

# Martin County JOURNAL

Year 13, Issue 10

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 9, 2022

Nine pages

## County council hears community corrections report

BY COURTNEY HUGHETT  
Martin County Journal Publisher

The Martin County Council met Monday night, March 7. The main topic of discussion was the annual report from community corrections. Director Danielle Murphy presented the report showing that 75 clients were served in her department last year. 59 of those were felons with the rest being misdemeanants. The program had a successful completion rate of 65 percent. Murphy said she isn't overly pleased with that number and some clients who failed have been moved over to the jail treatment program. She said she predicts the percentage of successful completion will increase this year.

A majority of the felons community corrections serves are level 6 however Murphy said they do have some with levels 2, 3 and 4. It costs around \$55 to \$56 per day for the jail to house inmates serving a sentence through the department of corrections. The sheriff's department is reimbursed \$37.50 of that cost from the state. Murphy said it costs community corrections \$8.90 per day to monitor/supervise their clients. She noted that having offenders on community corrections monitoring is much cheaper for the county than housing them in the jail.

Murphy also reported that they did 159 drug screens on clients last year. 30 of those drug tests were positive however 19 were later verified with a prescription. Of the other 11 positives, three were methamphetamine, three were amphetamines, four were marijuana/THC and one was suboxone. She said that all positive drug screens are submitted to the prosecutor however the positive test doesn't mean the client will be removed from community corrections monitoring. She said some are referred to substance abuse treatment.

Murphy told the council that the total operating cost of community corrections was \$243,580.27 last year. Most of the department is funded through grants along with the \$15 per day fee to be on home monitoring and \$30 for drug screening. The user fees collected last year totaled \$81,134.12.

Community corrections currently has 20 clients with 19 on home monitoring and one doing remote breath testing. Murphy explained that remote breath testing is when the client must use a breathalyzer a certain number of times a day and it is automatically reported back to Murphy. The breathalyzer also takes a photo of the client, so they know that person is actually the one taking the test.

Council Member Sheri Bowling asked how many employees Murphy currently has. She replied she currently has two full-time staff members and one part-time. One full-time staff member is handling all case management. Murphy said this is working well however once clients reach 28 to 30, she may need to bring in part-time help.

Murphy also requested approval to spend the Local Coordinating Council (See 'COUNCIL' on page 2)



-Photos by  
Courtney Hughett

Shown above is one of the cafe managers, Wyatt Asbell (on left), serving a drink to a student. In the background is Alyssa Butler, working the cash register. In the photo on the right, Emily Riggle prepares a drink for one of the several customers in line for the cafe at lunch hour last Friday. Not shown is Xaviara Fuartado who also worked the cafe that day.



## Shoals students learn to operate a business with new coffee shop

BY COURTNEY HUGHETT  
Martin County Journal Publisher

What began as kids wanting coffee in class, turned into a new coffee shop. According to junior Wyatt Asbell, Shoals High School's Culinary Art Class got the idea to start Shoals Grounds after students were using a Keurig coffee pot each day in class. Asbell said the class had a few Keurigs donated, and students started bringing in their own flavored pods to make drinks for class. Once they teamed up with the business class at Shoals and travelled to Brownstown Central High School to check out their school's café, the new coffee shop was born.

Superintendent Dr. Candace Roush gave the classes a former concession stand/storage room which was redesigned by the school's shop class. The coffee shop opened for business on February 15 this year.

According to Culinary Arts Teacher Mrs. Kimberly Perry, Shoals Grounds teaches students how to run a business as they handle all aspects – the culinary class develops the recipes, and the business class keeps the books. There are manag-

ers from each class to oversee operations each day. The coffee shop averages two open days a week, during the morning passing period and then again at lunch.

According to Asbell, the coffee shop has been quite successful. The most popular drink is actually not coffee at all but lemonade, with the most popular flavoring being blue raspberry. The class orders supply directly from the manufacturer which Asbell said has been a challenge of late. With backorders, he said they got down to just three drink flavors at one point and they are oftentimes running out of product they just can't get.

Students who work the coffee shop each day are not paid but do get a free drink.

Right now, students and staff have several options of hot or cold drinks. Flavors include pineapple, peach, blue raspberry, orange and coconut in cold options to brown sugar cinnamon, vanilla, chocolate, hazelnut, salted caramel and pumpkin pie in the hot drinks, to name a few. Asbell said they plan to add teas in the future. The drinks cost either \$1 or \$2. The money made goes back to the operation of the coffee shop and toward the participating classes.

## Commissioners discuss whether to offer Air Evac to employees

BY COURTNEY HUGHETT  
Martin County Journal Publisher

Whether or not to offer Air Evac services to county employees topped the Martin County Commissioners' agenda Tuesday night, March 8. Annie Hynes, with Air Evac, had attended the last commissioners' meeting to see if they would be interested in providing medical helicopter service to employees at a discounted cost of \$65 (regularly \$85) per household per year. The commissioners had tabled making a decision so they could get employee feedback.

Last night, DeAndra Magdaleno, who is an employee of the clerk's office, asked how much this would cost the taxpayers. Hynes replied that this depends on how many employees were signed up and also whether the commissioners agreed to pay the full amount or have the employees pay some or all of the \$65.

It was discussed that if all full and part-time employees were included in the coverage, it would cost the county around \$7,000 a year, if the commissioners footed the entire bill.

Magdaleno said she believes it would be more prudent to hire a second ambulance for the county as only one is available which requires dispatch to call in out of county help, if needed. She said an ambulance would be needed to get a patient to the helicopter anyway due to there only being seven landing zones.

Monty Wolf, Emergency Management Director, said they will land an emergency helicopter anywhere, not just landing zones. He said if there is an open spot, they land it. He added that the \$65 cost is nothing compared to the minimum of \$40,000 it would cost to have to be transported via medical helicopter. He said there are very few residents of Martin County who have an extra \$40,000 available to them.

Tony Abel, a resident in the audience and a member of the Shoals Fire Department, said he is not sure where Magdaleno is getting her information because the county has two ambulances. He said if both of those ambulances are out on a call, they do have to call in help from another county.

County Attorney Dave Lett said the ambulance contract, at a cost of \$400,000 a year to the county, agrees to have one full-time ambulance stationed in the county. He said in order to add on another full-time ambulance, it would cost the county much more than the \$7,000 in question. The ambulance service does have another ambulance available, but it is not considered full-time.

Magdaleno also noted that Hynes had said at the last meeting that Air Evac is called out 4-6 times per month for Martin County. She said she worked at the sheriff's department as a dispatcher for six months and never had to call for Air Evac. She said she did see it on the logs one time in that six-month period. Hynes said she is basing her figures off what she was told by her co-worker, and it is an average. (See 'COMMISSIONERS' on page 2)

**DAYLIGHT  
SAVING TIME  
SPRING FORWARD**  
Set your clocks forward one hour  
this Sunday, March 13





-Photo provided

## LHS students connect with high-tech industry

Loogootee High School Robotics and Drone students attended Autonomous Day at the WestGate Academy last week. Students were given a chance to connect to high-tech industry and bring that back to their community. The student clubs are instructed by teachers, Megan Jones and Bo Gibson.

Four Indiana universities were also in attendance, including Indiana University and Indiana State.

“Our goal is to promote startup technologies and capabilities within the au-

tonomous industry, and create opportunities and collaborations between higher education, Indiana businesses and the national security industry. We aim to show off the fun and interesting side of autonomous research with a mix of live demos, poster sessions and panel discussions.”

This event included a Tesla test drive, drone races and demonstrations, university poster sessions, a panel on autonomous vehicle capabilities, other presentations, and a happy hour for company networking.

## COMMISSIONERS

(Continued from page one)

Commissioner Paul George said Martin County does not pay what Lawrence, Dubois or Daviess counties do so this would be giving employees an extra benefit.

Magdaleno said a different company had come and offered the same kind of deal to the county and at that time Commissioner George had said it was too good to be true and turned it down. She asked George what had changed. Commissioner George replied that the other company didn't pan out. Commissioner Aaron Summers added that Air Evac has a stellar reputation in the county.

The commissioners then discussed

whether they should offer the benefit to only full-time employees. Monty Wolf said he would like to see his part-time firefighters with civil defense be considered as well. It was noted that the Town of Shoals approved giving the Air Evac service to their employees, including the fire department and some firefighters who are with civil defense are also with Shoals Fire, so some of them are already covered.

Commissioner Summers said he didn't want to say “only \$7,000” because that is a lot of money, but he was in favor of it.

The two commissioners decided to include all employees along with any fire-

## COUNCIL

(Continued from page one)

grant of \$2,500. The grant was awarded to provide incentives to clients, such as gas cards or food gift cards. Murphy said this is a way to, for example, get someone who can't get a negative drug test to strive to pass.

In other business, Public Health Nurse Julia Albright reported there have only been four positive cases of COVID so far this month. She said the numbers are dropping quite a bit since the start of the year.

The council approved an additional appropriation request from the sheriff's department for \$1,000 for the hiring bonus recently implemented.

They also approved \$38,350 for the highway department salary for a driver with a CDL license. Highway Superintendent Scott Seals said he will be asking the commissioners for permission to hire someone for this spot. The council also approved \$9,000 for professional services to get two permits for a culvert. The money will only be needed if the Community Crossings grant is approved as the culvert replacement is on

that application. A decision on whether the county will receive any Community Crossing grant funds is expected at the end of the month.

Auditor Bobbie Abel explained that she has done some research into re-establishing the county's cumulative capital fund, which is used to do capital improvement projects in the county and comes from property taxes. She said the fund has not been re-established since its inception, that she can tell, and she has gone as far back as 2009 in her research. The rate currently sits at .0153. She said the reason for re-establishing the fund is so that during budget hearings, the rate can be changed. The maximum amount the rate can be is .0333 percent. She said the rate can be set at the maximum but doesn't have to be collected at the maximum. It allows the rate to be increased if needed which cannot be done if not set at the cap. Abel said she had told the council they would be responsible for approving the re-establishment however she learned that this falls on the commissioners. The county council decides on the amount of the levy.

fighter with civil defense that is not covered. Commissioner Cody Roush was not present at the meeting.

In other business, Highway Superintendent Scott Seals requested permission to advertise for a full-time CDL driver. The commissioners approved.

Seals also reported he has a dump truck going in for repairs and two other large trucks that are waiting on parts.

EMA Director Monty Wolf said his department has a 1985 Chevrolet Blazer that he would like to donate to the Town of Shoals. The commissioners gave approval.

Attorney Lett provided the commis-

sioners with the ambulance service's 2021 annual report. He said he spoke with the manager of the ambulance service who didn't realize the commissioners had not received the report. Both Commissioners Summers and George told Attorney Lett they would like to receive a report quarterly. Summers said the original agreement was that the commissioners would get a report quarterly. Lett said he would pass along that information.

The commissioners approved a request from Clerk Gerald Montgomery to pay \$2,000 to have a cabinet built in his office. Commissioner George said this would complete renovations to that office.



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# OBITUARIES

## WILMA QUALKENBUSH

Wilma Maxine Qualkenbush passed March 7, 2022, at the Martin County Health and Rehabilitation Center in Loogootee. A resident of Shoals, she was 94.



## WILMA QUALKENBUSH

She was born December 16, 1927, in Shoals; daughter of Oscar and Bernice (Harner) Sorrells. She married James Qualkenbush and he preceded her in death.

She attended Shoals High School and retired from Crane. She was also a homemaker. She attended the Lacy Church.

Survivors include her children, Michael (Debbie) Qualkenbush, Brad (Sandy) Qualkenbush and Shawn Qualkenbush; grandchildren, Karen Baker, Kellie Shaw, Lindsay Qualkenbush, Lance Mountford, Kevin Qualkenbush, C.J. Qualkenbush, Nathan Qualkenbush, Aaron Qualkenbush and Andrew Qualkenbush; 11 great-grandchildren; one sister, Marilyn Hardwick; and several nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents; husband; one son, David Qualkenbush; and one daughter, Sherry Emmick;

and sister, Jean Edwards.

Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. Friday, March 11 at the Queen-Lee Chapel in Shoals with burial in the Pleasant Valley Cemetery. Pastor Alan Borders will officiate. Visitation will be 11 a.m. until the time of service at the funeral home.

The Queen-Lee Chapel of Thorne-George Family Funeral Homes has been entrusted with the arrangements.

## RUTH ANN CHANDLER

Ruth Ann Chandler passed away Monday, March 7, 2022, at her home. A resident of Shoals, she was 89.

She was born February 23, 1933, in Shoals; the daughter of Ora and Helena (Riney) Crays.

She married Forrest Chandler on May 30, 1953, and he preceded her in death on October 24, 1991.

Ruth Ann was a graduate of Shoals High School class of 1951, worked in the cafeteria at Shoals high school for many years and was a member of the Loogootee Christian Church.

Surviving are her children, Forrest L. "Sonny" (Lisa) Chandler and Jim (Rosanne) Chandler; grandchildren, Jeremy (Dayna) Chandler, Josh Jones, and Courtney Chandler; great-grandchildren, Eli Chandler, Noah Larson, and Riley



## RUTH ANN CHANDLER

A graveside service was held today, Wednesday, March 9 at 1 p.m. at the Spring Hill Cemetery, with Pastor Ed Frost officiating.

Services are under the direction of the Queen-Lee Chapel of Thorne-George Family Funeral Homes in Shoals.

## MICHAEL PANNELL

Michael Rex Pannell went to be with the Lord at 4:09 p.m. Friday, March 4, 2022, at Daviess Community Hospital. A resident of Loogootee, he was 55.

He was born April 4, 1966, in Bedford; son of Roy and Nancy (Lee) Pannell.

Mike married Michelle Troutman on January 26, 2008, and she survives.

He was employed at NSWC Crane for nearly 31 years, where he was member of the AFGE. He also was a member of the Loogootee Christian Church. Mike loved Indy Car and went to many races. He was a Loogootee Lions and Indiana University basketball fan. He also was a fan of the Los Angeles Dodgers and Miami Dolphins. Mike enjoyed mowing and yardwork. He was well known for his exqui-

site taste in clothing and vehicles. Mike was a self-proclaimed "grill master". He loved music and classic rock. Although, his favorite activity was spending time with his family and grandchildren.

Mike was preceded in death by his grandparents, Mary Louise and Harry Lee and Mary Louise and Earl Pannell.

He is survived by his wife, Michelle of Loogootee; children, Meagan Louise (Jacob) Friede of Terre Haute, Gregory Scott Pannell of Loogootee, Shelby Renee (Matthew) Hill of Jasper and Chelsea Rae Smith (significant other, Jordan Brant) of Bloomington; grandchildren, Areanna Nicole Friede, Zoey Renee Friede, Talen David Hill, Stanislaw Douglas McConnell and Madeline Louise Hill; parents, Roy and Nancy Pannell of Loogootee; siblings, Nanette Michelle (Aaron) Hembree of Loogootee, Angela Louise Dillon of Odon and Cori Lee (Tim) Lukomski of Loogootee; and brother-in-law, Stephen Paul (Stephanie) Troutman of Washington.

Funeral services will be conducted at 11 a.m. Monday, March 14 at the Loogootee Christian Church. Burial will follow in Goodwill Cemetery.

Visitation will be held Sunday, March 13, from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. at Blake Funeral Home in Loogootee and Monday, March 14, from 9 a.m. until the time of service at the church.

Condolences may be made online at [www.blakefuneralhomes.com](http://www.blakefuneralhomes.com).

Blake Funeral Home in Loogootee is honored to serve the family of Michael R. Pannell.

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Visitation will be held Sunday, March 13, from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. at Blake Funeral Home in Loogootee and Monday, March 14, from 9 a.m. until the time of service at the church.

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Blake Funeral Home in Loogootee is honored to serve the family of Michael R. Pannell.

# CLASSIFIED ADS

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## Consumer alert: Products recalled in February

Attorney General Todd Rokita is alerting Hoosiers of important consumer protection concerns for products recalled in February. Attorney General Rokita encourages consumers to take advantage of opportunities available for those who purchased the recalled items.

"Protecting Hoosiers and their liberty is the focus of my efforts statewide. I encourage everyone to take a moment to review this recent list of product recalls. Hoosiers have a right to expect reliable products," said Attorney General Rokita. "If you have one of the recalled products, stop using it and pursue the offered remedy from the manufacturer."

According to the Consumer Product Safety Commission, the following consumer products were recalled in February:

Chest of Drawers from BFG North Carolina

SureClose READYFIT 180° Hinge-Closer Sets from D&D Technologies

All-Terrain Vehicles (ATVs) from Maxtrade

Koyo Bounca The Squig Plush Toys from Games Workshop

Children's Robes from BAOPTEIL

Tennis Tables from Escalade Sports

Geek Heat Personal Heaters from Home Easy

Children's Nightgowns from AllMeInGeld

Lanyards with Carabiners from Petzl Recalls

Kids Crew Socks from Stance

Seats from Harbor Freight Tools

Children's Stackable Toys from Stack Em' Up Books

WORX Electric Pressure Washers from Positec USA

Electric Space Heaters from Shop LC

Mattresses from Serta

All-Terrain Vehicles (ATVs) and Snowmobiles from BRP

Children's Sleepwear from Esme

Utility Vehicles from American Landmaster

Snap Duo Trend Strollers from Valco

Scarves from In-Things

Double-Wick Autumn Candles from Anecdote Candles

Golf Cars and PTV's from Yamaha

Robotic Lawnmowers from Husqvarna

Children's Sleepwear from H&M

Snowmobiles from Polaris Industries

Infant Walkers from Zeno

BrushX Hot Air Brushes from Ecom Brands

Inspector Play Kits from Lovevery

Menorahs from TJX

Teethers from Bebe au Lait

Children's Handbags from Kelly Wynne

If you believe you recently purchased a recalled product, stop using it immediately and check its recall notice. Then follow the notice's instructions, including where to return the product or what steps must be taken to receive a replacement product.

To view recalls issued, visit the [www.cpsc.gov/Recalls](http://www.cpsc.gov/Recalls).

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## Martin County Sheriff's Department log

### MONDAY, FEBRUARY 28

3:59 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance northwest of Shoals. Shoals Fire Chief Hamby and Martin County Ambulance responded but did not transport.

6:45 a.m. - Received a request for a lift assist southeast of Shoals. Shoals Fire Department and Martin County Ambulance responded.

7:21 a.m. - Received a report of a tree down west of Loogootee. Major Keller responded.

9:53 a.m. - Received an accidental 911 call.

12:32 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Ambulance responded. The patient was transported to Daviess Community Hospital.

1:40 p.m. - Received a request for a welfare check north of Shoals. Sergeant Gibson responded.

3:12 p.m. - Received a cow complaint northwest of Shoals. Corporal Wells was notified.

3:19 p.m. - Received an accidental 911 call.

4:32 p.m. - Received a report of an accident north of Loogootee. Deputy Long and Corporal Wells responded.

4:45 p.m. - Received a request for a lift assist southeast of Shoals. Shoals Fire Department, Sergeant Gibson and Martin County Ambulance responded but did not transport.

4:47 p.m. - Received an accidental 911 call.

6:02 p.m. - Loogootee Officer Sims assisted a motorist in Loogootee with a vehicle unlock.

6:07 p.m. - Received notification of a controlled burn east of Shoals.

6:30 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance south of Loogootee. Corporal Wells, Deputy Long and Martin County Ambulance responded. The patient was transported to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

7:41 p.m. - Received a report of a suspicious vehicle in Crane. Deputy Long responded.

7:58 p.m. - Received an accidental 911 call.

10:17 p.m. - Received a report of an accident in Crane. Corporal Wells and Deputy Long responded.

### TUESDAY, MARCH 1

12:39 a.m. - Received a report of a suspicious person in Loogootee. Loogootee Officer Sims responded.

2:16 a.m. - Received a request for a lift assist north of Shoals. Shoals Fire Department and Martin County Ambulance responded. The patient was transported to IU Health Bedford.

10:40 a.m. - Received notification of a controlled burn east of Shoals.

1:19 p.m. - Received a report of a suspicious vehicle east of Loogootee. Loogootee Police were notified.

1:22 p.m. - Deputy Shaw took three inmates to court.

2:47 p.m. - Received a report of a suspicious person in Loogootee. Loogootee Police were notified.

3:00 p.m. - Deputy Shaw took two inmates to court.

5:29 p.m. - Received a request for extra patrol east of Loogootee. All Martin County law enforcement were advised.

6:39 p.m. - Received an accidental 911 call.

8:54 p.m. - Received an accidental 911 call.

9:12 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. Loogootee Fire Department and Martin County Ambulance responded. The patient was transported to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

9:44 p.m. - Received an accidental 911 call.

### WEDNESDAY, MARCH 2

6:17 a.m. - Received an accidental 911 call.

8:20 a.m. - Received a report of a fire southwest of Shoals. Shoals Fire Department responded.

10:16 a.m. - Received a report of an accident east of Shoals. Sheriff Roush, Chief Deputy Greene, Shoals Fire Department, Salem Wrecker Service and Martin County Ambulance responded. The patient was transported to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

10:29 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. Loogootee Assistant Chief McBeth and Martin County Ambulance responded. The patient was transported to Daviess Community Hospital.

10:36 a.m. - Received a request for a lift assist northeast of Shoals. Indian Creek Fire Department responded.

10:50 a.m. - Received a report of a suspicious person in Shoals. Town Marshal Eckert responded.

12:14 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance northeast of Shoals. Sheriff Roush, Indian Creek Fire Department and Martin County Ambulance responded. The patient was transported to IU Health Bedford.

12:26 p.m. - Received a report of a burglar alarm in Shoals. Loogootee Officer Erwin responded.

1:26 p.m. - Received notification of a controlled burn east of Shoals.

3:15 p.m. - Received a request for lift assist northeast of Shoals. Indian Creek Fire Department and Martin County Ambulance responded.

3:29 p.m. - Received an accidental 911 call.

3:37 p.m. - Received a request from Orange County for assistance with a field fire. Lost River Fire Department and Shoals Fire Department responded.

5:08 p.m. - Received a report of a reckless vehicle south of Loogootee. Loogootee Assistant Chief McBeth responded.

5:22 p.m. - Received a report of a traffic hazard west of Shoals. Sergeant Gibson responded.

6:39 p.m. - Received a report of a suspicious person in Loogootee. Loogootee Police were notified.

### THURSDAY, MARCH 3

3:40 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance south of Loogootee. Haysville Fire Department, Major Keller and Martin County Ambulance responded. The patient was transported to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

10:22 a.m. - Received an accidental 911 call.

10:40 a.m. - Deputy Shaw took three inmates to court.

11:47 a.m. - Received an accidental 911 call.

12:08 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Shoals. Shoals Fire Department and Martin County Ambulance responded but did not transport.

1:03 p.m. - Deputy Shaw took two inmates to court.

1:05 p.m. - Jail Commander Pressley took one inmate to court.

2:39 p.m. - Deputy Shaw took one inmate to court.

3:12 p.m. - Received a report of a reckless vehicle in Shoals. Town Marshal Eckert was notified.

4:15 p.m. - Received notification of a repossession east of Loogootee.

4:54 p.m. - Received a report of an accident south of Loogootee. Haysville Fire Department, Deputy Flanagan, Loogootee Assistant Chief McBeth and Mar-

tin County Ambulance responded but did not transport.

6:27 p.m. - Received a report of a reckless vehicle west of Loogootee. Loogootee Police were notified.

7:06 p.m. - Deputy Flanagan assisted a motorist in Crane with a vehicle identification check.

8:40 p.m. - Received a report of a theft east of Shoals. Deputy Hawkins and Deputy Flanagan responded.

### FRIDAY, MARCH 4

3:57 a.m. - Received a report of a domestic dispute east of Shoals. Deputy Hawkins responded.

6:30 a.m. - Received an accidental 911 call.

9:22 a.m. - Received notification of a controlled burn southeast of Shoals.

9:49 a.m. - Received a request for a welfare check in Loogootee. Major Keller responded.

10:42 a.m. - Received a request for a deputy north of Shoals for investigation. Deputy Flanagan responded.

11:03 a.m. - Received an accidental 911 call.

11:13 a.m. - Received a report of a slow-moving vehicle south of Loogootee. Loogootee Police were notified.

11:15 a.m. - Received a report of a domestic dispute in Loogootee. ICO Fuhrman, Loogootee Chief Means, Major Keller, Deputy Flanagan and ISP Master Trooper Lents responded.

12:50 p.m. - Received a report of an accident in Loogootee. Deputy Flanagan, Loogootee Chief Means and Loogootee Assistant Chief McBeth and Martin County Ambulance responded but did not transport.

12:51 p.m. - Received a request for a vehicle unlock in Loogootee. Loogootee Police were notified.

1:49 p.m. - Received notification of a controlled burn east of Shoals.

2:57 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance east of Loogootee. Loogootee Fire Department, Loogootee Chief Means, Loogootee Assistant Chief McBeth and Martin County Ambulance responded. The patient was transported to Daviess Community Hospital.

3:34 p.m. - Received an accidental 911 call.

3:44 p.m. - Received a dog complaint east of Shoals. Animal Control Officer Hughett responded.

4:46 p.m. - Received an accidental 911 call.

6:54 p.m. - Received a report of a suspicious vehicle west of Shoals. Deputy Flanagan and Deputy Long responded.

7:22 p.m. - Received an accidental 911 call.

7:30 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance south of Loogootee. Loogootee Fire Department and Martin County Ambulance responded. The patient was transported to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

7:42 p.m. - Received a report of a suspicious vehicle south of Loogootee. Deputy Flanagan was notified.

8:25 p.m. - Received notification of vehicles being removed from LHS for illegal parking.

### SATURDAY, MARCH 5

6:40 a.m. - Received a report of a domestic dispute in Loogootee. Loogootee Officer Erwin and Deputy Hawkins responded.

8:47 a.m. - Received a report of a reckless driver east of Shoals. Corporal Wells responded.

11:43 a.m. - Received a request for a lift assist southeast of Shoals. Shoals Fire Department and Martin County Ambulance responded.

11:44 a.m. - Received a report of a

burglar alarm in Shoals. Corporal Wells responded.

2:12 p.m. - Received a dog complaint west of Shoals. Animal Control Officer Hughett was notified.

2:39 p.m. - Received a report of a fire west of Shoals. Shoals Fire Department, Civil Defense and Martin County Ambulance responded.

2:50 p.m. - Received a report of a tree down southwest of Shoals. Shoals Fire Department responded.

4:33 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Shoals. Corporal Wells, Deputy Long, Shoals Fire Department, Loogootee Reserve Officer Shaw, Loogootee Officer Erwin, and Martin County Ambulance responded.

5:02 p.m. - Received a request for extra patrol southeast of Shoals. Corporal Wells and Deputy Long were notified.

5:02 p.m. - Received a request for extra patrol northeast of Shoals. Corporal Wells and Deputy Long were notified.

5:14 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. ISP Trooper Nolan, ISP Trooper Alexander, Loogootee Reserve Officer Shaw and Daviess County Ambulance responded.

6:10 p.m. - Received a dog complaint in Shoals. Animal Control Officer Hughett responded.

7:14 p.m. - Received an accidental 911 call.

7:50 p.m. - Received a report of a fire northeast of Shoals. Indian Creek Fire Department, Shoals Fire Department and Civil Defense responded.

8:16 p.m. - Received a report of a tree down southwest of Shoals. Shoals Fire Department responded.

9:28 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance north of Loogootee. Deputy Long, Deputy Hawkins, Crane Fire Department, Loogootee Fire Department and Martin County Ambulance responded. The patient was transported to Daviess Community Hospital.

9:46 p.m. - Received a report of a traffic hazard east of Loogootee. Civil Defense, Loogootee Fire Department and Deputy Long responded.

11:41 p.m. - Received a report of a fire in Loogootee. Deputy Long, Deputy Hawkins, Loogootee Reserve Deputy Shaw, Loogootee Fire Department responded.

### SUNDAY, MARCH 6

1:53 a.m. - Received a report of reckless vehicle northwest of Shoals. Deputy Hawkins responded.

7:32 a.m. - Received a report of a suspicious vehicle south of Loogootee. Corporal Wells responded.

8:08 a.m. - Received a request for a welfare check in Loogootee. Loogootee Officer Erwin and Corporal Wells responded.

11:11 a.m. - Corporal Wells assisted a motorist in Loogootee with a vehicle unlock.

11:42 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. Loogootee Officer Erwin, Corporal Wells and Martin County Ambulance responded. The patient was transported to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

12:54 p.m. - Received an accidental 911 call.

6:24 p.m. - Received notification of a controlled burn in Shoals.

6:50 p.m. - Received a request for a lift assist in Shoals. Shoals Fire Department and Martin County Ambulance responded.

9:45 p.m. - Received a request for a lift assist in Shoals. Shoals Fire Department and Martin County Ambulance responded.



## Attorney General warns against home improvement scammers

As we move into spring, many homeowners across Indiana will begin planning for home improvement and repair projects around the house. Home improvement projects can bring added comfort as well as value to your home. Whether you are making improvements such as replacing windows and doors, adding a home office, or updating a kitchen or bath, it is important to hire a professional to keep projects from becoming a source of frustration and a costly endeavor. Indiana Attorney General Todd Rokita is warning Hoosiers to take precautions and do their research before hiring a home improvement contractor.

"Hoosiers can protect themselves by doing their research, asking the right questions, and getting a written contract that defines the full scope of the work and specifications for the job," said Attorney General Rokita.

Consumers can look to sources like the Indiana Builders Association (IBA) as a part of their research. The IBA has more than 2,600 members, many of whom perform home improvement services. The IBA also offers homeowner resources to connect consumers to industry professionals for their next project.

"Our members are invested in making their communities better. Fly-by-night and out of state contractors who come in town after a storm to take advantage of our friends, family and neighbors gives the whole industry a tarnished reputation," said Paul Schwinghammer, IBA 2022 President. "The IBA is a trusted resource when it comes to making an informed homebuying, remodeling, or

general repair decision. Additional info can be found at <https://buildindiana.org/homeowners/>."

Consumers should do their homework to prevent the headache of doing business with an unscrupulous contractor. Attorney General Rokita and the Indiana Builders Association offer the following tips to avoid falling victim to a home repair scam:

Ask your family, friends, and co-workers for contractors they have used who have done good work.

Before signing a contract or making a payment, contact the Attorney General's Consumer Protection Division and the Better Business Bureau for complaint information on contractors you are considering.

Get multiple bids from local contractors. Avoid contractors who spontaneously show up at your door offering a "bargain" price for painting, driveway sealing, roof repairs, etc.

Get a written contract before making a payment. Indiana law requires home improvement contracts exceeding \$150 to be in writing. Before signing the contract, make certain it includes:

- The price of the job
  - Payment schedule
  - A detailed description of the work and materials
  - Estimated start and completion dates
  - The contractor's name and address
  - A name and telephone number of the person to contact if problems arise
  - The contractor's e-mail address
  - The contractor's signature
- Never pay for the entire project before the work begins.

If you do make a down payment, remaining payments should be tied to completion of specified amounts of work.

If the contractor is arranging financing, the contractor should provide you with an installment sale contract disclosing various credit terms like the finance charge and the APR.

Even if preventative measures are taken, problems may still arise. Take time to talk to your contractor to resolve these issues. If problems continue, put your complaints in writing and send them to the contractor. Be sure to keep a copy of these complaints for your records.

The Consumer Protection Division of Attorney General Todd Rokita's Office works to safeguard the rights of Indiana citizens every day. If you have questions or complaints regarding home improvement scams or other consumer issues, visit [www.IndianaConsumer.com](http://www.IndianaConsumer.com).

## COURT NEWS

### CRIMINAL CONVICTIONS AND SENTENCING

February 25

Travis R. Campbell, convicted of check deception, a Level 6 Felony. Sentenced to serve 912 days with 584 days suspended and credit for 164 actual days previously served plus 164 Class A credit days. Defendant received 19 months of probation. Also convicted of three counts of theft, Level 6 Felonies. Sentenced on each count to serve 912 days with 912 days suspended. Defendant received 30 months of probation for each conviction.

Lindsey L. Hawkins, convicted of driving while suspended, a Class A Misdemeanor and possession of marijuana, a Class B Misdemeanor. Sentenced to serve 180 days with 168 days suspended and credit for 6 actual days previously served plus 6 Class A credit days. Defendant received 6 months of probation.

Jeremy J. Harlan, convicted of operating a vehicle while intoxicated, a Class C Misdemeanor. Sentenced to serve 60 days with 58 days suspended and credit for 1 actual day previously served plus 1 Class A credit day. Defendant received 12 months of probation.

February 28

Hector Carranza, convicted of operating a vehicle with an ACE of .08 or more, a Class C Misdemeanor. Sentenced to serve 1 day with 0 days suspended and credit for 1 actual day previously served.

March 1

Kendra J. Leighty, convicted of theft, a Class A Misdemeanor. Sentenced to serve 18 days with 0 days suspended and credit for 9 actual days previously served plus 9 Class A credit days. Also convicted of unlawful use or possession of a legend drug, a Level 6 Felony. Sentenced to serve 910 days with 852 days suspended

and credit for 29 actual days previously served plus 29 Class A credit days. Defendant received 12 months of probation.

### CRIMINAL CHARGES DISMISSED

February 25

Travis R. Campbell, seven counts of theft, Level 6 Felonies, dismissed.

Lindsey L. Hawkins, false informing, a Class B Misdemeanor, dismissed.

Jeremy J. Harlan, operating a vehicle with an ACE of .08 or more, a Class C Misdemeanor, dismissed.

March 1

Kendra J. Leighty, driving while suspended, a Class A Misdemeanor, dismissed.

### CIVIL COURT

#### New Suits Filed

February 23

Portfolio Recovery Associates, LLC vs. Kathren Kluemper, civil collection.

Johnathon Graham vs. Kristina Graham, petition for dissolution of marriage.

February 28

Crane Credit Union vs. Leanna Felton, civil collection.

### CIVIL COURT JUDGMENTS

February 24

Judgment in favor of the plaintiff Hoosier Accounts Service and against the defendant David Bledsoe in the amount of \$9,922.20.

Judgment in favor of the plaintiff Midland Credit Management, Inc. and against the defendant Gary S. Allen in the amount of \$1,092.92.

### CIVIL COURT DISMISSED

February 24

Rocket Mortgage, LLC vs. Michael Tompkins and Erica Tompkins, mortgage foreclosure, dismissed.

March 1

Bridgecrest Acceptance Corp. vs. Jeremy Sanders, civil collection, dismissed.

## Martin County real estate transfers

Lisha A. Young, of Martin County, Indiana to Katherine L. Hoffman, of Martin County, Indiana, a portion of land in the northeast quarter of Section 25, Township 3 North, Range 4 West.

Douglas W. Mayfield and Angela J. Mayfield, of Martin County, Indiana to Michael R. McCoy and Rebecca L. McCoy, of San Joaquin County, California, a part of the southwest quarter of the southeast quarter of Section 12, Township 2 North, Range 5 West, containing 7.8115 acres, more or less, except sections containing 0.503 acres and 0.25 acres, more or less.

Stephanie E. Hembree, of Martin County, Indiana to Brian T. Ader, of Martin County, Indiana, part of the northwest

quarter of the northwest quarter of Section 13, Township 3 North, Range 5 West, containing 1.18 acres, more or less. Also, 0.025 acres in the same section.

Zachary J. Pavlik and Amanda R. Pavlik, of Adams County, Indiana to Michael L. Sams and Amy L. Sams, of Monroe County, Indiana. Tract I: Part of the northwest quarter of Section 12, Township 1 North, Range 4 West, containing 7 3/4 acres, more or less. Tract II: All that part of the east half of the northwest quarter of Section 12, Township 1 North, Range 4 West, containing 24 acres, more or less.

Douglas W. Mayfield and Angela J. Mayfield, of Martin County, Indiana to Merle E. Wagler and Angela M. Wagler, of Daviess County, Indiana, a part of the southwest quarter of the southeast quarter of Section 12, Township 2 North, Range 5 West, Perry Township, Martin County, Indiana, containing 0.25 acres, more or less.

Mark E. Sheetz, of Martin County, Indiana to Mark E. Sheetz and Mary Sheetz, of Martin County, Indiana, Lot Number 10 in Block "D" in the Loogootee Land Company's Addition to the Town, now City of Loogootee, Indiana.

Michael A. Engleman and Steven C. Engleman, of Martin County, Indiana to Emma Lou Engleman, of Martin County, Indiana, Lot Number 40 in Roger's Addition to the Town, now City of Loogootee, Indiana.

Emma Lou Engleman, of Martin County, Indiana to James V. Matthews and Waylon James Matthews, of Martin County, Indiana, Lot Number 40 in Roger's Addition to the Town, now City of Loogootee, Indiana.

Clay O. Dearwester and Helen F. Dearwester to The Helen Dearwester Revocable Trust, a part of the southwest quarter of Section 18, Township 3 North, Range 4 West, Perry Township, Martin County, Indiana, containing 0.752 acres, more or less.

## ARRESTS

### MONDAY, FEBRUARY 28

11:59 p.m. - Michael Malone, 39, of Crane, was arrested by Corporal Wells and charged with leaving the scene of an accident. He is being held on a \$15,000 10% bond.

### TUESDAY, MARCH 1

10:27 a.m. - Eric King, 39, of Loogootee, was arrested on a Martin County warrant. He is being held without bond.

### WEDNESDAY, MARCH 2

4:37 p.m. - Steven Arthur, 53, of Vincennes, was arrested on a Martin County warrant. He is being held without bond.

### THURSDAY, MARCH 3

1:31 p.m. - Ashley Miller, 34, of Bedford, was arrested by Major Keller on a Martin County warrant. She is being held without bond.

### FRIDAY, MARCH 4

12:50 p.m. - Timothy Blevins, 49, of Paoli, was arrested by ISP Master Trooper Lents and charged with invasion of privacy x2. He is being held without bond.

5:18 p.m. - Ryan Terry, 28, of Shoals, was arrested by Deputy Flanagan for violation of pre-trial placement. He is being held without bond.

### SATURDAY, MARCH 5

1:48 p.m. - Deiby Lameda-Hernandez, 40, of Indianapolis, was arrested by Corporal Wells and charged with operating a vehicle without ever receiving a license. He is being held on \$1,000 10% bond.

5:24 p.m. - Timothy Cox, 31, of Free-landville, was arrested by Corporal Wells and charged with domestic battery and battery resulting in serious bodily injury to a minor. He is being held on a \$30,000 10% bond.

10:55 p.m. - Misty Marinez-Cruz, 43, of Bicknell, was arrested by Loogootee Reserve Officer Shaw and charged with driving while suspended - prior. She is being held on a \$10,000 10% bond.

### SUNDAY, MARCH 6

4:08 p.m. - Dakota Halcomb, 28, of Alabama, was arrested by Deputy Long on a Martin County warrant. He is being held without bond.

## REAL ESTATE AUCTION

with Personal Property

March 26, 2022 ~ 9:30am

This is a live Auction for the Estate of Marvin "Butch" Bailey. The auction will be held ONSITE at 8633 US Hwy 50, Shoals, IN

**The Real Estate consists of a 5,824 sq.ft. Commercial Building with an office and 2.69 acres and Hwy Frontage!**

Personal Property Consists of: Upright Air Compressor, Cherry Picker, Truck Parts, Tools, Metal Work Table, ext. Cords, Rims, Ext Ladder, Lawn Mower Seats, Popcorn Machine, Vintage Radios, Metal Advertising Signs, License Plates, Old Cash Registers, Old Toys, Classic Car Collectibles and Memorabilia, Milk Can, FURNITURE: Hoosier Cabinet, Pie Safe, Drop-leaf Table, Rose-Back Chairs, Wicker Furniture, Book Cases, School Desk, Chairs, & MUCH MORE.

**LIVE AUCTION ~ COME AND BID YOUR PRICE**

Misc items will sell at 9:30am with Real Estate at 12:30pm

**OWNER: Norma Bailey**

Graber Auctions ~ 812-254-2220

See Terms and Photos at [graberauctions.com](http://graberauctions.com)





## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### More Neat Stuff



By Ann Ackerman



A man slaughtered a big cow, lit the grill and said to his daughter, "Daughter, call our friends and neighbors to eat with us... let us feast!"

His daughter took to the street and started shouting: "Please help us put out a fire at my Dad's house!"

After a few moments, a small group of people came out and the rest acted like they didn't hear the cry for help.

Those who came ate and drank until splitting.

The stunned father turned to his daughter and said to her, "The people who came? I don't know them and had never seen them before, so where are our friends and colleagues?"

The daughter said, "Those who came out of their homes came to help us put out a fire in our house and not for the party. These are the ones who deserve our generosity and hospitality."

Conclusion: Those who don't help you during your struggle, shouldn't eat with you at your victory party!

### 5 THINGS TO TELL YOURSELF ANIMAL SHELTER Pet of the Week



**DEWEY** is a male black cat, around a year old. He is very sweet and playful, once he gets to know you. Adoption fee is \$45. The Martin County Humane Society Animal Shelter has more than 20 cats to choose from. For more info or to apply to adopt, visit [www.humanesocietyofmartincounty.org](http://www.humanesocietyofmartincounty.org).

#### DAILY:

- \*Keep trying.
- Keep praying.
- \*Stay positive.
- \*Be awesome.
- \*Become better – not better than anyone else, but better than the person you were yesterday.

#### THOUGHTS

\*When I was eighteen, I used to touch my toes twenty times each morning. These days I have a cup of coffee and wave at them.

\*PERSON GIVING ME DIRECTIONS: You can't miss it.

ME? You wanna bet?

\*Age 12: Fall off the bike at high velocity onto gravel road, biked 5 miles home.

Age 50: Used wrong pillow, back was nonfunctional for two days.

\*I didn't think it was possible to travel 20 years back in time...until I got into an argument with my wife.

\*It's so exciting. My son turned 14, and now he knows everything. Everything! I don't have to tell him anything anymore because he already knows! In fact, he knows more than I do AND more than his Dad does! We couldn't be more thrilled. What a joyous time!

\*Practical Advice: If all the toilets in your house are occupied and you are waiting for one to be free, switch off the wi-fi.

\*Tip: How to keep brownies fresh. Eat them all in one sitting.

#### SECRETS OF THE DEEP

Want to know how old a whale is? Check out its earwax, which builds up over time and hardens into a tubular plug. Take a cross section of the plug and count the number of concentric rings. It's like tree ring dating, just wetter.

Make someone smile today!

**Shoals School Board meeting**  
The Shoals School Board will meet Thursday, March 10 at 6 p.m. in the central administration office. The meeting is open to the public.

**ARPA meeting**  
The Martin County ARPA (American Rescue Plan Act) Board will meet this evening, Wednesday, March 9 at 5 p.m. in the commissioners' room of the Martin County Courthouse. The meeting is open to the public.

**Dog/cat wellness clinic**  
The Martin County Humane Society Animal Shelter holds a monthly wellness clinic on the third Friday from 5-6:30 p.m. Low cost services such as vaccinations, microchips and disease testing are offered. No appointment is required.

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

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

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

**Celebrate Recovery meetings**  
Celebrate Recovery meetings will be held every Tuesday at 6:30 p.m. at Redemption Church in Loogootee. This is a Christ-centered recovery program and

anyone is welcome to attend.

**Local recovery meetings**  
Wednesdays-Alcoholic Anonymous, Martin County Community Corrections Building at 8 p.m.; Thursdays-Narcotics Anonymous, Redemption Church Loogootee at 8 p.m.; Fridays-Alcoholic Anonymous, Loogootee Municipal Building Loogootee at 8 p.m.

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

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

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

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



**Humane society grant** -Photo provided  
The Martin County Community Foundation presented another grant from a designated fund. Grants from this type of fund are designated to be paid out to specific non-profit organizations every year. Designated funds are created for donors who wish to ensure that an organization has funding to help continue the services that they provide, forever. This latest grant went to the Martin County Humane Society for \$329. Shown above, from left to right, are MCCF Board Members Angie Risacher and Paula Ringwald, Humane Society President Josh Hughtett receiving the \$329 grant check from MCCF Board Member Garry Smith, and MCCF Director Curt Johnson.



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Step back in time when you enter this brick 2 story home featuring living room, sitting room with fireplace, dining room, kitchen and 1 bath with laundry on the main level 4 bedrooms & 1 bath upstairs. Also includes, unfinished basement and 1 car detached garage plus camper-port. \$164,900 **NEW PRICE \$159,900**  
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<b>Sullivan</b> (812) 268-5252	<b>Martinsville</b> (765) 342-6623	<b>Linton</b> (812) 847-4494	
<b>Jasonville</b> (812) 665-3969	<b>Bicknell</b> (812) 735-3545	<b>Bloomfield</b> (812) 384-4453	





During the winter months, there has been a sign at the end of the sidewalk leading to my house that reads, “Shhh! The Garden is sleeping.” After this past weekend, I can say that it is time to put that sign back in storage for a few months. Warm temperatures and sunshine certainly brought the garden back to life. I know that there are freezing temperatures in the forecast, and it may well be a nasty day by the time this appears in print, but the early taste of spring we enjoyed stimulated a lot of life.

I have had blooms of winter aconite, crocus, hellebores and snowdrops for a few weeks, but this latest warmth has hastened the bloom of daffodils and other small bulb flowers. The front yard is now a sea of yellow. Daffodils are pretty tough, so I do not think the return of the cold will hurt them much. They may bow their heads for a while, but a little sunshine will make them stand up again.

Another splash of yellow marks the location of a large vernal witch hazel. It certainly is a favorite of the bees. At one point, I could hardly see the blooms on the plant for the bees that were covering it. The buzz added some sound to the garden. It brought memories of picking witch hazel blossoms for my grandmother, who used them to make a rinse for her hair.

Sound also came from the bog and vernal pond areas, where the peepers have begun tuning up for their spring concerts. That must be one of the happiest songs ever performed.

The gardens have hosted a lot of birds throughout the winter, but the spring songs are more robust. Many of those

songs are part of the mating rituals, so there is a lot riding on those tunes.

Perhaps my favorite garden sound is the giggles of my work crew, consisting of Manley, Tymbre and Nautica. They picked up sticks from the garden beds and lawn and broke off last year’s flower stalks between trips down the slide and soaring in the swings. They also received instruction on the proper way to cut flowers to make a bouquet to take home to their mother. I hope that this results in a life-long love of gardening and nature. It is quite possible that I might have completed more clean-up work without such help, but quiet gardens can be pretty lonely.

There is a lot of work to be done. The remnants of last year’s ornamental grasses will need to be cut down and hauled away before the clumps begin greening up again. The wildflower meadow also needs to be mowed off and a few of the raised beds still need to be cleared of last year’s debris.

It will be time to plant peas, as soon as soil temperatures reach 50 degrees. Potatoes may be planted as soon as the ground is workable, or you may opt to grow potatoes in buckets or bins, adding compost as the plants grow. I also need to get busy in the greenhouse, seeding flats for tomatoes, peppers and other transplants.

It can get to be a busy time, but I urge you to not get so busy that you miss the beautiful sights, scents and sounds as the garden awakens. Enjoy your garden with some family or friends. In a world that has gone crazy, a garden is a place to find peace.

## 2021 spring wild turkey season recap and 2022 forecast

During the spring 2021 turkey season, hunters harvested 12,320 wild turkeys throughout 91 of Indiana’s 92 counties. This was a 15 percent decrease from the 2020 harvest but was close to the average harvest (12,065 birds) between 2015 and 2019.

The Indiana Spring Turkey Harvest Data shows the top county was Dearborn, with a total of 355 birds. During the youth-only weekend, hunters took 1,198 birds (9 percent of the harvest). Most birds last year were taken in the early morning hours, during the early part of the season. The estimated number of hunters afield was 65,254 with an estimated success rate of 19 percent.

The 2022 spring turkey season runs April 27-May 15, with the youth-only season April 23-24. Predictions for this season call for between 12,000 and 13,000 birds to be harvested including an increase in the number of juvenile (jakes)



taken due to high summer brood success (survival of poults/young turkeys).

This season’s resident Spring Turkey License fee is \$32 plus the annual gamebird stamp (\$11) for a total of \$43. The Resident Youth Consolidated Hunt/Trap license fee is \$12 (no stamp required). This license is also available to nonresident youth who have a parent, grandparent, or legal guardian who is an Indiana resident.

## Farmer sentiment rises during commodity price rally; concern over production costs remains

BY KAMI GOODWIN  
Purdue University News Service

Farmer sentiment continues to fluctuate month-to-month as the Purdue University/CME Group Ag Economy Barometer rose 6 points to a reading of 125 in February, a mirror image of the previous month. The Index of Current Conditions was down 1 point to a reading of 132, while the Index of Future Expectations improved 10 points to a reading of 122. The Ag Economy Barometer is calculated each month from 400 U.S. agricultural producers’ responses to a telephone survey. This month’s survey was conducted Feb. 14-18, days before Russia’s invasion of Ukraine.

The Farm Financial Performance Index remained unchanged in February at a reading of 83. However, the sharp drop in the index, down 27 percent from late 2021 to 2022, indicates producers expect financial performance in 2022 to be worse than in 2021. The financial index is generated based upon producers’ responses to whether they expect their farm’s current financial performance to be better than, worse than or about the same as the previous year.

“These survey responses suggest that concerns about the spike in production costs and supply chain issues continue to mostly outweigh the impact of the commodity price rally that’s been underway this winter,” said James Mintert, the barometer’s principal investigator and director of Purdue University’s Center for Commercial Agriculture.

Higher input costs have consistently been the number one concern identified by farmers over the past six-months, according to results from the Ag Economy Barometer survey. To gain additional insight into the concerns of producers, this month respondents were provided with a more detailed set of possible responses when answering this question. While a majority still consider input costs as their number one concern (47 percent), it was followed by lower output prices (16 percent), environmental policy (13 percent), farm policy (9 percent), climate policy (8 percent), and COVID-19’s impact (7 percent).

Tight machinery inventories continue to be a problem. In February, over 40% of producers stated that low farm machinery inventories are holding back their investment plans. While plans for farm building and grain bin construction were more

optimistic this month, 56% still said their plans for new construction are below the previous year.

Thirty percent of corn and soybean producers say they’ve had difficulty purchasing crop inputs from their suppliers. In a follow-up question posed to corn and soybean producers who said they experienced difficulty procuring inputs, herbicides are the most problematic input to source followed by fertilizer and farm machinery parts. To learn more about how crop producers are responding to surging fertilizer prices, corn producers were again asked if they plan to change their nitrogen fertilizer application rate in 2022 compared to the rate used in 2021. One-third of corn producers in this month’s survey said they plan to use a lower nitrogen application rate this year than in 2021, compared with 37 percent of corn producers who said they planned to reduce their nitrogen application rate when surveyed in January.

Each winter, the barometer survey asks producers to project their farm’s annual growth rate over the next five years. In 2022, 53 percent stated they either had no plans to grow or plan to retire/exit in the next five years, 19 percent expect their farm’s annual growth rate to range from 5-10 percent and while 18 percent expect their farm’s annual growth rate to be less than 5 percent.

The need for better broadband coverage in rural areas has been highlighted in several legislative proposals at both the state and national level. The February barometer survey included a question asking respondents to characterize the quality of their farm’s internet access. Just three of 10 respondents said they had “high-quality” internet access, 41 percent said “moderate quality,” 16 percent chose “poor quality” on the survey, and 12 percent stated that they did not have internet access at all. Responses to this question suggest that nearly three of 10 farms in this month’s survey are unable to take advantage of many applications and services which require reasonable quality internet access.

### Celestine Community Club shooting match dates

Celestine Community Club will host five shooting matches in March and April on the following dates. Friday, March 18, Friday, March 25, Friday, April 1, Friday, April 8, and Friday April 22.

Doors open at 5 p.m. Kitchen starts serving at 6 p.m. Closed match begins at 8 p.m. All times are E.S.T.

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# National unemployment decreases to 3.8 percent for February

Total nonfarm payroll employment rose by 678,000 in February, and the unemployment rate edged down to 3.8 percent, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported last week.

Job growth was widespread, led by gains in leisure and hospitality, professional and business services, health care, and construction.

This news release presents statistics from two monthly surveys. The household survey measures labor force status, including unemployment, by demographic characteristics. The establishment survey measures nonfarm employment, hours, and earnings by industry.

### Household Survey Data

In February, the unemployment rate edged down to 3.8 percent, and the number of unemployed persons edged down to 6.3 million. In February 2020, prior to the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, the unemployment rate was 3.5 percent, and the number of unemployed persons was 5.7 million.

Among the major worker groups, the unemployment rates for adult men (3.5 percent) and Hispanics (4.4 percent) declined in February. The jobless rates for adult women (3.6 percent), teenagers (10.3 percent), Whites (3.3 percent), Blacks (6.6 percent), and Asians (3.1 percent) showed little or no change over the month.

Among the unemployed, the number of persons on temporary layoff, at 888,000 in February, was little changed over the month. The number of permanent job losers, at 1.6 million in February, also changed little. Both measures are higher than their February 2020 levels of 780,000 and 1.3 million, respectively.

In February, the number of persons jobless less than 5 weeks declined by 286,000 to 2.1 million. The number of long-term unemployed (those jobless for 27 weeks or more) was essentially unchanged at 1.7 million. This measure is 581,000 higher than in February 2020. The long-term unemployed accounted for 26.7 percent of the total unemployed in February 2022.

The labor force participation rate, at 62.3 percent in February, changed little over the month. The employment-population ratio edged up to 59.9 percent. Both measures remain below their February

2020 levels (63.4 percent and 61.2 percent, respectively).

The number of persons employed part time for economic reasons increased by 418,000 to 4.1 million in February but remains below its February 2020 level of 4.4 million. These individuals, who would have preferred full-time employment, were working part time because their hours had been reduced or they were unable to find full-time jobs.

The number of persons not in the labor force who currently want a job declined by 349,000 to 5.4 million in February. This measure is above its February 2020 level of 5.0 million. These individuals were not counted as unemployed because they were not actively looking for work during the 4 weeks preceding the survey or were unavailable to take a job.

Among those not in the labor force who wanted a job, the number of persons marginally attached to the labor force, at 1.5 million, changed little in February. These individuals wanted and were available for work and had looked for a job sometime in the prior 12 months but had not looked for work in the 4 weeks preceding the survey. The number of discouraged workers, a subset of the marginally attached who believed that no jobs were available for them, was little changed over the month at 391,000.

### Household Survey Supplemental Data

In February, 13.0 percent of employed persons teleworked because of the coronavirus pandemic, down from 15.4 percent in the prior month. These data refer to employed persons who teleworked or worked at home for pay at some point in the 4 weeks preceding the survey specifically because of the pandemic.

In February, 4.2 million persons reported that they had been unable to work because their employer closed or lost business due to the pandemic--that is, they did not work at all or worked fewer hours at some point in the 4 weeks preceding the survey due to the pandemic. This measure is down from 6.0 million in the previous month. Among those who reported in February that they were unable to work because of pandemic-related closures or lost business, 20.3 percent received at least some pay from their employer for the hours not worked, down from 23.7

percent in January.

Among those not in the labor force in February, 1.2 million persons were prevented from looking for work due to the pandemic, down from 1.8 million in the prior month. (To be counted as unemployed, by definition, individuals must be either actively looking for work or on temporary layoff.)

These supplemental data come from questions added to the household survey beginning in May 2020 to help gauge the effects of the pandemic on the labor market. The data are not seasonally adjusted. Tables with estimates from the supplemental questions for all months are available online at

[www.bls.gov/cps/effects-of-the-coronavirus-covid-19-pandemic.htm](http://www.bls.gov/cps/effects-of-the-coronavirus-covid-19-pandemic.htm).

### Establishment Survey Data

Total nonfarm payroll employment rose by 678,000 in February but is down by 2.1 million, or 1.4 percent, from its pre-pandemic level in February 2020. Job growth was widespread over the month, led by gains in leisure and hospitality, professional and business services, health care, and construction.

Employment in leisure and hospitality continued to increase, with a gain of 179,000 in February. Job growth occurred in food services and drinking places (+124,000) and in accommodation (+28,000). Since February 2020, employment in leisure and hospitality is down by 1.5 million, or 9.0 percent.

Professional and business services added 95,000 jobs in February. Job gains occurred in temporary help services (+36,000), management of companies and enterprises (+12,000), management and technical consulting services (+10,000), and scientific research and development services (+8,000). Employment in professional and business services is 596,000 higher than in February 2020, largely in temporary help services (+240,000), computer systems design and related services (+154,000), and management and technical consulting services (+152,000).

Employment in health care rose by 64,000 in February. Job gains occurred in home health care services (+20,000), offices of physicians (+15,000), and offices of other health practitioners (+12,000). Employment in health care is down by

306,000, or 1.9 percent, from its level in February 2020.

Construction added 60,000 jobs in February, following little change in the prior month. About three-fourths of the over-the-month job gain occurred in specialty trade contractors, with increases in both the residential (+24,000) and nonresidential (+20,000) components. Construction employment is slightly below (-11,000) its February 2020 level.

Employment in transportation and warehousing increased by 48,000 in February and is 584,000 higher than in February 2020. Over the month, job gains continued in warehousing and storage (+11,000), couriers and messengers (+9,000), support activities for transportation (+9,000), and air transportation (+7,000). All four of these component industries have surpassed their February 2020 employment levels, with particularly strong job growth in warehousing and storage (+420,000) and couriers and messengers (+240,000).

Employment in retail trade rose by 37,000 in February, with gains in building material and garden supply stores (+12,000), furniture and home furnishings stores (+6,000), and gasoline stations (+5,000). Retail trade employment is 104,000 above its level in February 2020.

Manufacturing added 36,000 jobs in February. Employment in durable goods industries rose by 20,000, with job gains in fabricated metal products (+11,000), machinery (+8,000), electrical equipment and appliances (+4,000), nonmetallic mineral products (+3,000), furniture and related products (+3,000), and primary metals (+3,000). These gains were partially offset by a job loss in motor vehicles and parts (-18,000). Nondurable goods manufacturing also added jobs over the month (+16,000). Since February 2020, manufacturing employment is down by 178,000, or 1.4 percent.

In February, employment in financial activities rose by 35,000. Job gains were split between finance and insurance (+16,000) and real estate (+16,000). Employment in financial activities is 31,000 above its level in February 2020.

Social assistance added 31,000 jobs in February, with a gain of 21,000 jobs in individual and family services. Since February (See 'UNEMPLOYMENT' on page 9)

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<p style="text-align: center; background-color: #006633; color: white; padding: 2px;"><b>PHYSICIAN</b></p> <div style="text-align: center;"> <p><b>Daviss-Martin Medical Clinic</b></p> <p>David Nibel, MD Daniell Summers, FNP</p> <p>Lab &amp; X-ray Monday - Friday 8am - 5pm Call us today for an appointment! 812-295-5095</p> </div>	<p style="text-align: center; background-color: #006633; color: white; padding: 2px;"><b>REALTOR</b></p> <div style="text-align: center;"> <p><b>MIDWEST REALTY</b> <b>ALLIE JONES, REALTOR®</b></p> <p>Mobile: 1-812-709-0418 realestateallie@outlook.com</p> <p>1704 E National Hwy PO Box 681 Washington, IN 47501 Office: 1-812-254-3918</p> </div>	<p style="text-align: center; background-color: #006633; color: white; padding: 2px;"><b>STONE/GRAVEL</b></p> <div style="text-align: center;"> <p><b>Fast Lane Farms</b></p> <p>Stone • Ag Lime Sand • Gravel</p> <p>Randy Wininger 812-709-0383 • rvcwininger@gmail.com 3201 St. Rd. 550, Shoals IN 47581</p> </div>	<p style="text-align: center; background-color: #006633; color: white; padding: 2px;"><b>TRASH PICK-UP</b></p> <div style="text-align: center;"> <p><b>KRB Disposal</b> Pickup household trash weekly NOW serving Martin &amp; Daviss counties</p> <p>812-247-3115 or 812-247-3604</p> </div>



LHS Dual-Credit Junior English Class  
presents . . .

**Small Businesses,  
BIG Stories**



**BY SHAWNA MASON, MADISON  
ESCH & MATTHEW GREENE**  
LHS Dual-Credit Junior English Class

The dual-credit junior English class at Loogootee High School is working with the City of Loogootee Recast Team to promote locally-owned small businesses. The class is interviewing business owners in Loogootee and Shoals. Below is their next interview.

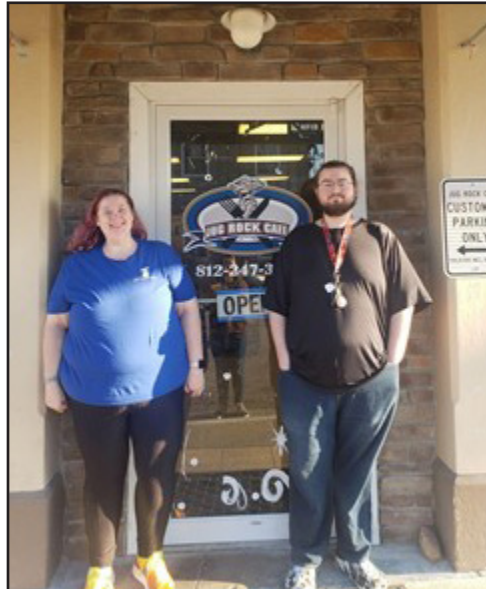
Shoals Jug Rock Café Rob Fish and Carrie Goodman

“Before working at a cafe, I’d been going to college, and I was actually majoring in Spanish. I never really had any formal education for cooking. It was more learning from my mom growing up and videos and cooking shows and stuff like that. I liked cooking a lot as a kid. When I came home for the summer, dad had said something about wanting to start a restaurant. It was sort of just a one-off thing, but it quickly spiraled into actually starting a restaurant, and that was pretty much it,” said Rob Fish.

“Before starting the restaurant, Robbie had a little bit of inheritance money that he had invested. So, he used some of that inheritance to purchase the building and do the remodel. When we first opened the café, it was crazy, because it was right at the beginning of COVID. We had our Grand Opening scheduled after the governor had already shut down all dining rooms. So, we had to make the decision: Do we open? Do we not open? And we decided to go ahead and open and just do curbside service. I think both of us were probably really nervous, but excited too. It was just a crazy time in our world to be trying to start a new business. But we’re still here, and it’s almost two years later. We’ve come so far since then; we’ve turned a garage into a commercial kitchen.

I think being new to a small community is a challenge, because I’m not from Martin County. Being new and to feel accepted into the community was a challenge. And COVID . . . probably everybody that you interview is going to say COVID has been a challenge. And right now, with the restaurant business, food costs are just crazy and going up. And it’s definitely a challenge figuring out that balance of what’s going on in the world, versus what’s going on in a small town. I would say we’re very fortunate that we haven’t had to worry about staffing, really, because we’ve got such a good group of employees. Almost everybody has been in the business since the beginning, so we’re really like a big family here.

As time has gone, we’ve gotten some bigger opportunities to be able to serve school kids or we’ve catered on Election Day to feed the poll workers. For me, working in the cafe has changed elements of my life, especially not being from here. I feel like I really connected with the community having a business here. I’ve gotten to know a lot more people that live in Shoals and even in Loogootee and made a lot of friends that are regular customers. I take a sense of pride in being in the community. Coming in as an outsider, we have lived here, but I’m not from here. So, starting out you don’t know anybody and now I probably know more people than my husband does, and he is from here, but that’s just because of the restaurant. And everybody knows you and you can’t get through the JayC store without talking to 12 people. And I love that connection with people.



My background is in education. So, I was a teacher, and when I started to lose my vision, I had to quit teaching because I don’t drive. And so, I’ve really missed teaching. Going from being a teacher to running a cafe is totally different, but we’ve been able to do events like breakfast with Santa and breakfast with the Easter Bunny, and so this place fills up with kids, and I love it and that’s been my favorite thing to have. And you know, another story. I think before we were able to open and when school was shut down, we decided that we wanted to do free lunches for school kids. So, we were making sack lunches for parents to stop in and grab a lunch because all these kids have been sent home. And the very first morning that we did it, there was a family that just stood outside the door, because it wasn’t quite 11 o’clock yet. And so, I opened the door and there was a little boy. His mom said he wanted to be the very first customer at the Jug Rock Cafe, even though it’s just a free lunch. But I have since become friends with this family. And now they come to my church, and it just warms my heart to know that those kinds of connections can be made just around our restaurant.

I think that it’s an honor to be able to be a part of Martin County, being a part of the community,

and to be able to have the Jug Rock name. I like that,” said Carrie Goodman.

**UNEMPLOYMENT —  
(Continued from page 8)**

ary 2020, employment in social assistance is down by 152,000, or 3.5 percent.

Employment increased by 25,000 in the other services industry in February, led by a gain in repair and maintenance (+10,000). Employment in the other services industry is down by 317,000, or 5.3 percent, from its level in February 2020.

Wholesale trade added 18,000 jobs in February; employment in the industry is 113,000, or 1.9 percent, lower than in February 2020.

Mining employment rose by 9,000 in February, with gains in support activities for mining (+6,000) and in oil and gas extraction (+2,000). Mining employment has grown by 62,000 since a recent low in February 2021.

Employment showed little or no change over the month in information and government. Average hourly earnings for all employees on private nonfarm payrolls, at \$31.58 in February, were little changed over the month (+1 cent), after large increases in recent months. Over the past 12 months, average hourly earnings have increased by 5.1 percent. In February, average hourly earnings of private-sector production and nonsupervisory employees rose by 8 cents to \$26.94.

**2022  
Seniors**



**SHOALS  
HIGH  
SCHOOL**



**KIEARA CRAIG**

Kieara Nicole Craig is the daughter of Pearl and Chris Craig. Her siblings are Dakota Priddy and Cody Craig. In high school Kieara participated in cheer and pep club. Her favorite high school memory is “When I get to walk down the aisle to get my diploma and say I did it!” After graduation, Kieara plans to get her CNA license.



**JACKSON ALLBRIGHT**

Jackson Ray Allbright is the son of Tyson and Jennifer Allbright. He has one sister named Ashton Allbright. In high school Jackson participated in soccer, track, beta club and pep club. His favorite high school memory is “when we won the Blue Chip Conference in soccer my freshman year”. After graduation, Jackson plans to go to the Southeast Lineman Training Center.



**PEYTON CAMPBELL**

Peyton Connor Campbell is the son of Whitney Campbell and James Cook. One of his favorite memories from high school is “Karaoke in Dahlers class”. After graduation, Peyton plans to live life and visit other countries.



**LYNN WILSON**

Lynn Ann Nicole Wilson is the daughter of Michael Roberts and Casandra Wilson. She has one brother named Grayson Hernandez. Her favorite high school memory is “getting the pigs and chickens in Kent’s class and chasing them around”. After graduation, Lynn plans to enter the workforce and maybe go to college.

**COSMOS receives \$14,274 grant  
from Duke Energy Foundation**

COSMOS (The Collaboration of Shoals, Mitchell, and Orleans Schools) received a \$14,274 grant from Duke Energy Foundation to create powerful communities in Mitchell, Orleans, and Shoals through digital fabrication and STEM programming.

COSMOS is one of 24 organizations in Indiana to collectively receive more than \$300,000 in grants from the Duke Energy Foundation.

COSMOS currently has a digital fabrication lab in each district that was funded in 2020 by Regional Opportunity Initiatives (ROI). A fabrication lab is a dedicated space that empowers students to create functional solutions to authentic problems using computer-controlled tools like 3D printers, microelectronics, laser cutters, and CNC routers.

This grant, from the Duke Energy Foundation, will allow COSMOS to expand the use of digital fabrication within their corporations to provide access to elementary and middle school students. With state-of-the-art equipment and instruction, digital fabrication labs are developing a network of makers ready to excel in the next generation of advanced STEM careers. Additionally, this program fosters opportunities for experiential learning that allows students to develop skills of collaboration, critical thinking, creativity, communica-

tion, and adaptability.

Apryl Kidd, Director at COSMOS, stated, “This funding allows us to remove barriers of access to high-quality STEM programming for students. Without generous funding from the Duke Energy Foundation, we would not be able to provide all students with the opportunity to engage in experiential learning and increase their exposure to careers within the STEM sector.”

“We all retain information better if we have a chance to apply what we learn in a classroom,” said Duke Energy Community Relations Manager Bruce Calloway. “We believe this grant will do just that, and hopefully encourage students to pursue careers in fields such as engineering and math.

About COSMOS: The Collaboration of Shoals, Mitchell, and Orleans Schools is working together to transform the educational experience for all students. You can learn more about their story on Facebook and Twitter.

About the Duke Energy Foundation: The Duke Energy Foundation is the philanthropic arm of Duke Energy, Indiana’s largest electric supplier. The foundation provides philanthropic support to meet the needs of communities where Duke Energy’s customers live and work.