

# Martin County JOURNAL

Year Two, Issue Eight

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12 Pages

## Loogootee School Board discusses cafeteria system, graduation date, teacher contracts

BY COURTNEY HUGHETT  
Martin County Journal Publisher

Superintendent Weitkamp brought forward information to the board regarding an automated cafeteria system. The system would allow parents to add funds to their child's account and also track what their child is eating at lunch each day and eliminate the need to write a check each week for their child's lunch. Weitkamp said that Mr. Tippery is currently doing research with other schools on any issues that have been discovered by using it, but he added that some form of the system would be up and running in Loogootee by next school year. He said they are unsure of all of the details yet, or how each cafeteria would operate under the new system. He said more information would be provided at school registration next year.

Weitkamp also discussed with the board this year's graduation date. He said that since Loogootee has only used seven of the built-in snow days, graduation can remain unchanged at Friday, May 27. He then discussed possibly scenarios if more snow days were required beyond that date and the possible delay in choosing a Valedictorian and Salutatorian.

Weitkamp then presented the tentative 2011-12 school calendar for approval. The calendar includes seven built-in snow days, two days for Fall Break, three days for Thanksgiving Break, a school start date of Monday, August 15, Christmas Break from December 23 through January 2, and the last day of school being May 22. As far

(See 'LOOGOOTE' on page two)

## Martin County meth lab seizures quadruple from 2008 to 2009

BY COURTNEY HUGHETT  
Martin County Journal Publisher

2010 was a record-breaking year for meth lab seizures in Indiana. The Indiana State Police released data a few weeks ago related to all effected areas of meth labs.

Part of the data included a graph showing the estimated number of meth labs possible for 2011 and 12 using a meth-check system that tracks the sales of PSE (pseudoephedrine), the drug needed to make meth.

For 2011, with the current rising trend, the number of labs to be found is estimated at 2,192 and 3,338 in 2012 if the meth-check system is put in place. By making PSE prescription, those numbers would be reduced to 404 in 2011 and 243 in 2012. According to the date, Mississippi saw a 68 percent drop in labs in the first six months after returning PSE to a prescription drug. Oregon saw a 72 percent reduction in the first six months and an additional 40 percent decrease in the next six months.

Martin County has had 52 meth labs seized in the last 10 years. The number of  
(See 'METH LABS' on page two)

## Oh, Deer!

Doe rescued from the ice on West Boggs Lake



-Photos by Tony Dant

These photos of a deer trapped and eventually rescued from the ice on West Boggs lake were taken last Monday morning, February 21, by Chief Deputy Tony Dant. After receiving a call that there was a deer on the frozen ice at West Boggs Lake

near the dam area, Dant arrived with Indiana Conservation Officer Tony Mann, shown in uniform at the left, along with employees of Hoosier Energy. The Hoosier Energy employees were eating lunch at the Lakeview Restaurant and noticed the deer on the ice. When the officers arrived the Hoosier Energy employees were already on their way to assist in rescuing the deer. The long pole shown in the photo above had a hook on the end of it and was used to hook the front leg of the deer and pull it to the edge of the ice. As you can see the deer did survive its ordeal with a big thank you to the Hoosier Energy employees.



## Commissioners meet in emergency session to discuss road conditions

Meeting minutes provided by Auditor Nancy Steiner

The Martin County Commissioners convened in an emergency session Friday, February 18.

Attending were Commissioners Paul R. George and Dan Gregory. Also attending were Nancy Steiner, Auditor and Dave Lett, County Attorney.

President George opened the meeting at 12:05 p.m.

Due to an emergency situation on the condition of county roads, Ordinance 2011-02 was approved by the two commissioners present. (See below)

The ordinance outlines the fines and violations that will be issued for non-compliance when an emergency road condition with weight limits are declared.

Also, a declaration of a state of highway emergency in Martin County with weight limits of 20,000 pounds on all county roads until further notice was approved.

Three copies of the ordinance and declaration will be posted in three public places in each commissioner's district.

With no other business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 12:36 p.m.

(See 'DECLARATION' on page two)

## Primary candidates

The following is a final list of candidates who filed for the 2011 Primary Municipality Election.

For Crane and Shoals there is no primary, the deadline is in August. For voter registration information contact the clerk's office at 812-247-3651.

### SHOALS

Lori Denise Butler, Democrat, Shoals Clerk Treasurer

Ernest "Earl" Boyd Jr., Republican, Shoals Town Council

Roger Lee Abel, Republican, Shoals Town Council

### CRANE

Bernard Burl Butcher, Democrat, Crane Town Board

Linda Ann Willoughby, Republican, Crane Clerk-Treasurer

### LOOGOOTE

Donald Rick Norris, Democrat, Loogootee City Council District 4

James Rich Taylor, Democrat, Loogootee City Council District 1

Harold Green, Democrat, Loogootee City Council District 2

Ronald (Ron) Gilbert, Democrat, Loogootee City Council District 2

Karen Hickman, Democrat, Loogootee City Council District 3

Pat Burcham, Democrat, Loogootee City Council District 3

Dwight Glenn Schultheis, Democrat, Loogootee City Council District 3

John G. Frahley, Democrat, Loogootee City Council District 3

Phyllis Parker, Democrat, Loogootee City Council At-Large

Fred A. Dupps, Democrat, Loogootee City Council At-Large

Noel Dale Harty, Democrat, Mayor

Joe Mattox, Democrat, Mayor

Brian Thomas Ader, Democrat, Mayor

Donald F. Bowling, Democrat, Mayor

Nancy Jones, Democrat, Loogootee Clerk-Treasurer

# LOOGOOTEE

(Continued from page one)

as graduation for next year, Board member Larry Craney said he would like to have public input on whether it should be held over Memorial Day weekend. A feedback link was suggested to be added to the school's website.

The board approved 4-1 the ratified contracts for corporation teachers. The contract would be for the last two year, where they were without a contract, and the next two years with one percent stipends for each year. The contract negotiations also included extra funding for extracurricular activities including volleyball and extra positions created to help in several sports. Board member Eric Ackerman expressed concern about the low pay associated with volleyball coaches. He added that several assistant positions' salaries, mainly in basketball, he felt were put in too high. "If you look, our volleyball program has probably been our most successful program over the last 20 years." He added that he didn't want to slight any other programs but said, "Our volleyball program we are known statewide for," he said.

"We want to reward success," added board member Tim Bradley.

Board member Craney added that he would like to see the volleyball salary get up closer to what the other varsity sports programs are being paid.

Board member Ackerman voted against the contracts based on the issues he had already discussed.

At the end of the discussion board member Ackerman did say that the high school has two administrators doing the job of what should be three administrators – with the adding of grades five and six to the junior high wing. He said he would like to have their salaries looked at in the future.

The board also approved giving the 1 percent stipend to all non-certified staff as well as certified staff.

The board approved the high school band's request for permission to travel to

Orlando, Florida to perform at Disney World or Universal Studio. The trip would take place during Spring Break of next year. Superintendent Weitkamp explained that this request is made every four years and money is raised by the band boosters and various fundraisers.

Condolences were offered to Brenda Mathies for the passing of her grandmother, Bernie Schroeder for the passing of his aunt, and Joyce Memring for the passing of her mother.

A resignation was accepted from Carrie Otterman from the positions of junior high cheer coach and high school assistant cheer coach.

Adam Tompkins was approved as boys' junior high track coach and Jill Kelso as girls' junior high track coach. Mike Jones, Julie Walton, Doug Bridges, and Rebecca Craney were approved as junior high softball volunteers.

In other business, the board appointed Brenda Edwards to finish the term of Donna Graber on Loogootee Public Library Board. The term lasts until July 2013.

Elementary West Principal Laura Mattingly gave her monthly report to the board. She reported that the second grade held their musical program in the auditorium on February 17. The students participated in Hearts for Riley Campaign during Valentine week and Mrs. Smith's fourth grade class collected the most money and will be rewarded with a pizza party. \$1,201.38 was collected school-wide which qualifies West as a Miracle School – for collecting at least one dollar for every student. Mrs. Mattingly also reported that ISTEP testing will begin on February 28 for third and fourth grade students.

High school principal John Mullen reported that speaker Jim Williams spoke to the fifth and sixth graders recently about bullying. Mr. Mullen reported that Tri-Kappa donated funds to the Intermediate Math Bowl team, coached by Tim Sanders, for the purchase of calculators and also funds for competition expense. Carson Rayhill placed second in the recent county spelling bee. Wynter Wagoner was named girls' All-Conference basketball. Jessica Padgett signed on to play softball at St. Mary's of the Woods College.

## Church looks to help less fortunate children

New Beginnings Community Church in Loogootee has started a ministry to help provide new underwear and socks for less fortunate school-age children.

The "New U.S. Ministry" was started because according to Pastor Ernie Canell the church saw that this need was not being met by any other church or organization.

The church is asking for any donations of new, unopened packages of underwear and socks of all sizes and for both boys and girls. Current drop-off locations are Printing Express and New Beginnings Church, both on West Main Street in Loogootee; Wabash Valley Transportation in Shoals, and Shear Perfection in Loogootee.

More locations will be added in the future.

The church is planning a bi-monthly or monthly regular distribution and then once the ministry is established, a back-to-school distribution in the fall.

For more information, contact Shirley Canell at 812-709-2525 or Ernie Canell at 812-709-0258.

# METH LABS

(Continued from page one)

labs quadrupled from 2008 to 2009 going from two to 10. 11 were seized in 2010.

Daviess County has had 187 total meth labs discovered with their numbers almost tripling from 2009 to 2010. The police took down nine labs in 2009 and 25 in 2010.

Dubois County had 71 meth labs shut down over the last 10 years with only six last year – down from 12 the year before.

Orange County had 86 seized meth labs from 2000-2010 and only saw nine exposed in the last two years.

Overall, the state police saw 1,346 incidents of meth labs in 2010, the highest numbers seized in the months of March, April, and September. The total number was comparable to the year before at 1,343 but back in 1995 there were only six seized. The number slowly rose over the next five years and by 2003 there were over 1,000 found.

The Indiana State Police arrested 1,212 people as a result of meth lab incidents in 2010. In 1995, that number was only 6 and in 2009, there were 1,031 arrests.

The number of children found in the mist of meth lab operations has also increased substantially over the last 10 years. Last year the ISP identified 270 children, up from 185 in 2009. The increase from 2007 to 2010 was 117 percent.

The counties indicated by the Indiana State Police as the top ten for meth lab seizures are, from one to ten, Vanderburgh, Kosciusko, Noble, Elkhart, Decatur, Bartholomew, Jennings, Marshall, Posey, and Dekalb.

Senate Bill 503 works to curb the manufacturing of methamphetamines by tracking the statewide sales of cold and allergy medications containing precursors to the illegal drug and preventing purchases exceeding certain limits.

"Methamphetamine crime is at an all-time high," State Sen. Ed Charbonneau (R-Valparaiso) said. Charbonneau is co-author of the bill. "A key to winning the war against this narcotic is to prevent meth cooks from purchasing medications with the intent of converting them into illegal drugs. A meth-check system could also help law enforcement gather intelligence so they can locate and dismantle labs and arrest criminals."

Current efforts to curb meth manufacturing and use include tightly restricting the amounts of pseudo-ephedrine products that can be purchased and securing the items behind pharmacy counters.

"At this point, pharmacies are tracking the sales of these products, but they are unable to communicate with each other," Charbonneau said. "By using a system in Indiana where all retailers are connected and share information, we can stop meth cooks that

## DECLARATION

### Highway Emergency Declaration

Please be advised that due to weather related conditions of the county roads, the Board of Martin County Commissioners have declared a state of highway emergency in Martin County that will apply to all highways in Martin County under the jurisdiction of the County Commissioners until further notice. There is now a weight limit imposed of 20,000 pounds. Fines of not less than \$100 or more than \$500 for the first conviction and not less than \$500 but not more than \$1,000 for subsequent convictions shall be issued to the operator for the infractions. These regulations do not apply to motor vehicles and equipment used for crucial farming transportation. This declaration is effective immediately.

Dated this 18th day of February, 2011.

currently go to store after store each time buying their legal limits."

Under SB 503, Hoosier retailers at the time of the transaction will input data about the sales of nonprescription cough, cold and allergy medications containing ephedrine or pseudo-ephedrine into a real-time logging system - the National Precursor Log Exchange (NPLEx). Information on the system, administered by the National Association of Drug Diversion Investigators at no costs to states, is transmitted instantly to a database for review by other pharmacies and law enforcement.

When transactions exceed amounts set by state or federal law - currently 3.6 grams in one day or 9 grams in a 30-day period - messages are instantly sent to retailers recommending denial of sales, Charbonneau said. Retailers in Indiana would then block the sales of pseudo-ephedrine products to meth cooks.

SB 503 can now move to the House of Representatives for consideration.

## Donations needed for Riley Cancer Center Prom

Many children battling cancer do not have the opportunity to participate in normal childhood activities like spring dances and proms. They may look different than their friends, or not feel like socializing. The Riley Cancer Center Prom is an evening to forget about things like surgery and chemotherapy and to celebrate with friends and family.

Each patient is provided with a new party outfit, complete with accessories, to wear that night. Your help is needed to make this possible. Items must be new or gently used; freshly dry-cleaned items are preferred.

Girls: dresses: will accept all sizes but most needed: toddler through girls' size 16, and women's size 22 and above; shoes: new flip flops, fancy slippers or gently used dress shoes in all sizes; accessories: boas, bags and bling! Feather boas, small evening bags, costume jewelry, fancy hair clips, fabric headbands, scarves and more!

Boys: suits: need all sizes-jackets, pants, dress shirts, and ties. Tuxedos welcome, not required; shoes: new or gently used shoes.; hats: top hats.

Donations may be sent to Riley Children's Foundation, 30 S. Meridian Street, Indianapolis, IN 45204. For questions, call 877-867-4539. The foundation would like to have all donations by the beginning of March to allow time for dry cleaning and outfit selection. The prom will be held the first weekend in May.

## Humane Society PETS OF THE WEEK



The Martin County Humane Society has these two cute little puppies up for adoption; they are both female, around 12 weeks old, they are mixed with Boston terrier, Jack Russell, and beagle. If interested in one of these pups, call Don at 812-296-0952.

The humane society is having a soup and sandwich benefit for the humane society on March 26. There will be an auction along with this dinner that will include a lot of nice items: signed items from Paula Deen, Dr Phil, Tony Stewart, Ryan Newman, Brad Keselowski, Jack Butcher, VIP tickets to the Dr Phil and The Doctors' show. Also, a very nice filing cabinet, 3x5 feet; a new rocker recliner, tool set, Longaberger baskets, new ceiling fan, new Nike youth baseball mitt, and there are a lot of items not listed yet, and new items added weekly. If you would like to donate a new item for this auction, call Don at 812-296-0952 or Courtney at 812-259-4309

Happy Birthday!

**ALEX HUGHETT**

Turning 11 on March 1st!



We love you buddy!  
Mom, Dad, and Wyatt

## TOY'S AUTO PARTS, INC.

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## LEONA SCHILLER

Leona (Dorsam) Schiller died at 9:55 p.m. Tuesday, February 15, 2011 in the Northwood Retirement Community in Jasper. A resident of Haysville, she was 95.

LEONA  
SCHILLER

She was born December 13, 1915 in Wayne County, Illinois; the daughter of Thomas and Bertha (Whiting) Sullivan. She had two marriages; her first marriage was to Clispy Dorsam who died in an automobile accident and her second marriage was to Martin Schiller. She was a cook for Yaggi's Café in Jasper for many years and

was a member of the Christ Lutheran Church, Eastern Star #601, and WELCA.

She is survived by a daughter, Joan Harker of Alfordsville, two sons, Lowell and wife Sue Dorsam and Russell Dorsam, both of Haysville; 15 grandchildren, one step-grandson, 20 great grandchildren, one step-great grandson, one step-great-great grandson, and one great-great grandson.

She was preceded in death by six sisters, Mary Marie Sullivan, Dollie Bell Sullivan, Pauline Jones, Erma Houchins, Thelma Cunningham, and Carmen Sullivan Yoke; four brothers, James Albert Sullivan, Alfred Sullivan, Raymond Sullivan, and Ralph Sullivan.

Leona was the last surviving of 11 children.

Funeral services were held Monday, Feb-

ruary 21 in Christ Lutheran Church with burial following in the Community Center in Haysville. The Rev. Timothy Kraemer officiated.

Becher & Kluesner North Chapel in Jasper was in charge of arrangements.

Memorial contributions may be made to Christ Lutheran Church or a favorite charity.

## DAVID COX

David L. Cox died at 2:23 a.m. Thursday, February 17, 2011 at St. Vincent Dunn Hospital. A resident of Bedford, he was 73.

He was born September 9, 1937, in Martin County; the son of Berlin Cox and Mary (Riggle) Pedigo. He was a truck driver, retiring after over 37 years. He was of the Baptist faith.

Survivors include his companion of 25 years, Judy Crane of Bedford; four daugh-

ters, Crystal Rice of Minnesota, Shelby Schuck of Wisconsin, Heidi (Bill) Wagner of Bedford, and Billie Ann (Jerry) Whitis of Columbus; one son, Greg (Lora) Joyner of Bedford; four brothers, Joe (Nancy) Cox of Indianapolis, Ray (Judy) Cox of West Baden, and John (Debbie) Cox and Paul Cox, all of Bedford; 14 grandchildren; and 13 great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents; one brother; and one sister.

A funeral service were held Monday, February 21 at the Ferguson-Lee Funeral Home in Bedford with Pastor Tim Jenkins officiating. Burial was in Old Union Cemetery in Fayetteville.



I had a conversation with someone last week about the meaning of friendship – or along those lines. We were talking about how people feel the need to associate themselves with those who can up their social status and dissociate themselves with anyone who may be considered “unpopular” whether that person has done anything wrong to them or not. I told this person that I sometimes feel like I am back in high school – but when I got to thinking about it, it really wasn't like that for me in high school. The Class of 1995 at LHS was a close-knit group. I got along with everyone and, from what I remember, there wasn't too much teasing or bullying that went on – unless I just wasn't aware of it. My family was not rich by a long shot and my family had issues that wouldn't qualify us as the great American family, but my friends never treated me any differently because of it. I guess when I say it feels like high school, what I mean is it's like what the stereotype of high school is.

I have witnessed more bullying as an adult, between adults, then I experienced through all of my years in school. I know I have talked about this before, but sometimes I sit and wonder why people feel this intense, overpowering need to “fit in”. I don't understand why it matters so much. It doesn't to me but maybe I'm just strange. I would never choose my friends this way – and I teach my children the same thing. The only necessary reason to separate yourself from someone in your life, in my opinion, is if they have done something to hurt you or a member of your family or maybe a close friend. Disliking and openly criticizing someone based on something you hear about that person is just wrong and anyone who is guilty of that should be ashamed of themselves. These people are the reason why bullying is alive and well in our schools. If the parents feel this is okay, obviously that rubs off on their children and the cycle never ceases.

Sometimes, at sporting events, I have watched people. Those who are considered by some to be a part of the “in crowd” will be approached by the “in crowd wannabe” and it is like watching someone approach a celebrity. Sometimes that member of the “in-crowd” acts aloof and disinterested in the person standing there and the whole scene just makes me sad. Sure, there are a few people who I consider to be “celebrities” in our community – Jack Butcher is one, but he deserves to be. Usually a city mayor is considered a celebrity – even though Don Bowling is as down to earth as you can get. The sheriff is sometimes treated as a celebrity and maybe the judge or other elected officials. These people deserve this status – they've earned it. Others have done nothing special at all.

My grandma, Moomie, told me to treat others like I want to be treated. Since I thought the world of that woman I abided by that and will continue to do so for the rest of my life. Will that get me labeled as unpopular? I don't really care.

## ~LETTERS TO THE EDITOR~

## ‘As lawmakers, we are approached from all sides of the energy debate’

To the editor of the *Martin County Journal*,

Among his many bold visions for Indiana, Gov. Mitch Daniels advocates a first-ever comprehensive energy policy for Hoosiers. Daniels' objectives - clean, safe, reliable and affordable energy sources making our state more self-sufficient and economically competitive - are worthy of legislators' time and talent. This year's Indiana General Assembly can help achieve these goals for consumers by supporting Senate Bill 251.

Producing and distributing energy are increasingly linked to environmental considerations. Energy costs are growing concerns for business investors and employers. Decisions we make as a state will greatly impact Indiana's competitiveness to retain and attract jobs. So, these same decisions will impact the quality of life and cost of living for generations of Hoosiers to come.

Fortunately for us, 36 other states currently have more expensive utility rates than Indiana. In fact, energy here is more affordable for homeowners and employers than in Michigan, Illinois, and Ohio with which we compete for jobs and skilled workers every day.

So the looming questions become how we continue to promote job growth, protect our environment, and remain a lower-cost energy state.

As lawmakers, we are approached from all sides of the energy debate. Be assured, there is no shortage of opinions. Some say Indiana should abandon coal - even clean coal - as a principal fuel source and resort almost exclusively to renewable sources like wind, solar, and hydro. Others tell us renewables are unreliable, too costly, and inappropriate for large commercial consumers. Still others suggest the best answer is to promote the development of safe nuclear power. They are convinced it's clean, dependable and while expensive to build, remains the most cost-effective power source for the future.

We've listened to these disparate opinions and have concluded that a good public policy lies somewhere in the center and not at the polar extremes. That's why we're offering S.B. 251.

Our legislation encourages major invest-

ments to improve the environmental quality of generating facilities in Indiana — as opposed to taking those investments and jobs to other states. The bill rightly contains pay-as-you-go provisions to attract investment, create jobs and safeguard the environment by avoiding cost cutting on safety measures.

Senate Bill 251 recognizes and references the important roles of clean energy resources. Our bill encourages utilities to ramp-up on renewable energy - wind, solar, agriculture products and hydro power - yet it avoids imposing government mandates like high-energy cost states have unwisely done. Rather than dictating a one-size-fits-all solution, utilities can select from a menu of options to develop the best strategy for their customers, geographic area and investors.

No one special interest group or lobbyist is entirely happy with our bill and the policies it reflects. But that's okay. Sometimes that's the best signal that we, as citizen legislators, have achieved a balance among competing interests. After all, our goal is to enact long-term energy strategies that best serve the interests of Hoosiers not hired guns. We believe S.B. 251 embodies the right energy policy at the right time for the right state - Indiana.

Sen. Beverly Gard (R-Greenfield)  
Chair, Senate Committee on Energy and  
Environmental Affairs  
Sen. Brandt Hershman (R-Lafayette)  
Senate Majority Whip and  
Chair, Senate Committee on Tax & Fiscal  
Policy  
Sen. Jim Merritt (R-Indianapolis)  
Senate Majority Caucus Chair and  
Chair, Senate Committee on Utilities and  
Technology

## ‘Our Lasting Legacy’

To the editor of the *Martin County Journal*,

The Indiana House of Representatives is signaling their intent to follow Governor Mitch Daniels' lead by making large cuts to state conservation funding by slashing the Clean Water Indiana (CWI) budget by \$500,000 annually.

This literally doesn't make “cents” when you consider that Indiana's 92 Soil and Water Conservation Districts (SWCDs) used Clean Water Indiana funds to match and generate

\$96.8 million in federal, state and local dollars for conservation in 2009. These matching funds are critical to Indiana's economy and, more importantly, help address our state's natural resource concerns.

Current CWI funding represents only 15 cents per acre to protect our natural heritage on land that means billions to our state. The governor's proposed cuts will impact water quality, soil productivity, forests and wildlife in every county of our state. On average, Soil and Water Conservation Districts were able to leverage and generate an incredible \$29.90 in matching funds for conservation from every dollar of CWI funds provided by our state. It's time Governor Daniels and the House of Representatives realize there is no better return on their investment of taxpayer dollars than Clean Water Indiana funding.

Clean Water Indiana funds are vital to help Conservation Districts market, administer and implement complex conservation projects that may take years to complete. Survey and design work along with conservation planning foster participant enrollment. Cutting CWI funds greatly limits the ability of Soil and Water Conservation Districts to put conservation practices on the land.

Almost one third of Indiana land is urban. This land works for us every minute of every day in supporting our ability to create livable metropolitan areas where our air is cleaned, flooding is reduced, and our water is made safe when we allow healthy land to act as infrastructure for development. SWCDs depend on CWI funding to maintain clean water that is as important to encouraging economic development as good transportation and an educated workforce.

Agriculture provides our state with jobs, an agricultural trade surplus, and a dependable tax base for the people of Indiana. Clean Water Indiana funds insure we can provide a sustainable soil resource and a safe and abundant water supply that allows our state's largest industry, agriculture, to produce an abundance of food, feed, fiber and energy for our growing population.

Today we invest billions of dollars in Homeland Security. Is our future truly secure if we do not protect and care for our Hoosier heartland? Providing a quality environment that enriches the lives of people in ways that can't be measured will insure our young people remain at home in the Hoosier state.

There are over 23 million acres of urban, agricultural and forest land in Indiana. Indiana law has mandated that the Soil and Water Conservation Districts of Indiana fulfill the role of protecting the health and integrity of Indiana's watersheds. Governor Daniels and some legislators want to cut back on our commitment to our state's natural resources that provide us with a healthy place to live and grow.

Today we are at the crossroads of our state's conservation legacy. May our elected leaders use foresight and wisdom in keeping our promise to future generations.

Ray McCormick  
President, Indiana Association of Soil  
and Water Conservation Districts  
Vincennes

**VOTE KAREN A. HICKMAN**  
for **Loogootee City Council District 3**

- As a one time commuter back and forth for years, I know the desperate need to bring companies to Loogootee, so that we may create a business friendly environment that will attract all different ideas to our community.
- Being a mother and grandmother, I can see that our children and grandchildren do not have a variety of choices in activities locally. I feel it is important that we should build new, safe attractions for our children, or maintain, re-build or add to some of the attractions we have now.
- Crime and graffiti are something all of us cannot tolerate; it brings our community down. To resolve this, we must make a stand even harder on the criminals at fault. We have a good police force in Loogootee and I am sure they do their best to bring justice to the violators. It must continue to not get out of control.

I may not have all the answers or ideas but I do have the ears  
and the voice for the residents of Loogootee.

**Your Vote is Sincerely Appreciated!**

-Paid for by Karen Hickman for Loogootee City Council District 3

# Martin County Sheriff's Department log

## Tuesday, February 15

3:01 p.m. - A female caller advised of a problem earlier in the day with a neighbor's dogs and the dogs have returned.

3:12 p.m. - Received a harassment complaint from a female in Shoals.

3:16 p.m. - Received a report of a theft.

3:48 p.m. - Received a report of a property damage accident in Loogootee.

4:04 p.m. - Received a report of a yard fire in Loogootee.

4:42 p.m. - Received a report of a suspicious person on Spring Hill Road.

6:21 p.m. - A female caller advised that dogs are running loose and harassing and injuring her livestock in the area of South Martin.

6:31 p.m. - Received a report of a house fire on U.S. 150 near the intersection of Windom Road.

7:00 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Shoals. No transport was necessary.

7:20 p.m. - Received a call from someone wanting assistance retrieving personal property.

8:24 p.m. - Received a report of a deer accident on U.S. 231, near West Boggs Park.

9:08 p.m. - Received a report of harassment.

9:16 p.m. - A male caller near Shoals reported that a female had damaged the transmission of his car.

11:06 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance on Boat Club Lane. The subject was transported to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

11:28 p.m. - Received a report of a domestic dispute in Shoals.

## Wednesday, February 16

1:38 a.m. - Received a request for assistance retrieving personal belongings from earlier domestic dispute.

2:15 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance on Hindostan Falls Road. The subject was transported to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

6:19 a.m. - A male caller requested an officer contact him about items stolen from his property.

8:11 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Trinity Springs. The subject was transported to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

9:00 a.m. - A caller advised of a controlled burn on Bear Hill Road.

9:45 a.m. - A caller advised of a controlled burn on South Railroad Street in Shoals.

2:14 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance on Rutherford Road. The subject was transported to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

3:00 p.m. - A female caller requested to speak to an officer about the theft of her dog and problems with a daughter.

4:03 p.m. - Received a request for assistance in retrieving personal property.

Unknown time - Received a call about a dog complaint.

9:00 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. The subject was transported to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

9:26 p.m. - Received information regarding underage drinking in Shoals.

10:57 p.m. - Received a report of a grass fire just off of U.S. 231, north of Loogootee.

## Thursday, February 17

9:00 a.m. - Received a request for a boat inspection on Mill Road.

9:46 a.m. - Received a report of possible fraud.

1:16 p.m. - Received report of a theft from a grave.

3:30 p.m. - Received a call about tree across the roadway on Peggy Hollow Rd.

3:45 p.m. - Received two complaints about log trucks on Mill Road tearing up the roadway.

7:05 p.m. - Received a report of an open door at a business in Shoals.

11:50 p.m. - Received a commercial burglar alarm on Ziegler Road.

## Friday, February 18

12:24 a.m. - Received a report of a drive

off and theft of gasoline at Marathon station in Shoals.

8:00 a.m. - Received a complaint about log trucks in the area of Mt. Calvary Road and Wood School Road damaging the roadway.

8:35 a.m. - Received a request for assistance with a locked vehicle in Loogootee.

9:00 a.m. - Received a complaint about dogs running loose in Doane's Trailer Court.

9:05 a.m. - Received a complaint about log trucks on Mill Road.

9:26 a.m. - A male caller advised he has been having problems with a neighbor's dog bothering his livestock and when he confronted the owner he was threatened.

9:27 a.m. - Received a complaint about dogs running loose in Doane's Trailer Court.

10:57 a.m. - Received a report of a speeding and erratic driver, southbound on U.S. 231, south of Loogootee, nearing the Whitfield area.

11:07 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Shoals. The subject was transported to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

11:32 a.m. - Received a report of an erratic driver on U.S. 50, westbound from U.S. Gypsum.

11:48 a.m. - A female caller reported a theft

12:43 p.m. - A female came on station to report threatening text messages.

12:53 p.m. - An appraiser advised that he had been threatened last year at a property in Martin County and that he is going back to the property and wants an officer to be around in case there are any problems.

1:30 p.m. - Received a report of a piece of bumper in the westbound lane on U.S. 50, just west of half mile curve.

1:40 p.m. - Received a complaint from a subject on Rama Dye Road that an unauthorized subject was on a neighbor's property without permission.

2:15 p.m. - A female caller advised of a dispute in Doane's Trailer Court.

2:34 p.m. - A female caller advised that a subject was attempting to start a dispute with her at a business in Shoals.

2:35 p.m. - A female caller reported that a stray dog had gotten into the shed at her parent's residence and would not let her enter the building.

4:52 p.m. - Received a report that a semi had lost its tire at Max Warren's Curve on U.S. 50.

10:19 p.m. - Received a noise complaint in Shoals.

## Saturday, February 19

8:06 a.m. - Received a report of several abandoned dogs at a trailer in the Shoals area.

8:25 a.m. - Received a request for a vehicle check on Lumpkin Road.

10:06 a.m. - Received a report of harassment.

10:10 a.m. - A subject came on station for a vehicle check.

10:44 a.m. - Received another call about a loose goat in the Cale and Mt. Olive Road area.

11:03 a.m. - Received a report of dogs chasing livestock in the South Martin Road area.

1:28 p.m. - A subject came on station to report a deer accident that occurred last night.

2:33 p.m. - Received a report of a truck on fire on Graded Road.

2:53 p.m. - Received a report of a field fire on Boyd Hollow Road.

3:59 p.m. - Received a report of a field fire on Hawkins Cemetery Lane.

4:20 p.m. - Received a call from a subject reporting that she had a dog tied up that had been chasing her cats.

4:25 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. The subject was transported to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

11:15 p.m. - Received a report of a possible impaired driver on U.S. 231, north of Haysville.

## Sunday, February 20

1:55 a.m. - Received a report of a subject in dark clothing walking south on U.S. 231 from Webb Road.

10:54 a.m. - Received a report of a theft in Shoals.

1:04 p.m. - A male caller reported a neighbor cutting trees on his property.

2:50 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance on E 150N.

3:00 p.m. - Received a call from a subject advising that she had found a lost dog.

3:41 p.m. - A female called with information on stolen property.

3:45 p.m. - Received a complaint of four wheelers on Mt. Pleasant Road traveling at high rates of speed.

8:52 p.m. - Received a call about a deer in the roadway on U.S. 150 near Rusk Road.

9:30 p.m. - Received a request for a welfare check on children on Indian Springs Road.

10:53 p.m. - A female caller advised she had been threatened by a male subject.

## Monday, February 21

3:07 a.m. - Received a report of a possible impaired driver on U.S. 231, northbound from Whitfield.

6:56 a.m. - Received a report of a speeding and erratic driver on U.S. 50, eastbound from Huron. Lawrence County was contacted.

8:15 a.m. - A male subject came on station to speak to an officer about unauthorized control of his vehicle.

8:46 a.m. - Received a report of a property damage accident on U.S. 231, two miles south of Loogootee. It ended up being a stranded vehicle.

9:33 a.m. - Received a report of log trucks tearing up Mill Road.

9:40 a.m. - Received a report of a stolen television.

1:50 p.m. - Received a request for assistance unlocking a vehicle in Loogootee.

2:27 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. No transport was necessary.

2:49 p.m. - Received a report of a stranded motorist on S.R. 450, north of Trinity Springs.

Unknown time - A report was received of a tree across the roadway on County Farm Road, just off of S.R. 450.

Unknown time - A request was received for a vehicle check in Shoals.

4:05 p.m. - Received a commercial burglar alarm on Ziegler Road.

4:08 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. The subject was transported to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

4:54 p.m. - Received a report of a reckless driver on Windom Road.

7:44 p.m. - Received a report of a suspicious subject on the caller's property.

7:46 p.m. - A female caller advised of a property dispute.

8:13 p.m. - A female caller reported dogs running free in the South Martin area and harassing livestock.

8:24 p.m. - A female caller advised her estranged husband was breaking a protective order.

## Jail bookings

### Sunday, February 20

12:53 p.m. - Jerrad VanMeter, 18, of Loogootee, was arrested and charged with operator never licensed.

9:40 p.m. - Ryan Wiscaver, 22, of Washington, was arrested on a Martin County warrant.

### Tuesday, February 22

12:00 a.m. - Bridget Staggs, 28, of Shoals was arrested and charged with escape.

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# Loogootee Police log

## Monday, February 14

1:28 p.m. - First responders requested on Mt. Calvary Road for an unresponsive female.

8:59 p.m. - Female reported a possible phone scam.

9:35 p.m. - Female reported a green Mustang traveling at a high rate of speed on Broadway Street. Information was later given to the Martin County Sheriff's Department.

## Tuesday, February 15

10:59 a.m. - Female reported a suspicious person walking around her residence. The person was a meter reader.

4:05 p.m. - Martin County Sheriff's Department reported a small fire in the backyard at 207 Queen Street. Loogootee Fire was dispatched.

## Wednesday, February 16

8:13 a.m. - Caller reported dogs running loose near Sunset Trailer Court. Chief Rayhill was unable to locate any dogs.

10:00 a.m. - Brittany Davis, of Loogootee, reported a theft from her residence. Chief Rayhill filed a case report.

2:00 p.m. - Female came on station to report a battery involving a juvenile. Child Protective Services was notified. Chief Rayhill was investigating officer.

4:20 p.m. - Male caller reported locating drug paraphernalia on the street near his residence. Sgt. Hennette took possession of the item.

6:54 p.m. - Female came on station requesting to speak to an officer regarding her unruly child.

7:05 p.m. - Anonymous person reported illegal burning on Riley Street.

9:14 p.m. - First responders requested on

East Broadway for a female who had fallen.

11:57 p.m. - Martin County Sheriff's Department reported a fire on US 231 North. Loogootee Fire was dispatched.

## Thursday, February 18

1: 54 p.m. - Female caller reported loose dogs on Church Street.

3:04 p.m. - Martin County Sheriff's Department reported a brush fire just outside the Crane gate. Loogootee Fire was dispatched.

4:29 p.m. - Male caller reported trash falling from a vehicle and the driver did not stop to get it. Officer Nolan picked up the trash and disposed of it.

4:36 p.m. - Martin County Sheriff's Department reported a field fire near Eastgate. Loogootee Fire was dispatched.

6:16 p.m. - Officer Nolan responded to a business alarm on Broadway Street.

9:16 p.m. - Male caller reported a lost or stolen dog on West Washington Street. The dog had an incision on the side of the head.

## Friday, February 19

6:52 a.m. - A male came on station to report a child custody issue.

10:19 a.m. - Capt. Akles responded to a residential alarm on SW 2nd Street.

5:14 p.m. - Caller reported his brother had damaged his vehicle parked on Queen Street. Capt Akles responded.

## Saturday, February 20

6:21 p.m. - Male caller reported a parking complaint near the VFW. Sgt. Norris responded.

8:05 p.m. - Caller reported a fire on the side of Bloomfield Road. Loogootee Fire was dispatched.

8:50 p.m. - Caller reported a lost or stolen license plate.

## Indiana State Police to participate in impaired driver crackdown

Beginning Friday, March 4 troopers from the Indiana State Police, Jasper District will join more than 250 other Indiana law enforcement agencies across the Hoosier state in the "Drunk Driving. Over the Limit. Under Arrest," March crackdown on impaired and dangerous driving.

Through March 20, officers will work overtime to conduct high-visibility enforcement activities designed specifically to identify impaired drivers. Motorists will also see an increased number of patrols looking for aggressive drivers and unrestrained motorists during the 17-day mobilization.

In March 2009, there were 41 fatalities on Indiana roadways. Of these, 24 percent involved a driver who was legally intoxicated. According to the Indiana Criminal Justice Institute, alcoholic beverages continue to be a primary factor in more than one-third of alcohol related collisions in the state of Indiana.

Operation Pull Over Blitz 66 is a statewide enforcement effort supported by federal funding allocated to the Indiana State Police from the Traffic Safety Division of the Indiana Criminal Justice Institute. The Indiana State Police is committed to reducing serious personal injury and fatality crashes on Hoosier roadways. Operation Pull Over and similar federally funded traffic safety projects are additional tools the Indiana State Police will employ as part of their ongoing crash reduction effort.

We all share the roadways and we all share responsibility in doing our part to make the highways safer. Anyone who observes erratic driving is encouraged to call 911 and be prepared to give as much detailed information as possible such as color and make of vehicle, license plate number, which roadway being traveled, and direction of travel. Callers can remain anonymous.

To learn more, visit [www.StopImpairedDriving.org](http://www.StopImpairedDriving.org).

# Martin County court news

*Persons listed on criminal charges are innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.*

## CRIMINAL COURT

### New charges filed

#### February 2

Juan L. Terry, possession of methamphetamine, a Class D Felony; unlawful possession or use of a legend drug, a Class D Felony; maintaining a common nuisance, a Class D Felony.

#### February 11

Floyd D. Sollman, operating a vehicle with a blood alcohol content of .08 or more, a Class C Misdemeanor.

#### February 14

Nathan K. Baker, possession of marijuana, a Class A Misdemeanor.

David Shane Lents, two counts of intimidation, Class D Felonies; domestic battery, a Class A Misdemeanor; battery resulting in bodily injury, a Class A Misdemeanor.

Terry L. Clark, possession of methamphetamine, a Class D Felony; driving while suspended, a Class A Misdemeanor.

#### February 16

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

## CRIMINAL CONVICTIONS AND SENTENCING

### February 14

Brett P. Mattingly, convicted of battery resulting in bodily injury, a Class A Misdemeanor. Sentenced to serve 365 days in the Martin County Security Center with 365 days suspended. Defendant received one year of probation.

Ernest L. Cullison, convicted of operating a vehicle with a blood alcohol content of .15 or more, a Class A Misdemeanor. Sentenced to serve 365 days in the Martin County Se-

curity Center with 363 days suspended. Defendant received one year of probation.

## CIVIL COURT

### New Suits Filed

#### February 9

John M. Twigg vs. Sharon L. Twigg, petition for dissolution of marriage.

#### February 11

Caleb A. Sanders vs. Nicholas C. Dougherty, civil tort.

Mandy Jo Meyer vs. Daniel L. Meyer, petition for dissolution of marriage.

Donald Wells vs. Deborah Wells, legal separation.

#### February 14

Portfolio Recovery Associates, LLC vs. Wendy Banks, civil collection.

## SMALL CLAIMS COURT

### New Suit Filed

#### February 11

Donald and Phyllis Witt vs. Tim and Jennifer Witt, complaint.

#### February 14

G&M Auto Service, Inc. vs. Kent Smith, complaint.

G&M Auto Service, Inc. vs. Stephanie Erwin, complaint.

G&M Auto Service, Inc. vs. Jessie D. Sergeant, complaint.

## SMALL CLAIMS JUDGMENTS

### February 16

Judgment in favor of the plaintiff, Family Dental Care, PC, and against the defendant, Adrian Arvin, in the amount of \$342.30.

## TRAFFIC TICKETS PAID

### February 9 - February 15

Howard Overton, Loogootee, speeding 65 in a 50; alteration by local authority; school.

## MARRIAGE LICENSES

### February 15

William M. Hamblin of Shoals and Heather L. McCarty of Shoals.

## Martin County real estate transfers

**Deirdree Ann Sanders, formally Deirdree Ann Harty**, of Martin County, Indiana to **Merrill A. Bateman**, of Martin County, Indiana, a part of the Southeast Quarter of the Northwest Quarter of Section 24, Township 3 North, Range 4 West, containing .22 acres, more or less.

**Frances L. Swayze, unremarried widow of Richard Swayze**, of Martin County, Indiana to **Leah D. Payne and Eric King**, of Martin County, Indiana, a part of the east half of the Northeast Quarter of the Southwest Quarter all in Section 10, Township 3 North, Range 4 West, Center Township, Martin County, Indiana, and containing 11.10 acres, more or less. More commonly known as 14452 Dover Hill Road, Loogootee, IN 47553.

**William B. Bryan and Barbara L. Bryan, and William B. Bryan, trustee of the William B. Bryan Exempt Trust** to

**Tim W. Moffatt and Bill J. Moffatt**, a part of Section 1, Township 1 North, Range 3 West, situated in Lost River Township, Martin County, Indiana, and containing 107.06 acres, more or less.

**Robert Stuckey a/k/a Robert D. Stuckey and Jean Stuckey a/k/a Verna Jean Stuckey**, of Vanderburgh County, Indiana to **Robert M. Stuckey**, of Madison County, Illinois and **David A. Stuckey**, of Vanderburgh County, Indiana, a part of the Southeast Quarter of the Southwest Quarter of Section 36, Township 4 North, Range 5 West, Perry Township, Martin County, Indiana, containing 1.772 acres, more or less.

**Mary Ruth Larkin**, of Martin County, Indiana to **Merle E. Simmerman II and Rebecca L. Simmerman**, of Martin County, Indiana, a tract of land in Section 19, Township 3 North, Range 4 West.

## Martin County accident reports

### Tuesday, February 15

3:48 p.m. - Cody C. Hornaday was operating a 1993 Honda eastbound on West Broadway when a vehicle in front slowed and was turning left onto John C. Strange Street. Josh T. Lottes was operating a 2005 Chevy and was in front of the Hornaday vehicle. Lottes was able to get stopped however Hornaday was unable to get stopped and struck the rear of the Lottes vehicle. No injuries were reported. Chief Rayhill was the investigating officer.

### Friday, February 18

3:06 p.m. - Eldon Pease, 67, of Evansville was eastbound on U.S. 150, just east of Fairview Lane, driving a motorcycle when he stated a glare obstructed his view. This caused Pease to go off the right side of the roadway. The motorcycle then hit loose gravel and Pease laid the motorcycle down. He complained of pain in his rib area and was transported by ambulance to Memorial Hospital and Healthcare Center. Pease's 1997 Harley Davidson sustained

damage to several areas of the motorcycle. The investigating officer was Corporal Keith Keller.

7:00 p.m. - Richard Emmons, 77, of Shoals, was westbound on U.S. 150, east of Pan Handle Road when a deer ran into the roadway. Emmons' vehicle struck the deer causing damage to the hood and grill of his 2000 Mercury Sable. The investigating officer was Corporal Keith Keller.

### Saturday, February 19

2:36 p.m. - Jesse Sowders, Jr. was northbound on U.S. 231 at County Road 100S when he stated glare obstructed his view. Sowders failed to see a vehicle in front of him stopped in traffic waiting to turn onto 100S. Sowders attempted to stop in time but was unable to. Sowders' semi and trailer hit the rear of the vehicle driven by Mark Roach. Sowders' vehicle was able to be driven from the scene. Roach's 1998 Jeep Grand Cherokee was towed from the scene. The investigating officer was Corporal Keith Keller.

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## Indiana company receives contract for work on I-69

Winter continues to rumble through Indiana, however, spring and the approaching construction season is in the air. Walsh Construction Company of LaPorte was recently named low bidder for the \$98.8 million construction project on I-69 in Daviess County.

The contract is for new road construction beginning just north of the White River Bridges up to and including the new interchange at U.S. 50. This new interchange will provide a critical access point which will support continued growth and development in southwest Indiana. Larry Haag, Mayor of the City of Washington, stated "Washington has been diligently working to prepare for the advent of I-69 and the many economic opportunities it will provide." Haag went on to say "We are proposing several improvements near the U.S. 50 interchange that will allow the community to capitalize upon economic growth, address vehicle and pedestrian safety, housing infrastructure and facilities, community infrastructure and commercial development."

In October 2009 Governor Daniels announced the accelerated schedules for the design and construction of I-69 from I-64 to U.S. 231 near Crane. Samuel Sarvis, Deputy Commissioner of Major Programs stated "Completing the corridor from Evansville to Crane by the end of 2012 is a very aggressive schedule, but we are confident we will accomplish this task."

"We look forward to completing this vital connection that will serve as a catalyst for economic growth and opportunity for southwest Indiana and the rest of the state."

INDOT is required to allow all qualified companies to bid on all contracts, without consideration to their geographical location. Federal guidelines prohibit geographic discrimination when awarding projects developed with federal funds. To date, ten of the thirteen construction contracts awarded for Sections 1 through 3 have been won by Indiana firms as the lowest bids.

Construction on this contract is anticipated to begin this spring. "We are excited to see construction underway throughout Daviess County and other locations along the corridor" stated Haag. "City and county officials have been working closely with INDOT to do whatever we can to ensure that the needs of the residents of our community are met as this interstate becomes a reality. We may never see this kind of opportunity again in our lifetime."

I-69 is part of Governor Mitch Daniels' Major Moves highway program, capitalizing on Indiana's strategic location as the Crossroads of America by improving and expanding road infrastructure in support of a stronger economy and greater mobility for all.

## Senate approves plan to reduce Indiana foreclosures

Last Thursday, the Indiana Senate approved legislation to encourage alternative foreclosure solutions and further reduce the number of residential foreclosures experienced by Indiana homeowners. Senate Bill (SB) 582, authored by State Senator Karen Tallian (D-Portage), would allow homeowners to work out new payment arrangements with lenders to avoid foreclosure.

SB 582 passed out of the Senate by a vote of 50-0 and is now eligible for consideration by the House of Representatives.

Specifically, this legislation would increase notice to homeowners of their right to a settlement conference with their lender. Currently, only two notices are provided to homeowners regarding access to foreclosure prevention programs and their right to a settlement package. A third notice, proposed by SB 582, would come directly from the court,

informing the homeowner of their right to a face-to-face negotiation with their lender.

"Contact from the court has been the most successful means of notification for the counties that have implemented it," Tallian said. "Making it mandatory throughout the state will increase the opportunities for all Hoosiers to be aware and take advantage of the options available to avoid foreclosure."

In addition, the bill would allow a judge to make a determination of modified mortgage payments, not exceeding the homeowner's monthly rate and based upon their ability to pay, for the homeowner to yield to a special fund as a means for avoiding foreclosure.

For more information on Sen. Tallian, her legislative agenda or other State Senate business call 1-800-382-9467 or visit [www.senatedemocrats.in.gov](http://www.senatedemocrats.in.gov).

## Senate legislation eliminating conflicts of interest in local government moves to the House

Senate lawmakers approved by a vote 38-11 legislation aimed at removing conflicts of interest that arise when local government employees serve on the city or county council or in other elected offices that oversee their agencies.

Senate Bill 166, co-authored by Sen. Scott Schneider (R-Indianapolis), provides that employees of a county, city, town or township automatically retire if they are elected to an executive or legislative office that oversees the agency where they work.

"Allowing a public employee to serve as an elected official and make decisions on setting budgets and operations that they directly benefit from is an obvious conflict of interest," Schneider said. "By making this change in our state law, legislator can increase public trust."

Schneider's bill allows employees who

are currently serving or are elected in this fall's municipal elections to serve out their term of office without having to leave their job. The legislation does not prohibit an employee of a local government unit from holding another elected office as long as it does not have direct oversight for their agency budget and operations, Schneider said.

Schneider said Gov. Mitch Daniels in January outlined the need for legislation like this in his 2011 State of the State Address.

"The conflict of interest when double-dipping government workers simultaneously sit on city or county councils, interrogating their own supervisors and deciding their own salaries, must end," Daniels said in his address.

SB 166 now moves to the House of Representatives for further consideration.

## The Messmer Report By District 63 State Representative Mark Messmer



Unanimous votes to fulfill the Strengthen Indiana Plan

Three bills that will help directly fulfill our goals in the Strengthen Indiana plan were passed through the House on their third and final reading this week in a bi-partisan effort. House Bills 1005, 1006, and 1008 will, respectively, help revitalize hard hit communities, promote job creation, and improve access to capital.

HB 1005 will provide a renewed focus on re-incentivizing the use of existing facilities to help revitalize hard hit communities. The bill will lower the interior square footage threshold from at least 250,000 sq. ft. to 25,000 sq. ft. regardless of a county's population, to allow for the rehabilitation tax credit if allowed by the Indiana Economic Development Corporation (IEDC). In addition, it will lower the vacancy threshold from 75 percent vacant for two years to 50 percent vacant for one year, and will lower the years of service the facility must have been in service from 20 years to 15 years. By lowering the thresholds on many of the requirements to use existing facilities businesses will be encouraged to make use of these 'dinosaur buildings'. HB 1005 passed the House in a unanimous vote.

The second bill of note, HB 1006, will require the Secretary of State's office to set up a one-stop-shop website for entrepreneurs and small businesses to register. There are currently multiple forms and state agencies that businesses must register with. There is no doubt that it can be confusing to start a business; HB 1006 will make it a simpler and easier process. The bill will also require the Indiana Department of Education, in conjunction with the Commission for Higher Education (CHE) and the Indiana Economic Development Corporation,

to develop curriculum guides for high school entrepreneurship classes based on successful entrepreneurship practices. As well as require the CHE to examine entrepreneurship programs in state universities.

Small business start-ups account for 74 percent of all new jobs and we want to encourage start-up companies by making the process simpler and easier for business owners while also increasing entrepreneurial know-how. HB1006 passed the House unanimously and will go to the Senate for further consideration.

Finally, the last bill that passed the House this week as part of the Strengthen Indiana Plan was HB 1008. It will allow the Venture Capital Investment tax credit program to improve access to capital for fast growing Indiana companies by providing individual and corporate investors an additional incentive to invest in early stage firms. To accomplish this, the bill will increase the amount of tax credits available for investment in a qualified Indiana business from \$500,000 to \$1,000,000. HB 1008 will also suspend, for two years, the \$200 application fee a business must pay to become a qualified Indiana business. The bill passed the House unanimously, as well.

The House Ways and Means Committee released a proposed budget for fiscal years 2012-2013 at the end of the week. The budget is positive for job creation in Indiana. We did not increase taxes on Hoosiers, which will provide a more predictable environment for business owners to grow and expand. I will be sure to update you more next week on the details of the budget.

I have appreciated your feedback on the many issues we are discussing at the Statehouse, and I encourage you to continue sending your thoughts and comments.

## Consumers invited to submit comments Duke Energy project cost recovery plan

Consumers are invited to comment on Duke Energy's request for approval of a revised cost estimate for its coal gasification power plant under construction in Edwardsport.

The Indiana Office of Utility Consumer Counselor (OUCC) - the state agency representing consumer interests in all cases before the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission (IURC) - is accepting written consumer comments for the case record. The OUCC also encourages consumers to attend either of the IURC's upcoming public field hearings in this case:

Monday, February 28, 2011: Columbus North High School Auditorium (1400 25th St., Columbus.)

Tuesday, March 1, 2011: Kokomo Event Center (1500 N. Reed Rd., Kokomo.)

The public comment portion at each field hearing will begin at 6 p.m. local time.

Sworn oral and written comments regarding the case will be accepted during the field hearings.

Oral and written consumer comments carry equal weight, and will become part of the official evidentiary record considered by the IURC in reaching its final decision.

Commissioners are not permitted to answer consumer questions during the formal field hearings. (However, OUCC and IURC staff will be available before, during and after the hearings.)

An OUCC informational session on the regulatory process and public field hearing procedures will start at 5:30 p.m. each evening.

Duke Energy is building a 630-megawatt generating facility in Edwardsport, Indiana that will produce electricity by using integrated gasification combined cycle (IGCC)

technology to convert coal into a synthetic gas and remove emissions from the gas before it is burned.

When proposed in 2006, the Edwardsport project had an estimated cost of \$1.985 billion which has since been revised to \$2.35 billion. In this proceeding, Duke Energy is seeking IURC permission to increase the cost estimate to \$2.88 billion and recover those costs from its Indiana ratepayers over the long term.

The OUCC filed testimony in July 2010 expressing serious concerns about the project's rising costs and recommending that they be capped at an amount significantly lower than \$2.88 billion. A settlement agreement was reached among Duke Energy, the OUCC and other consumer parties in September 2010; it was withdrawn in December after communications between two members of Duke Energy's negotiating team (who are no longer with the company) and the IURC's now former chairman became public, raising concerns about the integrity of the negotiations.

Consumers throughout Duke Energy's service territory who wish to submit written comments in this case may send them to the OUCC by mail, fax or e-mail, or through the OUCC's Website:

Mail: Consumer Services Staff, Indiana Office of Utility Consumer Counselor, 115 W. Washington St., Suite 1500 South Indianapolis, IN 46204

Fax: (317) 232-5923, E-mail: [uccinfo@oucc.IN.gov](mailto:uccinfo@oucc.IN.gov), OUCC Website: [www.IN.gov/OUCC](http://www.IN.gov/OUCC)

All written comments should include the consumer's name, mailing address, and a reference to IURC Cause No. 43114-IGCC 4-S1.

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# Week in Review at the Indiana General Assembly

The General Assembly is rapidly approaching the half-way mark of the 2011 legislative session. Facing mid-session deadlines, lawmakers are working diligently to get hearings on their initiatives and move them through their respective chambers. Beginning the first week of March, the Senate will begin to review House-approved bills, and the House will begin its deliberation of bills passed by the Senate. This brief summary highlights recent action taken by the Senate and other activities at the Statehouse.

## Steelworkers' rally

Hundreds of steelworkers from around the state rallied at the Statehouse February 15th to relate to lawmakers their concerns on legislation that would negatively impact Hoosier working families. They expressed opposition to bills that would cut unemployment benefits by 25 percent and regulate internal procedures for organized labor. Labor rights advocates argue that the efforts to restrict organization by teachers, laborers and public employees now under consideration would ultimately reduce wages and lower living standards for working families.

## Township government reform

Legislation now before the full Senate would eliminate township boards in 2015 and move township budgeting authority to the county level in 2013. Senate Bill (SB) 405 specifies that county councils would become responsible for the review and approval of township budgets, and to levy township property taxes for township funds. The measure would also establish a township assistance planning board in each county to prepare countywide township assistance standards. To address transparency concerns in township operations, the measure would prohibit public meetings of a township official or governing body from being conducted in a private residence, and require each township office to include the address, phone number, and regular office hours of the office in a least one local telephone directory.

## Education issues

The House of Representatives has approved House Bill (HB) 1002 which would allow for the expansion of charter schools and virtual charter schools in Indiana. HB 1002 would expand charter school sponsors to include the mayors of second class cities and some private colleges. The bill would also require public schools to set aside transportation funds for charter schools, unless the school offers transportation for charter students. HB 1002 has already been assigned to the Senate Education and Career Development Committee.

With the push for more charter schools, the use of unoccupied public school property has come under scrutiny. SB 446 gained Senate approval and establishes a process by which charter schools may lease unused, closed, or unoccupied school buildings maintained by public school corporations for a nominal fee of \$1 per year. Following a two-year period, if a public school building remains unoccupied, it would be placed on a statewide list of all unused school buildings to be maintained and undated annually by the Department of Education. Charter schools could select a building from the list, and would be responsible for the building's direct expenses including utilities, insurance, maintenance, repairs, and remodeling. The bill now goes to the House for its review.

The House is considering HB 1003, a controversial proposal which would shift public taxpayer money to private schools through a voucher system. The proposal would redirect the state funds for a child's education at a public school to pay for tuition and fees at a private school. The bill includes a sliding scale based on the student's household income. For example, if the family qualifies for the federal free or reduced lunch program (annual income less than \$40,878 for a family of four), they could receive a voucher equal to 90 percent of the amount that the public school corpo-

ration would have received for the student. The vouchers would not be limited to low-income families, though. For a family of four with a household income of about \$80,000, the student could receive a voucher in the amount of 50 percent of the school corporation's per-pupil funding.

The Senate Appropriations committee amended and approved a measure to provide a one-time \$3,500 state scholarship for students who complete high school one year early. Under SB 497, the funding for the scholarships would be subtracted from funding that would have gone to the student's high school. The approved amendment would limit the scholarship for use at Indiana post-secondary institutions. The bill now goes before the full Senate.

## Preemption of local firearm regulations

By a vote of 38-12, the Senate approved SB 292 which would prohibit, with certain exceptions, local government regulations that ban guns on public property. Specifically, the bill would prohibit, with certain exceptions, local rules regulating any matter pertaining to firearms, ammunition, and firearm accessories. Schools, courts, and law enforcement offices would be the exceptions. Those opposing the bill emphasized public safety concerns, as guns could no longer be prohibited in public parks, hospitals or athletic facilities.

Another gun bill raising concerns is SB 506. The Senate approved the bill which would allow a person to carry a handgun without being licensed on personal property, in a vehicle or on private property with consent of the property owner. Opponents expressed concerns that the bill includes exemptions for gun licensing that are too broad. Both bills now advance to the House for further consideration.

## Criminal sentencing laws

Legislation authored by Hume aimed at reforming Indiana's criminal sentencing laws passed its first hurdle when members of the Senate Judiciary Committee advanced SB 561 to the full Senate. However, the bill now includes an amendment pushed by prosecutors that would require those convicted of more severe crimes to serve at least 85 percent of their sentence behind bars. The amendment would drastically reduce the bill's originally estimated savings of \$1.2 billion over the next several years resulting from shorter prison sentences for low-level drug and theft crimes. The original proposal is a result of a study conducted by the Pew Center on the States and the Council of State Governments which indicated that over the past eight years, the state's prison population grew at a rate three times faster than neighboring states due to lengthy prison sentences given for various crimes.

State's marijuana policies may be reviewed

A review of state policies pertaining to marijuana was approved by the Senate Committee on Corrections, Criminal and Civil Matters. SB 192 requests that the Criminal Law and Sentencing Policy Study Committee conduct the review later this year to consider the fiscal impact of state policies and make recommendations on possible alternatives. The study would complement the ongoing work to reform Indiana's criminal sentencing laws. Testimony indicated that 15 states currently have a medical marijuana program, 13 states have revised sentencing laws for marijuana, and another 12 states are considering legislation this year to decriminalize marijuana. The proposal now goes before the full Senate.

## Texting while driving

Texting while driving could soon be against the law for all drivers under SB 18, which was approved by the Senate. Current Indiana law prohibits drivers under the age of 18 from texting while driving. The legislation extends this regulation to all drivers, and stipulates a Class C infraction for those caught texting or reading email while driving. Hands free or voice operated technology would be permitted under the bill. Statistics indicate that texting while driving

increases a driver's chance of being involved in a collision by 20 times. Thirty states and the District of Columbia have taken similar action. The bill now advances to the House for its consideration.

Important Senate session dates  
February 23 - Deadline for Senate to consider Senate bills

February 28 - Senate begins work on House bills

April 29 - Session adjourns

To stay informed about bills moving through the General Assembly or to track legislation, log on to [www.in.gov/legislative](http://www.in.gov/legislative).

From this site, you can also watch House and Senate committee hearings and session floor debate. Visit the Senator Lindel

Hume's web site at [www.in.gov/s48](http://www.in.gov/s48) and subscribe to receive periodic e-mails about action taken on major issues this year. Senate Democrats also provide multimedia updates on daily activities in the Senate at The Briefing Room and Twitter updates at @INSenDems.

Personal contact with constituents has a direct impact on legislation considered and what ultimately becomes law. Use the contact information below to express your comments and concerns regarding pending legislation:

Mailing address: Statehouse, 200 W. Washington Street, Indianapolis, IN 46204  
Telephone: Call direct: 317-232-9523 or call toll-free: 800-382-9467, ext. 2-9523  
Email address: [s48@iga.in.gov](mailto:s48@iga.in.gov)

## Bill to implement drug testing for unemployment recipients passes House

State Rep. Kevin Mahan's (R-Hartford City) legislation to require drug testing for unemployment recipients as a part of the hiring process passed unanimously out of the House last Thursday.

If a recipient of unemployment benefits drug test is found positive, House Bill 1267 would require the prospective employer to consult the Indiana Department of Workforce Development (DWD) to stop the recipient from receiving further benefits.

Disqualification would also be implemented if the recipient refuses to submit a drug test when asked.

"This bill holds more people accountable," said Rep. Mahan, co-author of HB

1267. "We are simply trying to be certain that those who are eager to get back to work can. And it's also important to understand that these drug tests are not at random.

"It's not for punitive reasons; it just shows how serious we are."

In addition, if a recipient's benefits have been disqualified due to a positive drug test, they may resume receiving benefits with the submission of a negative drug test to the DWD.

House Bill 1267 will move on to the Senate for further debate. If signed into law, it will go into effect July 2011.

To find the most up-to-date bill status, visit [www.in.gov/legislative](http://www.in.gov/legislative).

## Martin County Highway Emergency Conditions Ordinance

Whereas, the Martin County Board of Commissioners is authorized under Indiana statute to maintain county highways; and

Whereas, certain weather conditions affect the condition of county highways; and

Whereas, the Martin County Board of Commissioners is authorized under Indiana statute to take such action as is necessary to maintain and protect county highways, including declaring highway emergencies; and

Whereas, the Martin County Board of Commissioners is authorized to enact ordinances which include penalties or forfeitures for violations of said ordinance.

Now therefore, be it ordained by the Board of Commissioners of Martin County, Indiana, as follows:

That the Martin County Board of Commissioners may declare a state of highway emergency for Martin County highways at any time following consultation with the County Highway Supervisor.

That upon declaration of a highway emergency, the Martin County Board of Commissioners may take such actions necessary for the maintenance and preservation of county highways, including, but not limited to establishing weight limits for motor vehicles and equipment, limiting access to highways by motor vehicles and equipment, and closing highways to all or selected traffic.

That upon declaration of a highway emergency, violations of limitations placed upon

county highways shall be punished by a fine of not less than \$100.00 or more than \$500.00 upon the person or operator of any motor vehicle or equipment violation of the limitations.

That second or subsequent violations of the highway emergency declaration shall be punished by a fine of not less than \$500.00 or more than \$1,000.00 upon the person or operator of any motor vehicle or equipment violating the limitations.

That if in the judgment of the County Highway Supervisor, it is necessary to seize any motor vehicle or equipment found to be violating a highway emergency, county law enforcement shall seize said motor vehicle or equipment and retain the same until further determination by the Martin County Board of Commissioners.

That these highway emergency limitations shall not apply to motor vehicles and equipment utilized for crucial farming transportation.

That due to emergency, this ordinance shall be effective immediately upon enactment.

Adopted this 18th day of February, 2011.

The Board of Commissioners of Martin

County, Indiana

Paul George, President

Dan Gregory, Commissioner

John Winger, Commissioner

Attest:

Nancy Steiner, Auditor

## LOOGOOTEE LITTLE LEAGUE REGISTRATION

### DATES OF REGISTRATION

**Wednesday, February 23 from 6 to 8 p.m.**  
**Sunday, February 27 from 1 to 3 p.m.**  
**in the LHS cafeteria**

**Cost is \$40 for the first child in the family and \$30 for each additional child. Total cost of three or more players is \$100.**

Boys and girls who will be four (4) by April 30 are eligible to participate in tee-ball. Boys who do not turn thirteen (13) years old until after April 30 are allowed to play Little League Baseball. Girls who were twelve (12) years old or under on December 31, 2010 are eligible to play softball.



## Second "Taste of Martin County"

The Martin County Community Foundation is now organizing vendors for the second annual "Taste of Martin County." It is an event that allows the general public to sample what area food service vendors have to offer. In turn, it allows the vendor to put a sample of its best dishes in front of current and potential patrons.

Last year, about 100 people attended the event including some brides-to-be and party planners. The event will be on Tuesday, April 26 at the Martin County Community 4-H Building. Food Vendors wishing to participate in the "Taste of Martin County" may reserve a spot by calling the MCCF office at 812-295-1022 or emailing [mccf@rtccom.net](mailto:mccf@rtccom.net). Spaces are limited.

# Calendar of Events

### SummerFest meeting

The Loogootee SummerFest Committee will meet Wednesday, February 23 at 7 p.m. in the city council chambers in the Loogootee Municipal Building.

### Commission on Public Records meeting

The Martin County Commission on Public Records will meet Thursday, February 24, at 9 a.m. in the commissioners' room of the Martin County Courthouse at 129 Main Street in Shoals.

### Indiana Hunter Education Course

The spring Indiana Hunter Education Course will be offered on March 3 and 4

from 6-9:30 p.m. and March 5 from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Martin County Community Building at the Martin County 4-H Fairgrounds. Every person born after December 31, 1986 is required to take this course before they can obtain an Indiana Hunting License. Additionally, any youth that are interested in taking 4-H Shooting Sports should take this class. There is no cost for participating in the course. It is sponsored by Martin County 4-H Shooting Sports and Martin County 4-H Council. Parents of younger participants should stay during the course. To register, call Purdue Extension - Martin County at 295-2412.

### LUMC Luncheon

The Loogootee United Methodist Church will hold their annual Soup and Sandwich Luncheon March 7 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. The cost is \$6. The menu includes potato, chili, and chicken noodle soups, ham or chicken salad, dessert, and a drink. Phone ahead and carry out available by calling the church at 295-3049. The church is located at 208 West Main Street in Loogootee.

### Tourism Committee

The Martin County Chamber of Commerce Tourism Committee will meet Wednesday, March 9, at 7 p.m. in the learning center at the fairgrounds. The public is invited to attend.

### Open meeting for public discussion

There will be an open discussion for all concerned parents and/or residents who would like to discuss the future/current direction of the Loogootee School Corporation. The meeting will be held Thursday, March 10 at 6:30 p.m. at the Martin County Community Learning Center on the fairgrounds. Anyone interested in participating in this discussion is encouraged to attend. For more information email Courtney at [jc3850@avenuebb.com](mailto:jc3850@avenuebb.com).

### Shoals School Board

The Shoals School Board will meet Thursday, March 10 at 5:30 p.m. at the high school.

### Walking for fitness at LUMC

Walking for fitness is held each Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday at the Loogootee United Methodist Church in the Family Center. The program will follow school weather closings. If there is a school delay, or during the week before Christmas, there will not be organized walking. You may still come and walk individually without music. Starting January 5, there will be devotion discussions every Wednesday at 8:30. All

ages are invited, and it is free. Call Sandy Haseman at 295-9822 with any questions.

### Humane society meetings

The Martin County Humane Society meets on the third Tuesday of the month at Loogootee Municipal Building, at 7 p.m. To become a member, contact Martin County Humane Society, P. O. Box 537, Shoals, Indiana 47581, call Don at 296-0952.

### Youth football meetings

Martin County Youth Football League meets on the first Wednesday of the month at Pizza Junction at 7 p.m. Questions, call Audrey Robinson at 295-4773.

### Recovery support group

The Overcomers Recovery Support Group meets every Tuesday night at 6 p.m. at the Martin County Community Learning Center.

## International Circus Hall of Fame to be in French Lick next month

Bring out the kid in you and share the circus magic as it spins laughter and thrills! Hold your breath as you watch the incredible feats of the aerial artists, jugglers, clowns and wild animal trainers. Give the kids an experience that will last a lifetime. Big Splash Adventure, in French Lick, is proud to announce that the International Circus Hall of Fame is coming to town.

The circus will be held March 11 through March 27 with two shows each night, at 3:30 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. The event will take place two miles east of French Lick at 990 Hwy. 145 S.

Tickets went on sale Monday and are \$12 for adults and \$8 for children 12 and under. Children two and under are admitted for free.

Visit [www.bigssplashadventure.com](http://www.bigssplashadventure.com) to purchase tickets.

This one of a kind circus features acts such as The Wallendas, a legendary circus family and world renowned high wire walkers who will perform cloud swinging, juggling, and a comedy act. Daniel Wallen, a 4th generation horseman, and his dancing horse Sombra will perform tricks. Also performing will be Pat Kelly, a clown for 50 years and son of the great Emmett Kelly. An elephant act and rides will be conducted by Renaissance Rides, Inc..

To learn more about the events happening at Big Splash Adventure, please visit [www.bigssplashadventure.com](http://www.bigssplashadventure.com) or call 1-877-936-3866.

# Classified ADS

## HELP WANTED

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# New Beginnings Church WEEKLY MESSAGE

**BY SHIRLEY CANELL**  
*Pastor's wife*

1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

Are you ready for the day of the Lord?

One of the most frightening truths in all of scripture surrounds the event that is identified in verse 2 as the day of the Lord. This is a technical term in the scripture to describe the day when Jesus comes back to bring the flaming fury and anger of God on all the sinners of the world. It is a day of devastation, destruction, doom, and damnation.

Preaching about the day Jesus comes back to judge those who have rejected Him is not something you hear often these days. Everything today needs to be positive and affirming and comforting. It would be unfaithful to ignore this day, this truth. The whole counsel of God is to be preached the Old Testament and New Testament, front to back. It is loaded with warnings about the judgment of God, eternal punishment on unbelievers, damnation, retribution, vengeance, wrath, anger, and fury. The Prophets and Apostles had much to say about it. But the one that had the most to say about it was Jesus Himself. They are the examples of the pattern that all preachers must follow and that is to warn men about the day of the Lord.

In chapter 4 verses 13 -18, Paul described the nature and character of the Rapture of the

Church, which is to meet the Lord Jesus in the air and to go to Heaven to dwell in the places that He has prepared for them. At one instant all Christians asleep or awake will be taken up to live in our Father's house. Chapter 4 ends with the statement, "Therefore comfort one another with these words." There is great comfort, joy, hope confidence, assurance and affirmation in anticipating the Rapture when the Lord Jesus comes. Christians can be encouraged we will be with the Lord.

Changing the subject from blessing of Rapture for believers to the judgment of unbelievers. Amos, Isaiah, Ezekiel, Zephaniah, Malachi, and Joel all write about the day of the Lord. They warned about the darkness of that awful day. It will be judgment and not mercy. It will be wrath and not blessing. It will bring a disruption of the physical order of things; a cosmic catastrophe caused by God Himself as He over rules the natural process.

Amos tells us that the fury of divine judgment on the day of the Lord, the whole Earth will be devastated and will become like a turbulent sea overflowing its banks, drowning and submerging everything in its wake. Amos tells us that the sun will go out at noon and cover the whole world in darkness. The day of the Lord will come unexpectedly on no specific day or specific time. But there will be many signs.

After the rapture the tribulation takes place, a seven-year period of God's judgment and wrath. It will be awful. The seven seals are opened during this time. This was only the beginning then the Bible tells us of the seven bowls of wrath that are poured out on mankind. People who were left after the rapture of the Christians and after the Lord unleashes His judgment and wrath on the Earth beg to die but can't.

Will there be people who come to know Christ during this time? The Bible indicates yes. BUT here's the thing Paul tells us we don't have to go through any of it. We are the children of the day not the night.

We live in the light of Christ's life. He lives in us. Darkness, sin, ignorance, and death is the realm of the fallen, cursed and dead, we have a new nature, a new sphere of life a new kingdom in Christ.

We don't live in the darkness. We know the truth of the Gospel. We know we are sons and daughters of the Lord God. We know how we should act. We prepare ourselves daily living for Christ. Living Alert. Putting on the armor of light Romans 13:12.

Our destiny as Christians is not to suffer the wrath. When God pours out his final wrath in eternal hell, it won't be for us. John 3, He who believes in the Son has eternal life, but he who does not obey the Son shall not see life but the

wrath of God. We are destined to be with the Lord. No suffering, no pain, no hatred, no pride, and no bitterness.

What hope, what comfort this is for the believer, we are saved at the point of faith in Jesus Christ. We are kept saved through the power of the Lord Jesus Christ. We will be ultimately delivered from the wrath to come and brought into the presence of God through Jesus Christ.

During the sermon I kept thinking about people I knew who were not saved having to suffer the judgments and wrath, the battle of Armageddon, the destruction of the world. I was sad thinking about people I know and love suffering. We should encourage one another build each other up with words of encouragement. While praying for the night people that the light might shine on them and the desire for Jesus Christ burn in their hearts as it does in ours.

Father, work your work in encouraging the day people and bringing the night people out of their darkness into the dawn of the glorious day. In the name of Christ, Amen.

Sunday service begins at 10 a.m. The church is open on Sunday's around 9 a.m. if anyone has heard of the U.S. Ministry and would like to drop off a donation of unopened packages of socks and underwear. You can call Pastor Ernie at 709-0258 if you have any questions concerning your walk with Jesus, the church or the US Ministry. Or you can call Shirley at 709-2525.

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## Sports notes

## Loogootee JH Baseball meeting

There will be a mandatory parent and player meeting for Loogootee Junior High Baseball on Tuesday, March 8 at 7 p.m. in the high school cafeteria. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss the upcoming season and summer. Parents and players must be in attendance.

## Shoals Baseball sign-ups

It's time to sign up for summer baseball in Shoals. Play baseball in a sanctioned Cal Ripken League. Any youth living/staying in Martin County may play, even if playing in other leagues. All-stars play in tournaments at no extra cost. Two games working in the concessions is the only extra requirement besides a \$30 sign-up fee (\$15 for each additional child).

Sign up for one of the following age groups:

T-ball (ages 4-5) (usually played on Saturday mornings)

Rookies (ages 6-8)

Minors (ages 9-10)

Majors (ages 11-12 cannot turn 13 before May 1)

Sign-up forms can be downloaded from [www.shoalssummerleague.org](http://www.shoalssummerleague.org), requested by email at [shoalssummerleague@hotmail.com](mailto:shoalssummerleague@hotmail.com), and at various business locations such as RJ's, The Shoals Library, etc. Forms will also be sent home from school and available at the two sign-up days.

The first sign-up is Saturday, February 26 from 9 a.m. to noon and Monday, March 7 from 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. in the Shoals Cafeteria

Forms may also be dropped off at the county prosecutor's office or mailed to: SSL, PO Box 119, Shoals, IN 47581. For more information contact Josh at 812-486-9712 or Mark at 812-695-2905.

Parents with a hardship please contact the league for help. The league wants everyone to be able to play baseball.

## Loogootee Little League registration

Registration for the 2011 Loogootee Little League Baseball and A Softball Season will be held on Wednesday, February 23 from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. and Sunday, February 27 from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. in the cafeteria at Loogootee Jr./Sr. High School.

Boys and girls who will be four (4) by April 30 are eligible to participate in tee-ball. Boys who do not turn thirteen (13) years old until after April 30 are allowed to play Little League Baseball. Girls who were twelve (12) years old or under on December 31, 2010 are eligible to play softball. Cost is \$40 for the first child in the family and \$30 for each additional child. Total cost of three or more players is \$100.

State accepting applications for 2011  
Mr. and Miss Indiana Math and Science

Governor Mitch Daniels last Thursday announced that applications are now being accepted for the 2011 Hoosier High School Math and Science Awards. This marks the fourth year for the awards, which Daniels created to recognize Indiana's top high school math and science talent.

All Indiana high school students are eligible to receive the award and can apply online. Nominations from teachers, principals, and other school staff members will also be accepted. Application criteria include SAT, ACT, and Advanced Placement scores, academic awards and prizes and grades received in math and science courses. Winners, acknowledged as Mr. or Miss Math or Science, will be selected by a committee of high school math and science teachers, curriculum experts from the Indiana Department of Education and representatives from the governor's office. Each winner will receive a \$2,000 academic scholarship from McGraw-Hill Education.

The award was developed with input from the Indiana Science Technology Engineering Mathematics Network, the Hoosier Association of Science Teachers, Inc., the

Indiana Council of Teachers of Mathematics, the Science Education Foundation of Indiana, Inc. and the Indiana Department of Education.

Applications are available online at <https://secure.in.gov/apps/mathscience> awards. The deadline to apply is March 21. Governor Daniels will present the award in May.

## Shoals Prom benefit

A benefit for Shoals Prom will be held Saturday, March 12, from 4 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the community building on the 4-H fairgrounds.

There will be food, fun, and dancing. "Cross Over" will be providing a variety of music such as Christian Rock and Country. Food to be served will include BBQ, cheesy potatoes, baked beans, and cole slaw. There will also be baked good provided by the junior class and raffles held throughout the night.

The cost is \$5 for music only and \$10 for music and a meal.

The public is welcome and encouraged to attend to help support Shoals Prom.



JESSICA CONRAD

Jessica Mae Conrad is the daughter of Rita and the late Irvin Conrad. Her favorite pastimes include going to Evansville for haunted houses, going to Kings Island and Los Bravos. During high school Jessica has been involved in cheerleading, basketball, and track. One of her best childhood memories was at her 14th birthday party because her friends took her snipe hunting for the first time. She also remembers when she first moved to Shoals and all the friends she made and the parties she attended. She said one friend though she looked like a peacock. Jessica plans to attend college after graduation and then get a good job and have a family.



CHASE DAWLEY

Chase Lamour Dawley is the son of David and Laura Dawley. His favorite hobbies include reading and hanging out with friends. During high school he was involved in the Spanish Club, the Academic Team, and SADD. One of his best memories of school is hanging out with friends at lunch. Chase plans to go to school for mechanical engineering after graduation.

Loogootee and Shoals  
SCHOOL LUNCH MENUSLOOGOOTEE ELEMENTARY WEST  
Breakfast

Thursday, February 24

Cereal, sausage, muffin

Friday, February 25

Sausage biscuit, juice

Monday, February 28

Pancakes, sausage, juice

Tuesday, March 1

Breakfast pizza, egg, applesauce

Wednesday, March 2

Biscuits and gravy, sausage, juice

## Lunch

Thursday, February 24

BBQ rib sandwich, French fries, peaches, cake

Friday, February 25

Sausage pizza, green beans, apple

Monday, February 28

Hamburgers, scalloped potatoes, apple-sauce

Tuesday, March 1

Turkey and cheese sandwich, peas and carrots, peaches

Wednesday, March 2

Chicken nuggets, corn, mixed fruit, chocolate cake

LOOGOOTEE INTERMEDIATE  
AND HIGH SCHOOL

## Lunch

Thursday, February 24

Chicken fajita or pizza, rice, corn, apple-sauce, salad plate, milk

Friday, February 25

Breaded chicken or pizza, French fries, mixed vegetables, fruit, salad plate, milk

Monday, February 28

Chicken nuggets or pizza, macaroni and cheese, peas, fruit, salad plate, milk

Tuesday, March 1

Chicken fried steak or pizza, corn, fruit, mashed potatoes, salad plate, milk

Wednesday, March 2

Chicken noodle soup or pizza, cheese and crackers, grilled cheese, fruit, salad plate, milk

## SHOALS SCHOOLS

## Breakfast

Thursday, February 24

Egg with biscuit and jelly, juice, milk

Friday, February 25

Cereal, sweet rolls, juice, milk

Monday, February 28

Cereal, cinnamon bread, juice, milk

Tuesday, March 1

French toast with syrup, sausage patty, juice, milk

Wednesday, March 2

Ham and cheese sandwich, hash brown, milk

## Lunch

Thursday, February 24

Beef nugget tray, mashed potatoes, peas, yeast roll, milk; choice 4-12: pepperoni pizza

Friday, February 25

Hot dog sandwich, tater tots, baked beans, milk

Monday, February 28

Breaded turkey sandwich, French fries, fruit, cake, milk

Tuesday, March 1

Chicken nuggets, mashed potatoes, corn on the cob, fruit juice, yeast roll, milk; choice 4-12: cheese pizza

Wednesday, March 2

Beef and cheese nachos with corn chips, green beans, applesauce, milk; choice 4-12: sausage pizza

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# Spring classes, programs at the learning center

## Proctoring Services

Are you taking online classes this semester that require a proctor? Take your tests close to home at the Martin County Learning Center. Contact Kathy ahead of time to fill out paperwork and schedule testing dates.

## Computer Applications II

The Fathers Forever Coalition will be hosting a free computer course on Monday nights March 7 through April 11 from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. The class will go through Microsoft Word, Excel, and PowerPoint as well as creating a resume and cover letter. This is a great class for those who have some computer skills but would like to advance their knowledge of Microsoft Office 2007. Contact the learning center to sign up.

## USAJOBS workshop (Resume Builder)

The USAJOBS workshop is provided by Bramble Consulting (Darlene Ridgway). USAJOBS is the Federal government's official web site and provides access to more than 30,000 job listings world-wide. This is an on-line resume training session and will provide applicants with information and advice needed to apply for a government position. USAJOBS Resume Builder allows you to create one uniform resume that provides all the information required by most government agencies. The next workshops will be held on March 8 and March 17 from 6 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. and cost is \$40. Choose the date that works best for you and call Kathy to sign up.

## Résumé writing and career planning

Need help with your résumé? Darlene Ridgway with Bramble Consulting will offer Résumé Assistance-Level One on March 10. The class is from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. and cost is \$25. This is a basic course designed for an applicant needing help with the application process for government civilian and/or government contractor positions, specifically for NSWC Crane. Applicants need to pre-register no later than the Friday before the scheduled class date. Contact Kathy at the Learning Center to pre-register.

## "My Favorite Historic Place in Indiana" 4th grade student essay competition

The Indiana Division of Historic Preservation and Archaeology is sponsoring an essay competition to celebrate Indiana's great and interesting historic sites.

### Competition Rules:

- The competition is open to any Indiana 4th grade public, private, or home school student.
- Essays should tell about a historic place (50 years old or older) in Indiana and why it is his/her favorite historic place.
- Essays need to range from 100 to 400 words, handwritten or typed and must be student's original work. Plagiarism will result in disqualification.
- Essays must include student's name, teacher's name, and the school's name, address, telephone number, and email address.

## Martin County VU Graduate List for Fall 2010

The following students from Martin County are Fall 2010 graduates of Vincennes University.

The list may include students from the Vincennes campus, Jasper campus, Aviation Technology Center in Indianapolis, military bases, and other extended sites.

### Loogootee:

- Cassandra L. Fegan, AS Supply Chain Logistics Management
- Danielle N. Sexton, AS Fine Arts, Theatrical Production Concentration
- Shoals
- Derek A. Gilbertson, AAS General Studies, Business Studies
- Kayla C. Roller, CG Massage Therapy Certificate
- Bobby J. Smith, AAS Electronics Technology and AAS Electronics Tech/Computer Repair Technician Concentration

Storm Spotter Training

The National Weather Service, along with the Martin County Civil Defense, will conduct a severe storm spotter's training Thursday, March 24, from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. A certified meteorologist will describe cloud and wind patterns associated with severe weather, how to interpret weather radar data, and how to remain safe during severe weather. The training session is free and is open to the general public. Registration will be at the event.

## Overcomers' group

Indiana Drug Education and Awareness Solutions are conducting an ongoing Overcomers' Recovery Support Group at the center. Meetings are held every Tuesday evening from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., and newcomers are invited. There is no cost for participation. For further information, contact Jason Underhill at 812-653-1908.

## Adult literacy and education

Do you know someone who could use some help with his or her reading skills? Anyone interested is encouraged to contact SOAR! at 812-709-1618 for further information.

For GED-Adult Basic Education, call Vicki Conrad at 812-936-2881.

Free Biotechnology Classes-Bloomington Ivy Tech will offer free training in Biotechnology at the Bloomington campus with sessions starting in March, August, and October. Classes are completely free-no tuition and fees, no books! Earn a certificate and three college credits in as little as eight weeks! Contact Sarah Cote for more information, [scote@ivytech.edu](mailto:scote@ivytech.edu), 812-330-6310.

### Contact

Kathy Kerr, Coordinator, 812-295-2674 or email [kkerr8@ivytech.edu](mailto:kkerr8@ivytech.edu)

### Office Hours

Monday through Thursday, 1 p.m. to 9 p.m. and Friday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

- Essays must be submitted by Friday April 29, 2011.

- Send essays to: Jeannie Regan-Dinius, Director of Special Programs, Indiana Division of Historic Preservation and Archaeology, 402 W. Washington Street Room W274, IGCS, Indianapolis, IN 46204-2739, [DHPAConnect@dnr.in.gov](mailto:DHPAConnect@dnr.in.gov)

Judges will choose first, second, and third place winners. The first place winner's essay will be printed in the Division of Historic Preservation and Archaeology's newsletter Preserving Indiana. For more information about the contest call 317-234-1268.

## Survey will provide snapshot of Indiana horse industry

By Jeanne Gibson  
Purdue University News Service

Purdue University hopes to learn more about the Indiana horse industry through three public surveys.


The Equine Economic Impact and Health Study survey is open to all horse owners and breeders, those in the horse racing industry, and anyone who sells horse products or services, said Purdue Extension equine specialist Mark Russell. The online survey is a joint research project of the Purdue School of Veterinary Medicine and Purdue Calumet Equine Business Management.

The last survey of the Indiana horse industry was in 2001.

"We need this survey to give us input and an accurate representation of the current industry," Russell said.

**2010-11 IHSAA Class A Boys Basketball**  
101st Annual State Tournament Series

**Sectionals**  
Feb. 28-March 5, 2011



**Class A, Sectional 63 | North Daviess (6 teams)**

North Daviess	Fri, 6 pm ET	
Washington Catholic	Tues, 6 pm ET	
Barr-Reeve		Sat, 7:30 pm ET
Loogootee	Fri, to follow	
Shoals	Tues, to follow	Sectional Champion
Vincennes Rivet		



## SCOUTING MATTERS

**By Mike Leighty - Odon Troop 481 Scoutmaster**

I was involved in a discussion recently with a parent about youth with disabilities and what scouting offers. There has been a vast increase in America on disability awareness over the past two decades but while society has become more aware... have opportunities for disabled youth increased in our schools, sports programs, and other arenas? This discussion got me to thinking because it is a road less traveled for the typical BSA unit. Therefore, I decided to do a little research on the subject.

Not all boys who are considering joining scouts look as if they stepped out of one of those famous Norman Rockwell paintings. Some have obvious, or not so-obvious, disabilities that might prevent them from considering joining scouting, or if they join, prevent them from achieving basic advancement requirements or even reaching the rank of Eagle. What I discovered is that it is possible and maybe not as uncommon as you might think. While reasonable accommodations for a disabled youth would be difficult to impossible in football or basketball, the BSA offers alternatives that will allow a disabled youth to dream and achieve great success. Consider the following.

What accommodations does scouting make for boys with disabilities? A disabled scout may request permission to pursue alternate requirements for the Tenderfoot, Second Class, and First Class ranks and/or to substitute merit badges for some of those required for Eagle rank. He may also request permission to work toward the Eagle rank past his 18th birthday. While statistics

are not available for the number of disabled youth who have attained the rank of Eagle, a quick internet search will garner many good news stories.

Which disabilities qualify for accommodations? Any permanent physical or mental disability that prevents a scout from completing standard advancement requirements may qualify. Temporary disabilities such as a broken leg do not. Keep in mind that every case is different, so the BSA has no fixed set of alternate requirements. Flexibility is encouraged and execution approved locally by the Troop Committee Advancement Chair. This flexibility allows for a "can do" spirit to emerge and involves parents and other scouts all along the way.

What is the procedure for pursuing alternate rank requirements? First, to support the team-building experience, a disabled scout is encouraged to complete as many standard requirements as possible. Patrols are "boy led" operations and this allows the boys the opportunity to interact, learn, and complete advancement requirements together. If a disabled youth is in the mix, the group will learn some valuable life lessons relative to disabilities. They do this by going through the motions of teaching and learning together. Nevertheless, eventually requirements completion will hit a snag. That is when adult leadership can step in and detail alternatives for those requirements that cannot be completed.

One of the best alternatives for advancement is the completion of merit badges, done in the privacy of the home with adult and mentor supervision. Many of the over 120 plus merit badges provide excellent learning opportunities that are self paced and expose youth to experiences they would seldom receive in other environments at such a young age. Curriculum such as art, chemistry, coin collecting, drafting, electricity, electronics, genealogy, and photography just to name a few. Even a scout confined to a wheel chair, with a little extra effort and assistance from his fellow scouts, can complete merit badges in shooting sports and archery. The possibilities are truly endless.

I said in the opening this is a road less traveled for the typical scouting unit but it is good to know and be associated with a 100-year-old organization, looking forward to its second century, that tries their best to be inclusive and accommodating to those less fortunate.

If you would like to learn more about the scouting program in your local community, drop me an email at [mike.leighty@centurytel.net](mailto:mike.leighty@centurytel.net) or call (812) 295-8417 and I will help you make contact with a local unit.

Yours in Scouting,  
Scoutmaster Mike

Hey Kids! March 2nd is Dr. Seuss' Birthday!  
It is also National Read Across America Day!

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY**

Dr. Seuss



Theodor Seuss Geisel (pronounced /'gaɪzəl/; March 2, 1904 – September 24, 1991), commonly known by his pen name Dr. Seuss, was an American writer and cartoonist most widely known for his children's books written under the pen names Dr. Seuss, Theo LeSieg and, in one case, Rosetta Stone.

He published 44 children's books, which were often characterized by imaginative characters, rhyme, and frequent use of trisyllabic meter.

His most celebrated books include the bestselling

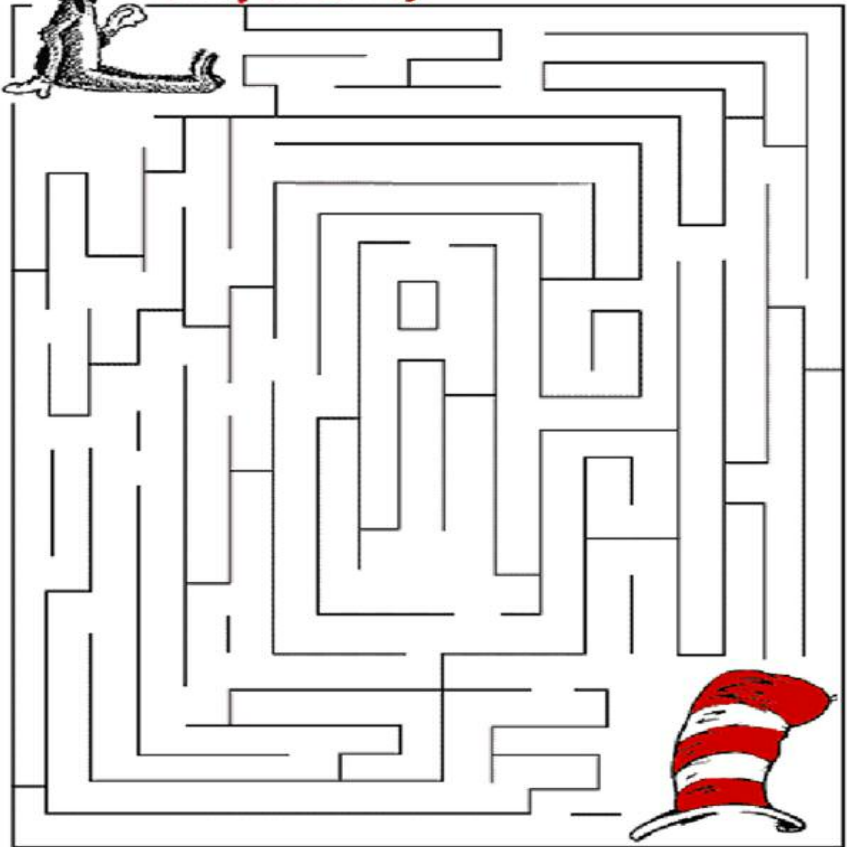
"Green Eggs and Ham", "The Cat in the Hat", "One Fish Two Fish Red Fish Blue Fish", "Horton Hatches the Egg", "Horton Hears a Who!", and "How the Grinch Stole Christmas".

Numerous adaptations of his work have been created, including eleven television specials, three feature films, and a Broadway musical.

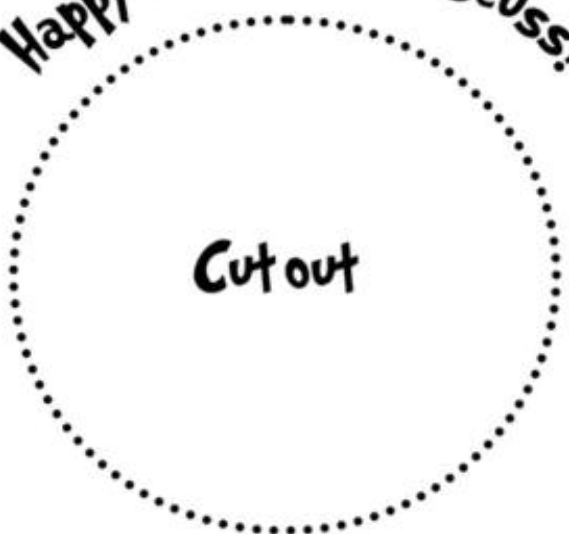
Geisel's birthday, March 2, has been adopted as the annual date for National Read Across America Day, an initiative on reading created by the National Education Association.



The Cat in the Hat has lost his birthday hat. Help him find it by printing out the maze and showing him the way.



Happy Birthday, Dr. Seuss!

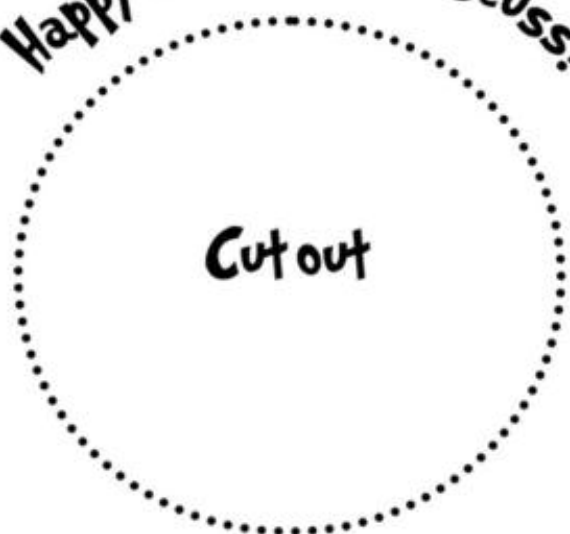


Cut out

**No!**  
(please)

Do not enter.  
Do not look.  
I'M IN MY ROOM  
Reading a book!

Happy Birthday, Dr. Seuss!



Cut out

**Yes!**  
(please)

You may enter.  
You may stay.  
COME ON IN,  
And we will play!

**SPOT FIVE DIFFERENCES**  
in the two prints  
of Dr. Seuss

