

Martin County JOURNAL

Year 14, Issue 8

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2023

Eight pages



Beautiful sunrise

-Photo by Bill Whorrall

Photographer Bill Whorrall captured this gorgeous sunrise over Martin County last week. In the top left are a group of sandhill cranes. As you can see there are four flying above the sun. Sandhill cranes mate for life and attract their partner via a courtship dance with moves like jumping into the air, bobbing their heads and stretching their wings to span up to 7 feet. During migration, these cranes may travel more than 200 miles a day. They're fast fliers, reaching speeds of up to 35 miles per hour.

Commissioners open paving bids, hire new veteran service officer

BY COURTNEY HUGHETT
Martin County Journal Publisher

The Martin County Commissioners met Tuesday, February 21.

Highway Superintendent Scott Seals and Brian Fleck, with USI Consultants, opened bids as part of last year's Community Crossings grant, for work on Brett Road and Rutherford Road. The bids include paving, shoulder work and a box culvert on Brett Road.

The bids were:

-E&B Paving: Brett Road \$298,238 and Rutherford Road \$503,552 for a total of \$801,790

-Milestone: Brett Road \$261,430.10 and Rutherford Road \$439,117.90 for a total of \$700,548

-Calcar Paving: Brett Road \$236,252.90 and Rutherford Road \$431,427.50 for total \$667,680.40

The bids will now be reviewed by Highway Superintendent Scott Seals and County Attorney Dave Lett to make sure they have all the required information. A company will be chosen at the next commissioners' meeting.

Highway Superintendent Seals said they are working to fill as many potholes as they can, weather permitting.

The commissioners accepted the resignation of Veteran Service Officer Linda Evans-Dillon. Evans-Dillon said in a letter that after 10 years as veteran service officer, she is resigning due to health reasons, effective March 1. The commissioners then appointed Jonathan Cropp to serve as the next veteran service officer. Cropp said he will be working with the veteran organizations in the county to get his name out there so he can better assist veterans.

Solid waste meeting reminder

The Martin County Solid Waste Board (who oversees the Loogootee Recycling Center) will hold their special meeting to discuss the future of the center tonight, Wednesday, February 22 at 6 p.m. in the lower level of the St. John's Center in Loogootee. The meeting is open to the public.

Auditor Michelle Norris, at the suggestion of Clerk Julie Fithian, who wasn't able to attend the meeting, talked to the commissioners about replacing and updating signs in the courthouse. She said there are several signs hanging in the entrance that are outdated and are made of paper. They would like to explore getting more permanent signs. The commissioners gave the okay. Commissioner Cody Roush also suggested Norris talk to the highway superintendent about signs he needs for ADA compliance.

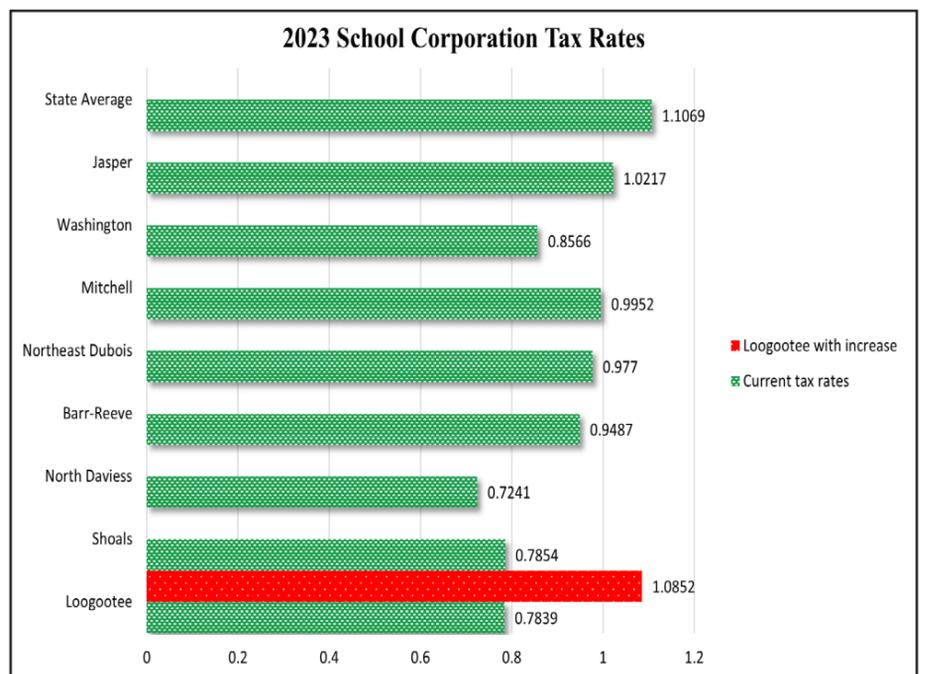
Auditor Norris updated the commissioners on the county website. The commissioners recently approved switching to the State of Indiana, in partnership with NIC Indiana, for \$1,200 per year, after experiencing several problems with the current provider. Norris said they will start work on the site next week and they expect it to be up and running by the end of March.

Assessor Carolyn McGuire asked if she and Recorder Rhonda Sanders could get new quotes for remodel work to be done in their offices. Quotes were brought to the commissioners several months ago but the work was put on hold until the new courthouse windows were ready to be installed. They will be installed soon so the commissioners gave McGuire the go ahead to get quotes.

Ambulance Director Jeramey Osborn provided the commissioners with the contract for the county's new medical director. Osborn said he is not ready to announce the doctor's name until after the contract is finalized. He said the hospital sponsor should follow shortly.

The commissioners approved paying \$46,162.32 from ARPA (American Rescue Plan Act) funds to Zoll Medical Corporation to pay for the cardiac monitor used by the ambulance service. An additional \$25,000 is going toward the monitor from grant funds received from the Martin County Community Foundation.

Civil Defense Director Monty Wolf said he received a letter from the DNR regarding timber sales distributions. (See 'COMMISSIONERS' on page 2)



Loogootee School proposed projects will cost an estimated \$17 million including interest

BY COURTNEY HUGHETT
Martin County Journal Publisher

The Loogootee School Board met last Thursday, February 16. The main topic of the meeting was the proposed expansion and improvement projects the school would like to do and the cost associated with doing those projects. Superintendent Dr. Brian Harmon had presented the plans at last month's meeting which would include building a new activity center between Jack Butcher Arena and the elementary school, remodeling the middle school building, adding a bus barn, and remodeling the elementary playground.

The 22,087-square-foot activities center would have an upper mezzanine level which would include two classrooms/meeting rooms, two bathrooms, and two mechanical rooms. The lower level would include two full-size basketball courts with walking track around them, bleachers to seat 366 people, a storage room, weight room, boys' and girls' locker rooms, and boys' and girls' restrooms. The bus barn would contain a

3,600-square-foot drive-through shop plus two offices, a restroom, janitor and mechanic areas, storage above the offices for the arts/theater programs, and six bus charging stations. The bus barn will also be fenced in.

The middle school, now 50 years old, will be completely remodeled including 31 new classroom doors, paint in all areas including the lockers, classroom casework for technology storage, science classroom furniture and casework, addition of trophy cases, complete office remodel, new plumbing fixtures, flush valves and toilet partitions in the bathrooms, new doors on each end of the building and 17 marker and tack boards.

Jeff Hammond, with Baker Tilly, the school's tax advisory firm, presented the costs that would be associated with the four projects. The total amount of all projects is estimated at \$17 million (\$9.9 million for the work and \$7.1 million in interest payments). The repayment term is 19 years with a maximum annual payment by the school of \$917,000. This (See 'LOOGOOTE' on page 2)

MCCF hands out grants LOOGOOTEE



-Photos provided

Loogootee High School received a \$3,809 grant from the Martin County Community Foundation William McGovern Fund. This scholarship fund is used for scholarships to eligible graduating seniors. Shown above, from left to right, are LHS Director of Curriculum & Technology Shelley Christmas, MCCF Director Curt Johnson, Principal Chris Walker, and Superintendent Dr. Brian Harmon.



The Whitfield Men's Club received a \$2,549 "designated" grant from the Whitfield Men's Club Educational Fund at the Martin County Community Foundation. This grant goes toward scholarships and educational assistance for students meeting the scholarship committee's requirements. Shown above, from left to right, are Whitfield Men's Club Board Members Phil Todd and John Lannan, Scholarship Committee Representative Tiffany Lingenfelter, and MCCF Director Curt Johnson.

(Continued from page one)
would increase the tax rate for those in the Loogootee School District by 0.3013 for a total of 1.0852 per \$100 of assessed property value. A home with an assessed value of \$100,000, with or without deductions, would pay an extra \$301.30 a year in property taxes. The rate for a home with the same assessed value is currently \$783.90, which would increase the total paid to \$1,085.20 per year.

Superintendent Dr. Harmon noted that with property tax caps in place, they would still have to find out if they amount of the project would even be feasible based on the assessed value of all properties in the district.

The school took out a 20-year bond in 2018 for \$11,890,000 (\$7,440,000 plus \$4,450,000 in interest) to remodel the elementary school and high school which included adding a media center and science lab. The school also took out a \$2 million bond in 2015 to replace windows, the roofs of each building and lighting and doors in some areas. That bond will be paid off in 2026. The school currently has annual bond payments of around \$523,000. Adding on the \$917,000 would increase those annual bond payments to \$1,440,000.

Each principal reiterated their desire for the proposed projects. (To read that again, visit www.martincountyjournal.com and open the January 25, 2023 issue or go to <https://img1.wsimg.com/blobby/go/b0f01f72-8da0-4fd6-88be-0822461b8e01/downloads/Journal%20012523.pdf?ver=1676479183754>).

The board will hold work sessions in the future to iron out the details of the proposed projects. They will also have bond attorneys present at a future meeting, once the board decides to move forward. The board again requested feedback from the public regarding the plans.

Curriculum Director Shelley Christmas also gave a presentation about the future of the school corporation. She explained that several years ago, a group of administrators and teachers met monthly to collect survey data from staff, stu-

dents, and the community. That feedback showed that there was a need for one-to-one technology for all students, more real-life applications for students, more hands-on learning, soft skill (character traits and interpersonal skills that characterize relationships with other people) development and to update the facilities to provide a better learning environment for students.

Christmas also listed the ways the needs for college and career readiness for students has been implemented since 2017 and highlighted the partnership with Youth First, providing a social worker in the school each day and with the Samaritan Center, providing a counselor and behavior coach. Christmas also listed the accolades the school has received for the past 5 years highlighting the STEM certification the high school received, as the first in the state.

Christmas then explained the Scalable Asymmetric Lifecycle Engagement (SCALE) initiative, which is a partnership between the school and Purdue University. Teachers will be paid stipends to create curriculum to introduce students to microelectronics, which is a growing field at Crane.

In other business at the meeting, the board voted to hire Heather Hawkins as guidance counselor. Dr. Harmon said she is not licensed yet but will be.

They also approved hiring Joel Weitkamp as band director starting next school year. Dr. Harmon explained they have a substitute in the class for the rest of the year and will be receiving help from former band director Betsy Graves and a retired band director from Mitchell to help students prepare for contest.

The board also accepted the resignation of Kerry Cooper from the position of elementary secretary.

The board approved spending \$8,200 from grant funds for the production of a promotional video for the school. They also gave Dr. Harmon permission to hire a varsity volleyball coach prior to the next board meeting.

COMMISSIONERS

(Continued from page one)
Each year the county's portion of the timber sales can be shared with the county's fire departments. Commissioner George asked Commissioners Roush and Aaron Summers if they wanted to split the amount evenly between the fire departments or table it until the next meeting. Commissioner Summers said they split the money up last year - \$3,500 each. Commissioner George said this time it would be \$7,390 each. The commissioners decided to wait until the next meeting to think it over.

Resident Mary Lou Billings, who was in the audience, thanked the commissioners and the highway department for the work done to get Green Cemetery surveyed and accessible. The cemetery is county-owned. She asked if there was a plan to now clean up the cemetery that is quite overgrown. Commissioner George said they plan to see if they can get community corrections to send a crew to work on the property.

The next commissioners' meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 7 at 5:30 p.m. in the courthouse.

Charming Brick Home!

This charming brick home located in Loogootee offers 4 bedrooms, 1 full bath, 1/2 bath upper level, and an unfinished basement. \$149,000



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Mike Engleman for Loogootee City Council CAMPAIGN ANNOUNCEMENT

I will be your Republican candidate for Loogootee City Council in District 1, in the upcoming Loogootee Municipal Election. I won't make a bunch of promises but will tell you what I believe with a pledge.

I believe in candor, transparency, accountability, and fiscal responsibility, which is what taxpayers rightfully expect and deserve.

I believe opportunities for growth, and development exist for the betterment of our city in cultivating a vision for the next 5-10-15 years and beyond. For example, one way of accomplishing this is by partnering with the Martin County Alliance for Economic Growth with a team of forward-thinking individuals to collaborate on ideas, implement strategies, and be willing to adjust strategies and resources as necessary, which could and should incorporate our schools, and our county as part of this partnership.

Opportunities lie ahead when everyone is working together, not by putting up obstacles, but staying focused on the task at hand. I believe people share the same goals, it's the process on achieving those goals that may differ.

So, if elected, I look forward to serving and working for the people of Loogootee, the Council, Mayor's office and Clerk-Treasurer, regardless of who represents these offices for the Loogootee community. This is my pledge to the citizens of Loogootee. I appreciate your support!

Thank you, Mike Engleman #LoogooteeForward



-Paid for by Mike Engleman

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

-Admiral Grace Hopper

It may seem strange to plan your own cremation or funeral ceremony, but it's the best way to ensure it's what you want. It also helps your family get everything taken care of in advance, so they know they're doing the right thing for you. Gain peace of mind by preplanning with a name you trust.



Derek George
Owner & Funeral Director



QUEEN-LEE CHAPEL
GEORGE FUNERAL CARE, LLC
431 High Street
Shoals, Indiana 47581
812-247-3101

OBITUARIES

NORMA BAILEY



NORMA BAILEY

Norma Sue Bailey passed away February 17, 2023, at Jasper Memorial Hospital. A resident of Loogootee, she was 76. She was a member of the Loogootee Methodist Church and faithfully supported the Humane Society of Martin County. She was born in Wayne County, Illinois, on October 14, 1946. Norma was the fourth of five daughters born to Loren and Mildred (Whitson) Finley. As you would expect, the house was regularly filled with raucous cackles and the smell of home cooking, both of which Norma excelled at. Her smile was contagious, and her compassionate blue eyes spoke volumes for the depth of love in her heart, love mainly held for her soulmate, Marvin "Butch" Bailey, whom she married on June 20, 1964.

A move to Indiana in 1975 brought new pathways for Butch and Norma and their three small children. Soon after, Norma began her career handling the public interactions for Butch's many businesses and she did it with graciousness and warmth, getting to know many of the people of Martin County by name. From Bailey Brothers Trucking to Butch's Classic Cars, she stood by her husband through thick and thin, working long hours to make his dreams a reality. Even after her merited retirement, Norma went on to serve the community by volunteering within her church and local food pantry. She was an avid supporter of the Barnabas Trail Ministries.

Norma is survived by daughter, Pamela (Jason) Loughmiller of Loogootee; sons, Marvin W (Linda) Bailey of Dover Hill and Carroll (Alisha) Bailey of Loogootee. She was the proud grandmother of Dr. Alexandra (Jared) Wathen, Austin (Julie) Bailey, Connor Bailey, Sara Bailey, Hannah "Nan" Bailey, Frank Dobson and Paige Dobson, and great-grandson, McColley Dobson. Also surviving are Norma's sisters Peggy Carlisle, Carolyn Wolfe, and Beverly (Von) Anderson.

She is preceded in death by her beloved husband of 56 years, Marvin J. Bailey, her parents, and her sister, Linda Weaver.

There will be a visitation at Loogootee Methodist Church, 208 West Main Street, Loogootee from 4 - 8 on Thursday, February 23. Officiant Gary Norris will conduct a funeral service at Arrington "Bailey" Church in Wayne City, Illinois, Friday, February 24, at 12 p.m. EST (11 CST) with visitation from 11 a.m. EST (10 CST) to service start time.

Memorial donations, in lieu of flowers and gifts, may be made to the Martin County Humane Society or to the Loogootee Methodist Church.

Arrangements are under the direction of the Queen-Lee Chapel of George Funeral Care in Shoals and Young's Funeral Home, Wayne City, Illinois.

LAWRENCE "GENE" FRENCH

Lawrence E. "Gene" French passed away Saturday, February 18, 2023, at his home. A resident of Shoals, he was 89.

He was born March 22, 1933 in Shoals; son of Lawrence and Dorothy (McNeff) French. He married Betty June Norman on October 7, 1950, and she survives.

Gene attended Shoals High School and was a member of the New Union Christian Church, Bedford. He enjoyed mowing his yard, mushroom hunting, and spending time with his family.

Gene worked for Sherfick Music Company and then United States Gypsum for many years, where he retired from in 1993. Surviving are his wife, Betty June; chil-

dren, Geneva R. French and Michael E. (Diana) French; grandchildren, Christopher (Rachel) Yoder, Bridgette (Ben) Bush, Meryl (Jason) Turner, Steven (Emily) French, Nakkisha Shaw, Cortney (Jesse) Moffitt, and Sarah French; 25 great-grandchildren; two great-great-grandchildren; sister, Darlene (Terry) Hobson; and several nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents; sister, Frances Holt; and brother-in-law, Gordon Holt.

Funeral service will be at 11 a.m. Thursday, February 23 at the Queen-Lee Chapel of George Funeral Care, with Pastor Randy Stevens and Pastor Michael French officiating. Burial will follow in Pleasant Valley Cemetery.

Visitation will be from 4-8 p.m. Wednesday, February 22 at the funeral home.

Pallbearers are Ben Bush, Jason Turner, Jesse Moffitt, Steven French, Keegan Brock, and Donovan Turner.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to New Union Christian Church, Bedford.

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

KARLIE HOLT

Karlie J. Holt passed away February 15, 2023, following an automobile accident. A resident of Orleans, he was 42.

He was born August 27, 1980, in Bedford; son of Lawrence and Clara (Weisheit) Holt. He married Heather (Brown) Holt, and she survives.



KARLIE HOLT

Karlie was a graduate of Shoals High School. He worked as an inspector at NSWC Crane for over 13 years and attended the Dogwood Community Church. He enjoyed dirt track racing and enjoyed being around family, friends and his race family.

He is survived by his wife, Heather of Orleans; three children, Addyson, Mason and Hudson Holt, all at home; one brother, Lawrence "Tarp" (Linda) Holt of Bedford; one sister, Tammy (Rusty) Halloway of Tennessee; family dog, Oscar and several nieces, nephews and cousins also survive.

He was preceded in death by his parents, one brother, Norman and one sister, Laurina.

Funeral services were held Monday, February 20 at the Ochs-Tetrick Funeral Home in Orleans with Pastor Anthony Moore officiating. Burial followed in Fairview Cemetery in Orleans.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Children's Educational Fund.

JOYCE DOUGLAS

Martha Joyce (Jones) Douglas passed away at 11:58 p.m. February 16, 2023, at IU Health Bedford Hospital after an extended illness. A lifelong resident of Bedford, she was 84.

Delivered at home in Oolite by Dr. Dolens on December 6, 1938, she was the daughter of John Paul Jones and Sara Elisabeth Pearl (Sproles) Jones.

Joyce was a 1957 graduate of Oolitic High School. She married her high school sweetheart, Phillip Gordon Douglas on December 6, 1957. A short eleven months later, she gave birth to her baby son, Gordon Scott Douglas, who resides in Bedford with his wife, Eliana. Just over two years later, they welcomed a baby girl, Reba Diane Douglas, who resides in Bedford. Rev. Snow of Faith Mission Church Bedford joined them together in matrimony for a marriage that lasted sixty-two years, two months, and sixteen days. Joyce always joked that while Rev. Snow was performing the ceremony, he started crying be-

cause he knew it wouldn't last. Joyce also bragged they spent a total of \$25 on the ceremony.

She was a lover of giraffes and an avid collector of anything giraffe related, including a sweater decorated with a giraffe's long neck and head. Joyce's favorite season was Christmas. She often decorated three trees in the house, and it was not uncommon for Christmas decorations to remain displayed throughout the year.

Her greatest passion and joy in life where her two children, Scott and Diane; her five grandchildren, Arron Douglas of Washington, Phillip Douglas (Carol) of Fort Lauderdale, Cody Douglas (Lindsey) of Shoals, Emily Douglas of Bedford, and Dustin Spencer of Greenwood, who preceded her in death.

Joyce is preceded in death by her mother, her father and younger brother Buddy, who both died in a swimming accident when Joyce was little, and a sister, Geneva Mae.

She is survived by a younger brother, John Paul Jones (Gerry) of Bedford and a sister, Michelle Bennet of Radcliff. Joyce was adorned with nine great grandchildren, Landon Douglas, Elizabeth Douglas, Steven Douglas, Levi Douglas, Brayden Douglas and Bailor Douglas, all of Shoals; Caitlin Aleman of Jeffersonville, and Carter and Greyson Fox of Bedford. She was also blessed with an extended family of several nieces and nephews.

Funeral services were conducted in the Elmwood Chapel of the Day & Carter Mortuary on Monday, February 20 with Pastor Adam Strauser of the Bedford Free Methodist Church officiating. Burial followed at Cresthaven Memory Gardens.

Family and friends may express condolences at www.daycarter.com. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in honor of Joyce, to the White River Humane Society.

DONNA KIRKLEY

Donna J. (Taylor) Dunn Kirkley passed away February 17, 2023, at her home. A resident of Loogootee, she was 49.

She was born March 6, 1973, in Washington; daughter of Larry Dean and Pauline Fern (Butler) Taylor. Donna married her beloved husband, Chuck Kirkley on February 6, 2014.

Donna worked at as a Billing Coordinator for Williams Brothers Pharmacy. She was a member of Odon United Methodist Church. Donna enjoyed her pets, liked to crochet, work crossword puzzles, loved drawing and art. Most of all, Donna enjoyed spending time with her family.



DONNA KIRKLEY

Family left to cherish the memory of Donna include Bob (Dad) Dunn, brother, Brad (Stacy) Taylor; sisters, Cindy (David) O'Brien and Ilene Cortez; many nieces and nephews and stepdaughter, Brooke A. Dunn.

Donna was preceded in death by her parents Larry and Pauline Taylor; stepmother, Linda Kay Taylor, and Marge (Mom) Dunn.

Memorial contributions may be made to American Cancer Society.

Funeral Services will be 11 a.m. EST Saturday, February 25, at Odon United Methodist Church, with Pastor Debbie Payne officiating. Donna will be laid to rest in Walnut Hill Cemetery in Odon.

Family and friends may call from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. at Odon United Methodist Church on Friday, February 24.

All arrangements and care have been entrusted to Meng Family Funeral Home

in Odon. Condolences and memories of Donna may be shared with the family online at www.mengfuneralhome.com.

DEBORAH SCHWARTZ

Deborah S. Schwartz passed away at 8 p.m. Tuesday, February 14, 2023, at Brookside Village in Jasper. A resident of Loogootee, she was 68.

She was born May 16, 1954, in Washington; daughter of the late Cletus and Billie (Ash) Hudson.

Debbie worked at the Loogootee Marathon (Rocket Fuel) for 20 plus years as a clerk. She also worked part time at Southwind Manor Apartments. She enjoyed reading, crafting, and spending time with her family and grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Cletus and Billie Hudson and brothers, Matt Hudson and Cletus "Jr." Hudson.

Debbie is survived by her daughters, Carmen Schwartz (Elvis Waddell) of Newburgh and Elizabeth Schwartz (Kevin Berg) and Amber Voegerl, both of Birds-eye; grandchildren, Lily Waddell, Tyler, Taylor, and Tierra O'Keefe; Damend, Dalton, Desin, and Daegan Berg; and Savannah, Alexandra, Justin and Emilee Voegerl; eight great-grandchildren and a baby girl due in May 2023; and siblings, Tim (Rachel) Hudson, Tom (Sheila) Hudson, Jeff (Susan) Hudson, Don Hudson and Gloria Jean (Paul Jr.) Danhafer.

Funeral services were conducted on Saturday, February 18 at Blake Funeral Home in Loogootee.

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

Blake Funeral Home is honored to serve the family of Deborah S. Schwartz.

DALE SMITH

Dale Austin Smith passed away Thursday February 2 at HHC Kingwood Hospital with his family by his side. He was 81.

He was born April 14, 1941, in Loogootee; son of Vincent and Lilly Parsons Smith.

Dale graduated from Loogootee High School in 1959 and began working for the State of Indiana as a land surveyor. He loved working and being outdoors, so land surveying became a natural choice for a career. He was a registered professional land surveyor in Indiana, Ohio, Texas, and Arizona. He worked with Midstates Engineering in Indianapolis until he founded Site Line Land Surveying & Civil Engineering in Greenwood. In 1982 the family moved to Waxahachie, Texas and he became Vice-President at Hewitt - Zollars Engineering and Land Surveying in Dallas, Texas. He retired in 2005 to Kingwood, Texas to be close to his family. Never one to sit around, he took a part-time job with the City of Humble, Senior Transportation from 2012-2022. He loved fishing. He was an avid college sports fan and loved March Madness. He learned everything about lacrosse and followed his grandsons in the sport. He had a deep appreciation and pride in his family, and he lived through his grandchildren, celebrating their accomplishments and dreams. His loyal companion, Crockett, the basset hound, was always by his side.



DALE SMITH

Dale is survived by his loving family including wife of 59 years, Vicki Jeffers (See 'OBITUARIES' on page 4)

Martin County Sheriff's Department log

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 13

2:34 a.m. - Received a call from Johnson Control reporting a commercial burglar alarm in Loogootee. Loogootee Officer Erwin responded.

2:56 a.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance south of Shoals. Martin County Medic 1 and Lost River Fire Department responded. Medic 1 transported one patient to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

5:46 a.m. - Received an accidental 911 call.

7:20 a.m. - Received a 911 call reporting a car-deer accident north of Loogootee. ISP Trooper Lents responded.

9:20 a.m. - Received a call requesting an officer in Loogootee. Chief Deputy Keller and ISP Trooper Lents responded.

9:53 a.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance in Loogootee. Chief Deputy Keller, Loogootee Chief Means and Martin County Medic 1 responded. Medic 1 transported one patient to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

2:24 p.m. - Received a call advising of a controlled burn south of Shoals.

3:20 p.m. - Received a call from Guardian Medical advising of a medical alarm south of Loogootee. Martin County Medic 1 and Loogootee Chief Means responded. Medic 1 transported one patient to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 14
12:02 a.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Medic 1, Major Reed, Loogootee Officer Sims and Corporal Hawkins responded. Medic 1 transported one patient to Daviess Community Hospital with a Daviess County Medic on board.

2:34 a.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance east of Shoals. Martin County Medic 1 and Shoals Fire Department responded. Medic 1 transported one patient to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

9:29 a.m. - Received a 911 call reporting a reckless driver in Loogootee. All on duty Martin County Law Enforcement were advised.

10:28 a.m. - Received multiple 911 and landline calls reporting a semi stalled east of Shoals. Chief Deputy Keller responded.

2:43 p.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance northeast of Shoals. Martin County Medic 1 and Shoals Fire Department responded. Medic 1 transported one patient to Daviess Community Hospital.

5:13 p.m. - Received a call reporting an accident with no injuries in Loogootee. Loogootee Officer Sims responded.

5:28 p.m. - Received a call reporting a reckless driver northeast of Shoals. Corporal Hawkins responded.

5:37 p.m. - Received a call reporting an attempted break-in, in Loogootee. Loogootee Officer Sims responded.

6:31 p.m. - Received a 911 call reporting a field fire south of Shoals. Shoals Fire Department, Corporal Wells, Martin County Medic 1 and Loogootee Officer Sims responded. No one was transported.

7:04 p.m. - Received an accidental 911 call.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 15
4:36 a.m. - Received a 911 call from a Daviess County address. Transferred call to Daviess County 911.

4:43 a.m. - Received an accidental 911 call.

6:37 a.m. - Received an accidental 911 call.

9:15 a.m. - Received an animal complaint in Loogootee. Animal Control Deputy Hughett was notified.

2:26 p.m. - Received an accidental 911 call.

3:15 p.m. - Received a call requesting to speak with an officer. Captain Gibson and

Martin County Medic 1 responded. Medic 1 transported one patient to Daviess Community Hospital.

3:20 p.m. - Received a call reporting a possible stolen vehicle. Sergeant Wells responded.

6:28 p.m. - Received a call reporting a car-deer accident northeast of Shoals. Sergeant Wells responded.

6:40 p.m. - Received an accidental 911 call.

6:40 p.m. - Received a 911 call from a Daviess County address. Transferred call to Daviess County 911.

9:10 p.m. - Received a call from Area One Protection advising of a commercial alarm in Loogootee. Loogootee Officer Sims and Major Reed responded.

9:15 p.m. - Received a call from Area One Protection advising of a commercial burglar alarm north of Loogootee. Sergeant Wells responded.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 16

6:44 a.m. - Received an accidental 911 call.

7:01 a.m. - Received an accidental 911 call.

8:25 a.m. - Received a 911 call reporting a car-deer accident north of Loogootee. ISP Trooper Beaver responded.

9:20 a.m. - Received an animal complaint in Loogootee. Notified animal owner and Animal Control Deputy Hughett.

10:28 a.m. - Received a 911 call reporting a fire in Loogootee. Loogootee Fire Department and Martin County Medic 1 responded. No one was transported.

10:48 a.m. - Received a 911 call reporting an accident south of Shoals. Chief Deputy Keller, Indiana Conservation Officer Fuhrman, Shoals Fire Department and Martin County Medic 1 responded. Medic 1 transported one patient to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

1:38 p.m. - Received an accidental 911 call.

1:39 p.m. - Received a 911 call transferred from Lawrence County. Sergeant Wells responded.

2:10 p.m. - Received an accidental 911 call.

3:24 p.m. - Received a call reporting a dog being hit by a car in Shoals. Sergeant Wells responded.

3:28 p.m. - Received an accidental 911 call.

3:36 p.m. - Received a 911 call from a Daviess County address. Transferred call to Daviess County 911.

3:43 p.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Medic 1 responded and transported one patient to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

4:28 p.m. - Received a 911 call reporting an accident with no injuries south of Shoals. Sergeant Wells responded.

4:30 p.m. - Received a 911 call from an Orange County address. Transferred call to Orange County 911.

4:46 p.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance in Crane Village. Loogootee Officer Sims, Martin County Medic 2, Loogootee Fire Department, Crane Fire Department and Crane EMS responded. Crane EMS transported patient.

5:24 p.m. - Received an animal complaint northeast of Shoals. Animal Control Deputy Hughett was notified.

5:47 p.m. - Received an accidental 911 call.

6:08 p.m. - Received an accidental 911 call.

6:21 p.m. - Received a call from Daviess County requesting an ambulance for an active run in their county. Martin County Medic 1 responded and transported one patient to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

10:40 p.m. - Received a call reporting

possible intruders south of Shoals. Deputy Long responded.

10:43 p.m. - Received an accidental 911 call.

11:55 p.m. - Received a report of a possible trespasser south of Shoals. Deputy Long responded.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 17
12:03 a.m. - Received a call reporting a neighbor complaint in Shoals. Deputy Long responded.

12:38 a.m. - Received a call from Area One Protection advising of a commercial burglar alarm north of Loogootee. Deputy Long responded.

9:52 a.m. - Received a call from Orange County requesting an ambulance in Orleans. Martin County Medic 1 responded but did not transport any patient.

11:45 a.m. - Received a call reporting a trespasser north of Shoals. Deputy Branham responded.

12:17 p.m. - Received a 911 call requesting a welfare check west of Shoals. ISP was notified.

1:03 p.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Medic 1, Loogootee Officer Erwin, Deputy Branham and Loogootee Fire Department responded. Medic 1 transported one patient to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

2:21 p.m. - Received a call requesting a welfare check south of Shoals. Deputy Branham responded.

3:00 p.m. - Received a call reporting cows in the roadway south of Loogootee. Deputy Branham responded. Owners were also notified.

3:38 p.m. - Received a 911 call reporting a reckless driver south of Loogootee. Deputy Branham responded. Contacted Dubois County with information also.

3:45 p.m. - Received a call from Orange County requesting an ambulance in Orleans. Martin County Medic 1 responded and transported one patient to IU Health in Bedford.

4:25 p.m. - Received a call reporting possible harassment in Shoals. Deputy Branham responded.

4:49 p.m. - Received an animal complaint in Crane. Animal Control Deputy Hughett was notified.

5:05 p.m. - Received a call from Shoals Community Schools advising there will be no school on Monday due to President's Day.

5:50 p.m. - Received a call requesting an ambulance in Shoals. Martin County Medic 1, Shoals Fire Department and Deputy Branham responded. Medic 1 transported one patient to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 18
10:08 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Shoals. Martin County Medic 1 and Shoals Fire Department responded. Medic 1 transported one patient to Daviess Community Hospital with a Daviess County Medic onboard.

11:49 a.m. - Received an animal complaint in Loogootee. Animal Control Deputy Hughett was notified.

1:37 p.m. - Received an accidental 911 call.

4:45 p.m. - Received a report of harassment north of Shoals. Deputy Branham responded.

7:00 p.m. - Received a report of a car-deer accident west of Shoals. Deputy Branham responded.

7:45 p.m. - Received an accidental 911 call.

9:04 p.m. - Received a call reporting a possible trespasser in Loogootee. Deputy Branham responded.

10:18 p.m. - Received an accidental 911 call.

11:40 p.m. - Received a 911 call from

a Lawrence County address. Called Lawrence County with information.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 19
5:35 a.m. - Received a call from Koorsen Fire and Security advising of a commercial burglar alarm in Loogootee. Deputy Long responded.

7:45 a.m. - Received a request to speak with an officer. Corporal Hawkins responded.

8:37 a.m. - Received a report of a tree down south of Shoals. Lost River Fire Department responded.

OBITUARIES

(Continued from page 3)

Smith; son, Jeffrey Smith (Mona); daughters, April Smith and Allison Smith Coda (Vanta II); and grandchildren Sumner Smith (Cortlyn), Sloane Smith, Vanta Coda III, Zane Coda and Beau Coda.

He is preceded in death by his parents, Vincent and Lilly Smith; brother, James Smith and sister, Lynda Smith Stoll.

A Celebration of Life will be held at 1 p.m. Saturday, April 1 at Blake Funeral Home in Loogootee.

Visitation will be held Saturday, April 1 from 11 a.m. until the time of service at the funeral home.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to either: Pulmonary Fibrosis Foundation, www.pulmonaryfibrosis.org or Martin County Humane Society, www.humanesocietyofmartincounty.org.

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

CAROLYN SORRELLS

Carolyn E. (Jones) Sorrells passed away Thursday, February 16, 2023, at Memorial Hospital in Jasper. A resident of Shoals, she was 78.

She was born July 17, 1944, in Shoals; daughter of Walter and Marie (Hoffman) Jones.

She married Marion Edward "Eddie" Sorrells on June 22, 1963, and he preceded her in death on April 3, 2020.

Carolyn graduated from Shoals High School Class of 1962. She worked at the Martin County Bank and Shoals Package Store. Carolyn loved her family pictures, cooking, gardening, coffee, spending time



CAROLYN SORRELLS

with her family, attending anything Jug Rox Sports, and her church, St. John's Lutheran Church in Loogootee, where she was a lifelong member.

Surviving are her children, Tim Sorrells and wife, Cindy, and Tom Sorrells and wife, Deanna, all of Shoals; daughter-in-law, Melisa Sorrells of Shoals; grandchildren, Seth Sorrells and wife, Emily; Shelby Sorrells and husband, Jeremy; Jordan Sorrells, Tanner Sorrells, Alex Doane, Kenyon Sorrells, and Abigail Sorrells; great-grandchildren, Eleanor, Hazel Rae, Gunner, Wyatt, and Grayson; and very special niece, Deanne Cooper and husband, Tim.

Carolyn was preceded in death by her parents, husband, son, John Sorrells; and one sister, Nadine Thimling.

A funeral service was held Saturday, February 18 at the Queen-Lee Chapel of George Funeral Care with Pastor Mike Newland officiating. Burial followed in Spring Hill Cemetery.

Pallbearers were Seth Sorrells, Jordan Sorrells, Tanner Sorrells, Kenyon Sorrells, Alex Doane, and Jeremy Blaker.

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

COURT NEWS

CRIMINAL CONVICTIONS AND SENTENCING

February 13

Jason D. Emery, convicted of operating a vehicle while intoxicated, a Class C Misdemeanor. Sentenced to serve 60 days with 58 days suspended and credit for 1 actual day previously served plus 1 Class A credit day. Defendant received 1 year of probation.

Katie M. Baker, convicted of operating a vehicle while intoxicated endangering a person, a Class A Misdemeanor. Sentenced to serve 365 days with 357 days suspended and credit for 4 actual days previously served plus 4 Class A credit days. Defendant received 12 months of probation.

CRIMINAL CHARGES DISMISSED

February 10

Damon B. Meek, theft, a Level 6 Felony, dismissed.

February 13

Jason D. Emery, operating a vehicle while intoxicated endangering a person, a Class A Misdemeanor, dismissed.

Katie M. Baker, operating a vehicle with a schedule I or II controlled substance or its metabolite in the body, a Class C Misdemeanor, dismissed.

CIVIL COURT

New Suits Filed

February 9

Hoosier Accounts Service vs. Marty Park, civil collection.

Hoosier Accounts Service vs. Nicholas Arvin, civil collection.

Tedrow Properties, LLC vs. David Blackmer, civil penalty.

February 10

Velocity Investments, LLC vs. Toni Clifton, civil collection.

LVNV Funding, LLC vs. Linda Stanger, civil collection.

Jefferson Capital Systems, LLC vs. Mary Elizabeth Sutton, civil collection.

CIVIL COURT JUDGMENTS

February 13

Judgment in favor of the plaintiff Midland Credit Management, Inc. and against the defendant Joseph Bengé in the amount of \$1,207.07.

Judgment in favor of the plaintiff Citibank and against the defendant Martin Lewis in the amount of \$8,336.77.

Judgment in favor of the plaintiff Mar-

iner Finance, LLC and against the defendant Michael Schlaegel in the amount of \$3,323.52.

February 14

Judgment in favor of the plaintiff Midland Credit Management, Inc. and against the defendant Marty Peek in the amount of \$1,328.94.

SMALL CLAIMS COURT

New Suits Filed

February 9

Hoosier Accounts Service vs. Candace Clark, complaint.

Hoosier Accounts Service vs. Lori L. Moore, complaint.

Hoosier Accounts Service vs. Joel C. Boyd, complaint.

February 10

Property Sure vs. Madison Roush and Spencer Byers, eviction.

Martin County real estate transfers

Chester W. Chattin and Betty L. Chattin, of Martin County, Indiana to Adin L. Knepp and **Miriam I. Knepp**, of Daviess County, Indiana, a part of the northwest quarter of Section 1, Township 4 North, Range 5 West, containing 9.48 acres, more or less, except a section containing 1 acre, more or less.

Clara A. Smith, of Martin County, Indiana to **Trenton Berry and Ronald Berry**, of Martin County, Indiana, a portion of the southwest quarter of the northwest quarter of Section 24, Township 2 North, Range 5 West, in Rutherford Township, Martin County, Indiana, containing 3 acres, more or less.

Kevin A. McBeth, of Martin County, Indiana to **Billy Walker and Lorissa Walker**, of Daviess County, Indiana, Lot Number 82 in Campbell and Breen's Addition to the Town, now City of Loogootee, Indiana.

Delmar R. Yoder and Geneva Yoder, of Daviess County, Indiana to **Margery Ann Yoder**, of Martin County, Indiana, Lot Number 6 and the south one-half of Lot Number 5 in Block "F" of the Loogootee Land Company Addition to the City of Loogootee, Indiana.

Mary R. Ringwald, of Dubois County, Indiana to **DMRS Properties, LLC**, of Daviess County, Indiana, Lot Number 84 in Keck's Addition to the City of Loogootee, Indiana.

Loogootee Police log

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 11

12:28 p.m. - First responders were dispatched to a medical call on Walnut Street.

2:30 p.m. - First responders were dispatched to a medical call on Cedar Street.

4:47 p.m. - A caller requested to speak to an officer regarding issues with a landlord.

8:55 p.m. - Officer Erwin assisted a complainant in getting back stolen property that had been located.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 13

9:06 a.m. - Chief Means assisted with a probation search.

3:47 p.m. - Chief Means completed a vehicle check.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 14

11:45 a.m. - Chief Means assisted with a funeral procession.

2:52 p.m. - Officer Sims completed a

vehicle check.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 15

12:13 p.m. - A caller advised of siding coming off a residence that may be dangerous to anyone nearby.

9:14 p.m. - Officer Sims responded to an alarm at a local business.

11:50 p.m. - Officer Sims assisted the Martin County Sheriff's Department with a traffic stop.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 16

9:22 a.m. - A caller advised of an issue with a dog.

10:25 a.m. - The Loogootee Fire Department was dispatched to a stove fire on Vine Street.

1:08 p.m. - Officer Erwin spoke with individuals regarding a property dispute and threats made.

1:20 p.m. - Officer Baumgart completed a vehicle check.

4:50 p.m. - Officer Sims assisted at a medical call on Bloch Street in Crane.

5:58 p.m. - A caller inquired about a lost dog.

11:32 p.m. - Officer Sims responded to a request for a security check and extra patrol around a residence.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 17

12:58 p.m. - First responders and Officer Erwin responded to a medical call on Cedar Street.

7:05 p.m. - A caller reported a dog loose in the area of a local business. Dispatch contacted animal control.

7:51 p.m. - A caller reported someone possibly impersonating a police officer.

ARRESTS

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 13

11:48 a.m. - Katherine Cundiff, 39, of Shoals, was arrested by ISP Trooper Lents and charged with possession of meth with a firearm, possession of marijuana, possession of paraphernalia, maintaining a common nuisance and possession of firearm with removed serial number. She is being held on \$30,000 cash only bond.

10:33 p.m. - Travis Arvin, 52, of Loogootee, was arrested by Corporal Hawkins and charged with driving while suspended-prior. He was released on his own recognizance.

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Friends of Waggoner's Chapel working to save 1862 building

The Friends of Waggoner's Chapel are moving along with their goal of protecting, preserving and maintaining the historical character of the Waggoner Chapel, which was originally built in 1862. They now have their official name, elected board of trustees, and a deed for the chapel which sits on 0.103 of an acre in the Lost River area of southern Martin County.

The chapel itself is in need of repairs. Two major issues that need to be addressed this spring include the repair of the roof and the realignment of the foundation. Further issues involve the replacement of a window and door frame adjustment in order to maintain security and safety.

The Friends of Waggoner's Chapel, Inc. hope these structural issues can be solved as soon as possible. They have also had

to acquire the services of an attorney, an accountant, and insurance representative. At this point, they need the public's help. They are asking for monetary contributions to help save this historic landmark.

Please help the Friends of Waggoner's Chapel by making a donation, no matter how small. The board of trustees would like to thank you in advance for any help you can give. You can send donations to any trustee member: Mary Lou Billings, 13162 East River Road, Shoals IN 47581; Larry Sherfick, 3859 Windom Road, Shoals IN 47581; Cyndy Carithers, 6246 Sutton Lane, Shoals IN 47581; Lisa Hendrixson, 9309 E. Old SR 64, Holland IN 47541; or Ann Ackerman, 229 Walker Street, Loogootee IN 47553. You can also send donations to Friends of Waggoner's Chapel, Inc. in care of Mary Lou Billings at the address above.

Loogootee Pickleball adding more clinics

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

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

Below are the upcoming clinic dates.
March 5, 1-2:30 p.m.
March 19, 1-2:30 p.m.

April 2, 1-2:30 p.m.
April 16, 1-2:30 p.m.
April 23, 1-2:30 p.m.
To register, please contact Terri Smith at 812-661-2905. Cost is \$20 per session and is due the day of the clinic. Registrations will be first come, first served. Cash or checks made out to Loogootee Pickleball will be accepted.
Money from these sessions will go toward the building of the new pickleball courts. Pickleball paddles and balls will be provided.

FOR SALE BY OWNER



Spacious Home in Loogootee with 2,525 sq.ft on .48 acre city lot. The home features 4 bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths, a large formal dining/living room in addition to a large family room/dining area/kitchen with all appliances. Other features include a laundry room with washer and dryer, hardwood floors, tons of built-in storage, 1/2 basement finished, patio, carport, and landscaping. \$299,900 Call Stephanie McAtee, 812-295-6817.

Thank You To Our Customers!

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

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

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

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

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

GREENWELL HARDWARE

106 Mill St. Phone 812-295-3597 Loogootee

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Free community meal

The Loogootee Christian Church, at 206 Sherman Street, is having their monthly free meal for the community on Thursday, March 2 from 6-8 p.m. at the church. This month, they will be having chicken strips, hot and cold sides, rolls, desserts and drinks. All members of the community are invited to attend.

Dog/cat Wellness Clinic

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

Mental Health Task Force

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

Celebrate Recovery meetings

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

St. Vincent Food Pantry

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

Free lunch for kids

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

SOAR Tutoring

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

LUMC Food Pantry

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

Solid waste board

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

Soil and Water meetings

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

ANIMAL SHELTER Pet of the Week



DECEMBER is a female tiger stripe and white kitty, around 2 years old. She is spayed and up to date on all shots. Adoption fee is \$45. For more info or to apply to adopt, visit www.humanesocietyofmartincounty.org.

TOY'S AUTO PARTS, INC.

Loogootee (812) 295-2312	Shoals (812) 247-3321	Jasper (812) 634-2222	Washington (812) 254-2540
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Jasonville (812) 665-3969	Bicknell (812) 735-3545	Bloomfield (812) 384-4453	

Martin County Chamber of Commerce
and Martin County Alliance

ANNUAL DINNER

Thursday, March 16 at 6 p.m.

St. John's Center Lower Level

Tickets: \$25 • Table Sponsor \$250

Guest Speaker: Denny Spinner, Director of OCRA

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





As we get to end of winter, gardeners get anxious for planting. It is too early for many flowers and most garden crops, but we may start plants from seed to have ready when warm weather really gets here. We have discussed the basics of planting seeds—using sterile pots and potting media and keeping the containers moist, but not soggy. Light is the remaining essential and is the one that requires the most intervention in this natural process. Of course, a climate-controlled greenhouse is the best place to do this, but that option is not open to most people.

Many first-time gardeners think that placing a tray of panted seeds on a windowsill will be good enough. Indeed, if the window gets adequate sun, the seeds will germinate in a few days and growth of the chosen crop will begin. However, that window light is often not sufficient to produce healthy plants. At the very least, one will have to be diligent to turn the tray often—at least a couple of times a day, to keep the young plants growing straight. Early growth is usually rapid, and the plants will be affected by the light received then for the rest of their lives. If they begin life leaning toward the sun in one direction, they may never be straight when moved to the garden.

Anyone wishing to grow a lot of plants in the home will have to resort artificial lighting. Books have been written about this subject, so this column will not be able to cover all aspects of the light needed for germination and photosynthesis. Light is strength-giving for plants, and it needs to be bright and steady for the best results. For the best results, you may purchase “grow lights” for your plants. These lights have been manufactured to produce the particular light wavelengths for plant growth. You may use fluorescent light fixtures with one “hot” tube and one “cold” tube to create a similar effect. These days, there are special LED grow lights that work very well and are probably the easiest way to supply the

Goose Pond Fish & Wildlife Area to dedicate Visitors Center Trail

The public is invited to register for and attend the dedication of the Visitors Center Trail at Goose Pond Fish & Wildlife Area (FWA) on Saturday, February 25, starting at 10 a.m.

DNR director Dan Bortner; Division of Fish & Wildlife director Amanda Wuestefeld; and Dan Boritt, executive director of the Indiana Wildlife Federation (IWF) will speak. Free refreshments will be provided after the ceremony.

The accessible 0.5-mile gravel trail circles the visitors center. The trail’s surface and maximum 15 percent slope grades allow for virtually anyone of any ability to use it and appreciate the route’s wildflower plantings and interpretive signage.

“Construction and completion of the trail would not have been possible without the help of Goose Pond Fish and Wildlife Area’s major partner, the Indiana Wildlife Federation,” Wuestefeld said of the non-profit group that promotes the wise use of renewable resources through educational programs.

Goose Pond FWA, located near the Greene County city of Linton, serves as an inclusive space for birding and other outdoor recreational opportunities across 9,098 acres of prairie and marsh habitat. Built in 2016, the visitors center includes interpretive displays and scopes for viewing wildlife.

light your plants need.

You may need to do some research to determine the amount of light your chosen crop needs. Most vegetable crops will do best with bright light for at least six hours a day. A timer on the light is the easiest way to ensure proper illumination. The distance the light is from the plants is also important. To get the straight growth usually desired, the light should be located about six inches above the plants. Of course, as the plants grow, the light needs to be raised. As I said earlier, plants grow rapidly at this stage, so you will need to check and adjust the light daily.

Another option for starting plants is to use a hot bed. The bed needs to be in a sunny part of the yard. Mark the area and dig down about a foot. The sides of the hot bed may be made from about anything available. Wood is traditional, but concrete blocks, stones and plastic will also serve this purpose. I have used straw bales with good success, but they will only last one season, and if you are seeking to establish a more permanent structure, you will need a more permanent siding. The bottom layer of the hole is the heat-producing layer. If you want to spend some money, there are electric cables that may be buried to produce the bottom heat necessary for germination. However, the traditional heat source is manure, especially horse manure. A six-inch layer of manure will produce a lot of heat as it decomposes. Cover the manure with straw, shredded leaves or wood chips and top everything with a generous layer of finished compost or other planting medium. The hot bed will need a cover, which may be some windows or clear plastic stretched over a frame. Using PVC pipe to make a vaulted frame is a good idea. You will need to open the frame on warm days to keep from cooking the plants, but a hot bed is a time-honored plant starting method.

Spring is just around the corner. Get growing.

Register at <https://bit.ly/GPTrailDedication> to attend the dedication. After the event, attendees can walk the new trail and stay to enjoy the 14th annual Marsh Madness Sandhill Crane Festival.

For more information about Goose Pond FWA, see on.IN.gov/goosepondfwa.

Hunter Education Course to be offered in Shoals

A Hunter Education Course will be held Friday, March 17 from 6 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. and Saturday, March 18 from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Shoals School Cafeteria.

The class teaches about safe firearm use, hunter ethics, conservation management, game identification, archery, tree stand safety, and more.

Classes are offered by volunteer instructors and Indiana Conservation Officers. Most classes offered are 1 to 3 sessions. In order to be certified, students must attend the entire class including all sessions. Anyone born after December 31, 1986, is required to be certified in Hunter Education before they can purchase a hunting license.

For more information and online registration, visit: IndianaHunterEducation.com. You can also contact Kendrick Fuhrman or Tony Mann at 812-837-9536. The class is sponsored by West Boggs Park and Shoals Schools.

Spring turkey reserved hunt applications opened February 19

Beginning February 19, hunters start applying for spring turkey reserved hunts at on.IN.gov/reservedhunt.

The online method is the only way to apply for the hunts listed below. Applications must be submitted by 11:59 p.m. on Sunday, March 19. No late entries will be accepted. Applicants must possess a hunting license that is valid for the hunt they apply for.

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

Specific hunt information for individual properties can be found by visiting on.IN.gov/reservedhunt.

Spring turkey hunts on Division of Fish & Wildlife properties:

- Atterbury Fish & Wildlife Area
- Aukiki Wetland Conservation Area
- Crosley Fish & Wildlife Area
- Deer Creek Fish & Wildlife Area
- Fairbanks Landing Fish & Wildlife Area

- Glendale Fish & Wildlife Area
- Goose Pond Fish & Wildlife Area
- Hillenbrand Fish & Wildlife Area
- Hovey Lake Fish & Wildlife Area
- J.E. Roush Lake Fish & Wildlife Area
- Jasper-Pulaski Fish & Wildlife Area
- Kingsbury Fish & Wildlife Area
- LaSalle Fish & Wildlife Area
- Pigeon River Fish & Wildlife Area
- Sugar Ridge Fish & Wildlife Area
- Tri-County Fish & Wildlife Area
- Willow Slough & Wildlife Area
- Winamac Fish & Wildlife Area

Spring turkey hunts on National Wildlife Refuges:

- Big Oaks National Wildlife Refuge

Southern Indiana’s land of bluffs, bayous, and barrens with guest speaker Michael Homoya

The Invasive Species Awareness Coalition (ISAC) of Dubois County and the Jasper-Dubois County Public Library welcome guest speaker Michael Homoya to Jasper for a free event. Our country’s national parks are magnificent, but did you know you can see some of the same natural features for which they are famous right here in Indiana? It’s true, our state is home to amazing rock formations, awe-inspiring waterfalls, forests teeming with brilliantly colored wildflowers, and swamplands reminiscent of the Everglades.

Come see for yourself on Thursday April 13 at the Thyen-Clark Cultural Center’s Black Box Theatre. The event starts with a book signing at 6:30 p.m., with presentation to follow from 7-8 p.m. Attendees can park in the parking lot off E 4th Street and should enter the building through Door 11.

Homoya will also be leading guided nature hike earlier in the day at Hemlock Cliffs in Crawford County. Due to limited space, the hike has already filled up with RSVPs, however anyone interested in being added to the waitlist can email duboisswcd@gmail.com or call 812-482-1171 x3.

Michael Homoya served as Botanist/Plant Ecologist for the Indiana Department of Natural Resources, Division of Nature Preserves for 37 years before retiring in 2019. He has written over 75

Muscatatuck National Wildlife Refuge (Muscatatuck National Wildlife Refuge also has a youth spring turkey hunt reserved draw. The application for the youth hunt is opened February 15 – March 12.)

Spring turkey hunts on State Parks-managed lakes:

- Mississinewa Lake
- Salamonie Lake

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 hunts with a fee. To register for hunts with no required fee, applicants will still use these prompts: “Add to Cart,” “Proceed to Checkout,” and “Place Order.” If the transaction total is \$0, the applicant will not be asked to enter credit card information. Applicants must place the order to submit their application.

To view draw results, applicants can log into their online services account or click “View results” at on.IN.gov/reservedhunt. Applicants should select “click here” under the heading “Reserved Hunts” to see the status of registered hunts. The link will only show upcoming hunts that an individual has registered for. Logging into an account online is required to see the full history of reserved hunt registrations.

More information on reserved turkey hunting is available at on.IN.gov/reservedhunt.



MICHAEL HOMOYA

be available for purchase during the event.

Homoya is also a Fellow and former president of the Indiana Academy of Science as well as board member and past president of the Indiana Native Plant Society. He is currently an adjunct faculty member in biology at Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis and Marian University. In 2019 Indiana Governor Eric Holcomb awarded him the Sagamore of the Wabash for his contributions to preserve Indiana’s natural heritage. Other honors include the Indiana Academy of Science Distinguished Scholar Award, the Distinguished Career Public Service Award from Conservation Law Center, and the Barbara J. Restle Lifetime Conservation Award from Sycamore Land Trust.

This event is also supported by the Dubois County Soil & Water Conservation District, with funding in part from the Clean Water Indiana grant program.

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PURE COUNTRY *Throwback*

By Dan Gregory

Originally published January 15, 2007

Spring! The dictionary has several definitions of the word. The definitions of “spring” go on for several paragraphs. Amongst them are nouns, adjectives and verbs, all that stuff that our grade and high school teachers tried to force into our minds and try and convince us we would find to be useful information or knowledge someday. I remember trying to grasp the difference, and honestly English became the class I hated the most. And my grades certainly reflected it.

The definition I am most interested in today was found about middle way through. It says, *spring*: the season of the year after winter, when plants begin to grow in the temperate and colder regions of the earth (that’s us here in Martin County) in the months of March, April and May. The figurative use of the word says “the first and most vigorous stage of anything, especially of life.

Why write about spring in January? Mainly because I always relate January as a month to kind of “hold your breath” and just get closer to springtime. It really won’t be that long until the earth rotates back to the warm rays of sunshine and the plants will respond as they have for eons. In biblical speak, “New birth will be created and the whole face of the earth will be renewed.”

We are fortunate here in this area of the country to have seasonal changes that are pronounced enough to get the full effect. Ask most anyone and winter is not the favorite. After that, you can pretty much evenly split spring, summer, or fall as far as a popularity contest goes.

Farm publications are full of stories about the ethanol craze. Ethanol is derived from processing corn into a liquid fuel that will burn in most newer vehicles similar to a petroleum-based fuel. The

SecureSeniorConnections® and Generations partner to bring social connection to older adults

Generations, your Area Agency on Aging & Disability, is proud to announce a new partnership with SecureSeniorConnections® (SSC), the leading digital health and wellness platform for older adults.

Generations is a leader in the field of aging - collaborating with partners to create new and valuable services that promote community awareness on aging related issues. Generations promotes independence, dignity, and choice for the clients they serve — providing older adults with the education and opportunities they need to age well and to remain active in their communities.

This partnership helps expand the Generations mission, as the SSC platform is a virtual community that supports older

technology is not new, just the price of oil has made it competitive. With ethanol production facilities being built around the Midwest at a rapid pace, ethanol is being looked at as the “gold rush” of energy production and investment. Agricultural economists are busy explaining all of the potential impacts on the various industries and inter-relationships this gold rush will have, not just domestically, but worldwide, for anything that depends on corn as a base commodity. In the past, and well into the future, the world has largely depended on petroleum-based energy supplies. I have heard since I was old enough to grasp the concept of supply and demand how finite petroleum reserves are. The term “renewable energy” which gets tossed around a lot in reference to ethanol, implies that it is infinite, and to a point, it is. But using logic and common sense, I would suggest that it isn’t a guaranteed renewal, mainly due to fluctuations in weather.

With the increased demand for corn used in ethanol production, there is already an economic ripple effect on every other product that uses corn as a part of production. The silver lining to the gold rush of ethanol is prices for raw corn are near all-time highs and the grain farmers need it. There is certainly a case to be made that increased profitability might lead increased production and thus the supply demand equation will fix itself.

We will soon observe our great American farmers planting.... as always.... for us. Each one of these farmers deserves to be better compensated than they have in the past for the risk they take in providing us with the necessities of life. Regardless of what the “end use” of their production is, we need to be thankful that someone is willing to step up and take the risk.

Spring begins in 58 days!

adults in leading healthier lives mentally and physically by leveraging the power of connection and social wellness. Launched in 2021, SSC has seen momentous growth, with members of its invitation-only community now representing all 50 states. Through this partnership, membership in the SSC community is available to all 60+ residents in the communities Generations serves. Generations and SSC will collaborate to bring tailored activities, content and resources to empower older adults in Indiana to stay informed and engaged in their own health and wellness while learning from and sharing with others in the same phase of life.

“Times are changing,” said Stacey Kahre, Generations’ Director of Operations. “SecureSeniorConnections is a safe way for older adults to socialize, share their knowledge and life experiences, offer and receive support with life challenges, form friendships with people of similar interests and explore subjects or activities that they have always wanted to do. We are very excited to support this project. It’s like a modern day Pen-Pal program!”

“We believe Generations’ mission aligns well with our own,” said Mike Weissel, CEO of SecureSeniorConnections. “Our partnership will focus on supporting Generations by providing older adults with the virtual education they need to make connections, to age well, and to remain active in their communities.”

For more information about SecureSeniorConnections and Generations new partnership, please visit www.secureseniorconnections.com or GenerationsNetwork.org.



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ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT JOB OPPORTUNITY

The Martin County Alliance for Economic Growth has a part-time job opportunity available for a qualified individual to work as an administrative assistant. Under the direct supervision of the Executive Director, this position provides administrative and clerical support for the Executive Director, the Board of Directors, and other initiatives in which Martin County Alliance for Economic Growth is involved. This position also serves as a community liaison representing Martin County Alliance for Economic Growth at various meetings and events throughout Martin County, and handling requests from community organizations.

This position handles a variety of office duties to include but not limited to:

- Answer incoming office phone calls, emails, direct mail and in person communications in a timely and effective manner
- Maintain financial information for the organization
- Organize and maintain the filing system for paper & digital records
- Organize and prepare information and documents for monthly board meetings
- Assist the Executive Director with the organization’s communications to include press releases/newsletters/ social media, etc.
- Provide general administrative and clerical support to the Executive Director as requested

This is a part-time position includes scheduled days of Monday-Friday. The successful candidate should possess skills of: general clerical and customer service skills, basic computer skills, organized, multi-tasking, working in a team environment as well as independently.

Requirements: High School Diploma; general clerical and administrative experience preferred.

Resumes can be submitted by email to Jessica.Potts@martinalliance.org (subject: Resume/Administrative Asst.), dropped off in person or mailed to the address of 2664 US Highway 50 Loogootee, IN.

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