

## City, commissioner ask county for \$297,000 to rebuild pool

BY COURTNEY HUGHETT  
Martin County Journal Publisher

The Martin County Council met Monday night, March 3 and spent a majority of the hour and a half meeting discussing the rebuilding of the Loogootee City Pool and the city's request for the county to help fund the project.

County council member Lonnie Hawkins said back in 2008 when the redevelopment commission was formed, the then-council verbally agreed to give 25 percent of EDIT (Economic Development Income Tax) to each of the three county commissioners for their districts, with the council retaining the final 25 percent. Hawkins said when the subject of the rebuilding of the Loogootee City Pool came up, he told Commissioner Dan Gregory (who serves that district) that he was entitled to his portion of the EDIT funds. The county's EDIT fund currently has \$271,622 available. The proposal from the city and Commissioner Gregory, and recommended by Councilman Hawkins, was to pledge \$100,000 of that money now and an additional \$39,400 for the next five years for a total of \$297,000.

Hawkins noted the county receives, on average, \$265,000 per year in EDIT

funds.

The projected cost of rebuilding the city pool is \$550,000. Mayor Harty said that in fundraising, the city currently has \$150,000 for the pool so far, which includes \$50,000 pledged from the City of Loogootee's EDIT fund.

Discussion ensued on what other cities have done as far as building pools for their communities including Vincennes residents approving a tax referendum to keep open Rainbow Beach.

Council member Rich Taylor said he spent quite a bit of time at the Loogootee Pool growing up. He said he has nothing against rebuilding it, but has received several calls in the past week from county employees stating any extra money in EDIT should go toward employee salaries or benefits.

Hawkins replied that even if the county committed \$100,000 from EDIT, there would still be surplus funds of \$171,000.

Mayor Harty replied, "I think we all have to look towards the long-term goal and we have to give people a reason to live here."

Council member Randy Winger asked Harty how much the city receives in EDIT funds each year. Harty replied that an es- (See 'POOL' continued on page two)

## Navy ready to send Crane trees for Old Ironsides repairs

BY BILL COUCH  
Naval Facilities Engineering  
Command Midwest Public Affairs

Navy foresters and contractors from Naval Facilities Engineering Command (NAVFAC) Midwest's Public Works Department (PWD) Crane began harvesting specially designated trees at Naval Support Activity (NSA) Crane February 20-21 in preparation for the next planned dry-docking repair of USS Constitution, the world's oldest commissioned warship afloat.

PWD Crane forestry program manager Trent Osmon oversaw the cutting down of 35 of the nearly 150 GPS-located mature white oaks set aside for future use by Constitution.

"Everything went smoothly," said Osmon, who manages the base's 53,000 acres of forest. "We have a limited window each year to harvest timber here because of weather conditions and also because Crane's forest is a home for the endangered Indiana Bat."

The trees will be moved to a covered storage area on base, where they will remain until needed. The dry-docking and repair is planned for 2014 through 2018, and now was the time to begin the process of harvesting, milling and shaping the special wood to match Old Ironsides' original white oak. Repairs will be done at Naval History and Heritage Command's Boston Detachment, known as the Charlestown Navy Yard, a 213-year-old former Navy shipyard, now part of Boston National Historical Park, which maintains Constitution. Crane's white oak trees will be used to replace deteriorated hull planking and supporting structures called "knees" on Old Ironsides, which was built in 1797 and was previously (See 'IRONSIDES' continued on page two)

## Old Ironsides Planking Set

CRANE, Ind. (AP) — Two large groves of white oak will be set aside at the Crane Naval Ammunition Depot in southern Indiana for use as planking for the hull of the U.S.S. Constitution.

There's no rush, though. Replanking of the ship's hull is scheduled in 2013 and again in 2053.

Harley Thomas Jr., the depot's forester who is in charge of the white oak groves, said the trees take about 150 years to mature. At present, the depot has about 27 million standing board feet of white oak, averaging 60 years of age.

Old Ironsides, flagship of the U.S. Navy during the War of 1812, is undergoing a minor overhaul at Boston Navy Yard. Plans call for her being returned to her dockside berth there in time for the 1974 summer tourist season.

The above article was published in the Farmington Daily Times in New Mexico on February 13, 1974.

## Sunday morning crash injures five

The combination of an intoxicated driver, a slick roadway, and excessive speed resulted in a Sunday morning single-vehicle crash that injured five people.

Indiana State Police Trooper Jarrod Lents reports that at approximately 9:41 Sunday morning, Brandy C. Nobbe, 30, of Indianapolis, was traveling southbound on US 231 at Truelove Church Road when she lost control of her 2000 GMC Safari van on the slick roadway. Nobbe crossed the northbound lane of travel and left the roadway, striking a ditch and a utility pole. The vehicle was totaled in the crash.

## Chamber of commerce to hold annual dinner

The Martin County Chamber of Commerce will be hosting their annual dinner on March 17, at 6 p.m. at the community building on the fairgrounds. The public is invited to attend.

Tickets are on sale at Old National Bank in Loogootee or Shoals and the chamber of commerce office, or you can call 295-8379 to reserve a ticket and mail payment to MCCC PO Box 257 Loogootee, IN 47553. Tickets prices are \$15 each.

The program will begin at 6 p.m. and will

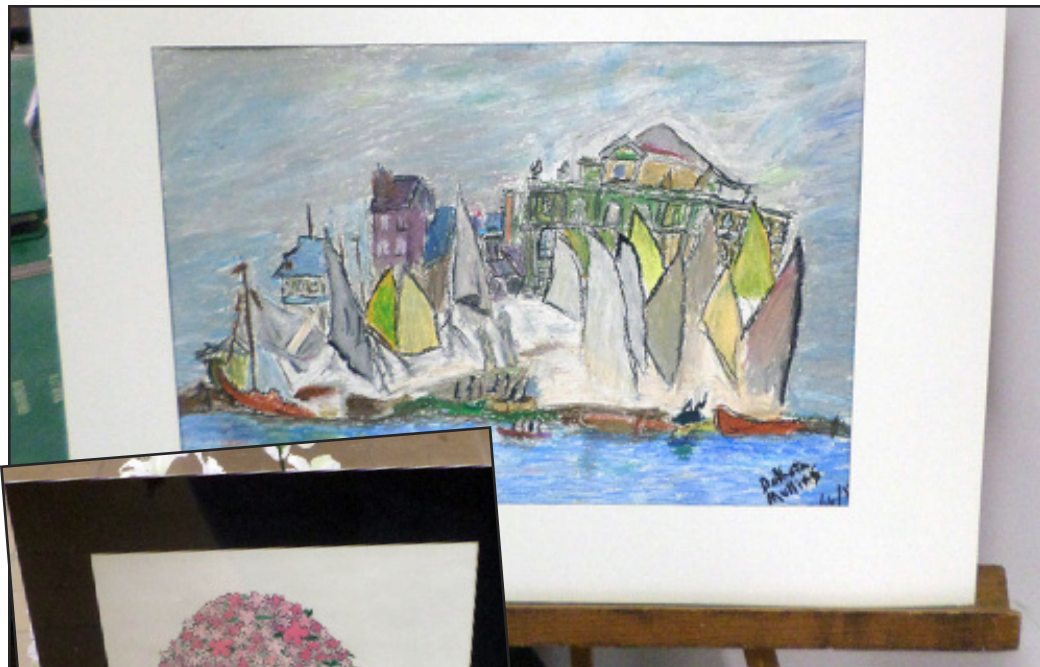
Nobbe, along with her adult passenger, Angel Royer, 39, Loogootee, and three children were all transported to Memorial Hospital in Jasper for injuries. Nobbe was admitted due to sustaining a fractured spine; the other four passengers were treated and released.

Further investigation revealed that Nobbe tested positive for a controlled substance. Due to her being admitted to the hospital for injuries, she was cited into court on a charge of operating while intoxicated with minor passengers and speed too fast for (See 'ACCIDENT' continued on page two)

be catered by Carla's Catering. The speakers will be Jessica Lindsey and Congressman Larry Buschon.

The chamber is still taking nominations for "The Martin Chamber of Commerce Citizen of the Year" award and the deadline is March 10. You can send your nominations to MCCC PO Box 257 Loogootee, IN 47553 and the winner will be announced at the dinner.

There will also be a raffle during the dinner for items donated from area businesses.



## Youth Art Month

-Photos by Courtney Hughett

In celebration of Youth Art Month, student artwork is currently on display at the Martin County Courthouse. Drawings, paintings, photographs, and sculpture by Loogootee and Shoals High School students may be viewed during regular business hours. Shown above and at the left are a few of those pieces of artwork that are on display. Youth Art Month is an annual observance each March to emphasize the value of art education for all children and to encourage support for quality school art programs. Started in 1961 by the Art and Craft Materials Institute in cooperation with the National Art Education Association, the program is administered by the Council of Art Education



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# POOL

(Continued from page one)

imate is \$60,000. A member of the audience asked Harty how much the city currently has in their EDIT fund. Harty replied that they have around \$171,000 but some of that is slated for a storm water project grant that has a match - around \$50,000. He added that the city used some EDIT money to purchase property from CSX, next to the railroad tracks on Church Street that they hope to build a park on someday.

Council member Winger suggested the solid waste district. He said when the recycling center was set up, the idea was for them to help fund projects in the community. Council member Richard Summers, who is the president of solid waste, said that they can give money but it has to be tied into recycling. Winger said that the pool filters water, therefore recycling. He said he is just looking into ways to tie the two together and also looking at other funding options for the pool as opposed to using county money.

The mayor said the goal is to get the pool open by next summer so he was hoping the council would act quickly on their decision.

Samantha Nelson, president of the park board, said that the board has met with other cities who have built pools to find the best way to handle raising the money. She said they have explored many options.

Ruth Smith then spoke saying she is not a member of the park board but is a Loogootee resident. She said when people consider moving to Martin County the first thing they look at is the school systems. She said the second thing they look at is entertainment for their children outside of the school. "We have nothing," she said. "I think with a city pool or a county pool, or a tri-county pool which is really what this is, is an obligation from us to our children and their children and it's something that should be provided."

Smith added that she has asked solid waste on multiple occasions to help out with spon-

sorships on fundraisers for the pool. She said the only thing they have received from solid waste is two trash cans. She said they always run into the issue of the project being about recycling. "And I'm not real sure that's fair, you know we can do a lot of recycling out there at the pool," she said.

Dru Fromm then spoke asking Auditor Roush where the health savings account money employees received came from. Roush said it came from EDIT funds. Fromm noted that this money was taken away from employees this year. She said \$500,000 is a lot of money and she understands the need and the concept behind building a pool but said the pool is only open through the summer. "What do the children do the other nine months of the year?" she asked. "We as employees are here 12 months a year and a half a million dollars is a lot of money," she said.

Council member Hawkins told Fromm that the council is in no way committing to giving the pool \$500,000 - he just wanted to clarify. He said that with the surplus in the EDIT funds, the council could pay out in health savings accounts again at the end of the year like they did last year.

Mayor Harty said he understands what Fromm is saying. "I'm probably the lowest paid mayor in Southern Indiana," he said.

Council member Warren Albright said that the 25 percent agreement to break up EDIT funds was a long time ago and didn't mean the commissioners could use that money however they wanted. He said it was still a decision of the council how money is spent. He added that the purpose of EDIT funds is for economic development and the economy should be improved by the use of those funds. "I'm not sure where you're gonna show us the economic development with a pool," he said. "If we're just funding worthy causes we could expend this fund pretty quick," he said.

Mayor Harty replied that the pool does provide jobs for young people who would not be able to find work somewhere else.

Auditor Roush said that she is in no way against the city pool but noted that there are repair issues at the jail that could cost \$50,000 to \$100,000. She said if the state decides to stop collecting personal property business taxes that will become an issue. She said she felt the council should consider these things before making a decision.

Kathy Collins, community corrections director, asked what was going on with the Swift building that the county owns and Stimulus Engineering has been leasing.

Many times in the past the council has discussed Stimulus' intent to purchase the building but it has not happened. And Stimulus was supposed to hire a certain number of county residents.

Council member Albright said that the county borrowed the money to purchase the Swift building at three percent interest. He said Stimulus is still paying their monthly payments but the building is not doing what the county thought it was going to do. He said if Stimulus walked away now, they would have paid around \$170,000 in lease payments. The county paid \$250,000 for the building. "When it's all said and done, one way or another we will either have a building to sell or we will be ahead about \$70,000," he said adding that the jobs were never generated as promised.

Judge Lynne Ellis stated that she felt the county employees would have a lot more support for the pool project if the county council would meet with them and let them know what was planned as far as health insurance and their salaries. She said a lot has been taken away from them over the past few years. "I think if you want the support of everybody, I think the employees would band together to assist if they believed their council and commissioners were willing to help them as well and find that they were as important to them as the economic development," she said.

Council member Hawkins said he didn't want to confuse two issues - economic development and county employees. He said they are separate issues and he cares about both of them.

Council member Albright said he was just a little confused about how the county had

trouble paying their bills at the end of last year but now are sitting on excess money. He said toward the end of the year, what may have been considered excess on paper may not actually be the case. He said almost all of the elected officials in the room will be back for more money before the end of the year. "By the time December 31 gets here this here wonderful slush fund that we have here that we can give everybody raises and build pools is not there. I mean that's just the facts. It looks good right now," he said.

Hawkins replied that the EDIT fund has always been healthy. He said the EDIT funds in the state were originally used to build jails. He said over time, the state has opened up the guidelines on what EDIT funds can be used for and over the years he has served on the council, he has seen many projects get funding through EDIT. He added that the pool project is directly related to economic development and tourism.

Albright replied that he would like to think that the commissioners would not have taken away the employees' health savings accounts if they had an extra \$100,000.

Roush replied that she thought the commissioners were going to make a deposit into the health savings accounts at some point this year, like they did last year.

Hawkins asked if the additional appropriation from EDIT could be advertised and then used if the council votes in favor. More discussion ensued.

In the end the council agreed to schedule a work session with the commissioners and all department heads for Monday, March 17 at 6 p.m. This work session will include discussion on employee wages and the use of EDIT funds for the Loogootee City Pool.

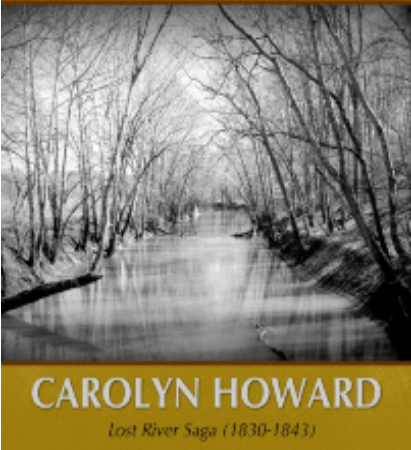
In other business, Judge Lynne Ellis presented the council with a quote from Hoosier Business Machines for a new copier. Ellis explained that her current copier has done 640,000 copies. She said it squeaks and makes lines on the copies. Trade in is \$4,430 for the black and white copier and \$5,330 on the color. She said she doesn't have a need for a color machine so it doesn't need to be replaced. Hoosier Business Machine does the service for all the copiers and printers in the courthouse. The commissioners approved the request and transfer of \$7,340 for the purchase of a black and white copy machine with a 1,500-sheet paper drawer.

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## IRONSIDES

(Continued from page one)

brought into dry dock for major repairs in 1991.

Constitution earned the nickname "Old Ironsides" while engaging British ships during the War of 1812. British sailors observed cannon balls bouncing off Constitution's hull and exclaimed her sides must have been made of iron.

Even after more than 200 years, around 12 percent of Constitution's wood is original. According to the ship's caretakers in Boston, the keel, the bottom frames, and the bottom 13 planks of the hull have never had to be replaced. According to Osmon's research, white oak trees at Crane were first approved to be set aside in November 1973, following work on Constitution with lumber purchased from the private sector, which proved to be very expensive, as white oak of that size is very valuable. "White oak is one of the more sought-after timber species for its attractive grain and color, and is mainly used nowadays for veneers," said PWD Crane forester Rhett Steele. A grove

of trees at Crane was officially named "Constitution Grove" May 8, 1976, during the United States' bicentennial. This small ceremonial area of trees includes a few white oaks and provides visitors a representation of the base's widely dispersed inventory of the species. Osmon said that Crane and NAVFAC have continued to support the ship over the years, including for its bicentennial. "In preparation for the ship's 200th birthday in 1997, the ship was brought into dry dock for repairs in 1991," said Osmon. "When they brought her up, she was in need of more work than originally thought, so Crane was contacted to see if any timber could be provided. Then-forester Terry Hobson located all the suitable white oak trees scattered throughout the base and chose the very best to send."

"We're very proud to be part of this," said Cmdr. James Stewart, commanding officer of NSA Crane. "The ship is such a big deal, such an important part of the Navy's heritage, and Crane is very proud to have this tie to Constitution."

## ACCIDENT

(Continued from page one)

weather conditions. Trooper Lents additionally found that Royer was wanted out of Daviess and Spencer counties for charges of check Deception. She was placed into custody and transported to the Daviess County Jail.

Arrested, charges, and injuries:

Brandy C. Nobbe, fractured spine, charged with operating while intoxicated

with minor passengers, a Class D Felony

Angel Royer, 39, Loogootee, fractured sternum, wanted on warrants, Daviess and Spencer counties, check deception

Alexus Royer, 11, Loogootee, contusions - neck

Brinley Royer, 10, Loogootee, contusions - neck

Addison Royer, 2, Loogootee, contusions - cheek

# OBITUARIES

Wednesday, March 5, 2014 ~ Martin County Journal

## ABRAHAM WAGLER

Abraham Wagler died Sunday, March 2, 2014 at 5:50 p.m. at his home. A resident of Montgomery, he was 96.

He was born September 23, 1917 in Daviess County; the son of Victor and Anna (Kemp) Wagler.

He was a member of the Old Order Amish Church.

He married Elizabeth (Wagler) Wagler on October 2, 1938 and she preceded him in death on September 7, 1976. On April 4, 1978 he married his second wife Amanda (Graber) Wagler and she survives.

He is also survived by two daughters, Mrs. Harvey (Rita Ilene) Wittmer of Odon and Mrs. Wayne (Anna Mae) Sweet of Sarasota, Florida; four sons, Roy and wife Ida Wagler of Loogootee, Larry Lee and wife Rachel Wagler of Cannelburg, Gary William and wife Karen Wagler of Plainfield, and Darwin Eugene and wife Darla Wagler of Loogootee; one brother, Herbert

Wagler of Odon; daughter-in-law, Lydia Wagler of Odon; 35 grandchildren; 110 great grandchildren and 29 great-great grandchildren.

He is preceded in death by his parents, Victor and Anna (Kemp) Wagler; his first wife, Elizabeth (Wagler) Wagler; two sons, Ernest Dewayne Wagler and Delbert Ray Wagler; daughter-in-law, Mrs. Delbert (Mary Beth) Wagler; son-in-law, Wayne Sweet; six grandchildren and two great grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted this morning, Wednesday, March 5 at the Produce Building in Montgomery. Burial followed in Wagler Cemetery.

Brocksmith-Blake & Wagler Funeral Home in Montgomery is in charge of arrangements.

## ROBERT "BOB" TOLBERT

Robert "Bob" Tolbert passed away Saturday, March 1, 2014 at 5:30 p.m. at Memo-



**ROBERT TOLBERT**

(Jones) Tolbert.

He married Kathy Murray in Martin County on October 27, 1989.

He graduated in 1962 from Shoals High School and was a veteran of the United States Army during the Vietnam War. He was a member of the Shoals Christian Church.

He was employed by Tredway's Market in Shoals for many years as a grocery stocker and retired from the Jay C Store as a meat cutter.

He had wished to be an organ donor and upon his passing, Kathy, his wife, honored his request.

He had wished to be an organ donor and upon his passing, Kathy, his wife, honored his request.

He was born May 25, 1944 in Shoals; the son of Johnnie and Nanny

He is survived by his wife, Kathy of Shoals; daughter, Tracey Truelove of Washington; son, Bobby Knepp of Washington; several grandchildren, nieces and nephews; one brother, William Tolbert of Loogootee; three sisters, Margaret Williams of Evansville, Vicki Sheppard of Shoals, and Debbie Hovis of Mitchell.

He was preceded in death by his parents, one daughter, Kasey Murray; and two sisters, Laura Collins and Linda Mumma.

Visitation will be held from 4-8 p.m. Wednesday, March 5 at the Queen-Lee Funeral Home in Shoals.

The funeral will be held Thursday, March 6 at 11 a.m. at the funeral home. Burial will be in Pleasant Valley Cemetery.

Military graveside rites will be accorded by the Shoals American Legion Post #61.

Preferred memorials are to the charity of choice.

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

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# COPS & COURT

Wednesday, March 5, 2014 ~ Martin County Journal

4

## Martin County Sheriff's Department log

### THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 20

8:58 p.m. - Received a report of debris in the roadway on U.S. 50, east of Shoals.

9:25 p.m. - Received a report of a tree down and across the roadway on Country Pines Road. Shoals Volunteer Fire Department responded and removed the debris from the roadway.

9:55 p.m. - Received a report of a tree down on Windom Road. Shoals Volunteer Fire Department responded and removed the debris from the roadway.

### FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 21

12:02 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Shoals.

12:55 a.m. - Received a request for an am-

bulance in Shoals.

1:03 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee.

7:40 a.m. - Received a report of a theft in Shoals.

4:57 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee.

### SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 22

1:46 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Shoals.

2:28 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee.

10:14 a.m. - Received a report of a domestic disturbance in Shoals.

11:20 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Crane.

12:49 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee.

9:38 p.m. - Received a report of vandalism in Shoals.

### SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 23

4:25 a.m. - Received a report of a property damage accident on U.S. 150.

11:03 a.m. - Received a report theft.

11:50 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Cale.

2:42 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee.

### MONDAY, FEBRUARY 24

4:55 a.m. - Received a report of a property damage accident.

4:30 p.m. - Received a report of a phone scam.

5:10 p.m. - Received a report of a domestic dispute in Shoals.

7:00 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee.

8:25 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee.

### TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 25

7:19 a.m. - Received a report of a broken down motorist on U.S. 50, east of Loogootee.

4:30 p.m. - Received a report of injured wildlife in Shoals.

7:19 p.m. - Received a report of a property damage accident on U.S. 50, east of Shoals.

### WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 26

8:45 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee.

10:52 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee.

3:05 p.m. - Received a report of a stove fire in Shoals. Martin County Sergeant Keller, Martin County Ambulance Service, and Shoals Volunteer Fire Department responded to the scene.

### THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 27

8:45 a.m. - Received a report of a domestic disturbance.

11:30 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee.

12:10 p.m. - Received a report of a domestic dispute.

3:11 p.m. - Received a report of a shed fire on Golden Park Road.

5:36 p.m. - Received a report of a tree down and across the roadway on Abel Hill Road.

7:41 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Shoals.

9:04 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Shoals.

### FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 28

3:20 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Shoals.

7:35 a.m. - Received a report of a property damage accident on Indian Springs Road.

2:20 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Shoals.

3:55 p.m. - Received a report of a domestic dispute in Shoals.

5:47 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee.

### SATURDAY, MARCH 1

6:06 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Shoals.

12:43 p.m. - Received a report of a brush fire on Reinhart Road. Loogootee Fire Department responded.

5:29 p.m. - Received a report of a personal injury accident on Lumpkin Road. Martin County Deputy Baker and Martin County Ambulance responded.

### SUNDAY, MARCH 2

9:41 a.m. - Received several reports of a personal injury accident on US 231 S near Truelove Church Road. Both Martin County Ambulances and Martin County Deputy Baker responded.

10:25 a.m. - Received a report of an accident on Dover Hill Road. Deputy Baker responded.

11:26 a.m. - Received a report of mailbox vandalism on Killion Mill Road. Deputy Baker responded.

1:47 p.m. - Received a report of an accident of Jay C parking lot. Deputy Baker responded. Martin County Ambulance transported one subject to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

### MONDAY, MARCH 3

2:47 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance on Broadway Street in Loogootee. Martin County Ambulance responded.

## Loogootee Police Department log

### MONDAY, FEBRUARY 24

7:45 a.m. - Caller requested a welfare check on a female.

8:50 a.m. - Chief Rayhill responded to a business alarm.

10:35 a.m. - Caller reported a dog complaint.

11:05 a.m. - Male came on station to report a theft from outside his residence.

8:13 p.m. - First responders were requested in Shaded Estates for a medical problem.

11:22 p.m. - Female caller reported her vehicle had been vandalized.

### TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 25

11:02 p.m. - Caller requested a welfare check on a female.

### WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 26

8:35 a.m. - Caller reported a scam.

8:45 a.m. - Sgt. Keller requested assistance for a possible burglary. Everything checked okay.

12:45 p.m. - Female caller reported having problems with her son.

### THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 27

9:46 p.m. - Male caller reported possible drug activity.

### FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 28

5:48 p.m. - First responders were requested on Elliot Lane for a medical problem.

5:50 p.m. - Caller reported a possible intoxicated person on East Broadway Street.

6:30 p.m. - Loogootee Fire was paged out to a vehicle fire on Hwy 50.

### SATURDAY, MARCH 1

12:40 a.m. - Male caller reported a parking violation.

12:11 p.m. - Caller reported a 911 hang-up on South Oak Street.

12:43 p.m. - Loogootee Fire was paged out to a brush fire on Reinhart Road.

8:05 p.m. - Loogootee Fire was paged out to assist with a vehicle accident on US 231.

### SUNDAY, MARCH 2

12:45 p.m. - Caller requested a welfare check on a female.

## Martin County jail bookings

### FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 21

6:14 a.m. - Nikolas Holt, of Shoals, was arrested by Martin County Corporal Greene on preliminary charges of minor consumption and resisting law enforcement.

### SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 23

7:30 p.m. - Tracey Scott, of Vincennes, was arrested by Indiana State Police Trooper Sexton on a Lawrence County warrant.

### MONDAY, FEBRUARY 24

10:00 a.m. - Edward D. Bundy, 46, of Loogootee, was arrested by Loogootee Police and charged with public intoxication and residential entry. Bundy was transported to the Martin County Security Center. Captain Hennette was assisted by Chief Rayhill.

### THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 27

9:43 p.m. - Joseph Wright, of Bedford, was arrested by Martin County Deputy Baker on

a Martin County warrant.

### SATURDAY, MARCH 1

1:31 a.m. - Joshua C. Hill, 40, of Loogootee, was arrested by Loogootee Police and charged with domestic battery and battery on a law enforcement officer/correctional officer. Officer Nolan was assisted by Dep. Harmon and Trooper Sexton.

5:29 p.m. - Michael J. Carr, 55, of Loogootee, was arrested and charged with operating a vehicle while intoxicated and transported to the Martin County Security Center. Officer Nolan was the arresting officer.

### TUESDAY, MARCH 4

Unknown time - Karl Young, 44, of Loogootee, was arrested by Loogootee Police Captain Hennette and charged with illegal possession of a syringe.

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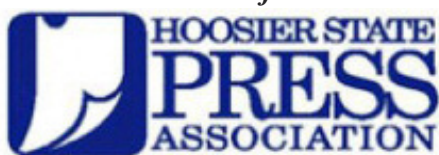
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# Martin County Court News

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

## CRIMINAL COURT

### New charges filed

#### February 3

Wesley T. Yoken, operating a vehicle while intoxicated, a Class C Misdemeanor.

#### February 4

Alfred P. Houchins, possession of marijuana, a Class A Misdemeanor.

Roscoe Petty, battery, a Class B Misdemeanor.

#### February 6

Darrin M. Boyd, disorderly conduct, a Class B Misdemeanor.

#### February 11

Sara M. Mayhew, driving while suspended, a Class A Misdemeanor.

Kimberly Fisher, two counts of receiving stolen property, Class D Felonies.

Nathan Truelove, two counts of receiving stolen property, Class D Felonies.

Robert A. Iams, theft, a Class D Felony.

Zachary S. Gonya, possession of marijuana in the amount of less than 30 grams, a Class A Misdemeanor; operating a vehicle with a schedule I or II controlled substance or its metabolite in the body, a Class C Misdemeanor.

#### February 19

Andy R. Holt, burglary, a Class B Felony; residential entry, a Class D Felony; theft, a Class D Felony.

#### February 24

Nikolas L. Holt, resisting law enforcement, a Class A Misdemeanor; public intoxication, a Class B Misdemeanor.

Claude L. Jones, invasion of privacy, a Class A Misdemeanor; possession of marijuana, a Class A Misdemeanor; possession of methamphetamine, a Class D Felony.

Phillip R. Fellers, theft, a Class D Felony.

#### February 25

Gary W. Shake, theft, a Class D Felony.

## CIVIL COURT

### New Suits Filed

#### February 19

Emily N. Walton vs. Phillip J. Walton, petition for dissolution of marriage.

Michael P. Brassine vs. Lyndzee A. Brassine, petition for dissolution of marriage.

#### February 20

Portfolio Recovery Associates, LLC vs. Prescilla Sipes, civil collection.

FIA Card Services vs. Kerry Adkins, civil collection.

Erma M. Lowery-Dye, Brett Dye and John R. Dye vs. Donna R. Dye, civil plenary.

#### February 21

Crane Federal Credit Union vs. Rose A. Pilarski, civil collection.

Crane Federal Credit Union vs. Brian and Jeanette Brownson, civil collection.

#### February 24

Portfolio Recovery Associates, LLC vs. Shannon Reinhart, civil collection.

## CIVIL COURT JUDGMENTS

#### February 21

Judgment in favor of the plaintiff LH & JM Enterprises and against the defendant

Randall Yoder in the amount of \$16,144.56.

#### February 25

Judgment in favor of the plaintiff Crane Federal Credit Union and against the defendant Jordan G. Davis in the amount of \$11,617.97.

Judgment in favor of the plaintiff Asset Acceptance, LLC and against the defendant Georgia R. Purlee in the amount of \$4,218.04.

#### February 26

Judgment in favor of the plaintiff Glassworks Rentals and against the defendant Glenn Jones, a/k/a Marold Glenn Jones, for mortgage foreclosure in the amount of \$24,908.12.

## SMALL CLAIMS COURT

### New suits filed

#### February 24

Charles R. and Brantley Lyon vs. Dennis Brosmer, complaint.

## SMALL CLAIMS JUDGMENTS

#### February 20

Judgment in favor of the plaintiff Crane Federal Credit Union and against the defendant Allan J. Albrecht in the amount of \$2,309.85.

Judgment in favor of the plaintiff White River Co-Op and against the defendants Jay R. and Laura A. Crew in the amount of \$1,156.38.

Judgment in favor of the plaintiff Crane Federal Credit Union and against the defendant Ronald E. Early in the amount of \$814.99.

Judgment in favor of the plaintiff Crane Federal Credit Union and against the defendant Anthony D. Fay in the amount of \$754.80.

Judgment in favor of the plaintiff Crane Federal Credit Union and against the defendant Brandon S. Fields in the amount of \$668.60.

Judgment in favor of the plaintiff Crane Federal Credit Union and against the defendant Jacob L. Lynch in the amount of \$4,875.69.

Judgment in favor of the plaintiff Crane Federal Credit Union and against the defendant Zachary D. McBride in the amount of \$279.53.

Judgment in favor of the plaintiff Crane Federal Credit Union and against the defendant Chalice Pettis in the amount of \$772.68.

Judgment in favor of the plaintiff Crane Federal Credit Union and against the defendant Angela M. Rose in the amount of \$1,367.87.

Judgment in favor of the plaintiff Crane Federal Credit Union and against the defendant Carol D. Thompson in the amount of \$622.47.

Judgment in favor of the plaintiff Crane Federal Credit Union and against the defendant Joshua L. Walls in the amount of \$641.64.

#### February 26

Judgment in favor of the plaintiff White River Co-Op and against the defendant Fred Cornett in the amount of \$478.49.

Judgment in favor of the plaintiff White River Co-Op and against the defendant Phil Gabhart in the amount of \$400.58.

Judgment in favor of the plaintiff Crane Federal Credit Union and against the defendant Kristin N. Garner in the amount of \$702.47.

#### February 28

Judgment in favor of the plaintiff Propane Direct, LLC and against the defendant Stephanie McCameron in the amount of \$617.60.

# Social media contest to award \$5,000 scholarships

Instead of making a tragic mistake behind the wheel, Indiana high school and college students are being encouraged to put their smartphones to good use by urging others to "Drive Now. TXT L8R".

The Indiana Bureau of Motor Vehicles, Indiana Criminal Justice Institute, Indiana Department of Labor, Indiana Department of Transportation and Indiana State Police have partnered to award \$5,000 scholarships to students who compose the most creative and viral social media posts on Twitter, Instagram and Vine.

Keeping one's hands on the wheel and eyes on the road is not just a safe driving practice - it's the law. The majority of text message citations and warnings issued by Indiana State Police in 2013 have been for drivers under age 30.

Students may register their public Twitter accounts and read contest rules at [www.txtl8r.in.gov](http://www.txtl8r.in.gov). Entries must be posted during April, which is Distracted Driving Awareness Month, and use the hashtag #TXTL8RIN. Social media posts that are composed while driving will be disqualified.

High school and college entries will be awarded separately, and up to three students may work together on the same social media account. The state will deposit \$5,000 into the 529 college savings plans for the winners of five categories:

1. Twitter - most tweets, retweets and favorites
2. Vine - most likes
3. Vine - most creative
4. Instagram - most likes
5. Instagram - most creative

# Catch the Latest Edition of "The Indiana State Police Road Show"

Catch the latest edition of the "Indiana State Police Road Show" radio program every Monday morning at your convenience.

Download the program from the Network Indiana public website at [www.networkindiana.com](http://www.networkindiana.com). Look for the state police logo on the main page and follow the download instructions. This 15-minute talk show concentrates on public safety and informational topics with state wide interest.

The radio program was titled "Signal-10" in the early sixties when it was first started by two troopers in northern Indiana. The name was later changed to the "Indiana State Police Road Show" and is the longest

continuously aired state police public service program in Indiana.

Radio stations across Indiana and the nation are invited to download and air for FREE this public service program sponsored by the Indiana State Police Alliance and Cops for Kids, a subsidiary of the Indiana State Police Alliance.

This week's show features Indiana State Police Forensic Firearms Identification Unit Supervisor, Mark Keisler. Mr. Keisler discusses the ISP Forensic Firearms Identification Unit and its functions as well as offering information on the services and assistance that can be provided to various agencies.

# Martin County real estate transfers

**Robert L. Wathen**, of Martin County, Indiana to **Mary Ann Wathen**, of Martin County, Indiana, a part of the south half of the northwest quarter of Section 30, Township 3 North, Range 4 West, of the Second Principal Meridian containing 1.22 acres, more or less.

**Mary A. Wathen**, of Martin County, Indiana to **Robert L. Wathen**, of Martin County, Indiana. Tract I: A portion of the southwest quarter of the southeast quarter of Section 24, Township 3 North, Range 5

West of the Second Principal Meridian containing 1.1 acres, more or less. Tract II: Lot Number 22 in Ackerman's Addition to the City of Loogootee, Indiana.

**Robert E. Force, Lois A. Brett, James R. Force, and Marilyn I. Force**, of Martin County, Indiana to **Robert E. Force and Lois A. Brett**, of Martin County, Indiana, a part of the east half of the northwest quarter of Section 24, Township 3 North, Range 4 West, Center Township, Martin County, Indiana containing 6.972 acres more or less.

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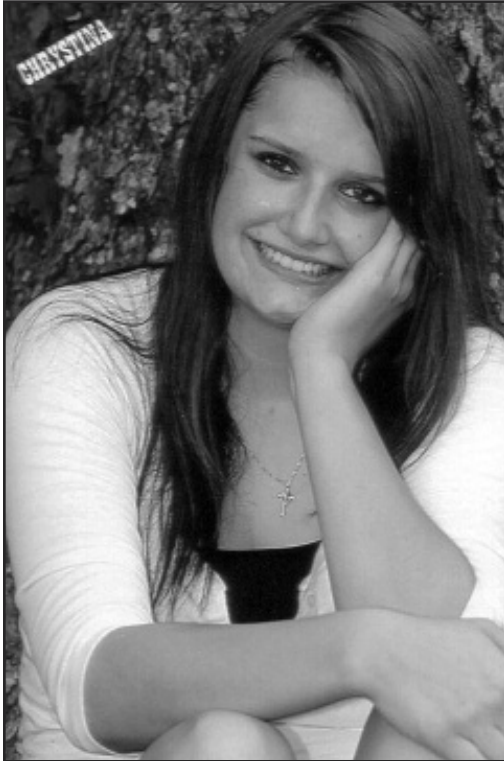
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## LOOGOOTEE HIGH SCHOOL



# 2014 Senior SPOTLIGHTS



**CHRYSTINA KIDWELL**

Chrystina Marie Kidwell is the daughter of Heather Kidwell. While in high school, she did job shadowing her sophomore year, was an intern in 11th and 12th grades and has been a cadet teacher her senior year. Chrystina plans to go on to college after graduation but is unsure on the course of study.



**TYLER STOLL**

Tyler L. Stoll is the son of Karry and Jan Stoll. While in high school he has been in pep club all four years, Spanish Club and student council in 9th and 10th grades, and was on the yearbook staff, a cadet teacher and played intramural basketball his senior year. He played basketball in 9th, 10th, and 11th grades. Tyler plans to attend Vincennes University after graduation and study broadcast journalism.



**ZACH NEW**

Zachary R. New is the son of Kevin and Paula New. While in high school he has been in the musical and show choir all four years. He was in student council in 9th and 11th grades, in SADD his sophomore and junior years, a cadet teacher his junior year, played intramural basketball in 11th and 12th grades, and was the school mascot and in pep club his senior year. He ran track in 9th and 12th grades. Zach plans to attend Vincennes University after graduation and study computer science.

## Loogootee and Shoals SCHOOL MENUS

### LOOGOOTEE ELEMENTARY

**Breakfast**  
Thursday, March 6  
Egg patty, sausage patty, wheat toast, fruit

**Friday, March 7**  
Breakfast pizza, egg patty, fruit

**Monday, March 10**  
Pop Tart, sausage link, fruit

**Tuesday, March 11**  
Biscuit and gravy, mini hash rounds, fruit

**Wednesday, March 12**  
Cheese omelet, wheat toast, fruit

**Lunch**  
Thursday, March 6  
Turkey, mashed potatoes, corn, mixed fruit, milk

**Friday, March 7**  
Pizza, French fries, green beans, pineapple, milk

**Monday, March 10**  
Chicken patty, French fries, peas, carrot, peaches, milk

**Tuesday, March 11**  
Subs, tossed salad, chips, pears, milk

**Wednesday, March 12**  
Soft taco, refried beans, lettuce, tomatoes, applesauce, milk

### LOOGOOTEE INTERMEDIATE AND JR.-SR. HIGH SCHOOL

**Lunch**  
Thursday, March 6  
Turkey or pizza, mashed potatoes, corn, mixed fruit, salad plate, milk

**Friday, March 7**  
Pizza, French fries, green beans, pineapple, salad plate, milk

**Monday, March 10**  
Chicken patty or pizza, French fries, peas, carrots, peaches, salad plate, milk

**Tuesday, March 11**  
Subs or pizza, tossed salad, chips, pears,

salad plate, milk  
**Wednesday, March 12**  
Soft taco or pizza, refried beans, lettuce, tomatoes, applesauce, salad plate, milk

### SHOALS SCHOOLS

**Breakfast**  
Thursday, March 6  
Cereal, graham cracker snack, fruit, juice, milk

**Friday, March 7**  
Biscuits with jelly, yogurt cup, fruit, juice, milk

**Monday, March 10**  
Banana muffin, orange slices, juice, milk

**Tuesday, March 11**  
Cereal, granola bar, fruit, juice, milk

**Wednesday, March 12**  
Cinnamon roll, fruit, juice, milk

**Lunch**  
Thursday, March 6  
Beef and cheese nachos, refried beans, lettuce and cheese boat, pineapple, milk; choice 4th-12th grades: nachos or chef salad

**Friday, March 7**  
Whole grain Bosco sticks with marinara sauce, salad boat, peaches, juice cup, brownie bar, milk

**Monday, March 10**  
Breaded chicken sandwich with whole grain bun, salad boat, broccoli and cheese, peaches, milk

**Tuesday, March 11**  
Fish sticks, macaroni and cheese, green beans, fruit cocktail, corn bread muffin, milk; choice 4th-12th grades: ham and cheese or chef salad

**Wednesday, March 12**  
Chef salad with diced ham, shredded cheese, carrot sticks and cucumber slices, whole grain crackers, pears, milk; choice 4th-12th grades: pepperoni pizza

## Shoals High School 2014 SENIOR Spotlights



**ARIEL HERT**

Ariel Nicole Hert was born on December 24, 1994. She is the Daughter of Retha Hert. While in high school, she participated in Cheerleading, Beta, SADD, Pep Club, Spanish Club, IMPACCT, Media, and Student Council. She was also an office aide and was Class Secretary for four years. Ariel's favorite song is "Unwritten" by Natasha Bedingfield. Her favorite teacher is Mr. Abel. Ariel's best memory during high school was being crowned Miss Martin County 2013. Ariel plans to attend college to get a degree in something she loves and live a happy life.



**SISTORIA NEELEY**

Sistoria Rama Covyé Neeley was born on May 23, 1996. She is the daughter of Rock and Eva Neeley. She has three sisters, Reeva, Eleora, and Zafira, and one brother, Edmundson. While in high school, she participated in Beta, Chess Club, and SADD. She also enjoys Crocheting, Drawing, and Reading. Sistoria's favorite song is "All That I've Got" by The Used. Her favorite teacher is Mrs. Sullivan. Sistoria plans to go to Indiana University to major in Business and become a Market Manager.

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SHANE ENLOW



DYLAN WAY

## Archery in schools

Last week, students from Shoals Jr.-Sr. High School participated in the National Archery in the Schools Program. The program, which has been going on at Shoals for six years, introduces the students to the sport of archery. The students took part in the three-day program as part of their PE classes. On the final day, each class had a competition to determine the top shot. The winners included the following: 7th grade champion Jonathon Tredway, 8th grade champion Cole Diamond, 9th grade champions Dylan Way and Shane Enlow, and Advanced PE champion Patrick Dixon. Freshman Shane Enlow was crowned the top shot of all grades with a perfect score of 90 points in three rounds. Archery instruction was provided by Indiana Conservation Officers Tony Mann and Eric Doane.



PATRICK DIXON



COLE DIAMOND



JONATHON TREDWAY

## Area students invited to VU open house

Area high school students with interests in pursuing careers in sports medicine/athletic training, sports management, physical education teaching, and wellness and exercise are invited to an Open House at Vincennes University on March 4, 3:30-5:30 p.m. (EST), in the P.E. Complex, Room 114.

The Human Performance Area within VU's College of Health Sciences and Human Performance is hosting the event to give students a chance to meet faculty, ask questions about specific majors, and learn about career opportunities.

Information about the various majors within this college is also available at [www.vinu.edu/health-sciences-and-human-performance](http://www.vinu.edu/health-sciences-and-human-performance).

## New VU scholarship honors local humanitarian

A new scholarship has been established by Sigma Pi Fraternity to honor a Sigma Pi brother, Honorary Grand Sage James L. Hills, from funds contributed by family and friends.

The Jim L. Hills Memorial Scholarship honors the life of Hills, who died on February 3, 2014, and has been created through the Vincennes University Foundation to provide funds for a Sigma Pi Fraternity member currently studying at VU.

"Jim Hills was one of the most dedicated members of Sigma Pi that I have ever had the honor to meet," states Brian C. Alley, Alpha Alumni Association. "Throughout his more than 60-year involvement with Sigma Pi - both international and locally with the Alpha Chapter at Vincennes University - he brought guidance, laughs, and joy to the lives of hundreds of young men. Jim was a brother, mentor, and close friend to many. He will be dearly missed."

While Hills was a student at the University of Maryland in 1948, he joined Sigma Pi Fraternity. This, in turn, launched his 66-year relationship with the Fraternity. He was a Founding Father of the Alpha-Chi Chapter of Sigma Pi at the University of Maryland and served as the Chapter Sage (president). From 1954 to 1971, Hills held national positions as field representative, executive assistant and executive secretary with the Fraternity.

As executive secretary in 1963, he supervised the move of the Sigma Pi Executive



## Intermediate first place

-Photo provided

The Loogootee Intermediate Math Bowl team traveled to Paoli on February 27 to compete in the area competition. The team placed first bringing home the blue ribbons. Team members are shown above. In the front row from left to right are Tristan Tinkle, Wyatt Street, Jack Fellers, Sean Page, and Matthew Poole. In the second row, from left to right, are Cassidy Esch, Sarah Wagler, Jayden Leatherman, Philip Wagler, Trey Fuhs, and Lawson McCloskey. In the back row, from left to right, are Coach Annie Miller, Abbey Lindsey, Anna Wilson, Christopher Jones, Garrett Williams, Brittany Potts, Daniel Park, and Coach Tim Sanders.



## Elementary first place

-Photo provided

The Loogootee Elementary 4th grade Math Bowl team competed at Throop Elementary in Paoli last Thursday night. The students were asked eight 5th and 6th grade math questions in each of the four rounds. There were a total of seven teams of various levels. Loogootee Elementary competed in the yellow class and won 1st place. The students chosen to be on the team were Tessa Bradley, Grace Gingerich, Jayleigh Harger, Mikenna Jones, Nick Keller, Jacob Lengacher, Rachel Lents, Jaylen Mullen, Anna Marie Park, Mason Roark, Reece Tippery, Rory Tippery, Caylin Wagoner, and Tucker Walton. Coach Tracie McAtee wants to thank all participants for their hard work and dedication, parents for their support, and Mrs. Terri Smith for her assistance during this experience. Congratulations to the Loogootee Elementary's Math Bowl team.

Office from Elizabeth, New Jersey, to Vincennes. In 1965 he also played a role in re-establishing the Fraternity's mother chapter, Alpha, at VU after a 55-year hiatus. In the late 1980's he was part of a group that was instrumental in the construction of the current chapter house of the Alpha Chapter, as well as raising the funds and building the Sigma Pi Clock Tower on the VU campus, which commemorates the centennial of the Fraternity's founding. The street behind the chapter house is named in Hills' honor.

In 1992 Hills was given the title of Honorary Grand Sage of Sigma Pi Fraternity, International; an honor bestowed on only six men in the Fraternity's 117-year history. He received the Fraternity's Founders' Award in 2000, which is the Fraternity's highest and most prestigious recognition. More recently he served on the boards of the Sigma Pi Educational Foundation and the Sigma Pi Fund. Hills also was a Founding Father of the Alpha Alumni Association. At the time of his death, he was the president of the Alpha of Sigma Pi House Corporation, a position he held for 16 years.

The scholarship recipient will be a member of the Sigma Pi Fraternity and a current VU student. The scholarship will be awarded annually to a traditional or non-traditional, part-time or full-time student at the Vincennes campus majoring in any field.

"This scholarship, in memory and honor of Jim, is a positive reflection upon his dedication to Sigma Pi Fraternity, to the generations of fraternity brothers he influenced, and to his commitment to higher education," stated Bumper Hostetler, president of the Vincennes University Foundation. "We are grateful to the members of Sigma Pi Fraternity Alumni Association Alpha Chapter and Jim's family for their efforts and support in establishing this scholarship to recognize the many years of service given by one of the most respected Sigma Pi brothers."

Additional information regarding the Jim L. Hills Memorial Scholarship, as well as how to support the scholarship, is available by contacting the VU Foundation at 812-888-4510 or [www.vinu.edu/foundation](http://www.vinu.edu/foundation).

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## Ten-digit dialing in Indiana's 812 area code started last weekend

On Saturday, March 1, 2014, all consumers in Indiana's 812 telephone area code should have started using ten digits, rather than seven, to make local phone calls. (For example, "555-5555" will need to be dialed "812-555-5555.")

Local calls made with seven digits will still work until early September, to give consumers in the 812 area ample time to adjust to the changes.

The change in dialing patterns is necessary for the introduction of the new 930 area code, which will be implemented this fall. The new code is being added through the "overlay" method, which has been used for all new area code additions in the United States since 2008.

An overlay is the addition of another area code (930) to the same geographic region as an existing area code (812). An overlay does not require customers to change their existing phone numbers.

The new area code is being implemented due to projections that all numbering supplies for 812 will be exhausted in 2015. To ensure a continuing supply of telephone numbers, the new 930 area code will be added to (or superimposed over) the entire 812 region which has covered southern, south-central, and parts of west-central Indiana since 1947, including Bloomington, Columbus, Evansville, New Albany, Terre Haute, and other cities. The Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission (IURC) ordered the overlay in July 2013, following a year-long case. The proceeding included numerous opportunities for public input and testimony supporting the overlay method from the Indiana Office of Utility Consumer Counselor (OUCC) and the telecommunications industry.

Timeframe and guidance for consumers in the 812 area

-Effective March 1, 2014, you should start using ten digits whenever you place a call from the 812 area code, including 812 followed by the seven local digits. If you forget and dial just seven digits, your call will still be completed.

-Beginning September 6, 2014, you must use ten-digit dialing for all local phone calls. After this date, if you do not use the new dialing procedures, your call will not be com-

pleted and a recording will instruct you to hang up and dial again.

-Beginning October 6, 2014, new telephone lines or services may be assigned numbers using the new 930 area code. In some cases, a customer with an 812 landline number who moves to a new location may be assigned a 930 number.

The most important facts for residential consumers and businesses to know are:

-Your telephone number, including current area code, will not change.

-You will need to dial area code + telephone number for all local calls.

-You will continue to dial 1 + area code + telephone number for all long distance calls.

-What is a local call now will remain a local call.

-The price of a call, coverage area, or other rates and services will not change due to the overlay.

-You can still dial just three digits to reach 211, 411, 811, or 911. The same applies to 311 service where applicable.

Consumers should identify their telephone number as a ten digit number (Area Code + 7 digit local number), and include the area code when giving the number to their friends, family, business associates and customers, etc.

Consumers should also ensure that all services, automatic dialing equipment, applications, software, or other types of equipment recognize the new 930 area code as a valid area code. You should also make sure that all pre-programmed numbers for local calls are set to include the area code. Some examples are life safety systems, fax machines, Internet dial-up numbers, alarm and security systems, gates, speed dialers, mobile phone contact lists, call forwarding settings, voicemail services, and similar functions. Business stationery, advertising materials, personal checks, and personal or pet ID tags and microchips should also be checked to ensure that the phone number includes the 812 area code.

More information is available from your local telephone company. You can also learn more from the OUCC's website at [www.in.gov/oucc/2718.htm](http://www.in.gov/oucc/2718.htm) or the IURC's website at [www.in.gov/iurc/2703.htm](http://www.in.gov/iurc/2703.htm).

## Attorney general announces top 10 consumer complaint categories for 2013

Hoosiers filed more than 15,400 complaints with the Indiana Attorney General's Office last year and auto-related gripes topped the list once again.

Attorney General Greg Zoeller said complaints against retail stores and home contractors were among the fastest-growing categories, and landed in the number two and three spots respectively. The newly released information comes on the heels of National Consumer Protection Week (NCPW) which kicked off Sunday.

"The more you are informed, the better your chances to avoid becoming a victim of a fraud, scam or bad business transaction," Zoeller said. "That's why National Consumer Protection Week and the state's list of top complaints are so important. Our hope is to educate consumers so that they know what to watch out for and how to protect themselves. Complaints also provide my office with insight as to what types of issues Hoosiers are experiencing and where the state can target its resources to help."

As part of NCPW, Zoeller will host a roundtable discussion on Thursday with consumer protection groups and law enforcement agencies. Participants will discuss ways to crackdown on scams and deceptive practices seen across Indiana. Invited guests include representatives from the Federal Trade Commission, Better Business Bureau, Indiana TRIAD, FBI and U.S. Postal Inspection Service, among others.

Here is the top complaint categories for 2013:

1. Used auto sales and service (1,002 complaints)

Complaints ranged from deceptive advertising and non-title delivery to faulty repairs and excessive document fee charges. Always review a vehicle's history and have an independent mechanic inspect the vehicle before you make the purchase. Before agreeing to a repair on your vehicle, seek multiple estimates and opinions. Be careful with service contracts or extended warranties, as the cost of covered repairs rarely exceeds the cost of the warranty.

2. Retail sales (999 complaints)

Several retail business closures may account for why this category jumped up from the No. 8 spot in 2012. Businesses that abruptly close their doors often leave customers without products, services or refunds. Always check reviews of a business and read the fine print on store return policies, layaway programs and warranties. If you feel like you have been ripped off, file a complaint by visiting [www.IndianaConsumer.com](http://www.IndianaConsumer.com).

3. Home repair and construction (923 complaints)

Formerly at No. 5, this category moved up the list as consumers cited a number of contractor issues including poor workmanship, failure to complete or even start a project, and misrepresenting the need for repairs. Research the contractor, obtain a written contract for projects exceeding \$150 and tie payments to completion of work. If a contractor knocks on your door and pres-

## The Messmer Report

By District 63 State Representative  
**Mark Messmer**



Indiana Legislation is Serving Veterans

As legislators, one of the things we strive to do is not only to fix problems, but to reward people who contribute to society. Few contribute as much as our men and women in uniform, who by serving sacrifice so much to ensure that we have continued freedom and security here at home. We have a number of bills this legislative session that help address active military and veterans.

One of these bills is a bill that I have talked to you about before, Senate Bill (SB) 260. This legislation authorizes local municipalities to give financial support to military bases. In light of recent events at the federal level, this bill has become even more relevant than before. On Monday, United States Secretary of Defense Chuck Hagel announced a proposal to shrink our Army to its smallest size in 74 years, which includes the closure of several bases across the country.

While at the federal level, they are discussing serious cuts, here in Indiana we are doing everything possible to support our military and do everything we can to help the bases that call Indiana home. In a matter of one week, SB 260 went from being a precautionary measure, to solving what appears to be an imminent problem.

The Naval Surface Warfare Center at Crane contributes more than \$730 million a year to the Hoosier economy. This money is crucial to the daily economic success of our state, and it is imperative that we not only nurture this revenue source but also encourage the strong military capability that exists there. This is an issue that the General Assembly strongly agrees on as SB 260 has now been unanimously passed by both the House and Senate.

In addition, the House and Senate have unanimously agreed that we must continue to serve our troops after their service to our country has ended. Indiana veterans have several needs, the greatest of which is jobs. Indiana's veteran unemployment rate is at a staggering 20.3 percent, in stark contrast with Indiana's overall unemployment rate,

which is under 7 percent. It is clear that when we attempt to tackle unemployment in Indiana, our veterans need special attention. That is where SB 331 comes in.

SB 331 establishes the Second Service for Veterans Program to attract students who are veterans to become teachers. State educational institutions will be required to award educational credit to veterans who completed courses at a postsecondary institution that is regionally accredited and meets the institution's role, scope, and mission. State universities will also be required to provide academic and career counseling specifically designed for veteran students in the school of education. This legislation will help provide another opportunity for Hoosier veterans to find jobs once they leave the service, and is a win-win for Indiana.

More veterans will be employed as a result, and our kids will be taught by men and women who are not only well educated, but also possess real-life experience and leadership skills. These are qualities you can't teach through a textbook; you have to see and experience them, and there is no better way to do that than through the men and women of this state who have the utmost integrity.

Our men and women in uniform sacrifice their careers, time with their families and even their lives to serve our country. There is not always a legislative fix for the problems facing our state; however I think everyone can agree that if we as legislators can help our Hoosier heroes even a little bit, we should do everything possible to ensure these pieces of legislation are given proper consideration.

There is clearly a contrast between our priorities in Indiana and those at the federal level and in this case, that is a good thing. I am encouraged by the support that these bills have garnered, and I am proud to serve in a body which has so much respect for our military.

*Rep. Messmer (R-Jasper) represents portions of Daviess, Dubois, Pike and Martin counties.*

sures you to make a quick decision, consider taking the contractor up on their offer and just say no.

4. Debt collection (787 complaints)

Illegal or unfair debt collection practices are a source of frustration for consumers – especially when the debt isn't legitimate. Complaints allege harassing calls from phony creditors who threaten arrest and jail time. If you receive a debt collection notice, make sure you determine whether you are being contacted for a legitimate debt. It's important to know your rights and how to recognize abusive collection practices. Keep track of phone conversations and other interactions. File a complaint with the attorney general's office if you suspect the agency is not legitimate, if you are being harassed or if the collector refuses to supply verification of the debt.

5. Fraud and scams (616 complaints)

It's clear scammers are still targeting Hoosiers as the grandparent scam, phony computer tech support calls, secret shopper and foreign lottery scams are commonly reported. Don't send money to someone you don't know – especially since money wires, Money Grams and Green Dot Cards are rarely recoverable. Never send money to get money. A legitimate contest or sweepstakes will not require you send money to claim a prize. Be skeptical of your caller ID because scammers can manipulate the name and number that appear on your phone to appear legitimate.

6. Internet sales and service (571 com-

plaints)

Consumers reported issues with receiving products, deceptive advertising and refunds. Research the online business you plan to purchase from and confirm their physical address and phone number in case you need to contact them. Consider using an online payment service, such as PayPal, or your credit card, which protects your transaction under the Fair Credit Billing Act. To protect yourself from ID theft, never respond to requests for personal or financial information and don't click on any links when you receive an unsolicited e-mail.

7. Consumer lending (449 complaints)

Advertisements for payday loans, cash advance loans and check advance loans are everywhere, but these opportunities for fast cash may take you deeper in debt. While these lenders may hand over the money now, extremely high interest rates associated with short-term loans can build quickly leaving already struggling consumers with unaffordable, high monthly payments. Borrowers should consider alternatives like obtaining a small loan from a credit union or small loan company and shop around for the lowest interest rates.

8. Identity theft (445 complaints)

The majority of identity theft complaints involve victims whose financial information was stolen and abused. The source of the theft can range from a lost wallet to making online purchases via an unsecure internet connection. Monitoring your finan-

(See 'COMPLAINT' continued on page 11)





## Pioneer Club donates to pool

-Photo provided

The children meeting weekly on Wednesday nights at Loogootee United Methodist Church at 208 W. Main Street have been bringing their weekly collections, which were turned over to Mayor Noel Harty and the Loogootee Park Board on February 26 in support of rebuilding the city pool. The children are investing in the future of the community and are excited to be part of this. If your children would like to attend this program, it meets during the school year on Wednesday nights from 6-7:30 p.m. for children age three through attending the sixth grade.



## 30-Hour Famine

-Photo provided

The Loogootee United Methodist Church Youth Group has raised more than \$11,400 to date for the February 28-March 1 "30-Hour Famine". The money goes to World Vision's amazing relief, recovery, and rehabilitation efforts to help end world hunger. The youth group supported African shoemakers and the removal of jiggers through gathering money and manufacturing materials for SoleHope. They also collected over 1,100 canned goods and over \$300 for LUMC's Martin County food pantry, and we feasted on God for 30 hours with over 40 of the finest youth in the area.

## Calendar of Events

### Talk to a lawyer for free

The next scheduled talk to a lawyer telephone clinic is March 6 from 4:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. CST or 5:30 p.m. to 8 EST. Volunteer lawyers will be available to answer general legal questions concerning Indiana law during that time. The telephone numbers are: 812-618-4845 and toll free 888-594-3449. Talk to a lawyer is co-sponsored by the Volunteer Lawyer Program of Southwestern Indiana, Inc., Evansville Bar Foundation and the Indiana Bar Foundation.

### Loogootee Park Board meeting

The Loogootee Park Board will meet Wednesday, March 12 at 5 p.m. in the city hall council room. The public is invited and encouraged to attend.

### Goodwill Cemetery meeting

Goodwill Cemetery will be conducting their annual spring meeting, Tuesday, March 18 at 7 p.m. The meeting will be held in the fellowship hall building located at Faith Baptist Church, East Main Street, Loogootee. The public is welcome to attend.

### Tea Party meeting

Libertarian candidate for the 8th district congressional seat, Andrew Horning, will visit the next Martin County Indiana Tea Party meeting on Thursday, March 20. The Martin County Tea Party meets the third Thursday of the month at 7 p.m. in the Shoals Public Library Basement. The library is located at the corner of Hwy 50 and High Street in Shoals. The public is invited to attend.

### ACCTS 12th Annual Banquet

Area Churches honoring Christ Together in Service (ACCTS) will hold their 12th Annual Banquet on Saturday, March 22 at 6 p.m. in the lower level of the St. John Center on Church Street in Loogootee. The banquet is free of charge and there will be food, fun and fellowship.

### Boy Scouts

Boys interested in Boy Scouts, please call 295-6652 or 854-7837 for information on joining.

### GED exam fees

Catholic Charities is happy to announce that they will be sponsoring GED exam fees. If you are ready to take your GED exam, give them a call at 812-423-5456 or email us at ccordovilla@evdio.org.

### SOAR Tutoring

Need Skills? SOAR tutors can help! Free and confidential. Call or text Beverly at 812.709.1618 to learn more. Located in the Martin County Community Learning Center Improve Your Skills, Improve Your Life!

### Solid waste board

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

### Humane society meetings

The Martin County Humane Society meets on the third Friday of the month at the animal shelter at 507 N Oak Street in Loogootee, at 7 p.m. Members of the humane society are invited to attend. To find out how to become a member, call the shelter at 812-295-5900 or email mchs@frontier.com.

### Tourism meetings

The MCCC Tourism Committee meets on the second Wednesday of each month at 7 p.m. in the Martin County Community Learning Center on the fairgrounds.

### Soil and Water meetings

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

## Four Rivers Group celebrates Disability Awareness Month

Disability Awareness Month is observed every March and provides an opportune time for self-advocates and families to reach out and educate their communities. One of the ways Four Rivers chooses to educate their local communities is through its Family and Guardian Support Group.

This group, which currently meets quarterly, is an extra asset available to families and guardians who have loved ones with a disability.

These meetings are open to the public, including current families and guardians, as well as other individuals interested in learning more about services that are available. It has also been a way for families to learn from one another!

The support group will host its next meeting on Monday, March 10 at 6 p.m. Randy Kriebel will be the key speaker for the evening. Randy has worked in state government for 41 years leading, planning, developing and funding programs for individuals with developmental disabilities. He has also started Enhancing Lives, LLC, to promote awareness of the needs of individuals with disabilities in order to enhance the quality of life and increase independence through advocacy and consulting. Currently, he is consulting, advocating and volunteering for The Arc of Indiana.

The group meeting will start with mingling and appetizers, and conclude with a question and answer time and door prizes.

The event will be held at Ride Solutions' accessible upstairs meeting room located on 1001 East Main Street in Washington. Transportation is also available.

For more information on the event and how to be involved, please contact Four Rivers at 254-3207 or visit [www.frrs.org](http://www.frrs.org).



## SOAR new officers

-Photo provided

Martin County SOAR recently elected new officers. Shown from left to right are Kip Trotter, treasurer; Karen Whorrall, vice-president; Mark Ellis, president; and Shirley Wagner, secretary. SOAR tutors work one-on-one with adult learners to improve their reading, writing, math, English, high school equivalency (formerly GED), and life skills. The tutoring is free and confidential. Call the SOAR office at 812-709-1618 to learn more about tutoring or becoming a SOAR tutor.

## Tenth anniversary of the Historic Preservation Month photo contest

Yes, it's true—the Division of Historic Preservation and Archaeology's photo contest is ten years old! They are asking the public to help them celebrate this milestone by making this the biggest contest yet. The current record is 187 photos. What can you do? The next time you're sitting around wondering what to do during some free time, go grab your camera and take some pictures of your favorite historic resource—building, bridge, cemetery, landscape. It doesn't matter as long as it is at least 50 years old and in Indiana.

The basic requirements are:

-Images must be 8x10 prints, mounted or

matted on or with a white 11x14 matte board.

-Photo subject must be in Indiana and at least 50 years old

-The registration form must be attached to each photo

-Limit of three (3) photos per person

For a complete list of guidelines and the registration form, go to [www.in.gov/dnr/historic/3994.htm](http://www.in.gov/dnr/historic/3994.htm)

Photos must be submitted by April 4, 2014.

For questions, contact Amy Borland at 317/232-1647 or email [aborland@dnr.in.gov](mailto:aborland@dnr.in.gov).

## Grazing Bites

By Victor Shelton

NRCS State Agronomist/Grazing Specialist

This winter just doesn't seem to want to end; it will be one of those winters that will probably be talked about or compared to for several decades...I hope. Someday younger people will say, "Do you remember the winter of fourteen," instead of 1978. This too will pass.

It has been a tough winter. I hope that pastures had been left with some forage residual and adequate fertility, and therefore ready for spring! What is the first thing a person should consider when we mention fertility... a soil test of course! A soil test is always a good place to start! Soil fertility on both pasture and hay fields is very important if we want good nutritious forage production. Without adequate fertility, we should expect lower yields and lower quality livestock feed which also will usually mean increased inputs elsewhere.

I see people all the time that have tried just "getting by". With lower levels of nutrients, especially phosphorus and potassium, you are doing just that, which results in lower yields, lower quality forages, and lower carrying capacities. Just like an annual field crop, your forage crop needs to be fertilized and managed.

Soil fertility samples should be taken that match up similar soils and management. If a field is used for hay, then it should be tested separately from a field that is only grazed. Fields are rarely all the same soil and also may not have the same use history. These are clues to doing a better job on collecting those samples. Different soil colors, textures, land use, and even slope and slope direction can influence soil fertility. Sample accordingly!

You really need to make sure you collect a representative sample. Depending on the size of the field, you want at least ten to twenty cores per composite sample. The fewer the samples collected for the composite, the less accurate it is; the more samples collected, the more accurate it is. Samples should be taken at the depth of about four inches. Deeper sampling on pasture could be skewed a bit, especially pH, and lead to possible over application. Avoid sampling in heavily used areas and areas close to rocked roads. Mix those individual cores in a plastic bucket, breaking up individual cores and ideally let air dry before putting in the sampling bags and sending off.

An alternative to a normal sample could be grid sampling. Grid sampling takes samples at designated and geo-referenced (defined physical space via geographic information systems) equally spaced intervals all across the field in one or two acre areas. Grid sampling usually gives you a more detailed picture of what is going on and future samples taken the same way provides you with data to compare. This type of sampling does come with some additional expense. I like to watch and see changes over time, especially with the cation exchange capacity (CEC) and soil organic matter (SOM). The CEC is an assessment of the nutrient holding ability of the soil and the SOM is an important indicator of water holding capacity.

Fields that are only pasture should be checked every three to four years. Fields that are used for hay production or are intermittently cropped should be tested every year. A lot more nutrients leave the field with hay than when it is only pasture. According to Jim Gerrish, each ton of hay removes 40-60 pounds of nitrogen, 6 pounds of phosphorus (13 lbs. P2O5) and 40-55 pounds of potassium; 500 pounds of beef per acre removes only 16 pounds of nitrogen, 5 pounds of phosphorus (10 lbs. P2O5), and about one pound of potassium. About 90 percent of all minerals an animal consumes will return to the site. Good management puts it back more uniformly.

After you get the results from the tests, you can then get a better handle on where the fields are lacking and amend as needed. Macro nutrients such as calcium, magnesium, nitrogen, phosphorus, potassium, sodium and sulfur, are generally needed in larger amounts and are somewhat dependent on where you are located and materials used over time. Calcium certainly plays an important part with soil pH and thus availability of most other nutrients, which is why I usually say, "lime first" if needed. There are advocates that say that you can't put on too much lime. There is some truth to that. Fertilizer can be commercial or from animal manure. When using animal wastes, you need to get a good sample of the material and have it tested to see what nutrient levels it has and then apply it according to a soil test just like commercial fertilizer.

Nitrogen is probably one of the key nutrients for maximizing yield potential of a soil, but with tongue in cheek I'd have to say, the other nutrients still have to be there in order to maximize production, have healthy forage and thus healthy livestock grazing on it. If the pasture is a monoculture of grass, then certainly the sward is going to need a nitrogen source to reach its yield potential, but if it is a grass-legume mix, then you need to think slightly differently. If the legume component is at least 30 or 40 percent of the sward by dry weight or appearing to be close to 40 or 50 percent visually, then you may not really need much, if any, supplemental nitrogen. Now, saying that, if for some reason you have too much legume, which is normally clover if a problem, then applying a little nitrogen early in the spring at first green up will be advantageous for the grass and set the clover back. If you are shy or have about the right amount legume content, then adding early nitrogen is probably not a good idea. The nitrogen will create early grass growth that will then compete too much with the legumes you are trying to promote.

Legumes will pay a lot more dividends than applied nitrogen. So, manage to maintain your legume component, clover, lespedeza, trefoil or alfalfa. Keep fertility and pH at optimal levels to maintain the legumes and introduce more as needed. The pH of the soil is also a very important factor. Most clovers need at least a pH of 6.0 or better, 6.6 for alfalfa. If the pH is too low and you are trying to establish new clover, apply lime first, ideally several months in advance, to get a good stand. The pH is also important in increasing the CEC and for good soil microbial health. Everything plays a part in maintaining a healthy soil, healthy forage, healthy animal, happy consumer, and a profitable producer.

Lastly, are there residual forages, or adequate amount of stem and leaf left behind after the last grazing of the previous year's growth? Yes, there should be something left! Swards with more residual will have more start up energy in the spring. That dry residue matches up with the new growth perfectly to help provide some dry matter with all that rich new watery green growth making it easier to be utilized more efficiently by the cows or whatever is grazing it. Fields with the most residual might be the best to graze first and ideally, that is not the same field each year.

Spring will come; we just need to be patient and ready. Keep on grazing!

Reminders and opportunities  
Livestock Forage and Grain Forum – March 13, 2014 – Marriott Hotel in downtown Indianapolis. For more information go to: [www.indianasoybean.com/events-and-promotions/livestock-forage-and-grain-forum](http://www.indianasoybean.com/events-and-promotions/livestock-forage-and-grain-forum)

## Deer harvest down in 2013 but still a top 10 season

Hunters harvested fewer deer in the 2013 season than in each of the previous five seasons. That might be sobering news to some deer hunters, but it wasn't unexpected.

"Going into the year, I knew it was going to be down," said Chad Stewart, deer management biologist with the DNR Division of Fish & Wildlife. "It's what we thought it would be."

The reported harvest of 125,635 deer was about 10,600 fewer deer than the record harvest of 136,248 in 2012, a decline of 7.8 percent. It still ranks eighth best since regulated deer hunting began in Indiana in 1951. The full harvest report is at [wildlife.IN.gov](http://wildlife.IN.gov), under Featured Topics.

"Down about 8 percent is very similar to what we're seeing in a lot of other Midwest states, so we're par for the course," Stewart said. "We're still harvesting a lot of deer. The 125,635 shows we're down but not collapsing."

At least two and possibly three factors contributed to the lower harvest – carryover from a widespread outbreak of epizootic hemorrhagic disease (EHD) in 2012 and more in 2013, a record antlerless harvest in 2012, and the second season of new hunting regulations aimed at lowering deer densities in some areas of the state.

EHD, a viral disease transmitted by biting flies, was confirmed or suspected in 67 counties in 2012. It was reported in 23 counties in 2013, with 20 of them taking a hit for the second straight year. EHD is often fatal to deer.

"We had a record antlerless harvest in 2012 on top of a major disease outbreak, which tells us there were a lot less deer

going into the season," Stewart said. "It was pretty easy to predict the harvest would be down."

It's less certain how much of a role the new hunting regulations played.

"It really complicates things as far as interpretation," Stewart said. "It's not clear if deer numbers were down because of EHD or our management efforts or a combination of both."

Harrison County had the highest harvest with 3,454 deer. Washington, Switzerland, Franklin, Steuben, Noble, Parke, Jefferson, Lawrence and Orange counties rounded out the top 10.

Harrison County's total made it one of 10 counties with unofficial record harvests, compared to 35 record-setting counties in 2012.

Steuben, which had been the perennial top county until 2012, reported its lowest harvest total (2,652) since 1997 but still ranked fifth in the state.

Tipton had the lowest reported harvest with 91 deer, followed by Benton, Blackford, Hancock, Rush, Clinton, Wells, Howard, Shelby and Marion.

The firearms season accounted for 57 percent of the total, followed by archery at 27 percent. The muzzleloader (8 percent), late antlerless (5 percent), and youth season (2 percent) made up the rest.

Hunters had three options to report their harvest – traditional in-person check stations, online or by phone. It was nearly an even split between check stations (64,740) and the online/phone method (60,895). Last year, just over 60 percent were reported at check stations.



## In the Garden

By Ralph Purkhiser

Purdue University Master Gardener

It has been another week of rollercoaster weather. We had a couple of days when spring seemed to be upon us, just to turn and have ice and cold return with vengeance. I have had many questions about how this weather will affect our gardens. There certainly will be some effects from the weather, but it may still be too early to know just how and how much.

Some trees collected enough ice to cause some limbs to break or bend down. If the limb is broken, go ahead and remove it back to the limb collar. If it is just bent, I would give it a chance to correct itself. Nature has a way of drawing such limbs back into place over a little time. If the branch has not returned to its normal place within a couple of months, you may then prune it or take other measures to correct the problem.

While we have had a lot of cold weather and it has been colder than in recent years, we really have not had any temperatures so extreme as to have an effect on plants that are normally rated for our zone. However, because of recent mild winters, many gardeners have been lured into planting varieties that normally grow in warmer climates and have had some success. Such plants may see some winter kill this year.

One of the major effects this weather may have is in the condition of our soil. When soil surfaces are wet but a frost layer persists underground, we may have some compaction of the topsoil, especially if we walk or drive equipment across it when in this condition. Compaction may also be caused by heavy downpours of rain, especially when the soil is already saturated.

The best way to control compaction is to stay off the soil as much as necessary. If you have ever had occasion to try to dig in an area which has been used for a path, you know that the soil there has become almost

like concrete and little plant life will tolerate such compaction.

While spring tilling may help with compacted soils, too much tilling may actually make the problem worse. Breaking the soil down into dust-like particles may make it compact more when it rains next. The best defense against compacted soil is to add copious amounts of organic matter in the form of compost. Organic matter will not clump as easily as clay particles will. However, one application of compost will not be enough. It often takes annual applications over a period of years to get the soil to a stage that does not compact.

Nature has its own defenses against compaction. The freeze-thaw cycles we experience actually helps the soil to move, and as long as we stay off of the soil during the thaws, compaction will not be a major problem. Earthworms and even the hated moles actually do a service in keeping soils aerated and loose.

While we can never completely defeat the effects of compaction, we can lessen them by staying out of the growing areas, especially when the ground is wet. Using boards to walk on will spread the weight out over a greater area and reduce compaction. Keeping to regular walkways will help keep the soil from compacting in the actual growing areas. Raised beds are a great example of this. Such beds should always be constructed so one may reach into the bed from either side and tend the garden therein. The soil around the bed may become compacted, but the actual growing area remains loose and healthy.

Growing in such beds also makes it easier to concentrate the effects of compost and other amendments.

In a couple of weeks, spring will arrive on the calendar. I just hope the weather gets spring-like by then.



-Photo by Bill Whorrall, [www.billwhorrall.com](http://www.billwhorrall.com)

The area was slammed again with ice and snow causing Martin County Schools to close up again on Monday. Forecasters say winter weather will keep its grip on Indiana until at least late March.

## Winter likely to keep a frigid grip on Indiana into late March

BY JENNIFER STEWART  
Purdue University News Service

Despite a couple of recent mild weather days that made us think spring could be near, the Indiana State Climate Office says winter isn't going away anytime soon.

While it isn't abnormal in Indiana for snow and cold temperatures to linger into mid-March, current weather models suggest spring weather might not move in until even later.

"A few days with temperatures in the 50s and 60s might have led us to believe spring is right around the corner," said Ken Scheeringa, associate state climatologist for the Indiana State Climate Office based at Purdue University.

"Not so fast," he quickly added. "The snow and cold of winter usually continues into the first half of March. Based on the latest weather outlook, it could even persist late into the month."

Monthly and seasonal weather outlooks from the Climate Prediction Center show a colder-than-normal, but mostly dry start to March. The cold trend is likely to continue throughout the month, but forecasters are less certain about precipitation later in March.

Moving on to spring, the outlook calls for a slight chance of a colder-than-normal spring in northern Indiana and wetter-than-normal conditions in the southern part of the state.

Early March temperatures in Indiana typically range from 40 degrees in the north to 50 degrees in the south and increase toward the end of the month to a range of mid-50s in the north to the mid-60s in the south. March precipitation normally varies from about 2.5 inches in far northern Indiana to about 4.2 inches in the far southwest.

If winter weather sticks around later than normal, farmers antsy to start planting their corn and soybean crops might have to wait a little bit longer for optimal planting conditions, including soil temperatures of at least 50 degrees at seeding depth.

But according to Purdue Extension corn specialist Bob Nielsen, while a colder March could affect planting dates, the bulk of the state's farmers don't get serious about planting corn until the third week of April. That means weather in early April is likely to influence planting far more heavily than the weather in March.

"The fact that March is colder than normal might or might not impact planting dates, depending on how cold we're talking," he said. "But if we get to a point where it looks like planting might be delayed, it's important to remember that planting date is only one of many factors that influence crop yields."

As an example, Nielsen compared the 2012 cropping year, when farmers planted one of the earliest crops on record before drought decimated yields, with the 2013 cropping year, which started off with delayed planting and ended with above-trendline yields.

In Indiana, the earliest dates farmers can plant corn and still be eligible for crop insurance are April 1 in southern Indiana, April 5 in central and April 10 in northern. Soybean dates are April 15 in southern Indiana, April 20 in central and April 24 in northern. That means farmers have much more time to wait and see how the weather actually plays out.

Forecasters will continue to watch long-range weather models, which Scheeringa said take into account global weather signals, including storm activity in the far west Pacific, surface ocean temperatures and conditions over North America. So far, water temperatures are normal in the Pacific Ocean with a lack of El Niño - a rise in surface water temperatures near the Equator - and La Niña - a drop in surface water temperatures in the same region.

"Neutral El Niño and La Niña ocean patterns are expected to continue as non-players in the spring forecast," Scheeringa said. "But storm activity in the western Pacific should impact the path of the jet stream in the eastern Pacific and over North America. The path would re-establish the old dominant winter pattern of warm conditions in western states and unusual cold east of the Rocky Mountains."

## It is time to nominate best environmental projects of 2013

The 2014 Indiana Governor's Awards for Environmental Excellence wants to recognize Indiana's extraordinary environmental stewards and pollution prevention projects of 2012 and/or 2013.

Indiana businesses, environmental groups, schools, trade associations, non-profit organizations, and individuals are eligible for the awards program.

Award nominations and applications may be submitted to the Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) through April 18, 2014. Categories include: Energy/Renewable Resources, Five Years' Continuous Improvement, Greening the Government, Land Use, Outreach or Education, Pollution Prevention, and Recycling/Reuse.

"Thoughtful environmental action can strengthen both the economy and the environment, and it's an honor each year to recognize the exemplary actions of Hoosier organizations and individuals," said Thomas Easterly, IDEM commissioner.

Nominations and applications will be reviewed by category-specific committees, and the awards ceremonies will be held in the fall.

To learn more about the Governor's Awards for Environmental Excellence, visit the IDEM website at [www.idem.IN.gov/5147.htm](http://www.idem.IN.gov/5147.htm) or contact Nathan Christian, program coordinator with IDEM's Office of Pollution Prevention and Technical Assistance, at (800) 988-7901 or [nchristi@idem.IN.gov](mailto:nchristi@idem.IN.gov).

## 4-H color runs to take place starting in March

BY EMMA HOPKINS  
Purdue University News Service

4-H members across Indiana will participate in color runs in all of their green glory beginning in March to support their programs and local food pantries.

So what's a color run? They are races in which participants are sprinkled with biodegradable colored powder along the track, dyeing white clothing. The theme of the runs will be "Color Me Green" to match the color of the 4-H emblem. Runners will be sprinkled only with green dye.

The runs are for fun only - they will be untimed, with no winners or prizes. On the days of the races, participants can share their experience on social media by using the hashtag of #colormegreen.

Steve McKinley, Purdue Extension 4-H specialist, said the color run is a response to the national 4-H healthy-living initiative promoting physical and mental health.

## Hunter Education Course starts tomorrow night

An Indiana Hunter Education Course will be held starting tomorrow at the Dover Hill Christian Union Church located four miles north of Shoals on Highway 450. The class starts Thursday, March 6 from 6 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. and continues on Friday, March 7 from 6 to 9:30 p.m. and Saturday, March 8 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Participants will learn about wildlife conservation, hunter ethics, firearms safety, shotguns, rifles, archery, survival and much

more. All instruction will be done by Indiana Conservation Officers and certified Indiana Volunteer Hunter Education Instructors.

There is no charge for the class. Hunter Education certification is required for all persons born after December 31, 1986 who wish to purchase an Indiana hunting license.

Register online at [www.passitonindiana.com](http://www.passitonindiana.com). The class is sponsored by Martin County 4-H Shooting Sports.

## COMPLAINT

(Continued from page 8)

cial statements regularly and checking your credit report at least once a year can help you detect errors, accounts you never opened, and/or bills sent to the wrong address - all signs that someone else is using and ruining, your name and credit. Victims of identity theft can file a complaint with the attorney general's office. Protect your personal and financial information by visiting [www.IndianaConsumer.com](http://www.IndianaConsumer.com) to use the identity theft toolkit.

9. Health services (392 complaints)

Take the time to read the contract and understand the terms before joining a health or fitness club. You have three days to cancel after signing the contract. You also have rights to cancel if the club moves more than five miles from the original location, the club closes and your contract is not transferred to a similar facility within five miles, or you become disabled for the life of the

contract.

10. Telephone & TV service providers (371 complaints)

Compare several different providers to determine the plan that best fits your needs and budget. In addition to your plan's monthly charge, make sure you research the quality of service and the coverage area, the monthly usage limits, and whether any additional fees will be added to your monthly bill.

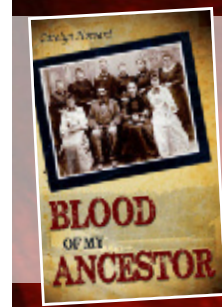
Consumers can access for consumer tips and complaint forms by visiting [www.IndianaConsumer.com](http://www.IndianaConsumer.com). The Attorney General's staff travel to communities across the state to educate consumers about the latest scams and how to safeguard your personal information - especially those most vulnerable to falling victim to scams. To schedule a free event in your area please email [reachservices@atg.in.gov](mailto:reachservices@atg.in.gov) or call 1-317-234-6668.

## "Blood of My Ancestor"

by Carolyn Howard

Now Available at The Candy Mill  
108 Mill Street, Loogootee

Books available for \$23.99.



302 W. Williams St.  
LOOGOOTEE  
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NIGHT IS  
RIB NIGHT!**  
The smoker will  
be fired up and  
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**SMOKED BABY  
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Sunday Hours: 8 a.m.-11 a.m. for  
breakfast and serving lunch  
11 a.m.-2 p.m.

# New Beginnings Church WEEKLY MESSAGE

**BY ERNIE CANELL**  
*Pastor, New Beginnings Church*

In my dining room I put in a dimmer switch. You know one of those that you turn the dial to get more light. You can make it romantic. Get some ambience. I think about how that switch is like Christians. The power is there and all we have to do is realize the power is there and turn up the switch. What I mean is when we know who we are and we understand the position we have in Christ then we can see the full power of what it is to be a Christian walking in the fullness of Christ.

Christ is the fullness of the grace and truth of God and of that fullness we have all received in Christ. John 7:37 reminds us that Jesus Christ is the spiritual water to quench fully every thirsty soul. John 15:5 tells us that apart from Jesus Christ we can do absolutely nothing and Philippians 4 on the other hand tells us that in Christ there's nothing we can't do. Romans 13:14 informs us that we living triumphantly over sin and victoriously over temptation in this dark world is not coming from some complex difficult approach but rather simply means putting on the Lord Jesus Christ.

Now, having said that initially, Paul focuses on four great realities that are available in Christ, four great realities that belong to us because we belong to Christ. First is the greatness of His love. We see Paul mention the proof of that love in us. If we are saved that is the position we have. And he says since we are in that position that we are chosen, we are adopted, we are sealed with the Holy Spirit, we are forgiven, we are accepted, and we are loved.

Second, the greatness of His plan. Paul prays that you would understand the greatness of God's plan. Verse 18, "I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened." He has a great plan for our lives and he is not trying to hide it. He wants us to know. Everything going on in our life is in the plan. It's all in the plan. No room for panic.

This too shall pass. This life is brief. This candle is short. Eternity is everything. Paul says I just pray that you'll have that eternal perspective. It will make you love Christ. It will drive you to love Him. It's unfathomable that He would have chosen you for His plan and purpose.

Third, the greatness of His power. I continually am amazed, frankly, at how people get so upset about a whole lot of trivial human stuff. It boggles my mind. Why do you want to bother with all of that passing triviality? You are so immensely rich. Whatever might fail you in human relationships will never fail you in a relationship with Christ. So pursue that one. In His power we can overcome anything.

Through His power we have peace and joy. Paul says that my outer man is being destroyed and failing but the inner man is renewed every day in power. Power to change our lives. Power to conquer sin. Power to overcome temptation. Power to do God's will. Power to serve. Power to speak. Power to work. And all of it because Christ lives in all followers of Him. And it is His power that we obtain through faith in the one who had the power to overcome death on the cross.

Lastly, the greatness of His person. There is none like Him. Paul says, "There are in accordance with the working of His strength of His might." We can try all we want but it will never get us to heaven. We can be good and moral but without the one who died on the cross living in us we are doomed and headed for judgment.

None of these realities are available to the one who does not turn their life over to Jesus Christ. If you haven't thought about that maybe you should. Ask Him to come live in your heart and follow the only one who is worthy to follow.

We hope you will join us, in following Jesus, at church Sunday at 10:30 a.m. Or now on Wednesday night we have a church service at 7 p.m. See you in the fullness of His grace then!

## 38th Annual Spirit of Vincennes Rendezvous is May 24-25

Step back in time at the 38th Annual Spirit of Vincennes Rendezvous this Memorial Day Weekend. Celebrate the color, costume, and lifestyle of the 18th century. Browse among 100 authentic merchant and food booths on the grounds of the French Commons located at Second and Willow Streets behind the George Rogers Clark National Historical Park.

One highlight of this year's Rendezvous will be a salute to the fictional Alice of Old Vincennes, the title character in a novel written by Maurice Thompson in 1900. The dramatic story is set in Vincennes during the American Revolutionary War.

Authentic battle re-enactments are an exciting crowd-pleaser and feature the 1779 capture of Fort Sackville between the Colonial and British troops.

Battles are scheduled for 1 and 4 p.m. on Saturday and noon and 3:30 p.m. on Sunday.

Vendor booths will give demonstrations of early frontier skills and offer period wares for sale, such as pottery, leather goods, wooden toys, pewter, herbs, wood bowls, baskets, iron works, period clothing, and more.

Admission costs \$8 per day at the gate, children \$2. Buttons good for both days cost \$9; advance buttons are available for \$7 at the George Rogers Clark National Historical Park and all Vincennes area financial institutions. Saturday hours are 9 a.m. (EDT) to 6 p.m. and Sunday hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Throughout the two-day event, visitors can stroll through the authentic encampment and interact with re-enactor members of the Northwest Territory Alliance. And there will be ongoing entertainment, period music, wagon rides, puppet shows, children's games, storytellers, jugglers, and more.

Food vendors will serve a wide variety of period foods including buffalo burgers, pork chops, turkey legs, creek fried potatoes, homemade pies, bread pudding, and even strawberry shortcake.

Additional Rendezvous activities include candlelight tours of the nearby Indiana State Territorial Sites and Grouseland - home of 9th U.S. President William Henry Harrison. Free transportation is provided for those wearing a Rendezvous button. Visitors are invited to attend a grand ball at the State Historic Sites on Saturday at 8 p.m.

Details are available online at [www.spiritofvincennes.org](http://www.spiritofvincennes.org), by calling 800-886-6443, or on the group's Facebook page.

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## Indiana Supreme Court awards grants to 23 counties; Martin gets \$7,500

The Indiana Supreme Court awarded \$232,470 in grant money to benefit 23 counties to support local family court projects.

The grants will focus on creating innovative programs that improve the court process for families. Priority was given to applications that emphasized three areas of programming:

Access to Justice - improving access to the courts for families without attorneys  
Alternative Dispute Resolution/Early Case Management - promoting timely resolution of cases

Court-Related Services - implementing other programs that support families throughout the court process

The 2014 grants, ranging between \$2,000 and \$30,000, were awarded to the following counties:

- Judge Thomas Stefaniak, Jr., Lake County - \$30,000
- Magistrate Jason Reyome, Marion County IV-D - Court - \$25,000
- Judge Charles Pratt and Judge Thomas Felts, Allen County - \$23,270
- Judge Thomas Alevizos, LaPorte County - \$20,000
- Judge Judith Stewart, Brown County - \$15,000 (shared with Jackson/Lawrence Co.)
- Judge Bruce MacTavish, Jackson County - \$15,000 (shared with Brown/Lawrence Co.)
- Judge Andrea McCord, Lawrence County - \$15,000 (shared with Brown/Jackson Co.)
- Judge Cynthia Ayers, Marion County - \$15,000
- Judge Don Daniel, Tippecanoe County - \$12,500
- Judge Mary Margaret Lloyd, Daviess/Floyd/Pike/Vanderburgh/Vigo County - \$12,000
- Judge Michael Reed, Kosciusko County - \$10,000
- Judge Frances Hill, Monroe County - \$10,000
- Magistrate Ann Smith Mischler, Sullivan County - \$10,000
- Judge Lori Thatcher Quillen, Owen County - \$8,000
- Judge Lynne Ellis, Martin County - \$7,500

- Judge David Bonfiglio, Elkhart County - \$7,200
- Judge Jeffrey Meade, Gibson County - \$5,000
- Judge Dena Martin, Greene County - \$5,000
- Judge Paul Felix, Hamilton County - \$5,000
- Judge Gary Smith, Jennings County - \$5,000
- Judge Michael Robbins, Lawrence County - \$5,000
- Judge Bruce Stengel, Vermillion County - \$2,000

The Family Court Project began in 1999 with cooperation from the Indiana General Assembly. Since then, the Supreme Court has distributed more than 3 million dollars to support family court projects across the state. The grants are considered "seed money" and pilot counties are expected to transition within a reasonable time from "seed" funding to local funding.

More information on the Family Court Project is available at [4www.courts.in.gov/family-court](http://4www.courts.in.gov/family-court).

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Join us for a  
**Scavenger Hunt**

Proceeds benefit the Martin County Humane Society

**Saturday, March 22**  
Start time is 10 a.m. at the animal shelter,  
507 N Oak Street in Loogootee  
Auction will be held prior to the start of the  
hunt for special "perks" to help you win!

Read and solve clues to find items around Loogootee

**FIRST TEAM RETURNING TO THE SHELTER**  
(WITH ALL ITEMS OR THE MOST ITEMS BY 3 P.M.)  
WILL WIN FIVE TICKETS TO  
**BIG SPLASH ADVENTURE WATER PARK**  
IN FRENCH LICK

**SECOND PLACE WILL RECEIVE 50% OFF A  
DOG OR CAT ADOPTION**

**THIRD PLACE WILL RECEIVE A  
MARTIN COUNTY HUMANE SOCIETY T-SHIRT**

**Cost: \$10 per person or \$30 per team of  
four (\$5 per additional person)**

**WIN  
5 TICKETS  
TO THE  
FRENCH LICK  
WATER PARK!**

*Pre-register by March 17 to receive  
one free hint to any one clue.*

Mail payment and registration or drop off to the Martin County Humane Society  
Animal Shelter, 507 N Oak Street, Loogootee IN 47553  
Questions? Call the shelter at 295-5900, email [mchs@frontier.com](mailto:mchs@frontier.com) or message us on facebook  
**\$10 per person • \$30 per team of four (\$5 per additional team member)**

Individual/Team Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Team Members (optional): \_\_\_\_\_

Contact name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone number \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

*If you prefer to not  
pre-register, you can  
register the day of the  
hunt at 9:30 a.m. at the  
shelter*