

Martin County JOURNAL

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Six pages

Solid waste board making several changes

BY COURTNEY HUGHETT
Martin County Journal Publisher

The Martin County Solid Waste Board met last Wednesday, February 21. New Board President Brian Ader brought several issues to the board regarding changes at the recycling center.

The board discussed whether they wanted to ask the county for a loan to help fund the center until they could go back on the tax levy or sell the building they use in Shoals to the county to bring in extra funds. It was noted that they are not planning to shut down service to Shoals but can work out of the garage located on the property where the current recycling center building is located. Recycling Center Director Janell Freeman said they could set up receptacles outside the garage and still do pickups the same as normal. She said the Shoals center typically makes \$40 a day but that increased the past week to \$75 a day so she is hoping that keeps happening.

Board Member Ader asked Freeman how much money the center would need to pay off outstanding debts, outside of the

current \$65,000 loan. Freeman said she originally thought it was around \$20,000 but after looking into it more, it would be around \$40,000. She said they talked to German American but before they would offer a line of credit to solid waste, which was discussed at the last meeting, they wanted the current loan paid down by half, which is not possible. They also wanted to use the Loogootee center as collateral. Ader said they wanted to look at the loan through the county as an alternative. He said the county would receive interest as well, just as the bank would.

Board Member Paul George, who serves as county commissioner, said they are interested in purchasing the Shoals building for the county. He said the courthouse already uses the upstairs of the building for storage.

Board Member Ader said they are probably not going to get all the money back that was paid to get that building constructed, including the parking lot paving.

Discussion ensued on whether to ask the county council for a loan or to look into selling the Shoals building. In the end, the board decided to move forward with get-

ting appraisals on the Shoals building so it can be sold.

They also decided to speak to German American about extending the current loan with the balance of \$65,000 which is due this year.

The Shoals location was recently cut to being open two days a week to help cut costs. Freeman said they also let an employee go at the Loogootee center and are not planning to replace that position. She said those cuts have saved \$1,400 per two-week pay period. Freeman said she is not sure yet how not replacing the one position is going to affect operations. Board Member Jim Hamby told Freeman to keep the position open in case she does need to add back a person later.

The board voted to raise the fee for out-of-county businesses to pick up their cardboard from \$10 to \$25 per pick up. Freeman said she has already been telling any new businesses she speaks with the new price. It was noted by Bookkeeper June Eckerle that some businesses have already paid in advance for pickup for 2024. The board decided to not raise the fees for those customers until 2025 and send notice of the new price. Eckerle said she feared they were going to lose business. Several on the board said they are okay with that because it is costing Martin County money to pick up in other counties anyway.

Freeman told the board that the cost per ton for cardboard has increased from \$115 to \$140. She said the most recent semi load brought in \$3,024. Freeman reported that the price for clothing has gone up a few cents which is bringing in extra money. She said they are getting ready to send out a truck load of clothing.

Freeman told the board that she learned when she took over as director that out-of-county businesses were not being charged for paper pick up. She said she questioned why businesses outside the county were being charged for cardboard pickup but not paper. She said she was told this is the way it has always been. She said they pick up paper at around 40 businesses outside Martin County, but 30 of those are affiliates of Memorial Hospital. The board agreed with Freeman that they should be charging for paper pick up, the same way they charge for cardboard. When asked how much time it takes to pick up and shred the paper that is picked up, Freeman said it is 10-12 hours a week. She said they received \$160 per ton for paper. The board decided to have Freeman speak with Memorial Hospital about paying a flat rate fee for Martin County to pick up their paper. They discussed that the hospital and affiliates hiring a mobile shredder would cost substantially more than what the recycling center would charge.

Board Member Ader said he has spoken with North Daviess School Corporation about picking up their cardboard. He said they told him they had their trash service company bring a cardboard dumpster but didn't realize they would have to pay to have it hauled away. Ader said they are aware that the recycling center would charge them the \$25 fee and are okay with that.

The board voted to raise the fees of items dropped off in the recycling drive thru. Those cost increases include: 13-gallon trash bags from \$2 to \$3, 33-gal-

lon trash bags from \$3 to \$4, 40-gallon trash bags from \$4 to \$5, 55-gallon trash bags from \$5 to \$6, televisions under 35 pounds from \$10 to \$15, televisions over 35 pounds from 29 cents a pound to 42 cents a pound, hot water heaters from \$5 to \$10, computer parts from \$1 to \$2, paint solvents from \$1 to \$2, five-gallon paint from \$5 to \$7, aluminum folding chairs from \$2 to \$3, clothesline poles with no concrete \$2 to \$3, twin mattresses from \$5 to \$10, television antennas from free to \$5, weed eaters from \$2 to \$5, and fire extinguishers from \$3 to \$5. Freeman noted that there are several customers who will not pay the set prices. She said she's not sure what to do about it. The board told Freeman that they need to be forced to pay the listed prices without argument. Board Member George said residents don't want a tax increase but want the recycling center to remain open, so they are going to have to pay for the services. They told Freeman to make large signs listing the set prices so there is no confusion.

The board voted to raise the recycling center's credit card limit from \$1,500 to \$2,500.

Board Member Ader recommended the center purchase a new security camera system for inside and outside the building. He said he believes they can get a system for under \$1,000. He said the current system is five years old and needs new wiring. It was suggested they go with a wireless system. Ader said he will check around with a few people to find someone to install once they are purchased. It was noted that the recycling center has Frontier internet service, and it is not very good, which may be an issue with the security cameras. Freeman said they cannot move to RTC Communications because it would cost them \$250 a month and they cannot afford that. She said they are currently paying \$70 with Frontier.

Ader presented to the board new policies on vehicles. He said he has discovered there are no accountability measures in place for employees fueling the recycling center's vehicles. He said he has been going through receipts and employees have not been required to record what vehicle is getting fuel or which employee got the fuel. He said a new system has been put in place to correct that along with each employee keeping mileage counts. Ader said he has records in his office he is going through and there are a lot of discrepancies in the fuel records. He said he has found that on average \$3,000 was being spent on fuel, however some months it jumped to \$6,000 a month. He said he's trying to figure out why that happened but without proper record keeping, he may never get to the bottom of it.

Ader recommended the board approve getting rid of one of the 300-gallon fuel tanks out in front of the building. He said one is agriculture diesel and the other is regular diesel. He said he learned that neither tank has a shut off valve or a lock and anyone could take the diesel at any time. He said he doesn't feel like they need to have the tank of diesel because trucks can fill up at the gas stations. The agriculture diesel can remain to fill up vehicles they don't want to cross the highway to go to the gas station. The board approved of removing the diesel tank and adding a lock
(See 'SOLID WASTE' on page 2)



-Photos provided

MCCF grants

Loogootee High School received a \$3,809 grant from the William McGovern Fund. This scholarship fund is used for scholarships to eligible graduating seniors. Shown, from left to right, are MCCF Board member Mike Arvin, LHS Guidance Counselor Heather Hawkins, LHS Principal Dr. Nancy Harrison, MCCF Secretary Janie Johnson, MCCF President Kristi Ausbrooks, and MCCF Board members Angie Risacher, Paula Ringwald and Greg Bateman.



A new "Bill and Pat Daily Fund" was created at the wishes of Bill and Pat Daily with their passing. With this fund they are able to support several organizations and services that were important parts of their lives. One of those is the Loogootee City Pool. The first grant from this fund to the City Pool is for \$142 which will see growth in the coming years. Shown, from left to right, are MCCF Director Curt Johnson, MCCF Board members Paula Ringwald and Greg Bateman, Loogootee Mayor Brian Ader receiving the grant check, Loogootee Clerk-Treasurer Lori Carrico, and MCCF Board members Angie Risacher and Janie Johnson.

SOLID WASTE

(Continued from page one)

to the other tank. Ader said he has friends who can install a shut off valve so it can be turned off when no one is present.

Ader recommended replacing the locks on all the exterior doors of the building. He said they do not know who has keys to the building currently. He said he is not sure what it will cost to do this but believes it will be a few hundred dollars. Ader said he also learned that the semi garage door at the back of the building has been inoperable for over two years and has been hanging open. He said anyone had access to the building. He said he had someone come and get the door operable so it would close but it still needs to be loosened up so it can easily open and close. Ader also said there are several lights inside the building that need to be replaced.

The board discussed hiring an outside company to perform an audit on the solid waste's books. It was noted that the last one was done by the state in 2019. Auditor Michelle Norris, who was in attendance at the meeting, said she could reach out to her contacts in that field.

Ader recommended the board consider finding new bookkeeping software. He said the center is currently using Quickbooks which costs several thousand dollars a year. Bookkeeper Eckerle said Quickbooks charges \$1,300 a year for updates and \$70 every two weeks for payroll. Board Member Mike Engleman asked Auditor Norris if the county could do the bookkeeping for the recycling center. Norris said she can look into it but is not sure. Ader said they could pay the county to do it. Norris said she can look into it and report back at next month's meeting.

Ader asked the board what they wanted to do with the purple compactor truck that has been sitting on the property. He said it doesn't run and was told there are electrical issues that prevent it from reaching speeds over 25 miles per hour. He said the compactor in the truck is still in good shape, however. The board discussed that it would cost too much to repair the truck and voted to sell it.

Freeman told the board that her employees have questioned why the county employees receive annual raises, but they do not. She said the last time the recycling center staff received a raise was in 2022. Board Member George explained that the recycling center employees are not county employees so that is why they are not a part of the annual raises. Freeman said her full-time truck driver makes \$17 per hour. A few other employees make \$15.36 per hour but most make \$13 per hour. The board told Freeman to bring the salary increase requests to a meeting prior to the 2025 budget deadline for discussion.

The board discussed whether community corrections could send those serving community service hours to help do a deep cleaning on the inside of the building. Freeman said she gets calls from community corrections clients several times a week, but they don't show up consistently. It was decided to contact the community corrections office to see if something could be worked out.

Ader noted that a former recycling truck was sold to an employee of the center, but the decals were not removed. He said they have been getting a lot of complaints along with social media posts about the truck being seen out at night driving around. The board discussed the need to get the decals removed as soon as possible and to not sell another recycling center vehicle in the future without having them removed first.

The Loogootee Public Library is accepting bids for mowing services for the Loogootee Public Library grounds.

The following items cover the primary expectations, but other requirements may be included in the contract:

1. The bidder must be insured.
2. The mowing season is from April 1 through October 31.
3. Mowings shall be done on a weekly basis, but weather conditions may alter frequency.
4. Mowing includes trimming.
5. Landscape must be maintained.
6. Payments shall be made monthly unless negotiated otherwise.
7. The library property must be maintained in presentable condition.

Please provide bids by the end of March 8, 2024. It is our goal to award the contract by March 22, 2024.

Darla Wagler, Loogootee Public Library Director

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It is time to take down the “Shhh, The Garden is Sleeping” sign. I put that sign at the end of my walk every fall as a reminder that there is still activity during the winter months. However, the garden is definitely awakening now. This past week, the earliest daffodils began blooming at Sandhill Gardens. The hellebores continue to put on a great show. Each day, it seems another clump bursts into bloom. I have been very busy getting the old foliage cut away, but still have some clumps to attack. It really is the only thing I have to do to the hellebores each year, so, although it is time-consuming, it is worth it.

As we turn to March on the calendar, there are a lot more garden chores to do. Over the weekend, I had some very capable help in the garden, and took advantage of that to put down cardboard and mulch in the bosquet I planted last fall. (For those who may not have read that column, a bosquet is a circle of small trees, planted to create a garden room.) A table made from a treadle sewing machine base is now in the middle of the bosquet. I plan to place a bonsai specimen or some other potted plant there when the weather gets warmer.

You have probably seen articles and social media posts urging you to wait until temperatures are consistently in the fifties to clean up the garden. The reason is that many insects over-winter in the debris from last year’s garden, and will not emerge until temperatures warm. However, if I were to wait until temperatures reach that level, which will likely be in mid-April, I would never get everything done before it is time for other activities. Therefore, I have started the clean-up. However, most of the debris will be stockpiled at the edge of the woods, where the insects will still be able to live. I may later chip up the debris and add it to a compost bin.

The fifty-degree rule is really a good suggestion, but gardeners should not feel obliged to wait to clean up the garden. Do not feel that you are doing something wrong by cleaning your garden. It is, after all, your garden. I do encourage everyone to do what you can to help the environment, but cleaning your garden is not going to destroy the planet. There are still going to be plenty of wild areas, at least in rural southern Indiana, so your garden represents only a small portion of the environment. As for me, I will clean up areas near the house first, and move out from there. The wildflower meadow and other edge-of-the-woods areas will be the last and will probably not be touched before the insects emerge.

My garden tends to be a little messy, but that means good habitat for the local fauna. It is a certified pollinator garden and wildlife habitat. However, that is my preference, and I would not expect everyone else to garden this way. I have a friend who

An evening with the woodcocks this Saturday

Saturday evening, March 2, the Refuge Friends will offer a unique birding experience for the whole family. Most outings aren’t focused on just one animal, but woodcocks are so neat they get a whole night all their own! Just what is a “Peent”? It’s the sound made by male woodcocks while performing their courtship ritual flights.

Join Patoka Refuge Friends at Columbia Mine Preserve main parking lot on Patoka River National Wildlife Refuge at 5:30 pm CST for a brief presentation on the woodcock. Then walk Timberdoodle Trail and hope the woodcocks are in the mood to put on a show. This event

loves plants, birds and butterflies, but cannot stand clutter. Her garden is very different from mine. She likes individual plants to stay where planted, and the garden is more a plant collection than a habitat. That is what she likes, and that is OK.

My point is that no individual home garden is going to wreck the world. With the internet, there are crusaders who cling to a particular view and seem to wish to tell everyone else how to garden. One of these issues is the planting of native plants versus using non-native or exotic plants. My hellebores, hostas, daffodils and peonies are all non-native plants, but they are an important part of my gardens. Even though I choose to include exotics in my landscape, I probably still have more native plants than the average garden. After all, my favorite flower, the purple coneflower, is a native.

My advice remains to garden in a way that pleases you. I do encourage you to limit the use of chemicals and avoid truly invasive plants, but do not feel that you have to garden in any particular fashion. After all, any garden is better for the earth than no garden. Have fun and enjoy this coming season.

Dairy producers can enroll for 2024 Dairy Margin Coverage starting today

Starting today, dairy producers will be able to enroll for 2024 Dairy Margin Coverage (DMC), an important safety net program offered through the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) that provides producers with price support to help offset milk and feed price differences. This year’s DMC signup begins February 28, 2024, and ends April 29, 2024. For those who sign up for 2024 DMC coverage, payments may begin as soon as March 4, 2024, for any payments that triggered in January 2024.

USDA’s Farm Service Agency (FSA) has revised the regulations for DMC to allow eligible dairy operations to make a one-time adjustment to established production history. This adjustment will be accomplished by combining previously established supplemental production history with DMC production history for those dairy operations that participated in Supplemental Dairy Margin Coverage during a prior coverage year. DMC has also been authorized through calendar year 2024. Congress passed a 2018 Farm Bill extension requiring these regulatory changes to the program.

“FSA is announcing the sign up for 2024 Dairy Margin Coverage. We encourage producers to enroll in this important safety net program. In reviewing 2023 margins and the more than \$1.2 billion in Dairy Margin Coverage payments issued to producers, Dairy Margin Coverage is proven to be a program to reduce risk for our dairy producers,” said FSA Adminis-

trator Zach Ducheneaux. “If 2023 taught us anything, it’s that we honestly have no idea what will happen in the market in any given year. Producers who took advantage of this affordable risk management tool for the 2023 program year, were able to mitigate some financial impacts on their operations. At \$0.15 per hundredweight for \$9.50 coverage, risk protection through Dairy Margin Coverage is a relatively inexpensive investment in a true sense of security and peace of mind.”

DMC is a voluntary risk management program that offers protection to dairy producers when the difference between the all-milk price and the average feed price (the margin) falls below a certain dollar amount selected by the producer. In 2023, Dairy Margin Coverage payments triggered in 11 months including two months, June and July, where the margin fell below the catastrophic level of \$4.00 per hundredweight, a first for Dairy Margin Coverage or its predecessor Margin Protection Program.

DNR Recreation and Fishing guidebooks are online

Your latest guides to exploring Indiana’s great outdoors are now available at your fingertips and at a DNR property near you.

The 2024 Indiana Recreation Guide is available now at on.IN.gov/recguide.

And your 2024-2025 guide to Indiana fishing, the Indiana Fishing Regulations Guide, is available at on.IN.gov/fishing-guide.

The DNR’s 2024 Indiana Recreation Guide is the source for information on state parks, state forests, lakes, fish & wildlife areas, nature preserves, state park inns, and other DNR properties. The guide includes a great facilities chart and information about accessibility and fees.

Soon, free printed copies of each will be available at local retail outlets, state parks, lakes and other DNR properties.

Paper copies of the guides also are available at the DNR booth at the Indianapolis Boat, Sport and Travel Show at the Indiana State Fairgrounds through February 25. DNR’s booth is at the show’s Tackle Town, in the Blue Ribbon Pavilion.

Annual entrance passes for state park

properties can be purchased in person at the gatehouse or offices of state park properties during business hours, at shopINstateparks.com any time, or at the Boat, Sport and Travel Show. Indiana resident passes cost \$50. For individuals 65 years old or older, the price is \$25. Annual passes for vehicles with out-of-state license plates are \$70. Normal daily gate fees for residents at most properties are \$7 per in-state vehicle. For more information on Indiana state park properties, visit stateparks.IN.gov.

Fishing and hunting licenses can be purchased and printed at INHuntFish.com. They can also be purchased at retailers, county clerk offices, and most DNR properties throughout the state, as well as at the Boat, Sport and Travel Show.

coverages or opt out in favor of an annual contract for 2024, dairy operations having lock-in contracts must enroll during the 2024 DMC enrollment period. DMC offers different levels of coverage, even an option that is free to producers, minus a \$100 administrative fee. The administrative fee is waived for dairy producers who are considered limited resource, beginning, socially disadvantaged or a military veteran. To determine the appropriate level of DMC coverage for a specific dairy operation, producers can use the online dairy decision tool.

DMC payments are calculated using updated feed and premium hay costs, making the program more reflective of actual dairy producer expenses. These updated feed calculations use 100% premium alfalfa hay.

USDA also offers other risk management tools for dairy producers, including the Dairy Revenue Protection (DRP) plan that protects against a decline in milk revenue (yield and price) and the Livestock Gross Margin (LGM) plan, which provides protection against the loss of the market value of milk minus the feed costs. Both DRP and LGM livestock insurance policies are offered through the Risk Management Agency. Producers should contact their local crop insurance agent for more information.

For more information on DMC, visit the DMC webpage or contact your local USDA Service Center.



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Martin County Sheriff's Department activity log

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 19

7:33 a.m. - Received a 911 call needing to be transferred to Dubois County. Transferred call to Dubois County 911.

7:37 a.m. - Received a 911 call reporting a reckless driver on US 231 South, traveling North. Loogootee Chief Hunt and Captain Gibson responded.

8:03 a.m. - Received a call reporting vandalism south of Shoals. Deputy Branham responded.

10:16 a.m. - Received a call requesting an officer in Loogootee. Captain Gibson responded.

4:09 p.m. - Received a call from Area 1 Protection advising of a commercial burglar alarm in Loogootee. Loogootee Officer Wagoner responded.

4:39 p.m. - Received an animal complaint south of Loogootee. Deputy Branham responded.

6:38 p.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Medic 1 and Loogootee Officer Wagoner responded. Medic 1 transported one patient to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

7:50 p.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance in Shoals. Martin County Medic 1, Shoals Fire Department, Deputy Baumgart and Deputy Doane responded. Medic 1 transported one patient to Daviess Community Hospital.

10:29 p.m. - Received a 911 call reporting a theft in Loogootee. Deputy Doane, Major Reed and Loogootee Officer Wagoner responded.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 20

5:42 a.m. - Received a call reporting a reckless driver on US 231 North, traveling north. Contacted Daviess County and advised Major Reed.

8:14 a.m. - Received a call advising of a controlled burn south of Shoals.

8:33 a.m. - Received a call advising Poplar Care Strategies would be doing a fire drill today.

8:43 a.m. - Received a report of possible harassment in Loogootee. Loogootee Chief Hunt responded.

9:03 a.m. - Received a call requesting a vehicle identification number check in Shoals. Captain Gibson responded.

10:45 a.m. - Received a report of a verbal dispute in Loogootee. Loogootee Assistant Chief Long responded.

12:50 p.m. - Received a report of a disabled vehicle north of Loogootee. Loogootee Assistant Chief Long responded.

1:13 p.m. - Received a report of an email scam. Sheriff Greene was advised.

1:20 p.m. - Received a call reporting a domestic dispute in Shoals. Corporal Hawkins responded.

5:46 p.m. - Received a 911 call requesting assistance in Shoals. Martin County Medic 1, Sergeant Wells and Corporal Hawkins responded. Medic 1 transported one patient to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

6:47 p.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance southeast of Loogootee. Martin County Medic 2 and Haysville Fire Department responded. Medic 2 transported one patient to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

6:49 p.m. - Received a report of a disabled vehicle in Loogootee. Loogootee Officer Wagoner and Ruxer Towing responded.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 21

7:32 a.m. - Received a call reporting a suspicious vehicle northeast of Shoals. Captain Gibson responded.

8:20 a.m. - Received a call requesting a vehicle identification number check on a motorcycle south of Loogootee. Captain Gibson responded.

9:09 a.m. - Received a call reporting a suspicious person north of Shoals. Sergeant Wells responded.

12:16 p.m. - Received a report of a

reckless driver south of Loogootee. Captain Gibson responded.

12:24 p.m. - Received a call requesting a welfare check north of Shoals. Captain Gibson responded.

1:16 p.m. - Received a call reporting a reckless driver on US 50, traveling west. Captain Gibson and Sergeant Wells responded.

3:01 p.m. - Received a call requesting a lift assist only in Loogootee. Martin County Medic 1 responded.

3:02 p.m. - Received a 911 call reporting a domestic dispute in Loogootee. Loogootee Officer Wagoner, Captain Gibson and Sergeant Wells responded.

5:09 p.m. - Received a report of a disabled vehicle west of Shoals. Sergeant Wells responded.

5:17 p.m. - Received a call reporting an accident with no injuries in Daviess County. Contacted Daviess County with information.

5:27 p.m. - Received a report of vandalism north of Loogootee. Deputy Shields responded.

5:56 p.m. - Received a call requesting an officer in Loogootee. Loogootee Officer Wagoner responded.

5:56 p.m. - Received a report of a possible traffic hazard in Loogootee. Loogootee Reserve Officer Harmon responded.

8:39 p.m. - Received a call reporting a verbal dispute north of Loogootee. Deputy Shields and Loogootee Officer Wagoner responded.

9:07 p.m. - Received a 911 call reporting someone knocking on their door north of Loogootee. Deputy Shields and Loogootee Officer Wagoner responded.

9:45 p.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance south of Shoals. Martin County Medic 1 and Shoals Fire Department responded. Medic 1 transported one patient to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 22

3:22 a.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Medic 1 responded and transported one patient to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

4:27 a.m. - Received multiple calls throughout the morning advising that some AT&T customers may not have service or be able to call 911.

5:55 a.m. - Received a 911 call with no one on the line. No answer on return call. Deputy Erwin responded.

6:35 a.m. - Received a 911 call reporting a disabled vehicle south of Loogootee. Deputy Erwin responded.

7:53 a.m. - Received a call advising of a controlled burn south of Loogootee.

8:59 a.m. - Received a call requesting an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Medic 1 and Loogootee Fire Department responded. Medic 1 transported one patient to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

9:52 a.m. - Deputy Baumgart transported three inmates to court.

11:08 a.m. - Deputy Baumgart transported three inmates to court.

11:09 a.m. - Received numerous calls throughout the morning and afternoon from AT&T advising they are still working to resolve the nationwide outage.

12:42 p.m. - Received a report of a disabled oversize load off the roadway south of Loogootee. Advised all law enforcement on duty.

1:32 p.m. - Received a call requesting a vehicle identification number check on an ATV. Deputy Shields responded.

2:33 p.m. - Received a call requesting a lift assist in Loogootee. Martin County Medic 1, Loogootee Fire Department and Loogootee Officer Wagoner responded. No transport was needed.

4:28 p.m. - Received a 911 call reporting a car-deer accident north of Loogootee.

Sergeant Wells responded.

5:17 p.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance northeast of Shoals. Martin County Medic 1 and Shoals Fire Department responded. Medic 1 transported one patient to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

6:30 p.m. - Received a call requesting assistance in Loogootee. Loogootee Officer Wagoner responded.

7:26 p.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance north of Loogootee. Martin County Medic 1 and Loogootee Fire Department responded. No transport was needed.

9:52 p.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance south of Shoals. Martin County Medic 1 and Shoals Fire Department responded. Medic 1 transported one patient to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 23

1:21 a.m. - Received a call from Life Line advising of a medical alarm south of Shoals. Deputy Erwin responded.

6:40 a.m. - Received a call from Shoals Community Schools advising they would be operating on a two-hour delay today.

8:39 a.m. - Received a call requesting an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Medic 1 responded and transported one patient to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

8:48 a.m. - Received a call reporting a possible identity theft in Loogootee. Loogootee Chief Hunt and Loogootee Assistant Chief Long responded.

9:40 a.m. - Received an animal complaint north of Loogootee. Deputy Branham responded.

10:07 a.m. - Received a request to speak with an officer. Chief Deputy Keller responded.

11:11 a.m. - Received an animal complaint east of Loogootee. Deputy Branham responded.

11:23 a.m. - Received a 911 call on Crane Base. Transferred call to Crane 911.

11:29 a.m. - Received an animal complaint north of Loogootee. Deputy Branham responded.

2:06 p.m. - Received a call from Poplar Care Strategies advising they will be doing a fire drill today.

2:13 p.m. - Received a call reporting a domestic dispute in Loogootee. Loogootee Chief Hunt, Loogootee Officer Wagoner and Deputy Branham responded.

3:09 p.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Medic 1 and Loogootee Fire Department responded. Medic 1 transported one patient to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

4:37 p.m. - Received a call reporting a structure fire southeast of Loogootee. Loogootee Fire Department, Martin County Civil Defense and Deputy Shields responded. REMC was contacted.

7:10 p.m. - Received a call requesting extra patrol in Shoals. Deputy Shields responded.

9:53 p.m. - Received a call requesting officers in Loogootee. Loogootee Officer Wagoner and Loogootee Reserve Officer Shaw responded.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 24

12:47 a.m. - Received a call reporting a car-deer accident in Loogootee. Loogootee Officer Wagoner responded.

1:50 p.m. - Received a call from Koorsen Fire and Security advising of a commercial burglar alarm in Loogootee. Loogootee Reserve Officer Shaw responded.

3:25 a.m. - Received a call reporting a strange noise south of Loogootee. Deputy Erwin responded.

3:58 a.m. - Received a call reporting a possible trespasser in Loogootee. Loogootee Reserve Officer Shaw and Deputy Erwin responded.

6:10 a.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin

County Medic 1 and Loogootee Fire Department responded. Medic 1 transported one patient to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

6:19 a.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance south of Loogootee. Martin County Medic 2, Loogootee Fire Department and Haysville Fire Department responded. Medic 2 transported one patient to Daviess Community Hospital.

6:47 a.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance in Shoals. Daviess County Medic 7 and Shoals Fire Department responded.

9:15 a.m. - Received a call from Lawrence County advising to be on the lookout for Casey Brown, a murder suspect from their county.

9:56 a.m. - Received another call from Lawrence County advising to be on the lookout for Bradley Harper also.

2:42 p.m. - Received a call requesting an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Medic 1 and Loogootee Fire Department responded. No transport was needed.

4:00 p.m. - Received a call reporting a suspicious vehicle south of Shoals. Deputy Branham responded.

4:09 p.m. - Received a call reporting a domestic dispute south of Shoals. Deputy Branham and Deputy Shields responded.

4:48 p.m. - Received a 911 call reporting black smoke north of Loogootee. Loogootee Fire Department responded.

6:48 p.m. - Received a call from Area 1 Protection advising of a commercial burglar alarm in Loogootee. Loogootee Officer Stivers responded.

9:12 p.m. - Received a 911 call reporting a reckless driver on US 231 South, traveling south. Advised Dubois County.

9:18 p.m. - Received a call requesting extra patrol north of Loogootee. Deputy Erwin and Deputy Shields were advised.

11:19 p.m. - Received a call from Life Line advising of a medical alarm south of Shoals. Deputy Erwin responded.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 25

12:06 a.m. - Received a call reporting a suspicious vehicle in Shoals. Deputy Shields responded.

11:16 a.m. - Received a call from AT&T advising that everything should be working properly now, including 911.

12:45 p.m. - Received a call requesting a vehicle identification number check south of Loogootee. Corporal Hawkins responded.

2:30 p.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance southeast of Shoals. Martin County Medic 4, Lost River Fire Department and Corporal Hawkins responded. Medic 4 transported one patient to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

3:56 p.m. - Received a 911 call from Life Line requesting a lift assist south of Shoals. Martin County Medic 1, Shoals Fire Department and Corporal Hawkins responded. No transport was needed.

4:33 p.m. - Received a 911 call from a Greene County address. Transferred call to Greene County 911.

4:56 p.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Medic 1 and Loogootee Fire Department responded. Medic 1 transported one patient to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

10:21 p.m. - Received a call from Traxs Alert requesting an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Medic 1 and Loogootee Fire Department responded. No transport was needed.

10:50 p.m. - Received a call from Traxs Alert requesting an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Medic 1 and Loogootee Fire responded. Medic 1 transported one patient to Daviess Community Hospital.

10:53 p.m. - Received a call reporting a car doing U-turns and backfiring north of Shoals. Major Reed responded.

COURT NEWS

CRIMINAL CONVICTIONS AND SENTENCINGS

February 14

Donnie G. Cato, convicted of escape, a Level 6 Felony. Sentenced to serve 180 days with the Indiana Department of Corrections with 0 days suspended and credit for 90 actual days previously served plus 90 Class A credit days.

February 15

Judith L. Harker, convicted of domestic battery, a Class A Misdemeanor. Sentenced to serve 365 days with 363 days suspended and credit for 1 actual day previously served plus 1 Class A credit day. Defendant received 12 months of probation.

February 20

Billy Taylor, convicted of dealing in methamphetamine, a Level 5 Felony. Sentenced to serve 1,010 days with 730 days suspended and credit for 210 actual days previously served plus 70 Class B credit days. Defendant received 24 months of probation.

CIVIL COURT

New Suits Filed

February 15

LVNV Funding, LLC vs. Alaina Hembree, civil collection.

February 16

Keith Milligan vs. James E. Stickler, civil tort.

February 19

Discover Bank vs. Kirk Bratton, civil collection.

CIVIL COURT JUDGMENTS

February 14

Judgment in favor of the plaintiff LVNV Funding, LLC and against the defendant Janet Warner in the amount of \$1,336.33.

February 16

Judgment in favor of the plaintiff US Bank National Association and against the defendant Ryan Spencer, Mary Sue Spencer, Phillip L. Spencer, and unknown heirs, for mortgage foreclosure in the amount of \$86,025.32.

CIVIL COURT DISMISSED

February 15

LVNV Funding, LLC vs. Robert Zollman, civil collection, dismissed.

SMALL CLAIMS COURT

New Suits Filed

February 20

Isaiah W. Baylis vs. Jacqueline Warren, complaint.

SMALL CLAIMS JUDGMENTS

February 14

Judgment in favor of the plaintiff Christina Sandefur and against the defendant Audra Young Lyon in the amount of \$214.

Judgment in favor of the plaintiff Brenda LaMar and against the defendant Daniel Golden in the amount of \$4,635.

ARRESTS

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 19

11:43 p.m. - David M Bledsoe, 42, of Loogootee, was arrested by Loogootee Officer Wagoner and charged with theft. He is being held on \$10,000 10% bond.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 21

10:35 a.m. - Brianna Stonecipher, 22, was turned in by Lighthouse Recovery and arrested for failure to complete furlough. She is being held without bond.

3:43 p.m. - Angelia Chastain, 56, of Loogootee, was arrested by Loogootee Officer Wagoner and charged with battery in the presence of a minor. She is being held on \$15,000 10% bond.

4:23 p.m. - Robert Bustos, 31, of Washington, was arrested by Corporal Hawkins and charged with failure of a sex offender to possess identification. He is being held on \$15,000 10% bond.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 22

7:11 p.m. - Caleb Kemp, 19, of Loogootee, was arrested by Deputy Shields and charged with possession of methamphetamine. He is being held on a \$15,000 10% bond.

7:29 p.m. - Shelby Harder, 29, of Loogootee, was arrested by Sergeant Wells and charged with maintaining a common nuisance. She is being held on \$5,000 10% bond.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 23

2:49 p.m. - Jason Strong, 48, of Loogootee, was arrested by Loogootee Officer Wagoner and charged with domestic battery. He is being held on \$10,000 10% bond.

2:49 p.m. - Linda Robinson, 47, of Loogootee, was arrested by Deputy Branham and charged with battery and residential entry. She is being held on \$15,000 10% bond.

2:49 p.m. - Robbie Robinson, 55, of Loogootee, was arrested by Loogootee Assistant Chief Long and charged with strangulation and residential entry. He is being held on \$15,000 10% bond.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 24

1:45 a.m. - Russell Drake, 51, of Terre Haute, was arrested by Deputy Erwin and charged with possession of methamphetamine and possession of paraphernalia. He is being held on \$15,000 10% bond and held on Owen County and Clay County warrants.

TOY'S AUTO PARTS, INC.

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Jasper (812) 634-2222

Washington (812) 254-2540

Sullivan (812) 268-5252

Martinsville (765) 342-6623

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REALTOR

MLS

Loogootee Police log

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 19

4:05 p.m. - Officer Wagoner responded to a call at a church.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 20

10:46 a.m. - Chief Hunt responded to a call on Park Street.

12:50 p.m. - Assistant Chief Long responded to a call on US Highway 231.

4:25 p.m. - Officer Wagoner performed a vehicle unlock on Church Street.

6:49 p.m. - Officer Wagoner responded to a call on Broadway Street.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 21

10:00 a.m. - Chief Hunt and Assistant Chief Long responded to a call on Mill Street.

10:06 a.m. - Assistant Chief Long performed a funeral detail.

2:53 p.m. - Officer Wagoner responded to a call at Redwing Trailer Court.

2:57 p.m. - Loogootee Fire Department responded to a medical call at Sunset Trailer Court.

3:53 p.m. - Officer Harmon responded to a call at Big John's Rack N Reels.

5:56 p.m. - Officer Harmon responded to a call near Crane Credit Union.

Real estate transfers

Indiana Warehousing, LLC, of Indiana to Martin Development Partners, LLC, of Indiana. Parcel I: A part of the northwest quarter of Section 6, Township 5 North, Range 4 West, Martin County, Indiana, containing 2.82 acres, more or less. Parcel II: A part of the northwest quarter of Section 6, Township 5 North, Range 4 West, Martin County, Indiana, containing 2.90 acres, more or less.

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

Wagler Mini Barn Products, of Indiana to Harmon Crone and Lee Roy Patton, of Martin County, Indiana, a part of the west half of the northeast quarter and a part of the east half of the northwest quarter of Section 25, Township 5 North, Range 3 West, Martin County, Indiana, containing 59.52 acres, more or less.

11:39 p.m. - Officer Wagoner responded to a call on Abel Lane.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 22

9:00 a.m. - Loogootee Fire Department responded to a medical call on Cedar Street.

2:30 p.m. - Loogootee Fire Department responded to a medical call on Southeast First Street.

3:16 p.m. - Officer Wagoner responded to a call at Redwing Trailer Court.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 23

8:57 a.m. - Chief Hunt and Assistant Chief Long responded to a call on Clark Street.

10:01 a.m. - Assistant Chief Long performed a vehicle unlock at Gasoline Alley.

2:13 p.m. - Chief Hunt, Assistant Chief Long and Officer Wagoner responded to a call at Country Place Apartments.

3:10 p.m. - Loogootee Fire Department and Officer Wagoner responded to a medical call on Byron Street.

3:57 p.m. - Loogootee Fire Department and Officer Wagoner responded to a call on Houghton Lane.

9:53 p.m. - Officer Wagoner and Officer Shaw responded to a call at Redwing Trailer Court.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 24

12:47 a.m. - Officer Wagoner responded to an accident on State Road 550.

1:50 a.m. - Loogootee Fire Department and Officer Shaw responded to a call at IGA.

3:58 a.m. - Officer Shaw responded to a call on North Line Street.

2:41 p.m. - Loogootee Fire Department responded to a medical call on Main Street.

3:08 p.m. - Officer Stivers and Officer Shaw responded to a call on Broadway Street.

4:14 p.m. - Loogootee Fire Department, Officer Stivers and Officer Shaw responded to a call near US Highway 231.

6:48 p.m. - Officer Stivers responded to a call on Broadway Street.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 25

4:56 p.m. - Loogootee Fire Department responded to a medical call near Poplar Care Strategies.

11:54 p.m. - Loogootee Fire Department responded to a medical call on Vine Street.



Corner Cafe

201 N JFK Avenue, Loogootee

812-295-4243

Monday-Friday 6:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Saturday (Breakfast Only!) 6:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.

Sunday (Breakfast Only!) 7:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

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VINTAGE GLASSWARE & COOKWARE

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(Hummels, Willow tree, Elvis, JFK)

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Coats

Gloves & Hats

Christmas Sweatshirts

TVs

WHEN: FRI & SAT

MAR. 01 & 02

FROM 8AM-4PM



Location

Loogootee VFW 9395

300 Vine St. (along JFK Ave./HWY 231 N)

Loogootee, IN 47553



More Neat Stuff



By Ann Ackerman



WINTER THOUGHTS

*Dear Mother Nature, having received my free sample of winter, I would like to cancel the remainder of my subscriptions. Thank you.

*The secret to surviving the cold is to put on enough layers that you can't fit through the door to go outside.

*Safety tips for driving in the snow:

1. Install winter tires.
2. Drive south.
3. Continue until you see palm trees.
4. Apply brakes and sunscreen.

*The trouble with going out in the cold at my age is by the time I get all bundled up, I've forgotten where I was going.

Winter Mnemonic

Thirty days hath September,
April, June, and November.
Unless a leap year is its fate,
February hath twenty-eight.
All the rest hath three days more,
excepting January,
Which hath six thousand,
One hundred and eighty-four.

--

These are perhaps the thoughts your dog is trying to convey to you.

When I hear your car pull in the driveway, I jump up and search for my baby or my ball. I wait for you at the back door, tail wagging.

I don't surrender the ball because that is not the point. The point is that I'm so happy you're home, I am celebrating

your arrival with a toy that I will keep.

I know that no matter how thankless or crappy or stressful your day has been, you can't help but smile at the sight of me. I can see your face and your body soften. I think you must be awfully stiff when you're away from me.

You and my other people will take turns burying your faces in my fur, whispering things you don't tell the others. My fur has absorbed a lot of tears. And laughter.

I'm meant to be with you my whole life. I only wish it were longer. I make everything better.

God sure was smart when he made me.

THOUGHTS

*Some people exercise every day. I'm watching a show I don't like because the remote fell on the floor.

*I'm young at heart. . . and slightly older in other places.

*People don't want to hear about your DIET. Just shut up, eat your lettuce, and be sad.

*The older you get, the more important it is not to act your age.

*I can't wait til I'm grown up," was the dumbest thing I ever said.

*Not to brag but I just got hired for a photo shoot as a fitness model. OK, yes, I am the before model, but still, I am setting a strong example.'

Make someone smile today!

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Historical society meeting

The Martin County Historical Society will be having their monthly meeting on Tuesday, March 5 at 5:30 p.m. The meeting will be held at the Allbright House on High Street in Shoals. The public is invited to attend.

County council meeting change

The Martin County Council meeting for March has been moved from March 4 to Thursday, March 7 at 6 p.m. in the Martin County Courthouse. The meeting is open to the public.

Celebrate Recovery meetings

Celebrate Recovery meetings will be

~LETTER TO THE EDITOR~

'Let's all support our farmers'

To the editor of the *Martin County Journal*,

The article in the February 21, 2024 issue of the *Martin County Journal* titled "Indiana remains a top agricultural state according to new census" is spot on and should provide reason enough to oppose the Mid-States Corridor. It lists Dubois and Daviess counties in the top 5 Indiana counties for the largest number of farms (Daviess) and the highest value of agriculture production (DuBois).

The Mid-States Corridor will go right through the prime agricultural areas of both Daviess and Dubois counties. The number of farms will shrink as well as the value of agriculture production.

Daviess, Dubois and Martin counties are all served with well-maintained highways which facilitate the easy movement of local agriculture traffic and farm to market roads. The Mid-States Corridor will, in addition to paving over farms, make local traffic more difficult, cut-off access to farms, adding long "drive-arounds", increase hazardous crossing conditions and generally make life difficult for the farmers. Congratulations to our farmers and on the great job they are doing. Let's all support our farmers and continue to oppose the Mid-States Corridor.

The primaries are just around the corner. Don't forget that every vote counts, so vote for the candidates that oppose the Mid-States Corridor.

Jim Arvin
Rutherford Township
Martin County

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

Dog/cat Wellness Clinic

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

St. Vincent Food Pantry

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

Free lunch for kids

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

SOAR Tutoring

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

LUMC Food Pantry

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

Solid waste board

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

Soil and Water meetings

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

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Includes: Ear Cleaning, Nail trim, Microchip, DAPP+Lepto vaccine, Kennel Cough Vaccine, Rabies Vaccine, Flex4 Test

Cats (6 months and older) - The Works - \$90

Includes: Ear Cleaning, Microchip, FVRCP+Leukemia Booster Vaccine, Rabies Vaccine, FIV/FelV testing

A la carte Dogs

Nail Trim (\$10) • Flex 4-Heartworm/Lyme/E.canis/Anaplasmosis test (\$25) • Microchip (\$20)
DAPP+Lepto Vaccine (\$15) • Bordetella(Kennel Cough) Vaccine (\$15)
Rabies Vaccine (\$15) • Ear Cleaning (\$8) • Dental Evaluation (\$15)

A la carte Cats

FVRCP Vaccine (\$15) • FVRCP+Leukemia- cats 6 months or older only (\$25) • Microchip (\$20)
Ear Cleaning (\$8) • FIV/FelV Testing (\$30) • Dental Eval (\$15) • Nail Trim (\$10) • Rabies Vaccine (\$15)

Also available for purchase (prices vary)

Heartworm preventative • Dog or Cat Flea/Tick medicine
Hill's Science Diet Food • De-Worming Medication

NOTICE

In preparation for mowing season, spring cleanup of St. John Catholic Cemetery will take place on Saturday, March 16, 2024. All grave blankets and other ground decorations as well as obviously outdated gravestone decorations (e.g. Christmas) must be removed prior to that time. Any ground or outdated decorations remaining will be removed by the cleanup crew..



EDGE OF LOOGOOTE: Remodeled 3 BR, 1 bath home on .42 acre +/- includes living rm, eat-in kitchen, full unfin basm, yard barn, & att 1-car grg. Newer features include: water heater, HVAC, breaker box, vinyl flooring, poly cabinets, & baseboards. \$222,500. MLS#202403741

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