

Martin County JOURNAL

Year 15, Issue 8

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2024

Eight pages

Shoals Council discusses resident concerns, ongoing town projects

The Shoals Town Council met for their monthly meeting on Monday, February 12. Those in attendance were Shoals Town Council Members Cary D. Albright, Roger L. Abel Jr., and Micky Crew; Town Attorney Dave Lett, Clerk-Treasurer Sierra Rutledge, General Laborer Caitlin Sanders, Ordinance Enforcer Cecil Ragsdale. Others in attendance were Michelle Carrico and Jolene Sitzman, with SIDC; Tyler Atchison, with First Insurance Group; Darlene Grogan, James Hudson, Janice Hudson, Martin County Commissioner Cody Roush, Grant Sherfick, Daniel Survance and Yevonne Plocher.

Tyler Atchison, with First Insurance Group, presented a change of agent form to the council. Atchison is the current insurance agent and has switched from DeWitt Insurance to First Insurance Group and the town would like to keep him as the agent. The insurance carrier will remain the same EMC/IPEP. Councilman Abel made a motion to approve the change of agent with Councilwoman Crew making the second. Atchison said once submitted, he can obtain the annual renewal amounts.

James and Janice Hudson came before the council to address a concern they had with the entryway to their driveway after the current paving work that had been done. Mr. Hudson stated there is a bump you have to drive over now from the road into their driveway. Councilman Albright stated that they final punch list had not been completed yet and that he would make sure that the issue was looked at and was taken care of as it could be before the job is signed off on.

Daniel Survance came before the council to ask questions about the mobile home ordinance for clarifications. Survance stated he was looking at purchasing a property on Oak Street and it currently has a mobile home, and he would remove that but has not decided yet what he would get to replace it. He asked if modular homes were included in the mobile and manufactured home ordinance. Attorney Lett stated modular homes were not. Councilman Albright advised Survance to get in contact with

Ordinance Enforcer Ragsdale to work on all restrictions per the ordinance concerning the property.

Grant Sherfick, owner of H & H Hardware, came before the council to address parking on Main Street. Sherfick asked if there was an ordinance in place concerning the hours of parking on Main Street, mainly for 24 hours or more. Sherfick stated there are issues of vehicles being parked in one place for several hours at a time or even days. Attorney Lett stated he would have to review the ordinances to see what is currently in place. Sherfick said in front of the SC Draperies there are signs posted for two-hour parking, but it is not enforced. Sherfick said with more business traffic than normal that long hours of parking are becoming an issue. Councilman Albright stated he would also talk with the sheriff to see what the state statute is for tagging vehicles that are left for longer periods of time. Sherfick stated that as more businesses continue to grow in Shoals and Main Street becomes busier, the issue could get worse and having an ordinance in place now that works would be feasible. Sherfick asked what he needed to do to reserve a set number of spots in front of the hardware store and Attorney Lett stated he would prepare an ordinance to start the process. Sherfick stated he appreciated all of the support from the town.

Martin County Commissioner Cody Roush came before the council and stated that in order to not hold up any progress with the 232 Main Street Project, the Martin County Redevelopment Commission approved to give the town a \$50,000 bridge loan if needed. Commissioner Roush said if the town decides or comes to a point that it is needed, they will just need to approach the redevelopment commission formally and it will be issued as needed. Councilman Albright thanked the redevelopment commission for their support of the project.

Attorney Dave Lett stated he revised and approved the RIF (Regional Impact Fund) Grant agreement with Radius Indiana for \$50,000 for roof stabilization. (See 'SHOALS' on page 2)

Loogootee School Board approves staff, holds first reading on several policy changes

BY COURTNEY HUGHETT
Martin County Journal Publisher

The Loogootee School Board met last Thursday, February 15.

The board approved the following personnel actions:

- \$15 per day addition for Mike Wagoner for his bus route effective January 25, 2024. The extra money is for students on Wagoner's bus route who fall under special circumstances.

- Tracie Stuckey as full-time custodian
- Angie Zins, Emily Brookshire, Chris Dodds, Ashley Brown, Kelly Wilson, Rockell Worthington, Katie Milligan, Anna Swartzentruber, Chris Barber, Britany Graber, Brady Taylor, Candy VanLue, Karla Eckerle, Jackie Esch, Charlie Lyon, Jeff Lyon, Cam Ackerman, Dustin Fox, Eric Brittain, Kelley McCloskey, Brent McCloskey, Jason Frisz, Tim Ringwald, Ashley Thomas, Symphony Lantz,

Jennifer Williams, Mattie Milligan, Lyndzee Hart, Courtney Glover, Rick Barber, and Christina Frisz.

The board held the first reading on several changes and updates to more than 50 school policies. Superintendent Dr. Brian Harmon said many of the changes are due to changes made in the state legislature. Policies can be found at <https://go.boarddocs.com/in/lcsc/Board.nsf/Public?open&id=policies>. A second reading and adoption will take place at the March board meeting.

The board approved the literacy achievement grant that provides stipends to teachers and personnel who helped third grade students grow with testing. Curriculum Director Shelley Christmas said Loogootee didn't receive much growth as the IREAD scores are already at 93.1 percent passing and were close to that last year.

The board approved donations of solar (See 'LOOGOOTE' on page 8)



Fund distributions

-Photos provided

The Loogootee Methodist Church received their yearly distribution from the Loogootee Methodist Church Fund, a designated fund held with the Martin County Community Foundation and established by George and Barbara Cropp. This year the fund provided a grant of \$82,415 to the church for operations and maintenance. Shown above from left to right are MCCF Board members Mike Arvin, Angie Risacher and Secretary Janie Johnson; Pastor Colleen Harden, LMC Member Faryl Armstrong, MCCF President Kristi Ausbrooks, MCCF Board Members Paula Ringwald and Greg Bateman, and LMC Member John Drake.



The Martin County Historical Society received their yearly distribution from the Martin County Historical Society Fund, a designated fund held with the Martin County Community Foundation. This year the fund provided a grant of \$16,774 to the historical society for operations and maintenance costs. This endowment fund was established in 2009 by Jim and Jane Marshall, Margaret Wilcher, Beth Lett and Wanda Harding and has had many generous donations from others to build it to where it is today. Shown on the left is Historical Society President Bill Greene receiving the grant check from MCCF Director Curt Johnson.

Commissioners get highway updates, thank long-time custodian

BY COURTNEY HUGHETT
Martin County Journal Publisher

The Martin County Commissioners met Tuesday morning, February 20.

Highway Superintendent Scott Seals reported his mechanic has turned in his two-week notice. He said he has a few applicants for the position, however some of the other highway employees are helping with the mechanic work. Commissioner Paul George asked if those employees are receiving the mechanic's wage, which is higher. Seals said they are not, but he can pay them that rate when they are working in the shop.

Seals also reported they have two dump trucks down, one with an electrical issue and the other with a tailgate lock problem. He said all the other equipment is up and running.

Seals told the commissioners that they pretreated the roads prior to the snowstorm last Friday and it seemed to help a lot.

Human Resources Director Amy Rincker reported that courthouse custodian John Jones has retired after 26 years. She said they have hired Brittney

Williams to take his place. It was noted that Williams will also take on custodial duties at the highway department, along with the courthouse. The commissioners thanked John Jones for his years of service to the county.

Auditor Michelle Norris reported they held a kickoff meeting with the company the county hired to look into property owners' homestead deductions on their property taxes. It was reported previously that property owners are only allowed one homestead deduction for any property they own in the United States. Norris said the company will be reporting back with any discrepancies they may find.

The commissioners approved Erin Tarr to serve the remainder of Mary Smith's appointment on the Shoals Public Library Board.

Commissioner George said he and Auditor Norris recently met with RTC Communications and Smithville to see what can be done about the courthouse's internet. He said they are definitely going to do something to improve the service. Clerk Fithian asked why the county would go back to RTC when they had had them in (See 'COMMISSIONERS' on page 2)

SHOALS

(Continued from page one)

Attorney Lett stated he also reviewed the contract with Oliver Masonry that the 232 Main Street Committee had obtained. He said he has revised some of the contract. Attorney Lett stated the contractor provided a copy of their insurance as well. Councilman Abel made a motion to approve the contract with Councilwoman Crew making the second and the contract was signed.

Michelle Carrico, with SIDC, came before the council and presented documents for the wastewater improvements project. First, Carrico presented SRF draw #19 for HWC totaling \$18,253.32. Councilwoman Crew made a motion to approve with Councilman Abel making the second. Next, Carrico presented draw #20 for pay app #7 for \$16,000 which releases the retainage remainder. Councilman Abel made a motion to approve with Councilwoman Crew making the second. Carrico then presented Closeout Form #1 for signature to close out the grant with OCRA. President Albright signed off on the form.

Yevonne Plocher came before the board and stated she first wanted to thank the town for all of the work and improvements that are constantly being done. Plocher stated that, however, she is having a slight problem in her neighborhood of dogs running loose. Plocher stated she has spent a lot of money on her property and landscaping and that the dogs running loose are killing her shrubs and landscaping. Plocher stated a loose dog came onto her property and attacked her dog who was on a leash. Darlene Grogan, who was in the audience, stated she lived down the road and is having the same problems with dogs running at large. Councilwoman Crew spoke up and said she has recently been looking into the ordinances as she has the same problem in her neighborhood. Crew stated it was her understanding there is no longer an animal control officer for the county. It was asked if there was a leash law in town and Councilwoman Crew said from what she has found she does not think so. Commissioner Roush asked who would take care of the enforcement. Attorney Lett said this same question came up last week and he has been looking into it. Lett stated the last animal ordinance was passed in 1977 and is currently not enforceable. He said it is going to take some work but if everyone can get together and work together possibly a plan could be put in place to get a handle on the issue. Lett stated placement is an issue as well and that the Martin County Humane Society is overwhelmed. President Albright stated an up-to-date ordinance should start to be worked on now so that when enforcement logistics are figured out then the ordinance can be properly enforced. Councilwoman Crew will continue to work with Attorney Lett

to come up with a feasible and enforceable ordinance.

Attorney Lett said he had the bids that were received for the Spring Hill Cemetery Mowing bids as advertised. Lett stated the advertisement was for two years. The first bid opened was Green Thumb Services, LLC from Loogootee. Attorney Lett stated the bid received was for \$35,000 but did not clarify if it was for one year or two years. Lett opened the second bid from The Lawn Men and was in the amount of \$29,500 for all care per year.

Attorney Lett recommended the board take the bids under advertisement at this time. The board will vote on the awarding of the bid at the regular session March meeting.

General Laborer Caitlin Sanders stated she needed to have the backhoe bucket repaired by a welder. Sanders stated teeth needed to be welded back on. The council approved Sanders to move forward with a local welder to get the repairs done as needed. Sanders stated she would be getting in contact with the little league board concerning the field signs. She and laborer Harshaw tried to repair several of the metal signs, and they are very dangerous and both of them got pretty cut up trying to repair them. Sanders said she felt like the signs are a danger to children.

President Albright stated he had signed a grant agreement from Radius Indiana from their Regional Impact Fund for \$50,000 for the 232 Main Street Project. The particular grant will be geared towards a roof replacement. Albright then stated the CCMG 2024-1 application had been submitted and included the following roads: Lynwood Street from McCormick Street to US Highway 50, Doane Lane from Miller Street to Oak Avenue and Main Street from 6th Street to 7th Street. Albright stated the application total was \$314,151 with the grant funds being \$235,537.50 and town match being \$78,612.50.

Councilwoman Crew said she has been digging into the ordinance book and there are several old ordinances that need to be updated. Crew stated Ordinance 2003-3 is an ordinance for noise control and she is getting a lot of complaints about semi jake brakes. Abel stated he thought there was a sign past the Jug Rock. Albright stated that the sign got taken by a vehicle accident and INDOT has notified the town they are responsible for replacing signs and will handle all sign replacements along their roadways. Crew stated in addition to noise control there are too many dogs barking loud into the late hours of the night and something needs to be done about it. Councilwoman Crew said Ordinance Enforcer Ragsdale needs to address several properties again by violation letters in town. She said the fines per the ordinances need to be enforced. Enforcer Ragsdale said he fully agreed

and is getting the letters sent but the enforcement of fines has to be done by council. Attorney Lett said the thing that has to be done is just to get started on fine enforcement.

Ragsdale said he did want to say the Landbank process is in full swing and will make a difference once it is off the ground. Ragsdale said since Shoals had great documentation of previous property violations, they are at the top of the list of getting things going. Clerk-Treasurer Rutledge asked about the next step for proper process, once the violation is issued, to move forward with the fines so everyone has a clear communication of understanding. Attorney Lett stated Enforcer Ragsdale would work with him directly if the violation is not addressed properly and fines should be enforced. The board approved to move forward with addressing properties that have previously been notified of violations.

Clerk-Treasurer Rutledge presented fund balances to date for the council's review. She presented the prepared annual financial report that is due March 1 for the council review. Rutledge also presented renewal of sewage discounts for Michael's Car Wash and Main Street Laundry. Councilman Abel made a motion to approve with Councilwoman Crew making the second.

Rutledge presented a list of outstanding checks two or more years old to cancel out. Councilwoman Crew made a motion to approve with Councilman Abel making the second.

Rutledge presented the annual renewal for the Martin County Alliance for Economic Growth Inc. Councilman Abel made a motion to approve at the silver level with Councilwoman Crew making the second and the motion passed.

Rutledge presented a credit application for signature for German American Bank for the new town credit card. She said she has to formally state in the minutes that the overall credit limit for the town credit card is \$25,000 but the set limit is \$5,000. The clerk-treasurer is the keeper of the card and assigns out as allowed and that the clerk-treasurer has authorization to discuss the account with the bank. Councilman Abel made a motion to approve with Councilman Albright making the second.

Rutledge presented Resolution 2024-1 for the encumbrance of funds from the 2023 budget to the 2024 budget. Rutledge stated the Shoals Volunteer Fire Department is working with Lexipol for a grant for 17 new sets of turnout gear, with a five percent match. The expense total is \$68,000 with the town paying \$3,400. Rutledge stated the grant administration fee is \$3,000 but if awarded FEMA will reimburse \$1500 of that fee. She said she

wanted to commend the fire department for finding and putting the work into this grant.

Rutledge then presented a quote from the fire department from Fischer Electric for repairs they feel are needed to the bay in the fire station. Rutledge stated the quote for repairs was not to exceed \$4,100. Councilman Abel made a motion to approve the quote with Councilwoman Crew made the second.

Rutledge provided some updates for the Total Eclipse in the Heart event that will take place on Monday, April 8 at the Shoals Community Park. She said WTIU news would be onsite tomorrow to do a news special about the event.

Rutledge stated she had met earlier that morning with the Indiana Small Business Development Center, and they will be coming to Shoals for community introduction day in March.

Rutledge reported that a class from the Hutton Honors school at Indiana University is working on a plan to update the town's website. She said another set of students from the program that call themselves 180 Degrees Consulting are working with the park board on a comprehensive plan for developing the three acres purchased at the ballpark. President Albright stated he was meeting with a third set of students who are exploring healthcare needs and options. Rutledge stated Dr. Dayton and his class are really investing a lot of time into the community of Shoals and it is appreciated.

Rutledge presented a meter deposit apply for T. Pope. Councilman Abel made a motion to approve with Councilwoman Crew making the second.

Councilman Abel said he wanted everyone to know that Spring Hill Cemetery turned 200 years old.

With no further business Councilman Abel made a motion to adjourn the meeting with Councilwoman Crew making the second and the meeting closed at 5:21 p.m.

The next regular session will be Monday, March 11 at 4 p.m. at the Shoals Town Hall.

COMMISSIONERS

(Continued from page one)

the past. Commissioner George said RTC provided IT service to the county, not internet service. George said he will bring more information back to the board once he has it.

The commissioners approved alternative election voting locations presented by Clerk Julie Fithian. Fithian said they need to have a back-up plan in case something was to happen to one of the current voting locations.

The commissioners' next meeting is Tuesday, March 5 at 9 a.m.

FREE COMMUNITY SOUP MEAL

Saturday, March 2

2-4:30 p.m. at

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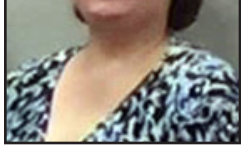
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MARTIN COUNTY JOURNAL

Wednesday, February 21, 2024

RONDA TRASK

Ronda Renee Trask passed away Thursday February 15, 2024, at the Timbers of Jasper surrounded by her family. A resident of Washington, she was 52.



She was born on March 21, 1971, in Washington; daughter of Ronald and Pauline (Swartzentruber) Knepp.

Ronda was a member of the Antioch Bible Church in Washington. She worked for several years at Four Rivers Resource Services caring for adults with disabilities. Ronda was always happy and caring and will be missed by all that knew her. She loved photography and taking pictures of God's earth, sharing sunrises and sunsets with her family and friends.

She is preceded in death by the father of her children, William Trask; her brother-in-law, Greg Loyd; and her infant siblings, Terry and Larry Knepp.

Ronda is survived by her sons, Christopher Jordan Trask and Aaron James Trask; her parents, Ronald and Pauline Knepp; her siblings, Kimberly Loyd, Todd (Patricia) Knepp, Ryan Knepp, Rob Knepp, and Ashley (Jake) Sims; and several nieces, nephews and cousins.

A funeral service was held Monday February 19 at Blake and Wagler Funeral Home in Montgomery. Burial followed at Antioch Church Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Right to Life, Daviess or Martin County in memory of Ronda.

Online condolences can be made at

www.blakefuneralhomes.com.

Blake and Wagler Funeral home in Montgomery, Indiana is honored to serve the family of Ronda Trask.

ANNABELLE BLAKE

Annabelle Blake passed away at 9:56 p.m. Saturday, February 17, 2024, at her home. A resident of Alfordsville, she was 96.



She was born February 12, 1928, in Shoals; daughter of the late Edward and Louise (Johnson) Holt. Annabelle married Leland Lester Blake on February 16, 1946, and he preceded her in death on October 9, 1984.

Annabelle was a member of Alfordsville Assembly of God Church. She enjoyed quilting, cooking, gardening, and bird watching.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Leland Lester Blake; parents, Edward and Louise Holt; siblings, Bob Holt, Bernice Beecher, and Virginia Earl; and great-grandson, Jalen Blake.

Annabelle is survived by her children, Dennis (Joanne) Blake of Jasper, Frank (Judy) Blake of Greenfield, Kermit (Gale) Blake of Bradenton, Florida; Joyce (Mark) Shelton of Bedford, Randy (Patty) Blake, John (Glenda) Blake, and Roger (Letha) Blake, all of Alfordsville; 15 grandchildren, 19 great-grandchildren, and five great-great-grandchildren; and siblings, Wayne (Sue) Holt and Joann Hall, both of Mitchell.

Funeral services were conducted this morning, Wednesday, February 21 at Blake Funeral Home in Loogootee. Burial followed in the Alfordsville Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions can be made to the Alfordsville Cemetery.

Condolences may be made online at www.blakefuneralhomes.com

Blake Funeral Home in Loogootee is honored to serve the family of Annabelle Blake.

WAYNE PENDLEY

Randall "Wayne" Pendley entered into eternal rest February 13, 2024, at Prairie Village Nursing & Rehabilitation Center in Washington. A resident of Shoals, he was 86.



He was born in Martin County on May 10, 1937; son of George and Juanita (Nelson) Pendley.

Wayne married Geraldine Merchand on January 19th, 1957, and she survives.

Wayne was a 1955 graduate of Shoals High School and member of Natchez Community Church, where he was a minister. He was a truck driver and logger for most of his life.

He enjoyed raising pigs, cattle and spending time with family and friends.

Wayne is survived by his wife, Geraldine Pendley of Shoals; sons, Ronald Pendley, Darin Pendley (Shera) and Steven Pendley (Becky), all of Shoals; daughters, Vicki Pendley of Shoals, Ang-

ie Hagen (Monty) of Huntingburg, Debbie Bateman (Tim) of Washington, and Pam Pendley of Ferdinand; brother, Tom Pendley (Deanna) of French Lick; sisters, Jane Archer of Shoals and Robyn Purkhiser (Roger) of West Baden Springs; 16 grandchildren, 25 great-grandchildren and five great-great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents, son, Scott Pendley; grandsons, Nickolas Holt and Brandon Pendley, and brothers, Ronald, Frank and Larry Pendley.

A funeral ceremony was conducted by Pastor John Moffatt on Saturday, February 17 at Brosmer-Kemple Funeral Home with burial following in Anderson Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Anderson Cemetery or Natchez Community Church.

Arrangements are in the care of Brosmer-Kemple Funeral Home in French Lick, Indiana 47432. Condolences may be made at www.brosmer-kemplefuneralhome.com.

Martin County JOURNAL

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Martin County Sheriff's Department activity log

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 12

8:30 a.m. - Received a report of a cow in the roadway east of Loogootee. Captain Gibson responded.

9:31 a.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Medic 1 and Loogootee Fire Department responded. Medic 1 transported one patient to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

9:44 a.m. - Received a call reporting a verbal dispute south of Shoals. Captain Gibson responded.

11:12 a.m. - Received a 911 call reporting a reckless driver in Loogootee. Loogootee Chief Long responded.

12:04 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Shoals. Martin County Medic 1 responded and transported one patient to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

1:20 p.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an officer in Loogootee. Loogootee Chief Long responded.

2:46 p.m. - Received a report of a disabled vehicle south of Shoals. Captain Gibson, Corporal Hawkins, and Deputy Doane responded.

3:06 p.m. - Received a 911 call reporting a disabled vehicle in Shoals. Sheriff Greene responded.

4:20 p.m. - Received a call requesting a vehicle identification number check northeast of Shoals. Deputy Doane responded.

5:57 p.m. - Received a call requesting to speak with an officer. Captain Gibson responded.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 13

1:07 a.m. - Received a call reporting a possible intruder southeast of Shoals. Martin County Medic 1, Major Reed and Deputy Doane responded. No one was transported.

1:20 a.m. - Received a 2nd call from same address. Advised caller that units were enroute.

3:59 a.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Medic 1 and Loogootee Fire Department responded. Medic 1 transported one patient to Daviess Community Hospital.

7:37 a.m. - Received a 911 call reporting a car-deer accident in Loogootee. Loogootee Chief Long responded.

9:57 a.m. - Received a call requesting officers east of Shoals. Sheriff Greene and Chief Deputy Keller responded.

10:17 a.m. - Received a call requesting a vehicle identification number check south of Shoals. Corporal Hawkins responded.

10:50 a.m. - Received a call from Lifeline requesting a lift assist south of Shoals. Shoals Fire Department responded.

10:54 a.m. - Deputy Baumgart transported one inmate to court.

11:12 a.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance south of Loogootee. Martin County Medic 1 and Haysville Fire Department responded. Medic 1 transported one patient to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

11:33 a.m. - Received a 911 call testing our backup 911 phone.

12:02 p.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Medic 2, Loogootee Fire Department and Loogootee Chief Long responded. Medic 2 transported one patient to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

12:40 p.m. - Received a call reporting a vehicle fire east of Shoals. Corporal Hawkins, Deputy Baumgart and Shoals Fire Department responded.

12:45 p.m. - Deputy Baumgart transported one inmate to court.

1:07 p.m. Received a 911 call advising of a vehicle fire East of Shoals. Shoals Fire Department and Corporal Hawkins responded.

3:33 p.m. - Received a call from Ring

Alarm Monitoring advising of a residential burglar alarm in Loogootee. Loogootee Chief Long, Captain Gibson, Loogootee Reserve Captain Harmon and ISP Trooper Lents responded.

3:59 p.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance Northeast of Shoals. Martin County Medic 1, Shoals Fire Department, Captain Gibson, and Corporal Hawkins responded. Medic 1 transported one patient to IU Health Bedford with an IU Health Medic on board.

5:14 p.m. - Received a call requesting a vehicle unlock in Loogootee. Loogootee Officer Davis responded.

6:25 p.m. - Received a request for a welfare check in Loogootee. Loogootee Officer Davis responded.

6:30 p.m. - Received a call reporting a car-deer accident in Daviess County. Contacted Daviess County with information.

6:47 p.m. - Received a call requesting to speak with an officer in Loogootee. Loogootee Officer Davis responded.

8:49 p.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Medic 1 responded and transported one patient to Daviess Community Hospital.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 14

4:30 a.m. - Received a call from Lifeline requesting a lift assist only south of Shoals. Shoals Fire Department responded.

9:30 a.m. - Received a call from the Hoosier Forest Service advising of a controlled burn in Orange County.

12:38 p.m. - Received a 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.

1:13 p.m. - Received a 911 call of a possible domestic dispute in Shoals. Chief Deputy Keller, Captain Gibson, Sergeant Wells and Deputy Baumgart responded.

2:25 p.m. - Received a call from Lifeline advising of a medical alarm push southeast of Shoals. Lost River Fire Department responded.

2:54 p.m. - Received a call reporting a controlled burn east of Shoals.

3:40 p.m. - Received a call requesting a vehicle unlock in Shoals. Corporal Hawkins responded.

4:01 p.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Medic 1 responded and transported one patient to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

5:09 p.m. - Received a report of possible harassment in Shoals. Deputy Shields responded.

7:50 p.m. - Received a report of a reckless driver in Loogootee. Loogootee Officer Davis responded.

9:52 p.m. - Received a call from ADT advising of a residential burglar alarm in Loogootee. Loogootee Officer Davis responded.

10:29 p.m. - Received a call reporting a car-deer accident north of Loogootee. Deputy Doane responded.

11:25 p.m. - Received a call requesting to speak with an officer in Loogootee. Loogootee Officer Davis responded.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 15

5:30 a.m. - Received a call reporting a car-deer accident east of Shoals. Deputy Erwin responded.

9:43 a.m. - Received a call reporting a road closure in Loogootee.

12:19 p.m. - Received a report of a reckless driver on US 231 North, traveling north. Advised Greene and Daviess counties.

12:50 p.m. - Received an animal complaint north of Loogootee. Deputy Branham responded.

12:56 p.m. - Deputy Baumgart trans-

ported three inmates to court.

1:35 p.m. - Received a report of a controlled burn north of Loogootee.

2:58 p.m. - Received a call requesting to speak with an officer. Sergeant Wells responded.

3:39 p.m. - Received a 911 call reporting an accident with no injuries in Loogootee. Loogootee Officer Wagoner responded.

4:47 p.m. - Received a 911 call reporting an accident with no injuries south of Loogootee. Deputy Branham and Deputy Shields responded.

8:58 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance north of Loogootee. Martin County Medic 1 responded and transported one patient to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

8:35 p.m. - Received a call reporting a field fire north of Loogootee. Loogootee Fire Department and Sergeant Wells responded.

10:45 p.m. - Received a 911 call reporting a car-deer accident in Loogootee. Loogootee Officer Wagoner responded.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 16

2:48 a.m. - Received a call requesting to speak with an officer. Deputy Erwin responded and requested an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Medic 1 responded and transported one patient to Daviess Community Hospital.

5:54 a.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance in Shoals. Martin County Medic 1, Shoals Fire Department and Deputy Erwin responded. Medic 1 transported one patient to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

7:22 a.m. - Received a 911 call reporting an accident with no injuries east of Loogootee. Deputy Branham and Big John's Towing responded.

8:08 a.m. - Received a call reporting the smell of smoke in a home south of Shoals. Lost River Fire Department responded.

12:58 p.m. - Received a call reporting a reckless driver on US 231 South, traveling northbound. Deputy Branham responded.

3:43 p.m. - Received a 911 call reporting a barn fire northeast of Shoals. Sheriff Greene, Martin County Medic 1, Shoals Fire Department, Martin County Civil Defense and Deputy Baumgart responded. Medic 1 transported one patient to Daviess Community Hospital with a Daviess County Medic on board.

3:46 p.m. - Received a 911 call reporting a domestic dispute in Loogootee. Loogootee Officer Wagoner and Deputy Branham responded.

3:51 p.m. - Received a call reporting the smell of gas in Loogootee. Loogootee Fire Department responded.

4:04 p.m. - Received a call reporting a car in a ditch in Lawrence County. Called Lawrence County with information.

4:25 p.m. - Received a report of a car in a ditch east of Loogootee. Deputy Branham responded.

4:54 p.m. - Received a report of a slide off east of Loogootee. Deputy Shields and Deputy Branham responded.

5:01 p.m. - Received a report of a slide off south of Loogootee. Indiana Conservation Officer Mann responded.

5:25 p.m. - Received a report of an accident with no injuries east of Loogootee. Deputy Branham responded.

5:47 p.m. - Received a report of a disabled vehicle west of Shoals. Deputy Baumgart responded.

5:53 p.m. - Received a 911 call reporting a disabled vehicle west of Shoals. Shoals Fire Department responded.

5:59 p.m. - Received a 911 call reporting a slide off south of Loogootee. Indiana Conservation Officer Mann responded.

6:01 p.m. - Received a 911 call reporting an accident with no injuries east of Shoals. Deputy Branham responded.

6:01 p.m. - Received a report of a slide off north of Loogootee. Deputy Baumgart responded.

6:15 p.m. - Received a call requesting an ambulance north of Shoals. Martin County Medic 3 and Shoals Fire Department responded. Medic 3 transported one patient to Daviess Community Hospital.

6:54 p.m. - Received a call reporting a verbal dispute in Loogootee. Loogootee Reserve Captain Harmon and Deputy Baumgart responded.

7:00 p.m. - Received a call reporting a disabled vehicle east of Loogootee. Sheriff Greene responded.

8:36 p.m. - Received a 911 call from an Orange County address. Transferred call to Orange County 911.

11:45 p.m. - Received a 911 call reporting a disabled vehicle south of Shoals. Deputy Erwin responded.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 17

12:13 a.m. - Received a 911 call reporting the disabled vehicle was able to move. Advised Deputy Erwin.

12:33 a.m. - Received a call requesting a wrecker north of Loogootee. Deputy Erwin and Jackson's Heavy Haul responded.

1:38 p.m. - Received a call reporting a commercial burglar alarm in Loogootee. Loogootee Chief Long responded.

8:56 a.m. - Received a call reporting several abandoned vehicles southeast of Loogootee. Deputy Branham responded.

9:37 a.m. - Received a call requesting assistance with traffic control south of Loogootee. Deputy Branham and Loogootee Reserve Captain Harmon responded.

10:43 a.m. - Received a call requesting a welfare check east of Shoals. Deputy Branham responded.

2:26 p.m. - Received a call requesting extra patrol north of Shoals. Advised all Martin County Law Enforcement.

5:38 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.

9:38 p.m. - Received a call reporting a possible gunshot north of Shoals. Deputy Shields responded.

10:32 p.m. - Indiana Conservation Officer Mann requested a wrecker west of Loogootee. Big John's Towing responded.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 18

4:58 a.m. - Received a call from Mytrex Alarm Company advising of a medical alarm in Loogootee. Martin County Medic 1 and Deputy Erwin responded. No one was transported.

11:20 a.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Medic 1 responded and transported one patient to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

3:35 p.m. - Received a call requesting a vehicle tow in Loogootee. Contacted Loogootee Dispatch.

3:54 p.m. - Received a call requesting an officer in Loogootee. Deputy Branham responded.

4:42 p.m. - Received a call from Life Alert requesting an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Medic 1, Deputy Branham and Deputy Doane responded. No one was transported.

6:28 p.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Medic 1, Loogootee Fire Department, Deputy Branham, and Daviess County EMS responded. Daviess County EMS transported one patient to IU Bloomington Hospital.

9:43 p.m. - Received a report of possible gunshots in Shoals. Major Reed and Deputy Doane responded.

COURT NEWS

CRIMINAL CONVICTIONS AND SENTENCINGS February 13

Timothy Tincher, convicted of domestic battery committed in the presence of a child less than 16 years old, a Level 6 Felony. Sentenced to serve 365 days with 233 days suspended and credit for 66 actual days previously served plus 66 Class A credit days. Defendant received 233 days of probation.

CIVIL COURT New Suits Filed February 7

UHG I, LLC vs. Leann Jones, civil collection.

February 8
LVNV Funding, LLC vs. Tammy Clark, civil collection.

February 9
Travis A. Williams vs. Jo E. Chestnut, Billy J. Norman and Martin County Sheriff's Department, civil tort.

February 12
Barclay's Bank Delaware c/o Lloyd and McDaniel, PLC vs. Melisa Hawkins, civil collection.

CIVIL COURT JUDGMENTS February 8

Judgment in favor of the plaintiff Mariner Finance, LLC and against the defen-

dants Bradley Jones and Julie Jones in the amount of \$8,558.13.

**CIVIL COURT DISMISSED
February 12**
LVNV Funding, LLC vs. Kevin Holt, civil collection, dismissed.

SMALL CLAIMS COURT New Suits Filed February 8

Thomas Bausch vs. Edward Sutton, eviction.

Larry Phillips vs. Crystal Trambaugh, complaint.

SMALL CLAIMS JUDGMENTS February 8

Judgment in favor of the plaintiff Hoosier Accounts Service and against the defendant Stephanie A. Cannon in the amount of \$4,606.26.

Judgement in favor of the plaintiff Hoosier Accounts Service and against the defendant Steven C. Knox in the amount of \$572.82.

Judgment in favor of the plaintiff Hoosier Accounts Service and against the defendant Toni R. Clifton in the amount of \$3,422.03.

February 9
Judgment in favor of the plaintiff Hoosier Accounts Service and against the defendant Lyndzee R. Hart in the amount of \$3,245.01.

Martin County real estate transfers

Crystal T. Trambaugh, of Martin County, Indiana to **Thomas R. Moffitt**, of Martin County, Indiana, a part of the northeast quarter of the southeast quarter of Section 6, Township 2 North, Range 3 West, Halbert Township, Martin County, Indiana, containing 2.055 acres, more or less.

Nathan T. Lowery, of Lawrence County, Indiana to **Mike Taylor, also known as James M. Taylor and Jackie Taylor**, of Martin County, Indiana, a portion of the northeast quarter of the southeast quarter of Section 7, Township 3 North, Range 3 West, Center Township, Martin County, Indiana, containing 1.28 acres, more or less.

KRA Holdings, LLC, of Daviess County, Indiana to **A & V Stoll Construction, LLC**, of Martin County, Indiana, Lot Number 9 in Roger's Addition to the Town, now City of Loogootee, Indiana.

Patricia Vittitow, of Nelson County, Kentucky to **Rodney Hedrick and Melissa Hedrick**, of Martin County, Indiana, a portion of the southeast quarter of the northeast quarter of Section 26, Township 3 North, Range 5 West, in Perry Township, Martin County, Indiana, containing 0.79 acre, more or less.

Ricky Lee Arthur, of Martin County, Indiana to **Rena Kay Byers**, of Martin County, Indiana, a part of the northwest quarter of the northwest quarter of Section 25, Township 3 North, Range 5 West, more commonly known as Lot Number 27.

Elizabeth G. LaPastora, of Marion County, Indiana to **Stephen D. Wagler and MarieAnna M. Wagler**, of Marion County, Indiana, a part of the southwest quarter of the southwest quarter of Section 12, Township 3 North, Range 5 West, containing 1 acre, more or less. More commonly known as 14257 US Highway 231, Loogootee IN 47553.

Greene's Properties, LLC, of Martin County, Indiana to **Jeffers Properties, LLC**, of Daviess County, Indiana, Lot Number 3 in J.P. Arvin Addition, City of Loogootee.

Melissa D. Fields, Cynthia K. Phillips, and Randall E. Johnson, of Martin County, Indiana to **Lovell Eugene Johnson and Frieda Johnson**, of Martin County, Indiana, part of the southeast quarter of the northeast quarter of Section 1, Township 3 North, Range 4 West, of the Second Principal Meridian, Center Civil Township, Martin County, Indiana, containing 16.462 acres, more or less. Also, a part of Lot 8 in Delmater, Beaver and Barkers Addition to the Town of Dover Hill, Martin County, Indiana, containing 0.150 acre. Also, a part of Lot 9 in Delmater, Beaver and Barkers Addition to the Town of Dover Hill, Martin County, Indiana, containing 0.150 acre. Also, a part of Lot 92 in the Town of Dover Hill, Martin County, Indiana, containing 1.62 acre, more or less.

Lovell Eugene Johnson and Frieda Johnson, of Martin County, Indiana to **Edmund W. Craney and Jennifer L. Craney**, of Martin County, Indiana, part of the southeast quarter of the northeast quarter of Section 1, Township 3 North, Range 4 West, of the Second Principal Meridian, Center Civil Township, Martin County, Indiana, containing 16.462 acres, more or less. Also, a part of Lot 8 in Delmater, Beaver and Barkers Addition to the Town of Dover Hill, Martin County, Indiana, containing 0.150 acre. Also, a part of Lot 9 in Delmater, Beaver and Barkers Addition to the Town of Dover Hill, Martin County, Indiana, containing 0.150 acre. Also, a part of Lot 92 in the Town of Dover Hill, Martin County, Indiana, containing 1.62 acre, more or less.

Thomas R. Kane and Karen J. Kane, of Daviess County, Indiana to **Jarrodd M. Burris and Amy L. Burris**, of Martin County, Indiana, a part of the north half of the southwest quarter of Section 20, Township 2 North, Range 4 West, Ruthersford Civil Township, Martin County, Indiana, containing 20.796 acres, more or less.

ARRESTS

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 12

1:52 p.m. - Dylan Jones, 24, of Petersburg, was arrested by Corporal Hawkins on a Martin County warrant in Pike County. He is being held without bond.

1:52 p.m. - Blaine Laughlin, 34, of Odon, was arrested by Corporal Hawkins on a Martin County warrant in Pike County. He is being held without bond.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 13

12:50 p.m. - Brandie Morris, 39, of Williams, on station to turn herself in on a Martin County warrant.

10:43 p.m. - Neil J. Sipes, 48, of Shoals, was arrested by Major Reed and charged with reckless driving. He is being held on \$3,000 10% bond.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 15

6:56 p.m. - Michael Kane, 42, of Loogootee, was arrested on a Martin County warrant. He is being held without bond.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 17

8:43 p.m. - Billy McCoy, 41, of Vincennes, was arrested by Deputy Erwin and charged with possession of methamphetamine, possession of marijuana, possession of paraphernalia and possession of a legend drug. He is being held without bond.

9:55 p.m. - Ragheb Al Rim, 25, of Indianapolis, was arrested by Loogootee Reserve Officer Shaw and charged with driving without ever being licensed. He is being held without bond.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 18

12:13 a.m. - Thomas Earl, 49, of Bicknell, was arrested by Deputy Erwin and charged with driving while suspended-prior. He is being held without bond.



By Shoals Town Council
President
Cary D. Albright

Councilman's Corner

"Collaborative Efforts Towards Healthier Communities: A Session with IU's Hutton Honors College"

I recently had the privilege of engaging with the brilliant minds at Indiana University's Hutton Honors College, where a dynamic session unfolded, focused on enhancing health services in Shoals. The assembly comprised top academic collegians across various majors, showcasing a diverse and ever-changing group.

During the first half of the session, we had the honor of hosting an emergency room doctor from Michigan via Zoom. Despite his demanding responsibilities, he generously shared insights through a compelling presentation. The discussion centered around a case study on improving health services for Shoals and Martin County. Key points included access solutions, telemedicine, community resources, and overcoming cultural exchange hurdles.

The latter part of the hour provided an opportunity for me to shed light on the existing health services in the Town of Shoals. From transportation challenges to limited healthcare access, we delved into the real issues faced by the community. What sets this collaboration apart is the valuable input and professional knowledge generously offered by the university's programs, all at no cost to our community.

The significance of this engagement cannot be overstated. The information gathered will serve as a cornerstone for future endeavors, allowing us to apply for grants and matching applications. These resources will be instrumental in transforming the healthcare landscape for the residents of Shoals and Martin



County. The proactive approach demonstrated by IU's Hutton Honors College is shaping the future of healthcare provision for generations to come.

In a world where such invaluable insights come at a premium, we are immensely grateful for the chance to tap into the expertise of this diverse group of collegians. Their ideas and perspectives, rooted in various backgrounds, promise a brighter and healthier future for our community. We eagerly anticipate continued collaboration with this dynamic group, as we work together towards a shared vision of improved healthcare for all.

Shop Shoals: Hair Tropics

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Martin County Journal
Email courtney@martincountyjournal.com

PUBLIC NOTICE OF CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITY

Loogootee Community Schools (201 Brooks Avenue Loogootee, IN 47553) is submitting an NOI letter to notify the Indiana Department of Environmental Management of our intent to comply with requirements of the Construction Stormwater General Permit (CSGP) to discharge stormwater from construction activities for the following project: Loogootee Community School - New High School Activity Center. Work consists of construction of a new activity/sports center. Project runoff will discharge to East Fork White River. Questions or comments concerning the CSGP should be directed to David Duncan of Lochmueller Group, Inc., 6200 Vogel Rd, Evansville, IN 47715.



Corner Cafe

201 N JFK Avenue, Loogootee
812-295-4243

Monday-Friday 6:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.
Saturday (Breakfast Only!) 6:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.
Sunday (Breakfast Only!) 7:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

TOY'S AUTO PARTS, INC.

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

More Neat Stuff



By Ann Ackerman



THOUGHTS

*1. Going to bed early. 2. Not leaving my house. 3. Not going to a party. My childhood punishments have become my adult goals.

*If God can make a bug's butt light up, think of what he can do for you.

*Adulthood is like looking both ways before you cross the street and then getting hit by an airplane.

*The older I get, the more I regret all the people I've lost over the years. Maybe being a trail guide wasn't such a great idea after all.

*Sometimes I think long deep thoughts and sometimes I think about bubbles. I like bubbles.

*I got myself a seniors GPS. Not only does it tell me how to get to my destination, it tells me why I wanted to go there.

*Just saw three people jogging outside and it inspired me to close the blinds.

*I told my wife she should embrace her mistakes...she hugged me.

*Ninety percent of bald people still own a comb. They just can't part with it.

*No matter what happens, pizza will always be there for you. Thick and thin, in crust we trust.

RIDDLES

1. What did the duck say when he bought lipstick?

2. What happens to a frog's car when it breaks down?

3. What never asks questions but receives a lot of answers?

4. Why did the robber take a bath?

5. Why did banana go to the doctor?

INDIANA RAISED

I was raised in Indiana where bare feet came out in March, we don't have fireflies, we have "lightning bugs," we don't have cray fish in the creeks, we have "craw dads" in the "crick," "taters" are mandatory, chicken is fried, biscuits come with gravy, Kool-Aid is the house wine, and you never ever disrespect your elders because they will "whoop" you if you do. Nod your head if you were raised in Indiana.

ANSWERS

1. Put it on my bill. 2. It gets toad away. 3. The telephone. 4. Because he wanted to make a clean getaway. 5. It wasn't peeling well.

SERIOUSISMS

*Remember, you can't reach what's in front of you until you let go of what's behind you.

*Some days I wish I could go back in life - Not to change anything, but to feel a few things twice.

*Teachers should wear body cams like police so parents can see how their children act.

*Be careful when you follow the masses. Sometimes the "M" is silent.

*The journey of life is best traveled with a dog.

*Be kind. It's free and it makes the world better. -Eva Kor

Make someone smile today!

Notes from the WIC Nutritionist

BY ELIZABETH WHITE

Martin County WIC Nutritionist

Did you know that anytime parents or caretakers use a formula bottle or pumped milk in a bottle to feed their infant, they should be using the paced feeding technique? At the breast/chest babies are in control of the pace of their feeding. Paced feeding when using a bottle allows baby to have more control over the feeding. It helps reduce overfeeding and prevents upset tummies. Watch for finished cues and trust your baby when they are telling you they are done. Do not make your baby finish a bottle after they have shown you their cues that they are full. If you have questions about what a finished cue looks like call the WIC clinic and we would be glad to talk with you. The Institute for the Advancement of Breastfeeding and Lactation Education (IABLE) has a great video on how to pace feed your baby. www.youtube.com/watch?v=OGPm5SpLxXY The video is also posted on the digital Indiana WIC Resources web page <https://indiana.wicresources.org/paced-feeding/> Another

good idea would be to share this video with your infant's babysitter or with anyone who will be using a bottle to feed your baby.

Reminder Martin County WIC has moved to the Martin County Community Learning Center on the Martin County 4-H Fair Grounds, 2666 Highway US-50, Loogootee.

The WIC program provides supplemental nutritional foods, referrals, breastfeeding support, and nutrition education for pregnant women, nursing women, infants, and children 1-5 years. The Martin Co WIC clinic is open Monday 8:30 am to 4:30 pm and Thursday 10 am to 6:30 pm. Please call 812-407-4282 to make an appointment. Breastfeeding line: 812-226-9820

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.



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Hogs by the 1/2 and whole
Individual beef orders available

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Loogootee, Indiana

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Farmers' Breakfast

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

Celebrate Recovery meetings

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

Dog/cat Wellness Clinic

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

St. Vincent Food Pantry

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

Free lunch for kids

New Beginnings Community Church will be offering a free lunch to all school age children every Saturday. Lunches can

be picked up at the fellowship hall of the church, located at 105 Wood St, Loogootee no later than 10:30 a.m. Deliveries will begin between 10:30 and 11 a.m. Saturdays.

SOAR Tutoring

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

LUMC Food Pantry

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

Solid waste board

The Martin County Solid Waste Board holds their monthly meetings on the third Wednesday of each month at 8:30 a.m. at the recycling center located at 500 Industrial Park Drive in Loogootee. The meetings are open to the public and anyone is invited to attend.

Soil and Water meetings

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

Truelove United Methodist Church SOUP SUPPER

Saturday, February 24
4 p.m. to 7 p.m.

at the church, 1195 Truelove Church Rd, Loogootee

Menu includes:

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

Gallon of soup for \$15

To pre-order, call 812-639-0508



STEAK NIGHT

Last Saturday Of Every Month!

at the Loogootee VFW Post 9395

300 W. Vine Street, Loogootee IN 47553

We start serving at 5 p.m.

Grilled Ribeye \$25 or Grilled Chicken Breast \$18
Served with: Salad Bar, Baked Potato, Green Beans & Dinner Roll

Call to reserve your steak 812-296-4188

PUBLIC WELCOME!

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Martin County
Journal

Email courtney@martincountyjournal.com



The first batch of All-America Selections for 2024 has been announced. Since 1932, an All-America Selection is the most coveted award for breeders of plants. Once a plant has received the award, the seed companies will continue to use the AAS symbol on advertising and on seed packets.

To become an AAS winner, a plant must stand up to trials in gardens across the United States and Canada. Professionals in the horticulture field evaluate plants that are grown in test gardens. The plants are also compared with similar plants that have been grown for a long time, many of which are themselves AAS winners. Sometimes, a particular plant may be outstanding in part of the country, but not the whole area. Regional awards may be given in such cases. Award winners are announced three times each year.

So far, only two edible selections have been awarded national AAS status in 2024. Broccoli Purple Magic, bred at Sakata Seed America, is described as an outstanding purple broccoli. It has tight, uniform heads and growers state it has great flavor. It stands up to stress and tolerates heat. The other winner is a bell pepper, Red Impact. Trial gardeners say it is very sweet, even when green. The peppers have thick walls. The sturdy, upright plants produce a lot of peppers per plant. Red Impact was bred at Seminis Home Garden.

Six ornamental plants have been awarded national AAS status this year. Celosia Burning Embers is described as a tough plant, sporting bronze foliage with pink veins. The veins reflect the vibrant pink flower plums, which have good staying power. This Clover Seed Company introduction has been found to do well in hot, humid weather.

A geranium (pelargonium) described as low maintenance has also been selected. Big EEZE Pink Batik has been found to keep the mottled pink flowers coming all season. It is also disease resistant.

Indiana remains a top agricultural state according to new census

According to the newly released agricultural census data from The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA)'s National Agricultural Statistics Service, Indiana remains a top agricultural state, with agricultural products valued at over \$18 billion.

"This data shows that agriculture remains a pillar of the Indiana economy with the total value of agriculture production growing 62 percent over the five year period," said Lt. Gov. Suzanne Crouch, Secretary of Agriculture and Rural Development. "The Census of Agriculture is all encompassing, and it allows us to compare ourselves to fellow states, whether that is in ranking of commodities, prices, demographics and more."

The Census of Agriculture is a complete count of U.S. farms and ranches and the people who operate them. Even small plots of land - whether rural or urban - growing fruit, vegetables or some food animals count if \$1,000 or more of such products were raised and sold, or normally would have been sold, during the Census year. The Census of Agriculture, taken only once every five years, looks at land use and ownership, operator characteristics, production practices, income and expenditures.

"We are thankful for all the farmers who completed the survey, this data al-

Drummen Orange produced this plant, which performs well in the ground or in containers.

Another versatile flowering plant is Impatiens interspecific Solarscape XL Pink Jewel. This Pan American Seed introduction starts well from seed. Vibrant pink, satiny blooms cover the mounding plants all summer. It can be used as a groundcover or as a filler plant in mixed containers.

If you want a great cutting flower, try Marigold Siam Gold from Thai Home Seeds. Large, fully double, gold blooms are produced all summer on stems that do not need to be staked.

Petchoa En Viva Pink is a petunia relative and may be a good alternative to petunias in the garden and in containers. The plants have a mounding habit, and the flowers are bright, iridescent pink, with a yellow throat. One plant will fill the average hanging basket. It was submitted by Selecta One North America.

The final national selection is Verbena Sweetheart Kisses. Trial gardeners say this plant is easy to grow, whether in the ground, as a spiller in mixed containers or in a hanging basket. It produces blooms ranging from red to rose to pink, all blushed with white. Applewood Seed submitted this plant for trial.

There was one flower selected as a regional AAS winner for the Great Lakes Region. Petunia Sure Shot White also performed well in the west and north-west regions. It tolerates various weather conditions. Vibrant white blooms that are slightly scented will cover the plant all season. Ball Flora Plant submitted this plant. It will not be available as seed, but transplants will be available for growers.

Since these are new plants, they may be in short supply for the first few years. The AAS website will list companies that will be offering these selections when they become available. Try something new with the assurance that professional gardeners have found them to be good plants for gardeners.

lows our department to provide accurate and reliable information and data to Hoosiers, to farmers and to decision makers," said Don Lamb, Indiana State Department of Agriculture director. "The data comes out every five years and its always exciting to see our state-wide growth."

Data from the census shapes programs and initiatives that benefit Indiana farmers, expands access to resources that help farmers and help farmers diversify into new markets, including local and regional food systems, specialty crops and organic production.

Listed below are some highlights from the 2022 Census of Agriculture for Indiana.

Indiana rankings:

Number one producer of popcorn, gourds and duck

Number two producer of pumpkins

Number three producer of spearmint and turkeys

Number four producer of peppermint and soybeans

Number five producing state for corn and hogs

Number six producer of eggs and watermelons

Number ten producing state for maple syrup and hemp for floral (CBD and other cannabinoid usage)

Total Value of Agricultural Produc-

Reserved spring turkey hunt applications opened February 19

Beginning February 19, hunters could apply for spring turkey reserved hunts by visiting on.IN.gov/reservedhunt.

The online method is the only way to apply for the hunts listed below. No late entries will be accepted.

Applicants must possess a hunting license that is valid for the hunt for which they are applying. Applications must be submitted by 11:59 p.m. on Sunday, March 17.

Hunters will be selected through a random computerized drawing. An email will be sent to all applicants when draws have been completed. Applicants will be able to view draw results online within two weeks after the application period closes March 17.

Spring turkey hunts on Fish & Wildlife areas (FWAs): Atterbury FWA, Aukiki Wetland Conservation Area, Crosley FWA, Deer Creek FWA, Fairbanks Landing FWA, Goose Pond FWA, Glendale FWA, Hillenbrand FWA, Hovey Lake FWA, J.E. Roush Lake FWA, Jasper-Pulaski FWA, Kingsbury FWA, LaSalle FWA, Pigeon River FWA, Sugar Ridge FWA, Tri-County FWA, Willow Slough FWA, and Winamac FWA

Spring turkey hunts on National Wildlife Refuges (NWRs): Big Oaks NWR,

Muscatatuck NWR, Muscatatuck NWR: Youth Turkey

Spring turkey hunts on State Parks and Lakes: Mississinewa Lake and Salamonie Lake

Spring turkey hunts on Indiana Private Land Access (IPLA) sites in the following counties: Bartholomew, Cass, Greene, Harrison, LaPorte, Ripley, Scott, Starke, Steuben, and Sullivan

Please note that only one application per hunt is allowed. No changes can be made once an application is submitted.

The application process is now consolidated into the online services website along with licenses, CheckIN Game, and HIP registration. An online account is not required to apply, but a Customer ID number is needed.

In the online system, hunts without a registration fee will follow the same process as those with a fee. Applicants must add a hunt to their cart and place an order to submit their application. If the transaction total is \$0, the applicant will not be asked to enter credit card information.

To view draw results, applicants can log into their online services account or click "View hunt draw results" at on.IN.gov/reservedhunt, which also includes more detailed information.

Grant funds available for specialty crop industry

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

"Beyond traditional row crops and livestock agriculture, Indiana is home to a robust specialty crop sector," said Lt. Gov. Suzanne Crouch, Secretary of Agriculture and Rural Development. "I look forward to seeing what projects are selected for this year's funding allocation as we continue to support this impressive sector of our agricultural economy."

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 will be allocating \$471,000.00 to selected projects.

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 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.

ISDA and USDA encourage applications that benefit smaller farms, new and beginning farmers, underserved producers, veteran producers and underserved communities. Applications open on February 22, 2024 and are due by 12 p.m. ET on March 22, 2024. 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.

For more information, visit www.ams.usda.gov/services/grants/scbgp. For a full list of eligible specialty crops please visit www.ams.usda.gov/services/grants/scbgp/specialty-crop.

Hunter education course to be offered

An Indiana Hunter Education Course will be held Friday and Saturday, April 5 and 6 at Shoals School Cafeteria. The Friday class will be from 6 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. and the Saturday class will be from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Anyone born after December 31, 1986, is required to be certified in Hunter Education before they can purchase a hunting license. For more information, contact Kendrick Fuhrman or Tony Mann at 812-837-9536. You can register online at www.indianahuntereducation.com.



Originally published April 4, 2011

Sometimes I think we all complain a little too much, and about fairly frivolous things to boot. My friend Lynn Gee forwarded the following thoughts on how blessed some of us are, and at the same time points out just how privileged and blessed we are by comparison to others around the world.

If you have food in the refrigerator, clothes on your back, a roof over your head and a place to sleep you are richer than 75 percent of this world.

If you have money in the bank, in your wallet, and spare change in a dish you are among the top 8 percent of the world's wealthy.

If you could get this on your own computer, you are part of the 1 percent of the world who has that opportunity.

If you woke up this morning with more health than illness, you are more blessed than many who will not survive this day.

If you have never experienced the fear of battle, the loneliness of imprisonment, the agony of torture, or the pangs of starvation, you are ahead of 700 million people in the world.

If your parents are still alive and married, you are very rare.

~LETTERS TO THE EDITOR~

‘Let’s stay united in our opposition’

To the editor of the *Martin County Journal*,

I see the “Community Action Leading Loogootee” (CALL) is spearheading an effort to have a portion of downtown Loogootee nominated to the National Register of Historic Places to recognize its historic and architectural significance. I call this wonderful. What a great honor this will be. We have many historical areas in Martin, Daviess and Dubois counties that should be highlighted.

In Martin County, Shoals has the “Golden Spike” where the B & O Railroad joined with the Ohio & Mississippi Railroad on April 15, 1857. Then there’s the Dover Hill/Trinity Springs Resort area of the late 1800’s through the 1920’s.

Daviess County has the Amish communities around Montgomery and Washington has what’s left of the great B & O Railroad roundhouse.

Dubois County has Springs Valley where French Lick and West Baden are located. In addition, to these resort areas of the late 1800’s through the 1920’s, there is the German community of Jasper.

The Mid-States Corridor will go through or very near these historical sites; but will bypass them all. Travelers will not be afforded an opportunity to stop and linger and enjoy our rich history.

Let’s stay united in our opposition to an unwanted and unnecessary new highway, the Mid-States Corridor, through our historical homelands.

Jim Arvin
Rutherford Township
Martin County

‘Both drives exceeded their goal’

To the editor of the *Martin County Journal*,

Many thanks to all who came to the April blood drives. The Shoals drive collected 35 units and the Loogootee drive collected 60 units for a total of 95 units! Both drives exceeded their goal. I am very happy for your support of the ARC mission of “saving lives through blood donations”.

Scheduling is available for the April 10th and 11th drives which will be held at the Shoals Christian Church and the Loogootee Methodist Church. You may schedule online at redcrossblood.org, use

If you can attend a praying service (church, temple, mosque) without the fear of harassment, arrest, or death, you are envied by three billion people in the world.

If you can simply read what is written here, you are more blessed than over two billion people in the world who cannot read at all.

Some of these items are granted to us by simply living where we do, others are more individualized and would be associated with opportunities we were lucky enough or resourceful enough to obtain somehow. Of course, there are natural God-given differences in ability and desire or drive to achieve. Think about how fortunate you are if you can count yourself amongst the “haves” versus the “have nots,” but also feel some degree of guilt as to what we are doing (or not doing) to give others more opportunity to enjoy life as we know it.

We live in fantastic times and have multiple choices to make life a little better for the “have nots” amongst us and help feel better about ourselves in the process. A friend once told me that “A rising tide lifts all boats.” I think that means that when we help others get ahead, we get ahead ourselves too.

your phone app, call the Red Cross at 800-733-2767 or contact me at 247-3767 or 709-2579 (please leave a message). The drives will be listed under the Shoals Beta Club and the Loogootee High School.

God’s blessings to all of you,
Lynn Hawkins,
American Red Cross Volunteer

LOOGOOTEE

(Continued from page one)

eclipse glasses from Martin County Tourism and RTC Communications. They also approved the following donations from Tri Kappa: \$250 to the school musical, \$250 to the choral department, \$250 to the high school library, \$200 to the junior high, \$400 to the life skills class, \$100 to the high school art department, \$250 to Youth First, \$100 to the emergency fund in the elementary, \$100 to elementary art class, \$200 to the elementary academic bowl, and \$250 to the elementary library.

Curriculum Director Christmas reported that 15 students who attended a scholastic contest with Oakland City University students will receive a \$13,000 scholarship for attending the contest, if they choose OCU for their continuing education. They did not have to place in the contest, just attend. Students who placed were Ashley Green who received a bronze in biology, Luke Guy who received a gold in world geography and a bronze in computer science, Reis Whitney who received a bronze in government and a silver in western civilization, and Ryken Chandler who received a bronze in western civilization.

Christmas reported the band and choral district solo & ensemble contest was recently held. The following students placed in the band contest: Taryn Brown received a gold in clarinet, Eva Ringwald got a gold in clarinet and Ashlynn Weitkamp got a gold in violin and a silver in clarinet. Choral gold winners were Adriannah Arvin, Reed Brittain, Mercedes Cortes, Emily Frisz, Alivia Fox, Isaiah Jones, Kensie Leisure, Dawson Potts, Teresa Shafter and Clara Van Kildonck.

Aramark District Manager Natalie Turner and current Aramark school representative Tim Stoner were present at the meeting to report they are getting ready to attend a farm to school seminar to learn more about providing that to the schools they serve. Aramark is the school’s breakfast and lunch food service provider.

INDOT, ISP encourage drivers to plan ahead for upcoming total solar eclipse

Indiana will play a pivotal role in hosting eclipse enthusiasts as they flock to the Hoosier State to catch a glimpse of the first total solar eclipse in seven years on Monday, April 8. The eclipse will be visible over a large portion of the state, with the path of totality spanning from Evansville to the outskirts of Fort Wayne, entering southwest Indiana at 3:01 p.m. EDT/2:01 p.m. CDT and exiting to the northeast at 3:12 p.m. EDT/2:12 p.m. CDT. Other parts of the state will experience a partial eclipse of at least 90 percent totality from approximately 1:30 p.m. EDT/12:30 p.m. CDT to 4:30 EDT/3:30 CDT.

Nearly 4 million Hoosiers live within the path of totality, with hundreds of thousands of people expected to visit Indiana for the event. Increased traffic and congestion are also expected as residents and tourists alike make their way to viewing destinations. Areas near the eclipse centerline are anticipated to see the greatest influx of visitors, including Vincennes, Bloomington, Franklin and just north of Richmond. Indianapolis and Evansville are also included in the path.

To ensure a smooth trip, the Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) and the Indiana State Police (ISP) urges drivers to plan ahead and prepare for potential travel impacts before, during and after the eclipse.

Before the eclipse

- Research your viewing site, considering accessibility, parking and crowd size. Check INDOT TrafficWise on the mobile app or at 511.in.org to plan your route and monitor traffic conditions.
- Plan to arrive to your destination early.

- Anticipate increased traffic and congestion, especially in areas in or near the path of totality.

- Reach your destination safely -- buckle up and put your phone down while driving.

- Pack plenty of snacks and water, as well as charging cables for electronics and mobile devices, in the event you or your group become stranded.

- Make sure your vehicle has a full tank of gas and top off fluids before you head out in case you’re stuck in traffic for a long period of time. Use this eclipse-ready checklist for more road trip essentials.

- Don’t forget your solar eclipse viewing glasses! You will need specially designed glasses to avoid damage to your eyes.

During the eclipse

- Avoid travel during the eclipse or in the main path if possible.



- Exit the roadway to stop and view the solar eclipse. Do not stop along highways or park on the shoulder for viewing.

- Do not take photos or videos while driving. Indiana is a hands-free state. Holding mobile devices such as smartphones or tablets while driving is prohibited by state law.

- Do not wear eclipse glasses while driving.

- Turn on your headlights. Do not rely on automatic lights.

- Watch for pedestrians, especially along secondary roads.

After the eclipse

- Plan your post-event transportation method well in advance. If celebrating, ensure everyone has a safe and sober way to return home. Designate a sober driver or arrange for alternate transportation.

- Exercise patience when leaving your viewing location as traffic may be heavy. Follow instructions from law enforcement or emergency personnel and be considerate of fellow drivers. Stay put and stick around to avoid the post-event rush.

- Clean up after yourself and dispose of trash in designated receptacles or take it with you.

- Once again, check INDOT TrafficWise on the mobile app or at 511.in.org to plan your route and monitor traffic conditions.

INDOT will limit road closures and restrictions where possible on state routes to help with traffic flow surrounding the eclipse. Oversize and overweight permits will also be temporarily suspended during this time. View current construction and maintenance activities on INDOT TrafficWise or the free mobile app.

Visit the sites below and follow INDOT and ISP on social media for more information regarding the total solar eclipse in Indiana.

eclipse2024.in.gov
visitindiana.com/eclipse2024
greatamericaneclipse.com/indiana-2024-eclipse
science.nasa.gov

ESTATE SALE

VINTAGE GLASSWARE & COOKWARE

CorningWare Pyrex
Tupperware Pampered Chef
Dishes & Kitchen Gadgets
Other Glassware & Collectibles
(Hummels, Willow tree, Elvis, JFK)
Singer Sewing Machine
Art Quilts & Afghans
Coats
Gloves & Hats
Christmas Sweatshirts
TVs

**WHEN: FRI & SAT
MAR. 01 & 02
FROM 8AM-4PM**

Location
Loogootee VFW 9395
300 Vine St. (along JFK Ave./HWY 231 N)
Loogootee, IN 47553