, Lynn M. Ziegler, Diane C. Richardson, and Mary A. Adamson**, a part of the southwest quarter of the southeast quarter and a part of the southeast quarter of the southwest quarter of Section 36, Township 4 North, Range 5 West, containing 2.5 acres, more or less.

**Mark A. Beasley and Melody L. Beasley**, of Martin County, Indiana to **Brandon L. Firestone and Meredith K. Firestone**, of Daviess County, Indiana, a part of the northwest quarter of Section 12, Township 4 North, Range 5 West, Second Principal Meridian, Perry Township, Martin County, Indiana, containing 6.97 acres, more or less.

**Erin K. Hawkins**, of Martin County, Indiana to **Floyd L. Hawkins**, of Martin County, Indiana, Lot Number 165 in Daugherty's Addition to the Town of West Shoals, Indiana, containing 0.06 acres, more or less.

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# Loogootee Police log

## MONDAY, FEBRUARY 1

10:50 a.m. - Chief Rayhill, Captain Hennessee and K-9 Roxy conducted a routine search of vehicles parked in the high school parking lot. K-9 Roxy gave a positive indication on a vehicle. A male student was cited for possession of marijuana.

11:15 a.m. - Caller reported an animal complaint.

3:40 p.m. - Caller reported a harassment complaint.

3:45 p.m. - Caller reported a reckless vehicle on US 231.

## TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 2

10:35 a.m. - Caller requested a welfare check on a male on US 231.

2:00 p.m. - Caller reported a battery, which occurred on East Broadway Street. Charges were filed on a female. She was also cited for minor in consumption.

6:49 p.m. - Caller reported a theft of a debit card.

9:57 p.m. - Martin County Sheriff's Department advised of a 911 hang-up on East Main Street.

## WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 3

1:06 a.m. - Sgt. Norris assisted a motorist.

10:10 a.m. - Caller reported property damage on Cooper Street.

4:34 p.m. - First responders were requested on SE 1<sup>st</sup> Street for a medical call.

9:22 p.m. - Officer Nolan responded to a business alarm.

## THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 4

5:21 a.m. - Caller reported a possible intoxicated driver on US 231. Officer Nolan located the vehicle and the driver checked okay.

9:35 a.m. - Chief Rayhill assisted the Martin County Sheriff's Department with a suicidal male.

8:28 p.m. - Officer Nolan assisted the Daviess County Sheriff's Department with a domestic dispute near Loogootee.

## FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 5

5:02 p.m. - Caller reported a loud music complaint on Cedar Street.

5:22 p.m. - Caller reported a domestic dispute on US 231.

## SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 6

2:11 a.m. - Officer Nolan located an unsecure building.

3:16 a.m. - Officer Nolan assisted the Martin County Sheriff's Department with a vehicle search.

9:28 a.m. - Captain Akles responded

to a business alarm.

## SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 7

9:15 a.m. - Caller reported a reckless driver on US 231.

3:10 p.m. - Caller requested a welfare check on a male.

9:50 p.m. - Caller reported a reckless vehicle on US 231. Officers were unable to locate.

9:55 p.m. - Sgt. Norris responded to a business alarm.

## MONDAY, FEBRUARY 8

3:00 a.m. - Caller reported he lost his trailer and it is blocking the road.

8:55 p.m. - Caller reported a slide off on Kentucky Avenue.

## TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 9

10:52 a.m. - Jayce Graber, of Shoals, reported that he had stuck a light pole at the high school. Captain Hennessee filed an accident report.

2:15 p.m. - Caller reported property damage.

9:35 p.m. - Caller reported a possible intoxicated driver on US 231.

## WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 10

5:32 a.m. - Officer Nolan responded to a business alarm.

2:15 p.m. - Caller reported a civil violation.

## THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 11

5:10 p.m. - Caller reported a vehicle parked at their business all day without being moved.

8:15 p.m. - Caller reported a reckless vehicle on US 231.

## FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 12

5:14 a.m. - Caller reported a business alarm on Church Street.

6:55 a.m. - Caller reported a deer had been struck near the city limits.

8:05 p.m. - Caller reported harassing text messages.

8:14 p.m. - Caller reported harassment.

## SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 13

9:15 a.m. - Caller reported a theft of medication.

9:24 a.m. - Caller reported a domestic dispute on JFK Avenue.

8:24 p.m. - Officer Nolan responded to a business alarm.

## SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 14

12:15 a.m. - Caller reported a reckless driver on US 231. Officer Nolan stopped the vehicle.

1:48 a.m. - Caller reported a suspicious person on Broadway Street.

8:52 p.m. - Caller reported a domestic dispute on Pine Street.

# COURT NEWS

## CRIMINAL JUDGMENTS AND SENTENCING

### January 21

Billy L. Harbison, convicted of leaving the scene of an accident, a Class B Misdemeanor and false informing, a Class B Misdemeanor. Sentenced to serve 180 days in the Martin County Security Center with 180 days suspended. Defendant received 6 months of probation.

### January 26

Paul G. Salmon, convicted of possession of marijuana, a Class B Misdemeanor and possession of marijuana, a Class 6 Felony. Sentenced to serve 545 days with 529 days suspended and credit for 8 actual days previously served plus 8 Class A Credit days. Defendant received 1 year of probation.

### February 2

Amber D. Noble, convicted of operating a vehicle with an ACE of .08 or more, a Class C Misdemeanor. Sentenced to serve 60 days in the Martin County Security Center with 52 days suspended and credit for 4 actual days previously served plus 4 Class Credit days. Defendant received 5 months of probation.

## Criminal Charges Dismissed

### January 26

Paul G. Salmon, maintaining a common nuisance, a Class 6 Felony, dismissed.

### February 2

Amber D. Noble, operating a vehicle while intoxicated, a Class C Misdemeanor, dismissed.

## CIVIL COURT JUDGMENTS

### February 3

Judgment in favor of the plaintiff Portfolio Recovery Associates, LLC and against the defendant Lori Plano in the amount of \$797.56.

## SMALL CLAIMS COURT

### New Suits Filed

### February 9

Kevin Mathies vs. Brian Nelson, complaint.

## MARRIAGE LICENSES

### February 9

Jordan D. Wright of Shoals and Amy Marie Brady of Henderson, Kentucky.

### February 16

Christopher A. Stephens of Loogootee and Desiree C. Hair of Loogootee.

## State police announce education program to reduce online victimization of youth

The Indiana State Police are announcing the Indiana Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) statewide youth education initiative designed to reduce cyber victimization of youth between the ages of eight and eighteen.

Three specially trained ICAC Youth Educators will be available to present the program in each of Indiana's 92 counties. While it is anticipated program requests could exceed availability of the Youth Educators, an aggressive plan is being developed to provide at least 300 training programs to the target age group by the conclusion of 2016. Past high profile instances of youth being victimized by sexual predators demanded a proactive program be developed and implemented in an effort to inoculate youth against such criminal acts.

There are 61 ICAC task forces in the United States. And, the Indiana ICAC Task Force is the first to have full-time Youth Educators. Each Youth Educator will work within the structure of the Indiana ICAC Task Force with presentations specifically designed to prevent victimization in the areas of:

Online child sexual solicitation

Online child extortion, also known as sextortion

Online production of child pornography

Online bullying, also known as cyberbullying

Online radicalization mitigation to reduce the recruitment of youth by terrorists and criminal extremists.

The Youth Educators are trained to present a consistent, timely, up to date program that is age appropriate within the target audience group of eight to eighteen year old adolescents. Programs can be customized to accommodate both large and small groups, and can last from less than an hour to a full day.

The Youth Educators and training curriculum were the result of a grant awarded to the Indiana State Police by the Indiana Criminal Justice Institute. Since the program is covered by a grant, there is no cost to a school, youth organization or other youth group. For more information or to schedule a presentation, please email the request to: ICACYouthEd@isp.in.gov.

# ~LETTER TO THE EDITOR~

## 'Bust the establishment'

To the editor of the *Martin County Journal*,

The fine mess the establishment elites have gotten us into should serve as a wake-up call to Americans. It should serve as a reminder that our founding fathers designed a government intended to be served by citizen legislators, and not by a perpetual political class. Certainly not a wholly corrupt political class deaf to the wishes of their constituents.

Year after year members of Congress rejected the desires of the American people and instead promoted the interests and agendas of the establishment. The recent passage of the 2015 Omnibus spending bill is an example of this kind of misbehavior. A presidential candidate who is a political outsider that will stand up to the establishment is Dr. Ben Carson.

To accomplish his objective of passing legislation congruent with the desires of the American people, he's going to need to work with like-minded citizen legislators that stand up to the

Progressive establishment in both parties. In the 8<sup>th</sup> Congressional District, we as good citizens have an opportunity to remove a foot-soldier of the establishment, and replace Congressman Bucshon with a citizen legislator in the person of Dr. Richard Moss.

From the very beginning, when he promised to end deficit spending, Bucshon voted again and again to increase the national debt from \$10 trillion to almost \$19 trillion in the course of just five years. Bucshon recently voted to bust the spending cap by using gimmicks to the tune of \$50 Billion. A President Carson would never sign such a bill, and as a congressman, Dr. Richard Moss would have voted against it. Ditto for funding of Planned Parenthood, the continued funding of EPA's war on coal and onerous wetlands rules, the continued funding of Obama's illegal aliens amnesty programs, increasing the number of Syrian refugees to be let into the United States, as well as not requiring stricter background checks for Syrian refugees entering the United States.

Following the establishment's old playbook, they waited until the last minute to vote to avoid a government shutdown, and they allowed no amendments.

It's time to vote out this Establishment foot-soldier, Larry Bucshon, and choose Dr. Moss.

Michael Lewinski  
Dubois, Indiana

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**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 21**  
**3:30-5:30 p.m.**

**AT The Lodge of Loogootee**

Want to enter your chili?  
Drop off your chili between 3-3:30 p.m.  
Entry fee: \$10  
Prizes awarded for 1st, 2nd & 3rd place.  
**\$5 to come taste and vote!**

## More Neat Stuff

By Ann Ackerman



One day, a professor entered the classroom and asked his students to prepare for a surprise test. They all waited anxiously at their desks for the exam to begin.

The professor handed out the exams with the text facing down, as usual. Once he handed them all out, he asked the students to turn over the papers.

To everyone's surprise, there were no questions – just a black dot in the center of the sheet of paper. The professor, seeing the expression on everyone's faces, told them the following:

"I want you to write about what you see there." The students, confused, got started on the inexplicable task.

At the end of the class, the professor took all the exams, and started reading each one of them out loud, in front of all the students. All of them, with no exception, defined the black dot, trying to explain its position in the center of the sheet. After all had been read, the classroom silent, the professor started to explain.

"I'm not going to grade you on this, I just wanted to give you something to think about. No one wrote about the white part of the paper. Everyone focused on the black dot – and the same happens in our lives. We have a white piece of paper to observe and enjoy, but we always focus on the dark spot."

Our life is a gift given to us by God, with love and care, and we always have reasons to celebrate – nature renewing itself every day, our friends around us, the job that provides our livelihood, the miracles we see every day.

However, we insist on focusing only on the dark spot – the health issues that bother us, the lack of money, the complicated relationship with a family member, the disappointment with a friend.

The dark spots are very small when compared to everything we have in our lives, but they're the ones that pollute our mind. Take your eyes away from

the black dots in your life. Enjoy each one of your blessings, each moment that life gives you. Be happy and live a life filled with love.

### THINGS TO PONDER

1. A lie doesn't become truth, wrong doesn't become right, and evil doesn't become good just because it's accepted by a majority.

2. There are a million different ways to say, "I love you." "put your seat belt on" - "watch your step" - "did you eat?" - "Get some rest" - You just have to listen.

3. I've reached a point in my life where it's no longer necessary to try to impress. If they like me the way I am, that's good. If they don't, that's too bad.

4. The answer may not be at the beach. But shouldn't we at least check?

5. The only thing worse than a Monday is a decaffeinated Monday.

6. Do you realize in about 40 years, we'll have thousands of OLD LADIES running around with TATTOOS? And . . . RAP MUSIC will be the GOLDEN OLDIES? (Now that's scary)

7. The last guy I went out with had a lot in common with the tires on my car: he was bald, unbalanced, and full of hot air.

8. If it wasn't for tailgaters, no one would ever check out my rear end.

9. I believe in sharing the road with other drivers. They can have the part behind me.

10. Yesterday I cleaned my house – which is dumb because we still live there.

### HOW TO DO YOUR LAUNDRY

1. Wash and dry laundry.
2. Place in basket.
3. Avoid folding.
4. Dig through basket all week until out of clean clothes.
5. Repeat.

Make someone smile today!

## Tri Kappa holds monthly meeting

On Tuesday, January 26 a meeting of the Delta Tau Chapter of Tri Kappa was held at the Loogootee United Methodist Church. Hostesses for the evening were Ashley Graber, Audrey Whitney, Jill Walker and Peggy Mattingly. The theme for the meeting was "New York City". The little kindness for the month was "college care and appreciation basket items".

The meeting was called to order by President Barb McFeaters. Roll call was read with the members responding with their favorite musical. December minutes were read and approved. Audrey Robinson gave the treasurer's report in the absence of Treasurer Dena Lyon. Correspondence was read by Audrey Robinson in Corresponding Secretary Brittany Lyons' absence.

Loogootee's post prom committee sent a request for a monetary donation. This is already in the budget.

BY-LAWS: State approved for the next four years. Thanks to Audrey Robinson for the by-laws.

SCHOLARSHIP: Audrey Robinson has received scholarship applications.

She will be going through those and sending them to the state committees by the February 1st deadline.

OLLEGE CARE PACKAGES: Amber Smith will be taking what we have collected.

REMEMBRANCE: Megan Richer sent two cards.

DELTA TAU'S 75th ANNIVERSARY: The committee planning this celebration for next year.

RILEY BLANKETS: Barb McFeaters reminded us that we need to be planning this.

TECHNOLOGY: Megan Richer would appreciate any pictures we have so she can post them on the Facebook page.

TRI KAPPA WEEK: Celebration in early February.

BIRTHDAY CALENDAR: According to Nancy Whitman everyone has their calendars. There are extra calendars if anyone wants them.

TOP 10 DINNER: Dinner is set for April 17, 2016 at LUMC.

The next meeting will be February 23 at 6:30 p.m. at Aunt Bee's Brew HaHa.



## Tri-State Speller

-Photo provided

On February 13, Shoals Junior High 7th Grader Alan Cook traveled to the Tri-State Spelling Bee contest in Evansville to compete against 110 other school spelling bee champions from the Tri-State region. Alan emerged as one of 26 finalists after a written test consisting of 15 spelling words and 15 vocabulary words. The 26 finalists then competed in an oral bee. Alan managed to stay in the competition for 14 rounds, finishing in 6th place overall. (Alan placed 9th in 2015.) Alan is the son of Edward and Angela Cook.

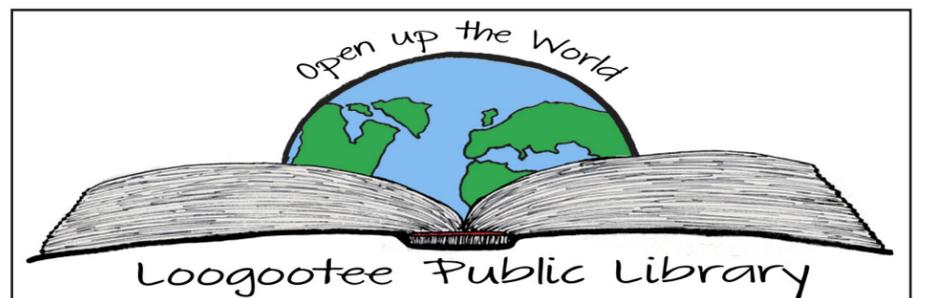


## New shareholder at Midwestern

Midwestern Engineers, Inc. announces that Mr. Brandon A. Parker, PLS is the firm's newest shareholder. Parker, a Registered Professional Land Surveyor, is a graduate of Vincennes University. Parker joined Midwestern Engineers in 2004 in the position of Associate Surveyor and earned his PLS certification in 2012. He is involved in the development of topographic, boundary, and engineering surveys for the various infrastructure projects designed by the company.

Parker, his wife Jessica, and their two children reside in Loogootee. He joins an ownership team consisting of John Wetzel, P.E., Richard Burch, P.E., Alan Burch, P.E., Mark Sullivan, P.E., Brian Bullock, P.E., and Nathan Walker, P.L.S.

Midwestern Engineers, Inc. was established in 1959 and provides engineering services for the needs of local government, not-for-profit corporations, special purpose districts, and the private sector. Their core competencies include drinking water, wastewater, stormwater, surveying, and building design. Midwestern currently has 45 employees with offices in Loogootee and Indianapolis.



BY DARLA WAGLER  
Librarian, Loogootee Public Library

The library was closed on Monday, February 15 in observance of President's Day. It was brought to my attention that one of our young readers was very disappointed the library was closed because she was reading books in a series and just finished a book and was anticipating checking out the next book to read. After hearing of her disappointment, I reminded her mother that the library offers free eBooks thru the Indiana eBook consortium that they could download free with their library card. We pay a fee annually to belong to the consortium which offers audiobooks and periodicals as well as eBooks. There are over 30,000 eBooks

## Lady Lions Soup Supper

The Loogootee Girls' Basketball Teams will be hosting a goodwill soup supper on Saturday, February 20 prior to the boys' game against Southridge at Jack Butcher Arena. The soup supper will be in the high school cafeteria starting at 5 p.m. and concluding at approximately 8 p.m., with the girls' basketball team serving your choice of chili or chicken noodle soup with cheese, crackers, a drink and your choice of dessert. Donations will be accepted and appreciated.

available including children and teen titles. In 2015, our patrons downloaded 2,124 eBooks onto their eReader. I am happy that we can offer this service to the community and welcome questions concerning eBooks and the consortium.

### New Books:

Mystery Fiction: "Find Her" by Lisa Gardner and "Cometh The Hour" by Jeffrey Archer.

Fiction: "Violent Crimes" by Phillip Margolin and "After Alice" by Gregory Maguire.

Inspirational Fiction: "A Sweet Fortune" by Maggie Brendan.

Children: "Fancy Nancy Saturday Night Sleepover" by Jane O'Connor.

Non Fiction: "The Train to Crystal City: FDR'S Secret Prisoner Exchange Program and America's Only Family Internment Camp During World War II".

DVDs: "Southpaw", "No Escape", "Bridge of Spies", "The Letter Writer", "Khumba", and "Truth", Kung Fu Panda 1 & 2".

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



As promised, we will continue our discourse on starting seedlings for spring planting this week. Last week, we had advanced to the point of having planted the seeds in the trays. The next step is deciding where to place the trays. Some seeds need warm soil to germinate, so place those trays on an electric germination mat. If you do not have a mat and do not wish to buy one, there are some alternatives. The heat from electric appliances will provide the warmth needed to promote germination. I have placed trays on top of a refrigerator or a freezer. I have also placed trays over the pilot light of a gas stove. When doing this, one should place the tray in a baking sheet, as the heat from a pilot light may melt a plastic tray. If you have baseboard heaters, place the trays on tables placed near the heaters. Use your imagination. Any heat source will promote germination, but be careful to prevent fires.

For most seeds, there is no need for light for germination, but as soon as the seeds germinate, the tiny plants need light to survive. Young plants will become spindly if there is insufficient light. Plants will also grow toward the light source, so the best light is an over-head full-spectrum light. It is recommended that the light be suspended about two inches above the plants, so one must check it daily and raise it as the plants grow. Plant growth may be quite rapid in the first weeks.

Lacking lights, one may be able to grow transplants in a sunny window. A south-facing window is the best. Be careful not to let the plants touch the glass, as glass may conduct cold on cold nights, damaging the plant tissues. Plants grown in a window will naturally grow toward the window, so the trays should be rotated daily.

Throughout the process, the young

plants need daily attention. Keep the soilless medium moist, but not soggy. Watch for signs of fungal diseases, including yellowing of leaves. If plants grow a little too tall, you may be able to add some more planting mix around the young plants. Once the plants have two sets of actual leaves, you may wish to transplant them to individual pots.

It is also time to plant in cold frames and hot beds. Traditionally, lettuce is planted on Valentine's Day, but if you missed that date, you may plant any time. Scatter the seed and cover with soil or potting mix. Water the seed in and cover the cold frame with plastic or glass. I have successfully grown lettuce in an old tub covered with a window. Of course, it is beneficial if the cold frame is on the south side of a building. The building provides protection from north winds, while the winter sun warms the south side of structures.

The main difference between a hot bed and a cold frame is that a hot bed has a heat source, usually in the form of rotting manure. Horse manure or other manure buried a foot deep will warm the soil as it decays, promoting earlier germination and heating the frame for early plant growth. One needs to check a hot bed on days when air temperatures are above forty degrees and open the lid to keep it from becoming too hot for the tender plants.

In general, I recommend using cold frames for salad greens, onions, radishes and other cool-season crops. Hot frames may be used to start transplants or grow early crops of beans, squash and other warmer-season crops.

A walk through the garden reveals many signs that spring is coming. With warmer temperatures in the forecast, we will soon be seeing swelling buds and more blooms. Spring will soon be here.

## Public input helps shape revised Strategic Plan

The DNR Division of Forestry has released its revised Strategic Plan for 2015-2019. Considerable public input helped shape revisions to the initial plan that was released last year.

"We expanded the public input process to include open houses, public meetings and opportunities to comment on the plan," said State Forester John Seifert, director of DNR Forestry. "We addressed each and every comment received from the public to the extent possible. Those comments covered a wide range of topics, from timber harvesting and wildlife habitat to recreation, ecosystem protection, funding, private lands assistance and organizational efficiency."

The revised plan and a public comment summary (Strategic Plan Public Input Process) are on the DNR website at [www.in.gov/dnr/forestry/3605.htm](http://www.in.gov/dnr/forestry/3605.htm).

A few of the changes in the revised plan are:

- Providing assistance to other DNR Divisions with forest management and forest health issues.

- A continued commitment to providing a balance in forest age structure, especially young forest conditions.

- Increased emphasis on wildlife habitat management of state forests.

- Sustained emphasis on land acquisition, including acquiring additional state forest acreage.

- Increased emphasis on development

and management of recreational areas.

- Designation and management of two new high conservation value forests, one at Clark State Forest and another at Ferdinand State Forest.

- Provide additional primitive cross-country/backpack trail hiking opportunities on six to seven state forests.

- Increased emphasis on control of exotic invasive species.

- System wide initiative to improve trails.

- Selectively opening State Forest caves based on the needs of threatened and endangered cave species.

- Improvement of hunter access to areas in need of better deer population management.

As part of DNR Forestry's planning process, comments were received on proposed state forest recreation fees and private lands management fees. The Division will continue to accept comments and recommendations on the proposed fees through November. Comments can be submitted through the questions/comments link at [www.in.gov/dnr/forestry/3605.htm](http://www.in.gov/dnr/forestry/3605.htm).

The plan also addresses DNR Forestry's private forest land-assistance programs and the strategic direction for tree nursery operation and hardwood economic development. For more information on these portions of the plan, see [www.in.gov/dnr/forestry/3605.htm](http://www.in.gov/dnr/forestry/3605.htm).

## Purdue Extension releases annual report online

BY NICK ROGERS  
*Purdue University News Service*

Purdue Extension has posted its 2015 annual report online, highlighting the ways in which its many programs educated and empowered millions of people throughout Indiana and helped promote economic vitality statewide.

"We often find that people who are aware of Purdue Extension tend to know about only one facet of our organization," said Jason Henderson, director of Purdue Extension and associate dean in the Purdue College of Agriculture. "This report provides a full picture of the breadth and depth of all that we do, with vibrant presentation, fast facts, powerful data and firsthand success stories from those we serve."

The report is available on the Purdue Extension website at <https://extension.purdue.edu/annualreport/>.

It can be viewed within any Web browser with zooming capabilities and can also be downloaded to computers or mobile devices. (Clicking the download button in the toolbar will create a PDF, which can then be saved to a computer or mobile device.)

The report is broken into eight topics:

- \* Inspiring Indiana Youths' Interest in Science.

- \* Educating Indiana's Agricultural Producers and Professionals.

- \* Improving Health and Wellness Across Indiana.

- \* Growing Great Things with Indiana's Natural Resources.

- \* Enhancing Success in Indiana's Communities.

- \* Engaging Underserved Youth

Through 4-H.

- \* Strengthening Indiana's Families.
- \* Building Indiana's Food Systems.

Additional content looks ahead to Purdue Extension initiatives in urban agriculture, business retention and expansion, growing Indiana 4-H and expansion of community health coalitions.

Since 1914, Purdue Extension has helped Indiana build vibrant communities, strong families and profitable businesses on its Main streets and at its farm gates. Extension staff, including specialists on the West Lafayette campus of Purdue and educators in all 92 counties, connect Indiana communities to internationally renowned Purdue research and a nationwide network of experts on agriculture, community, environment, family, food and youth.

"With the help of volunteers and local leaders, Purdue Extension reaches millions of people - urban and rural, young and young at heart," Henderson said. "With this report, we hope that when someone mentions Purdue Extension, people will understand the many ways in which we are Indiana's educational partner for life."

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### Loogootee School Board meeting

The Loogootee School Board will meet Thursday, February 18 at 5 p.m. in the meeting room off the superintendent's office. The meeting is open to the public.

### ACCTS Banquet

The 14<sup>th</sup> Annual ACCTS (Area Churches honoring Christ Together in Service) Banquet will be held Saturday, February 27 at 6:30 p.m. in the lower level of the St. John's Center. The banquet is free of charge and everyone is invited to attend.

### Free lunch for kids

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

### SOAR Tutoring

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

### Solid waste board

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

### Humane society meetings

The Martin County Humane Society meets on the third Friday of the month at the animal shelter at 507 N Oak Street in Loogootee, at 7 p.m. Members of the humane society are invited to attend.

### Tourism meetings

The MCCC Tourism Committee meets on the third Wednesday of each month at 7 p.m. in the basement of the Shoals Public Library. The public is invited to attend.

### Soil and Water meetings

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

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# 4-H NEWS



By Stacy Brown  
Martin County Purdue  
Extension Educator

## AG DAY

This year AG Day will be on March 12 from 8-11:30 a.m. in the community building at the fairgrounds. If you would like to rent space for an informational booth, please contact Martin County Soil and Water at 812-295-3149 or David Gregory at 812-296-0329. Besides great agriculture related booths, awards will be given to local farmers and breakfast will be prepared by the Ag Day Committee. The Junior Leaders will be serving the breakfast beginning right after the opening ceremonies at 8 a.m.

## Upcoming Events

Livestock weigh-ins for the fair have been set for the spring. They will take place at the fairgrounds.

Beef - March 19, 2016 - 9-11 a.m.

Sheep and Goat - April 30, 2016 - 9-11 a.m.

Swine - May 7, 2016 - 9-11 a.m.

Poultry - June 18, 2016 - 9-11 a.m.

## 4-H News

Fair books are ready! Each 4-H family will receive one book. You can get them at the office or with your club leader.

We Need Volunteers! If you are interested in becoming a volunteer with 4-H, please call or stop by the office.

Current Volunteers—we will have a volunteer meeting on February 29 at 6:30 p.m. in the community building. I hope to see you all there.

The Purdue Dairy Club will be hosting a dairy judging invitational on March 5. The invitational will take place at the Purdue ASREC Machine Shed and classroom. The address is

5675 West 600 North, West Lafayette, IN 47906. Registration will start at 8 a.m. and the contest will start at 8:30 a.m. with oral reasons to follow. The oral reasons will take place at the Beck Center. Registration forms are available at the Martin County Purdue Extension office.

The Junior Leaders will be having their annual Easter Egg Hunt this year at the fairgrounds on March 20.

The following camps, tours, and programs are available for 4-H members. For more information please call or stop by the office.

-4-H Camp – June 6-8. Applications will be available on April 4. This is for 4-H members in grades 3-8.

Indiana Youth Tour to Washington DC. This tour is open to students who will be entering their senior year of high school in the fall of 2016. The trip is June 9-16. The application is due by February 19.

Touch Stone Energy CAMP. This camp is for current 6<sup>th</sup> grade students. The camp is June 8-11. The applications are due by February 19.

4-H Sheep members ages 9-18 can apply to the 2016 Youth Conservation Program. The deadline is April 1. The YCP's goal is to encourage youth to raise breeds of sheep that are not common here in the states, the breeders donate a yearling ewe and promise to mentor the youth for at least one year. The youth are required to write an essay, the breeders chose the youth from the essay, we all meet at the Maryland Sheep and Wool Festival the first Sunday in May.

## Indiana Hunter Education class at Huntingburg Conservation Club

An Indiana Hunter Education Course is slated for Friday February 19 and Saturday February 20 at the Huntingburg Conservation Club House. Classes will run from 5:45 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. on Friday 19 and from 7:45 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Saturday 20. Participants must attend both days to complete the course.

All Indiana residents are invited to complete this FREE course. All instruction will be by Indiana conservation officers and certified Indiana volunteer hunter education instructors. Certification is required for anyone born after December 31, 1986, who wishes to purchase an Indiana hunting license. The course will cover ethics, safety, laws, survival and safe handling practices for archery, black powder and firearms. Lunch and snacks will be provided for participants and attending family members. Meals

provided will include a snack on Friday along with lunch and dinner Saturday. The cost is \$15 for the first family member and \$10 for every member after that to cover the cost of food. Parent's participation is encouraged! A parent or guardian must attend with children under 12 years of age. To sign up, visit [www.passitonindiana.com](http://www.passitonindiana.com). Pre-registration is required. Contact: Dick Lange 812-309-4043 E-mail: [dlange@fullnet.com](mailto:dlange@fullnet.com). Mail: Dick Lange, 365 W 925 S, Ferdinand, IN 47532-9500.

Reservations must be paid by February 15. Limited to first 90 paid applicants. Make checks payable to: Dick Lange. This course is being sponsored by the Huntingburg Conservation Club.

Patoka Lake ([stateparks.IN.gov/2953.htm](http://stateparks.IN.gov/2953.htm)) is at 3084 N. Dillard Road, Birdseye, IN 47513.

## USDA sees strong demand for Conservation Reserve Program

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) is reminding farmers and ranchers that the competitive sign-up deadline for its most popular voluntary conservation program, the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP), is February 26, 2016. This will be one of the most competitive general sign-up periods in history, in part due a statutory limit on the number of acres that can be enrolled in the program. The most competitive applications will be those that combine multiple conservation benefits, such as water quality and wildlife habitat.

For the past thirty years, CRP has provided financial incentives to farmers and ranchers to remove environmentally sensitive agricultural land from production to be planted with certain grasses, shrubs and trees that improve water quality, prevent soil erosion and increase wildlife habitat. Since 1985, CRP has sequestered an annual average of 49 million tons of greenhouse gases, equal to taking 9 million cars off the road; prevented 9 billion tons of soil from erosion, enough to fill 600 million dump trucks; and reduced nitrogen and phosphorous runoff by 95 and 85 percent, respectively. CRP also protects more than 170,000 stream miles with forests and grasses, enough to go around the world seven times. The program has allowed for the restoration of 2.7 million acres of wetland and protects more than 170,000 stream miles with forests and grasses, enough to go around the world seven times.

"Since the start of this Administration, USDA has invested more than \$29 billion to help producers make conservation improvements, working with as many as 500,000 farmers, ranchers and landowners to protect land and water on over 400 million acres nationwide," said Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack. "The Conservation Reserve Program has been and continues to be a key piece of USDA's conservation strategy, and with this competitive sign-up we are encouraging applications that offer the greatest environmental protection."

As of January 2016, 23.6 million acres were enrolled in CRP, with contracts for more than 1.6 million acres set to expire this fall. The statutory cap on acres that can be enrolled is 24 million acres. Submissions will be ranked according to environmental benefits in comparison to all other offers nationwide. USDA will announce accepted offers after the enrollment period ends and offers are re-

## 2016 DNR Recreation Guide available online

Your guide to Indiana's best values in outdoor recreation is available now at [dnr.IN.gov/5280.htm](http://dnr.IN.gov/5280.htm).

The Department of Natural Resources' 2016 Indiana Recreation Guide is the source for information on state parks, lakes, State Park Inns, fish & wildlife areas, state forests and other DNR properties.

The 2016 guide celebrates 100 years of state parks in Indiana, with information on centennial events throughout the year.

Local retail outlets, state parks, lakes and other DNR properties will have free printed copies available this month. The guides also will be available at the DNR

viewed. For an interactive tour of CRP success stories from across the U.S., visit [www.fsa.usda.gov/CRPis30](http://www.fsa.usda.gov/CRPis30), or follow on Twitter at #CRPis30.

In 2015, a record number of continuous CRP acres were enrolled, totaling over 830,000 acres. These high-value acres provide multiple benefits on the same land including water quality, wildlife, carbon sequestration and others. For example, the acres dedicated to pollinators have almost tripled to over 190,000 acres and support the National Strategy to Promote the Health of Honey Bees and Other Pollinators.

This record sign-up came after a May 2015 announcement that an additional 800,000 acres would be accepted for key natural resource enhancements. Since the May 2015 announcement, wetland restorations have increased by 77,000 acres, duck nesting habitats have increased 35,000 acres and other wildlife habitat has increased 255,000 acres within the CRP State Acres for Wildlife Enhancement (SAFE).

Surveys have demonstrated significant increases in populations of upland grassland birds; the 227,000 acres dedicated to upland bird habitat buffers are estimated to increase bobwhite quail numbers by 350,000 each fall.

For an interactive look at USDA's work in conservation and forestry over the course of this Administration, visit <http://medium.com/usda-results>.

For more information on Farm Service Agency (FSA) conservation programs, visit a local FSA office or [www.fsa.usda.gov/conservation](http://www.fsa.usda.gov/conservation). To find your local FSA office, visit <http://offices.usda.gov>.

CRP was re-authorized by the 2014 Farm Bill, which builds on historic economic gains in rural America over the past seven years, while achieving meaningful reform and billions of dollars in savings for taxpayers. Since enactment, USDA has made significant progress to implement each provision of this critical legislation, including providing disaster relief to farmers and ranchers; strengthening risk management tools; expanding access to rural credit; funding critical research; establishing innovative public-private conservation partnerships; developing new markets for rural-made products; and investing in infrastructure, housing and community facilities to help improve quality of life in rural America. For more information, visit [www.usda.gov/farmbill](http://www.usda.gov/farmbill).

booth at the Indianapolis Boat, Sport and Travel Show, February 19-28, at the Indiana State Fairgrounds in Indianapolis.

Annual Entrance Passes can be purchased in person at the gatehouse or offices of state park properties during business hours, at the Indiana Government Center South in Indianapolis during business hours, or at [innsigns.com](http://innsigns.com).

Indiana resident passes cost \$50. For individuals 65 years old or older, the price is \$25. Annual passes for vehicles with out-of-state license plates are \$70. The normal daily gate fee for residents at most properties is \$7 per vehicle. For more information on Indiana state park properties, visit [stateparks.IN.gov](http://stateparks.IN.gov).

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## State of Indiana announces new initiative to encourage adults to complete college

Governor Mike Pence and Commissioner for Higher Education Teresa Lubbers joined Indiana business and local government leaders today to kick off “You Can. Go Back.”—a coordinated campaign to help 750,000 Hoosier adults who have some college credit but no degree finish what they started. The statewide effort is a key strategy in reaching Indiana’s goal to increase the percentage of Hoosiers with education beyond high school to 60 percent by 2025.

“There are 750,000 Hoosier adults who started working toward a degree or credential that will help them in their professional lives but for one reason or another, they had to put their education on hold,” said Governor Pence. “What we are doing here today is telling these Hoosiers, ‘We can help. And yes, you can go back.’ We want to improve the quality of our workforce, and help put Hoosiers on a path to even greater success. To achieve this goal, it is imperative that we look beyond our K-12 pipeline. Our ‘You Can. Go Back.’ campaign will encourage a continuing education that helps working Hoosiers meet the qualifications of the fastest growing, high-wage jobs that will provide opportunity and improve lives.”

With support from state lawmakers and Indiana colleges, the Commission for Higher Education (CHE) is reaching out directly to prospective returning adults and easing their transition back to college with a variety of special programs and incentives, including \$1,000 scholarships through a \$7.5 million state grant, flexible class schedules and online courses, college credit for work and military experience, grade- and debt-forgiveness programs, and tuition discounts.

“Many adults who started a degree or credential but didn’t finish have a strong desire to return to college, but they don’t know where to start,” CHE Commissioner Lubbers said. “You Can. Go Back. will guide students through the process of returning to school and give them the support they need to be successful.”

This month, thousands of former college students will receive messages in their mailboxes and email inboxes highlighting the benefits of completing their degree and directing them to resources designed to support their return to school. At YouCanGoBack.org, Hoosiers will be matched to college programs based on their interests and career goals before being connected to dedicated “You Can. Go Back.” campus ambassadors at well-matched colleges.

Indiana state leaders have called upon businesses and local communities as essential partners in the “You Can. Go Back.” campaign. Columbus Mayor Jim Lienhoop took part in today’s official campaign launch, highlighting the importance of post-secondary education to the economic vitality of cities and towns.

“Approximately 20 percent of adults—about 35,000 people ages 25-64 in our southeast Indiana workforce region—have some college but

no degree. Employers in our community are in desperate need of highly skilled people to fill jobs, especially in the advanced manufacturing and health care sectors, which makes up nearly 50 percent of our workforce,” Lienhoop said. “The City of Columbus strongly supports ‘You Can. Go Back.’ because of its potential to help meet this workforce need.”

As part of the “You Can. Go Back.” roll-out, CHE gathered input from Indiana businesses on what types of education benefits they currently offer employees and what challenges they face in providing or expanding those benefits. Comcast was the partnering business for the “You Can. Go Back.” announcement. The company already offers employees \$5,750 in annual tuition reimbursement support, but Comcast is also working to expand education benefits.

“The state is stepping up to make sure this opportunity exists for Hoosiers, but it is incumbent upon the businesses in Indiana to make sure that we provide a path that leads directly to a better educated workforce,” said Mike Wilson, Comcast Indiana Public Relations Director.

As one of the largest employers in our state, Governor Pence has directed the State Personnel Department to share information about “You Can. Go Back.” with state employees. State agencies such as the Department of Workforce Development and the Family and Social Services Administration are helping publicize the effort across the state in local WorkOne and Division of Family Resources offices.

Learn more about “You Can. Go Back.” At YouCanGoBack.org and related resources for returning adults at LearnMoreIndiana.org/adult-learners.

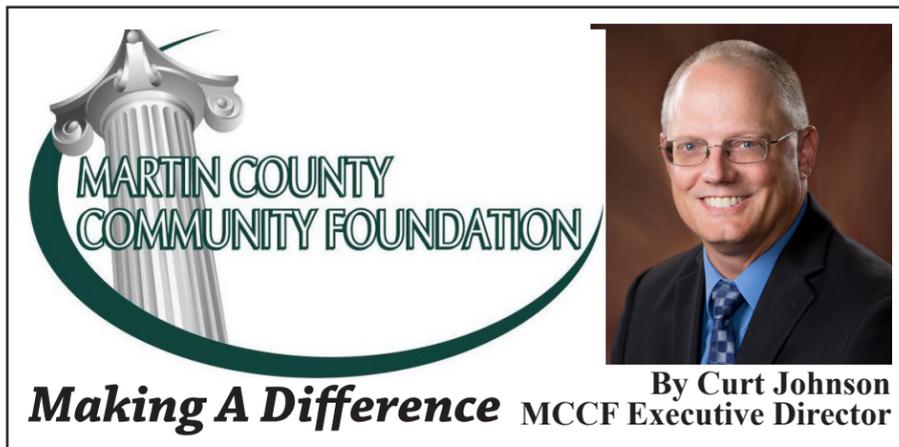
### Indiana’s electric cooperatives applaud Supreme Court’s stay of Clean Power Plan implementation

Indiana’s electric cooperatives and their generation and transmission (G&T) partners applaud last Tuesday’s decision by the U.S. Supreme Court to issue a stay on the implementation of the Environmental Protection Agency’s (EPA) Clean Power Plan.

Indiana Electric Cooperatives, Hoosier Energy and Wabash Valley Power maintain the EPA has exceeded its authority under the Clean Air Act. They further assert the agency has not taken into account the cost burdens and lack of viable technology needed to comply with the Clean Power Plan regulations.

“We have a responsibility to represent the best interest of our member-owners and we are concerned about the impact of this rule,” said Tom VanParis, CEO of Indiana Electric Cooperatives. “The stay allows the court time to fully examine the complex rule and issue a judgement on its legality, while allowing electric cooperatives to avoid irreversible and costly changes to electric utility infrastructure.”

Indiana’s electric cooperatives and their G&T partners are dedicated to the communities they serve and their



**Making A Difference** MCCF Executive Director **By Curt Johnson**

#### --Endowments--

What exactly is an endowment, and why would a person or group want to start one? The Martin County Community Foundation (MCCF) was established to assist citizens and groups in starting endowments, which are similar to savings accounts, generating interest returns for particular causes. These endowments are simply cash, stocks, IRAs, insurance, real estate, or bequests that are donated for these causes.

#### --Benefiting Causes--

Endowments may be to benefit charitable causes, churches or organizations that have done good things and deserve to be funded, or for scholarships in honor of loved ones or for general education purposes. Cemeteries are popular beneficiaries of endowments, which help ensure that they will always have a source of revenue to maintain and preserve the grounds and monuments.

As an example, the latest endowment to be started in Martin County was the Goodwill Cemetery Fund established by Jason and Pam Loughmiller. They have family that have been laid to rest in the Goodwill Cemetery. The Loughmillers wished to address their concern for the care and maintenance of the cemetery for years to come.

#### --Why Start One?--

Almost any good cause would benefit from having an endowment started that can fund it far into the future. Usually endowments are started when someone like you feels compelled enough to begin a permanent fund for something that is important to them. Founding donors want

mission to provide safe, reliable and affordable electricity. That is why all three of the organizations support a responsible energy policy that balances Hoosiers’ energy needs with environmental concerns through an “all-of-the-above” strategy that includes energy efficiency programs, natural gas, renewables and coal.

Indiana Electric Cooperatives, located in Indianapolis, represents 38 electric distribution cooperatives that serve 1.3 million Hoosiers in 89 of the state’s 92 counties.

The cooperatives are collectively the second largest electricity provider in Indiana. For more information, visit indianaeac.org.

Hoosier Energy is a generation and transmission cooperative with headquarters in Bloomington, Ind. The G&T provides electric power and services to 18 electric distribution cooperatives in southern and central Indiana and southeastern Illinois. Hoosier Energy operates the coal-fired Merom Generating Station, three natural gas power plants, several renewable energy plants and a 1,700-mile transmission network. For more information, visit hepn.com.

to put their money where their hearts are. You may do this on your own, or encourage a group to begin an endowment. Either way, it takes someone with foresight to appreciate the power of this forever funding, and then to follow through on starting an endowment.

#### --The MCCF’s Role--

The MCCF serves as the caretaker of these funds. Part of what the MCCF does is guard the principal in these funds so that it remains untouched, and to provide the continuity to administer these funds, forever. Those assets, the endowments, are invested and professionally managed and over time will grow to provide stable income for the beneficiaries or causes to which they are dedicated.

#### --MCCF Endowments--

The MCCF has over 50 endowments that give back to our community in several ways. There are several types of endowments to do this. There are (1) the unrestricted funds that address the changing and emerging needs of Martin County, (2) the scholarships for a wide variety of educational choices, (3) the designated funds to provide support to specific charitable organization, (4) the field of interest funds that address broadly defined areas of concern, and (5) the donor advised funds that allow donors to recommend grants that address those changing and emerging needs in the community.

The MCCF was established in 1999 and since then has given grants for over \$132,000 from the unrestricted community grantmaking funds. There have also been \$118,419 in MCCF scholarships through 2014; \$2,245,095 in the Lilly Endowment scholarships; and \$114,425 from the designated, field of interest, and donor advised funds.

#### --Other Funds--

The MCCF has also taken advantage of initiatives from other sources to secure funds directly into Martin County. There has been \$4,050,000 from the Community Alliance to Promote Education (CAPE) grants from the Lilly Endowment during 2000-2009, and \$1,964,000 from the Office of Community and Rural Affairs (OCRA) from 2007 to 2011. Details about these benefits to Martin County will be provided in a future column.

#### --Lilly Endowment Match--

And in some cases the MCCF serves as a conduit for matching monies that will help these funds grow faster. Until March 31, the Lilly Endowment Giving Indiana Funds for Tomorrow (GIFT) VI initiative is matching dollar-for-dollar any donations to unrestricted funds. And for the other types of funds, the Lilly Endowment is matching 50 cents on the dollar. A great opportunity if you are thinking about starting an endowment or interested in donating to an existing fund.

#### --Starting an Endowment--

If you or someone you know is interested in an endowment, please contact the MCCF Executive Director, Curt Johnson, at 812-295-1022 or mccf@cfpartner.org. Together, we can make a difference.