

Martin County JOURNAL

Year 8, Issue 11

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 15, 2017

Eleven pages

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County hires first-ever animal control officer

BY COURTNEY HUGHETT
Martin County Journal Publisher

Sheriff Travis Roush told the Martin County Commissioners at their meeting Tuesday night, March 14 that he has hired the county's first animal control officer, Josh Hughett. Roush explained that Hughett has not been sworn in yet and is currently completing training. The animal control position will be a part-time position and the sheriff's department is currently working out policies and procedures as related to the position.

More information will be forthcoming once Hughett is sworn in.

Sheriff Roush also reported that he has 59 inmates currently in the jail. He also told the commissioners that he estimates the cost to fix the broken gear on one of the garage doors at \$1,000 to \$2,000.

Community Corrections Director Kathy Collins provided the commissioners with a listing of hours put in by those serving community service, totaling 5,400.3 hours. Those on the road crew put in 2,004 hours cleaning up and mowing more than 100 roads in the county. Those serving community service spent 2,264.25 hours working

at the recycling center, 425.8 hours working at the food bank or doing other kinds of community service, 398.25 hours at the community corrections office, 116.5 hours working for the City of Loogootee, 97 hours helping the Shoals Library or the Town of Shoals, 68 hours helping at Loogootee and Shoals Schools, and 26.5 hours helping at the humane society animal shelter.

The commissioners approved Theresa Holt and Dr. Victor Wallace to serve on the board of health until the end of 2020.

Auditor January Roush gave an update on renovations being done in the commissioners' room. The commissioners met Tuesday night in the courtroom while work is being done in their meeting room. Roush said that the painting should be completed Wednesday and they will begin replacing the carpeting. The light fixtures have been painted and the process of switching the current bulbs to LED lighting has been started. She said the work should be completed in a timely fashion and invited the commissioners to go up and look after the meeting.

It was reported that the Martin County Chamber of Commerce will be holding their annual dinner this com-

ing Thursday night at the community building on the fairgrounds. Ticket sales are down this year and while they cannot be purchased at the door, anyone who wants one can contact the

Loogootee Mayor's Office at 812-295-4770. The Chamber plans to donate a portion of the ticket sales to the family in Delphi that lost their daughters recently.

City spends \$93,000 on updates to wastewater treatment plant

BY COURTNEY HUGHETT
Martin County Journal Publisher

Superintendent Bo Wilson was the main speaker at the Loogootee City Council meeting Monday night, March 13, discussing repairs and upgrades needed at the water treatment plant and within the city. Wilson first explained that grinders and control panels at the treatment plant need to be replaced. The grinders, he said, have been in service since 1993 and they have the task of grinding up anything that comes from the sewers into the plant, such as rocks. The cost to replace the two grinders and two control panels is estimated at \$63,000. The council voted to take the money from the sewage depreciation

fund which currently has \$233,630.

The next item Wilson said needs to be done are the cleaning of two of the water wells at a cost of \$16,000 each. He explained that the wells must be cleaned and maintained regularly or they operate inefficiently. The company that cleans the wells will do both wells at the same time for \$30,000 but if done separately, on different days, it would cost \$32,000. The council approved going forward with the well cleaning with the money to come from the water depreciation fund that currently contains \$50,000.

Wilson also talked to the council about the need to purchase new lab equipment at the wastewater treatment (See 'CITY' continued on page 2)

Shoals School Board makes staff changes, picks graduation date

The Shoals School Board met last Thursday, March 9.

The board approved graduation for the Class of 2017 to be on Saturday, May 27, 2017 at 2 p.m. and Awards Night on Friday, May 26, 2017.

The board approved the following personnel actions:

-Resignation of Amy Holt from position of guidance/athletic secretary effective June 7, 2017

-Resignation of Kristen Waggoner from position of teaching assistant effective March 7, 2017

-Resignation of Anthony Abel from position of custodian

-Retirement of Teresa Heckard from position of Family and Consumer Sciences Teacher

-Patty Paul as Title I Teaching Assistant retro-active to March 6, 2017

-Sabra Bough (Harder) as custodian with working hours of 10:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m., Monday-Thursday totaling 28 hours per week

-Approval for payment to Lisa Elliott for working overtime hours

The board approved the following facility usage requests:

-Dover Hill Christian Union Church to use practice gym on one Sunday afternoon each month for Faith and Fitness activities for an initial two-month trial period

-Eastern Martin County Ministerial Alliance to hold Good Friday Community Service in the gymnasium on April 14, 2017 from 6-7 p.m.

The board held a first reading of the updates to the athletic department handbook. The board also held a first reading of the updates to Board Policy

Series 7000. Second readings and approval for both are scheduled for the April 13 board meeting.

The board approved a high school boys' basketball summer camp proposal.

The board approved a fundraiser requests from the Rockettes Dance Team to raise funds for summer dance camp: Cooper Hill Candle Sales April 3-14, 2017 and a bake sale at JayC Food Store on Saturday, May 13, 2017.

(See 'SHOALS' continued on page 2)

Martin County's jobless rate at 4.3 percent for January

BY COURTNEY HUGHETT
Martin County Journal Publisher

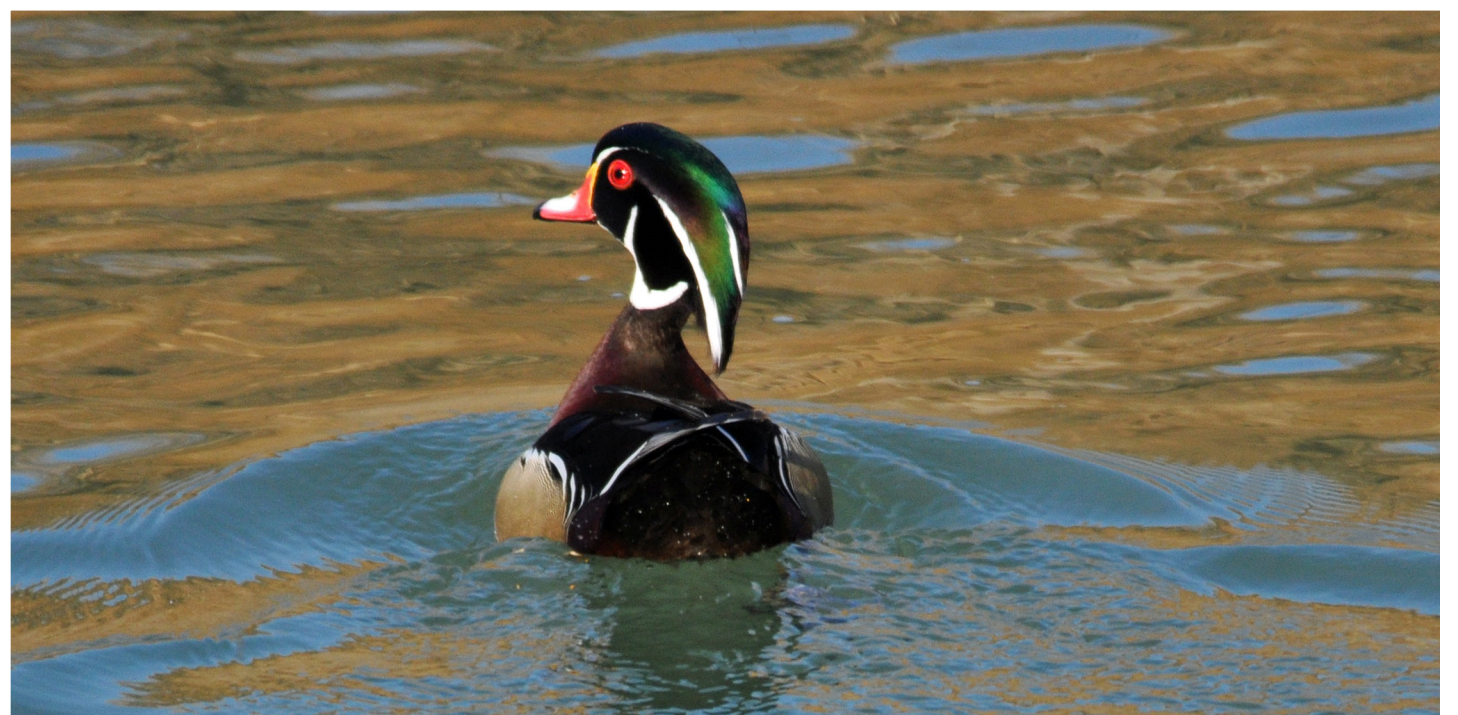
Martin County's jobless rate jumped from 3.7 percent in December of last year to 4.3 percent in January. The county had the 24th lowest jobless rate of the 92 Indiana counties but were tied with eight other counties.

In January, the county had 5,034 residents in the workforce with 216 of them without jobs. In December, there were 5,003 residents able to work and 185 of them unemployed. In January of last year, the county's jobless rate was 4.6 percent with 5,070 residents in

the workforce and 234 of them unemployed.

Dubois County's unemployment rate also rose in January to 3.5 percent, up from 2.8 percent in December. The county fell out of the top spot in the state for lowest jobless rate, a place they held for many, many months. Dubois County ranked third in the state for lowest unemployment for January, tied with Bartholomew and LaGrange counties.

In January, Dubois County had 23,186 residents in the workforce and 806 of them were unemployed. In December, there were 22,929 residents (See 'UNEMPLOYMENT' on page 8)



Wood duck

-Photo by Bill Whorrall, <https://www.billwhorrallart.com>

The Wood Duck nests in trees near water, sometimes directly over water, but other times over a mile away. After hatching, the ducklings jump down from the nest tree and make their way to water. The mother calls them to her, but does not help them in any way. The ducklings may jump from heights of over 50 feet without injury. (Source: allaboutbirds.org)

CITY

(Continued from page one)
 plant. He said the equipment is still functioning, it is just outdated and he was told by the manufacturer that in a few years, they will no longer service that model. He also noted that updating the equipment would allow his employees to do testing on the water in a much more efficient manner. The total cost of the equipment and chemicals needed

SHOALS

(Continued from page one)
 The board approved the high school band trip to Orlando, Florida March 25-29, 2018 to perform at Universal Studios.

The board approved the appointments of Joseph Williams and Liz Chattin to the Shoals Public Library Board.

Austin Malone, elementary principal, reported on the following:

-Upcoming events include: Coin War, IREAD3, Raptor Presentation, ISTEP Part 2, Book Fair, and Field Day

-Kindergarten Round Up scheduled for April 7

-The elementary participated in Math Bowl and got 1st Place in three divisions with the overall highest score. Our score ranked 7th in the state out of 130 teams.

Dr. Roush reported on the following:

-Congratulations to the basketball teams, the math bowl for becoming 7th in the state, Alan Cook for being the 3rd best speller in the state, and Alex

for a year is around \$14,000. The council decided to table making a decision.

The council did approve the water office to purchase a new printer for \$1,534. Wilson said the current three-year-old printer no longer self feeds card stock paper and the utilities clerk must hand feed the cards used to print the bills into the machine one by one. He said the company would take the old

Tedrow for winning gold.

-The robotics team will be competing in the sea, land, and air challenge at Ivy Tech on April 15th.

-Spring break will be March 27-31.

-Beta induction will take place in the next month or two.

-Dr. Roush had the opportunity to meet with the new State Superintendent Dr. McCormick and senator Eric Bassler this past week about some of the struggles small rural schools are facing

-The school is partnering with Indiana University to write another counseling grant. University representatives will be in Shoals next Tuesday the 14th conducting focus groups to help gather data about the school's counseling needs.

-Thank you to Teresa Heckard for her dedication and service to the students. She will be dearly missed.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

printer as a trade in for around \$300 but they have decided to keep it to use for regular printing jobs.

Wilson brought to the attention of the council the need to replace the ballasts in the lights downtown. He said that the ballasts have become unstable and it was recommended that they be replaced with LED lighting. Wilson provided the council with a quote from M&M Electric to replace all 65 lights. Council Member Teresa Nolley requested that Wilson come back with a second quote.

The final thing Wilson requested was to purchase 10 t-shirts for his employees. He said that the current uniforms are heavy and can be uncomfortable in the warm months. His employees have requested that they be allowed to wear t-shirts instead. The council spent quite a bit of time discussing the current uniform policy of the city employees and the fact that many city employees do not wear the uniforms as required and that the city pays for the shirts and pants for employees to wear. Wilson noted that there have been issues in the past but they have met with the employees and the issue should be corrected now. The council agreed to purchase 10 t-shirts for \$480. It was noted that if the employees need a new shirt, they will have to purchase them from their own pocket.

In other business, the council voted to pay the company New Focus \$3,800 to update the employee handbook. This was discussed at last month's meeting.

Clerk-Treasurer Nancy Jones had obtained a quote from HR Unlimited, the company that did the current handbook, at a cost of \$4,000. Jones wanted to get a second quote and also requested that City Attorney Isha Wright-Ryan look at the changes needed to see if she could do it for the city. At Monday night's meeting, Jones said she had spoken to Wright-Ryan and she said she is unable to do it.

The council discussed the need for a Loogootee Advisory Plan Commission in order to move forward with the planning and zoning ordinance the city plans to implement. Mayor Noel Harty asked the council if they knew of any citizens who would be interested in serving on the council and requested that they speak to those people prior to the next meeting.

The council agreed to pay \$100 to South Point for road maintenance. The city owns a lift station in South Point, on St. Mary's Road, and all property owners pay toward maintaining the roadway.

Mayor Harty reported that he is still waiting to hear back on the outcome of the feasibility study that the city and Martin County Alliance helped pay for, for the company House Investments, of Indianapolis. House Investments is considering building an assisted living facility in the county. The feasibility study had a total cost of \$7,500 with the City of Loogootee and the Martin County Alliance each putting in \$2,500.

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Obituaries

MARTIN COUNTY JOURNAL

Wednesday, March 15, 2017

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SHIRLEY BYERS

Shirley Ann Byers passed away peacefully in her sleep on Thursday March 9, 2017 at Garden Villa Nursing Home. A resident of Bloomington, she was 81.

She was born January 13, 1936 in Martin County; the daughter of Oren and Flossie (Webster) Lundy.

She had worked as a cook at Grandview School, and was a secretary for the Boy Scout Office and Indiana University. She was a member of South Union Christian Church.

Survivors include her husband of over 59 years, Jerry Byers of Bloomington; two sons, David Byers and Rick (Mary) Byers all of Bloomington; three grandchildren, Jacob Byers, Matt Byers and Carrie Smith and four great grandchildren, Blake Byers, Shelton Byers, Cameron Byers and Audrey Aycock.

She was preceded in death by her parents.

Services were held Tuesday March 14 at The Funeral Chapel with Jimmy Cain officiating. Entombment followed at Valhalla Memory Gardens.

In lieu of flowers, contributions in Shirley's memory may be given to South Union Christian Church or the

Alzheimer's Association www.alz.org.

STEVEN LONG

Steven L. Long made his journey to heaven March 10, 2017 at 6:04 a.m. at Daviess Community Hospital. A resident of Washington, he was 70.

He was born February 21, 1947 in Davenport, Iowa; son of Marion and Hazel (Birlew) Long.

He attended East United Township High School in East Moline, Illinois. He retired in 2007 from the Indiana Department of Transportation after 33 years of service.

He loved fishing, mushroom hunting and the outdoors.

He is survived by companion, Rita Shake and her family; brother, Robert (Nedra) Long of Plainville; two sisters, Susan (Steven) Doyle of Moline, Illinois and Beth Wittmer of Loogootee; and several nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents and brother-in-law, Tim Wittmer.

Funeral services were held Monday, March 13 at Ed Lee Mortuary with pastor Chris Byars officiating. Burial followed at Sugarland Memory Gardens in Washington.

Condolences may be sent to the family online at www.edleemortuary.com.

RONALD GIBSON

Ronald D. Gibson, formerly of Crawfordsville and Indianapolis, passed away at his home on March 10, 2017 with friends and family by his side. A resident of Veedersburg, he was 73.

He was born September 19, 1943 in Muncie; son of Roy W. and Ruth H. Gibson.

Ron spent summers in Shoals and Loogootee with his father and cousins, he cherished his time working on the Gibson Farm with his family.

After graduating from Thomas Carr Howe High School, he entered the US Navy and then briefly attended Purdue University. After a short stint in Arizona, he moved back to Indiana where he met and married his wife, Nancy K. Blacker and moved to Crawfordsville. After 32 years, he retired from Pepsi-Cola Bottling Company and retired just outside of Veedersburg with Nancy.

He enjoyed spending time hunting, fishing, gardening, gold prospecting, and doing genealogy research. And he loved riding the golf cart with all of his grandchildren.

He was a member of the NRA, Gun Owners of America, Gold Prospectors Association of America and Grace of God Fellowship in Kingman, Indiana.

Survivors include his daughter, Jill (Chad) Aker; son, Jake (Kelli) Gibson; grandchildren, Jessica, Staci, Ryan, Addi, Erin; sister, Mary L. Roepke; and special friend, Jena Holmes.

He was preceded in death by his father, Roy W. Gibson; mother, Ruth H. Roepke; stepfather, (Robert W. Roepke) and his wife, Nancy K. Gibson (Blacker).

A memorial visitation will be held this evening, Wednesday, March 15 from 4-8 p.m. at Hunt & Son Funeral Home, 107 N Grant Avenue, Crawfordsville, IN 47933, with a funeral service to be held on Thursday, March 16 at 11 a.m.

In lieu of flowers, his family requests that donations be made to the Nancy K. Gibson Memorial Scholarship Fund c/o Montgomery County Community Foundation (<http://www.mccf-in.org>).

LILLIAN POINDEXTER

Lillian Poindexter passed away at Millers Merry Manor in Wabash, Indiana on March 8, 2017. A resident of Shoals, she was 86.

She was born August 2, 1930 in Chandler, Indiana; daughter of William and Bessie (Grant) Goings.

She was a member of the Loogootee Christian Church, and the Eastern Star. She worked in the Shoals Community School cafeteria and the Alco Dime Store.

She is survived by her husband of 64 years, Bruce Poindexter; her children, Carol Shoemaker (Pat) of Wabash, Jane Denny of Loogootee, and Mike Poindexter of Maineville, Ohio; her grandchildren, Kristina Michelle Bruner (Pat), Patrick Ryan Denny, Courtney Poindexter, Kristin Poindexter, Alicia Shoemaker, Josh Shoemaker; great-grandkids, Shalyn Bruner, Kaitlyn Bruner, Jocelyn Bruner, Caleb Denny, Evan Denny, Jonathan Denny, Lilly Denny, and Gabriel Heyne; her sister-in-law, Barb Goings; and several



LILLIAN POINDEXTER

nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her parents, William and Bessie Goings; her grandchild, Dylan Denny; and her brothers, Charles Goings, Walter Goings, and Bill Goings.

A funeral service was held Saturday, March 12 at Blake Funeral Home in Loogootee with Reverend Ed Frost officiating. Burial followed at Spring Hill Cemetery in Shoals.

Condolences may be made online at blakefuneralhomes.com.

EZRA BEACHY

Ezra P. Beachy passed away March 12, 2017 at 6:48 a.m. at the Villages of Oak Ridge Nursing Home in Washington. A resident of Sarasota, Florida, he was 89.

He was born December 20, 1927 in Sherwood, Ohio; son of Jonas and Leah (Mast) Beachy. He retired from construction where he worked as carpenter. He was a member of the Bahia Vista Mennonite Church in Sarasota, Florida.

He is survived by his wife, Marge Graber, whom he married June 10, 2000; sons, Linford (Alicia) Beachy of Grant Pass, Oregon; David (Bonnie) Beachy of Goshen; daughters, Joann (Dale) Hasenick of Marcellus, Michigan, Rosene (Doug) Beachy-Eby of Anchorage, Alaska; brothers, Lester (Lorraine) Beachy of Des Moines, Iowa, John Henry (Emma) Beachy of Kalona, Iowa, Howard Beachy of Lebanon, Oregon; sisters, Esther Yoder of Kalona, Iowa and Fannie Beachy Shrock of Burlington, Missouri; stepson, Tony (Angie) Graber of Loogootee; stepdaughter, Shannon (Gary) Yoder of Montgomery; nine grandchildren, Brendon Eby, Eryn Eby, Delana Eby, Riana Hasenick, Jonas Beachy, Daniel Beachy, Leah Beachy, Josiah Beachy and Lucas Beachy; step grandchildren, Brandon (Heather) Kearby, Melissa (Eric) Yoder and Melinda Yoder, Tianna Graber, Jake Graber, Sarah Graber, Skylar Chestnut and Alexis Chestnut; and step great grandchildren, Boone Yoder and Liam Kearby.

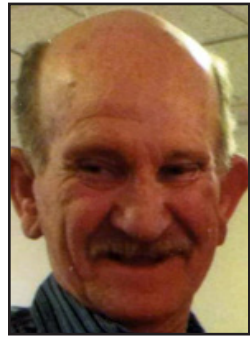
He was preceded in death by his parents, first wife, Alice (Weaver) Beachy on November 18, 1995 whom he married September 8, 1956; brother, Walter Beachy; sister, Elizabeth Rogers; brothers-in-law, Edwin Schrock and Ernest Yoder; and sisters-in-law, Leda Beachy and Elsie Beachy.

Funeral services will be at 10 a.m. Saturday, March 18 at Providence Mennonite Church with Kevin Swartzentruber and Josh Swartzentruber officiating. Visitation will be from 4 p.m.-8 p.m. Friday at Providence Mennonite Church.

Condolences may be sent to the family online at www.edleemortuary.com.



SHIRLEY BYERS



STEVEN LONG



RONALD GIBSON



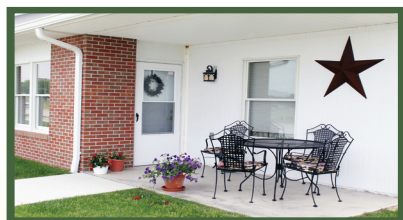
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Martin County Sheriff's Department log

MONDAY, MARCH 6

5:35 a.m. - Received report of a car-deer accident north of Loogootee. Deputy Salmon responded.

7:30 a.m. - Received an alarm call in Loogootee. Loogootee Chief Rayhill responded.

9:00 a.m. - Sergeant Keller performed two vehicle identification checks north of Loogootee.

10:48 a.m. - Captain Dant performed a vehicle identification check north of Shoals.

11:22 a.m. - Captain Dant took two inmates to court.

12:10 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Ambulance responded and transported the subject to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

12:29 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. Loogootee Fire and Martin County Ambulance responded. The subject was transported to Jasper Memorial Hospital with assistance from the Dubois County Ambulance Service.

1:34 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Shoals. Shoals Fire and Martin County Ambulance responded. The subject was transported to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

3:17 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Ambulance, Loogootee Chief Rayhill, and the Martin County Coroner responded. The subject was transported to Blake Funeral Home.

3:37 p.m. - Received a report of a domestic disturbance in Loogootee. Captain Dant, Loogootee Chief Rayhill, and ISP Trooper Lents responded.

8:48 p.m. - Received a report of an accident on SR 450, north of Shoals. Deputy Reed and Shoals Fire responded.

TUESDAY, MARCH 7

2:40 a.m. - Received a report of a theft in Loogootee. Loogootee Sergeant Norris and Deputy Salmon responded.

6:50 a.m. - Received a report of lines down north of Shoals. Deputy Salmon responded.

7:00 a.m. - Received a report of a fire in Shoals. Shoals Fire responded.

10:47 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Ambulance responded and transported the subject to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

11:12 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Shoals. Martin County Ambulance responded and transported the subject to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

12:08 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Shoals. Shoals Fire and Martin County Ambulance responded. The subject was transported to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

2:48 p.m. - Received a report of a rock slide on US 50, west of Shoals. The state highway department responded.

2:50 p.m. - Received a report of a reckless driver on US 50, east of Shoals. Captain Dant and Sergeant Keller responded. A pursuit ensued and the subject was apprehended just east of the Shoals School. Martin County Ambulance responded to check the driver. They did not transport.

2:54 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance near Loogootee. Martin County Ambulance and Loogootee Captain Hennessee responded.

5:00 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance near Loogootee. Martin County Ambulance responded and transported the subject to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

5:17 p.m. - Received a report of a domestic situation near Shoals. ISP Troopers Beaver and McBeth responded.

8:38 p.m. - Deputy Reed performed a vehicle identification check north of Loogootee.

8:55 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Shoals. Town Marshal Eckert, Shoals Fire, and Martin County Ambulance responded. The subject was transported to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 8

9:00 a.m. - Captain Dant took one inmate to court.

10:43 a.m. - Received a report of a disturbance near Shoals. Sheriff Roush responded.

11:40 a.m. - Received a report of a hit-and-run accident in Loogootee. Loogootee Captain Hennessee responded.

12:00 p.m. - Received a report of an accident in Loogootee. Captain Dant responded.

2:02 p.m. - Major Burkhardt performed a welfare check south of Shoals.

2:40 p.m. - Loogootee Captain Hennessee assisted with a funeral detail in Loogootee.

3:29 p.m. - Major Burkhardt responded to a semi off the road east of Shoals.

3:51 p.m. - Received a report of a domestic disturbance near Shoals. Sheriff Roush responded.

10:46 p.m. - Received a report of a suspicious vehicle on SR 150, east of Shoals. Town Marshal Eckert responded.

11:00 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance south of Shoals. Martin County Ambulance, Major Burkhardt, and Deputy Reed responded. The subject was transported to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

THURSDAY, MARCH 9

1:24 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Shoals. Martin County Ambulance responded but did not transport.

2:00 a.m. - Jail Commander Abel took one inmate to the hospital.

9:53 a.m. - Received a request for lift assistance near Shoals. Chief Deputy Greene and Captain Dant responded.

10:00 a.m. - Received an alarm call north of Shoals. Sheriff Roush responded.

10:25 a.m. - Chief Deputy Greene and Captain Dant took four inmates to court.

11:10 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Ambulance transported the subject to Daviess Community Hospital.

11:43 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance north of Shoals. Shoals Fire and Martin County responded. Martin County Ambulance transported the subject to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

1:55 p.m. - Received a report of trespassing south of Shoals. Major Burkhardt responded.

2:10 p.m. - Received a report of a reckless driver near Loogootee. Loogootee Captain Hennessee responded.

3:05 p.m. - Captain Dant performed

a vehicle identification check near Loogootee.

3:15 p.m. - Received a report of an accident in Loogootee. Loogootee Chief Rayhill and Major Burkhardt responded.

8:43 p.m. - Received a dog complaint near Shoals. Major Burkhardt and Deputy Shinn responded.

FRIDAY, MARCH 10

1:18 a.m. - Received a dog complaint in Shoals. Deputy Shinn responded.

5:30 a.m. - Received a report of mailbox vandalism north of Loogootee. Deputy Shinn responded.

10:06 a.m. - Received a report of a drive-off without paying in Loogootee. Loogootee Captain Hennessee responded.

11:50 a.m. - Received a report of trucks blocking US 50 in Loogootee. Loogootee Captain Hennessee responded.

12:33 p.m. - Received a request for lift assistance south of Loogootee. Martin County Ambulance responded but did not transport.

2:10 p.m. - Received a report of an accident in Loogootee. Loogootee Captain Hennessee responded.

3:49 p.m. - Received a report of an accident in Shoals. Major Burkhardt responded.

5:22 p.m. - Received a report of a house fire north of Shoals. Shoals Fire, Loogootee Fire, Martin County Civil Defense, Major Burkhardt, and Town Marshal Eckert responded.

6:06 p.m. - Received a report of a woman with two small children walking along US 231, south of Loogootee. Loogootee Officer Floyd, Deputy Shinn, and ISP Trooper Nolan responded.

6:59 p.m. - Received a report of a reckless driver east of Loogootee. Major Burkhardt responded and stopped the vehicle. Everything checked okay.

7:03 p.m. - Received a report of a reckless driver on US 231, south of Loogootee. ISP Trooper Nolan responded.

7:13 p.m. - Received a report of kids on a four-wheeler trespassing in Crane. Deputy Shinn and Reserve Deputy Harmon responded.

7:19 p.m. - Received a report of a person causing a disturbance in Loogootee. Major Burkhardt, K9 Officer Asher, and Loogootee Officer Floyd responded.

8:18 p.m. - Received a report of a reckless driver on US 231, south of Loogootee. Deputy Shinn and Reserve Deputy Harmon responded.

10:00 p.m. - Received a report of a truck losing its load on US 50. Town Marshal Eckert responded.

10:30 p.m. - Received a report that the earlier house fire had rekindled. Shoals Fire responded.

11:25 p.m. - Received a noise complaint near Shoals. Deputy Shinn responded.

11:48 p.m. - Received a report of a reckless driver on US 231, near Loogootee. Loogootee Officer Floyd responded.

SATURDAY, MARCH 11

1:00 a.m. - Received a report of cows in the roadway near Loogootee. The owner was notified.

8:06 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Ambulance responded and transported the subject to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

9:35 a.m. - Received a report of a reckless driver on US 231, near Loogootee. Loogootee Officer Todd responded.

10:15 a.m. - Loogootee Officer Todd assisted with a funeral detail in Loogootee.

12:07 p.m. - Received a report of an accident on US 50, west of Shoals. ISP Trooper Lents responded.

2:11 p.m. - Received a report of a reckless driver on US 231, near Loogootee. Loogootee Officer Todd responded.

8:32 p.m. - Received a noise complaint near Shoals. Deputy Reed responded.

8:33 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Shoals. Martin County Ambulance responded but did not transport.

11:28 p.m. - Received a report of a car-deer accident on SR 550.

11:42 p.m. - Received a report of a domestic in Loogootee. Loogootee Sergeant Norris responded.

SUNDAY, MARCH 12

3:16 a.m. - Received a report of an accident near Shoals. Deputy Shinn, Shoals Fire, and Martin County Ambulance responded.

4:28 a.m. - Received a report of a disturbance in Loogootee. Loogootee Sergeant Norris and Deputy Shinn responded.

9:26 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Ambulance responded and transported the subject to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

12:00 p.m. - Received a report of a car-turkey accident. Sergeant Keller responded.

12:45 p.m. - Loogootee Officer Floyd and Sergeant Keller assisted with a funeral detail in Loogootee.

2:55 p.m. - Sergeant Keller performed a vehicle identification check south of Loogootee.

3:33 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. Loogootee Officer Floyd and Martin County Ambulance responded. The subject was not transported.

5:26 p.m. - Received a report of cows on the roadway west of Shoals. Deputy Reed and the owners responded.

6:00 p.m. - Deputy Reed assisted a motorist in Loogootee.

9:02 p.m. - Received an alarm call in Crane. Deputy Reed and Deputy Salmon responded.

11:27 p.m. - Received a report of a car-deer accident near Shoals. Deputy Salmon responded.

11:58 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance near Shoals. Shoals Fire and Martin County Ambulance responded. The subject was transported to IU Health in Bedford.

Accident reports

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 8

5:00 p.m. - Rebecca L. Summers, of Loogootee, was backing her 2012 GMC from a parking spot on the public square when she struck a parked vehicle owned by Justin Burris, of Loogootee. Captain Hennessee investigated.

THURSDAY, MARCH 9

3:10 p.m. - Thomas Mobley, of Mooresville, was backing his 2015 Nissan out of a parking spot at CVS when his vehicle struck a 2003 Chevy owned by William Wathan, of Loogootee. Chief Rayhill investigated.

COURT NEWS

CRIMINAL CONVICTIONS & SENTENCING

February 16

Candace L. Hawkins, convicted of possession of a narcotic drug, a Class 6 Felony, amended from a Class 5 Felony. Sentenced to serve 547 days with 473 days suspended and credit for 37 actual days previously served plus 37 Class A credit days. Defendant received 15 months of probation.

Kyle A. Kelly, convicted of possession of methamphetamine, a Class 6 Felony. Sentenced to serve 547 days with 473 days suspended and credit for 55 actual days previously served plus 55 good time credit days. Defendant received 15 months of probation.

Ryan M. Wiscaver, convicted of domestic battery, a Class 6 Felony. Sentenced to serve 547 days with 539 days suspended and credit for 4 actual days previously served plus 4 good time credit days. Defendant received 17 months of probation.

Jeremiah D. Zollman, convicted of maintaining a common nuisance – controlled substances, a Class 6 Felony. Sentenced to serve 730 days with 674 days suspended and credit for 28 actual days previously served plus 28 good time credit days. Defendant received 22 months of probation.

February 21

Brandon L. Baker, convicted of possession of paraphernalia, a Class C Misdemeanor. Sentenced to serve 60 days with 46 days suspended and credit for 7 actual days previously served plus 7 Class A credit days. Defendant received 6 months of probation.

Steven J. Davidson, convicted of public intoxication, a Class B Misdemeanor. Sentenced to serve 56 days with 0 days suspended and credit for 28 actual days previously served plus 28 Class A credit days.

CRIMINAL CHARGES DISMISSED

February 16

Candace L. Hawkins, possession of marijuana, a Class B Misdemeanor, dismissed; possession of paraphernalia, a Class C Misdemeanor, dismissed.

Kyle A. Kelly, maintaining a common nuisance – controlled substances, a Class 6 Felony, dismissed; possession of marijuana, a Class B Misdemeanor, dismissed; possession of paraphernalia, a Class C Misdemeanor, dismissed.

Ryan M. Wiscaver, intimidation, a Class 6 Felony, dismissed; resisting law enforcement, a Class A Misdemeanor, dismissed; interference with the reporting of a crime, a Class A Misdemeanor, dismissed; disorderly conduct, a Class B Misdemeanor, dismissed.

Jeremiah D. Zollman, resisting law enforcement, a Class 6 Felony, dismissed; possession of marijuana, a Class B Misdemeanor, dismissed; possession of paraphernalia, a Class C Misdemeanor, dismissed.

CIVIL COURT

New Suits Filed

March 1

Brian S. McCauley and Priscilla McCauley vs. Amy R. Moffitt, civil tort.

Fifth Third Mortgage Company vs. Tracie A. Stuckey, John R. Stuckey, Fifth Third Bank Indiana, State of Indiana Department of Revenue, and Procol, Inc., mortgage foreclosure.

March 3

Shelby L. Johnson vs. Aaron L. Johnson, domestic relations with children.

March 6

Barclays Bank Delaware vs. Michael B. Vaal, civil collection.

Midland Funding, LLC vs. John Hunt, civil collection.

CIVIL COURT JUDGMENTS

March 2

Judgment in favor of the plaintiff US Bank Trust and against the defendants Nathan R. Roach and Rachel D. Roach, for mortgage foreclosure, in the amount of \$70,149.61.

March 8

Judgment in favor of the plaintiff Portfolio Recovery Associates, LLC and against the defendant Tanner Abel in the amount of \$837.

Judgment in favor of the plaintiff Southern Indiana Pathologists and against the defendant Susan L. Harshaw in the amount of \$936.

Judgment in favor of the plaintiff Portfolio Recovery Associates, LLC and against the defendant Michael L. Wilson in the amount of \$3,094.95.

Judgment in favor of the plaintiff Capital One Bank and against the defendant Charles A. Keller, Jr., in the amount of \$1,017.84.

SMALL CLAIMS COURT

New Suits Filed

March 3

Crane Credit Union vs. Pamela and Zachariah McFarland, complaint.

Crane Credit Union vs. Anna B. Roach Shepard, complaint.

Crane Credit Union vs. Chris R. Turner, complaint.

Crane Credit Union vs. Bryan R. McIntyre, complaint.

Crane Credit Union vs. Brendon J. Simpson, complaint.

Crane Credit Union vs. Scott E. McGill, complaint.

Crane Credit Union vs. Dan J. Woodall, complaint.

March 6

Tim and Pam Wiscaver vs. Allen M. Wiscaver, Jenny Wiscaver and Strudi-Built, Inc., complaint.

SMALL CLAIMS JUDGMENTS

March 13

Judgment in favor of the plaintiff William Marks and against the defendants Jason and Skyla Bradford in the amount of \$1,631.

Judgment in favor of the plaintiff Crane Credit Union and against the defendant Amber D. Fortune in the amount of \$4,988.59.

MARRIAGE LICENSES

March 13

Zachary David Beden of Goddard, Kansas and Portia Danielle Richardson of Loogootee.

Real estate transfers

Dale R. Condra, of Martin County, Indiana to **Joshua K. Condra**, of Martin County, Indiana, a part of the northwest quarter of the northwest quarter of Section 19, Township 3 North, Range 4 West, containing .46 acre, more or less.

Donna L. Allen, of Daviess County, Indiana to **Philip Alan Erler** and **Jamie Leigh Erler**, of Daviess County, Indiana, a portion of the southwest quarter of the southwest quarter of Section 18, Township 3 North, Range 4 West, Perry Township, Martin County, Indiana, containing 0.44 acre.

Philip Stoll and **Lisa A. Stoll**, of Martin County, Indiana to **Tyler G. Stoll** and **Mary E. Stoll**, of Martin County, Indiana, 1.5 acres in between Sections 19, 20, 29 and 30 in Township 3 North, Range 4 West.

Beverly A. Gee, of Martin County, Indiana to **Marvin W. Bailey** and **Carroll D. Bailey**, of Martin County, Indiana, Lot Number 22 and south half of Lot 21 in Williams Addition to the Town of Shoals, Indiana.

Mona Sue Hammons, of Orange County, Indiana to **Kevin R. Boyd**, of Martin County, Indiana, eight acres in Section 31, Township 3 North, Range 3 West.

Loogootee Police log

MONDAY, MARCH 6

7:30 a.m. - Chief Rayhill responded to a business alarm.

3:17 p.m. - Female caller requested a welfare check on a male.

3:37 p.m. - Caller reported a domestic dispute on Truelove Drive.

3:52 p.m. - First responders were requested on Cedar Street for lifting assistance.

10:21 p.m. - Caller requested a welfare check on a male.

TUESDAY, MARCH 7

2:40 a.m. - Caller reported a female had possibly stole merchandise at Chuckles.

2:54 p.m. - First responders were requested on Mt. Calvary Road for a medical call.

7:17 p.m. - Caller reported a reckless vehicle on Hwy 50.

10:15 p.m. - Caller reported a reckless vehicle on US 231.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 8

9:46 a.m. - Loogootee Fire was contacted for assistance on the Crane base.

11:40 a.m. - Caller reported a hit-and-run accident at Wendy's.

11:51 a.m. - Caller reported a phone scam.

6:50 p.m. - Caller reported a stolen credit card.

8:40 p.m. - Caller reported a vehicle without lights in the rear of the vehicle. Officer Floyd located the vehicle.

THURSDAY, MARCH 9

11:00 a.m. - Caller requested to speak with an officer regarding a child custody issue.

2:10 p.m. - Caller reported a vehicle making bad passes.

8:25 p.m. - Caller requested an officer be on the lookout for a vehicle involved in a hit and run in Daviess County.

10:28 p.m. - Officer Floyd responded to a business alarm.

FRIDAY, MARCH 10

9:05 a.m. - Caller requested a welfare check on a child.

2:10 p.m. - Laura L. Stidham, of Shoals, reported she backed into a street sign on American Legion Avenue.

5:20 p.m. - Loogootee Fire was paged out to a house fire on Dover Hill Road.

6:06 p.m. - Caller requested a welfare check on a female and baby.

11:48 p.m. - Caller reported a reckless vehicle on US 231.

SATURDAY, MARCH 11

9:35 a.m. - Caller reported a vehicle making bad passes on US 231.

10:15 a.m. - Officer Todd assisted with a funeral procession.

11:42 p.m. - Caller reported a domestic dispute on East Washington Street.

SUNDAY, MARCH 12

4:28 a.m. - Caller reported a disturbance on Butcher Boulevard.

12:45 p.m. - Officer Floyd assisted with a funeral procession.

3:33 p.m. - Officer Floyd assisted the ambulance service.

8:58 p.m. - Caller requested an officer be on the lookout for a vehicle involved in a hit-and-run accident.

9:00 p.m. - Loogootee Fire was paged out to a small fire on Reinhart Road.

10:30 p.m. - Sgt. Norris assisted ISP with a traffic stop.

ARRESTS

TUESDAY, MARCH 7

6:00 p.m. - Roger Davis Jr., 68, of Indianapolis, was arrested by Sergeant Keller and charged with operating a vehicle while intoxicated. Captain Dant assisted with the arrest. His bond has been set at \$20,000 10%.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 8

1:46 a.m. - Ashlyn Jewell, 22, of Vincennes, was arrested by Deputy Salmon and charged with false informing and assisting a criminal. Her bond has been set at \$20,000 10%. Town Marshal Eckert assisting with the arrest.

2:45 a.m. - Travis Salmon, 24, of Shoals, was arrested by Deputy Salmon and charged with resisting arrest and on two Martin County warrants. He is being held without bond. Assisting with the arrest were Deputy Reed, K9 Officer Yirka, Daviess County Deputy Harmon, and K9 Officer Echo.

THURSDAY, MARCH 9

6:32 p.m. - Derek Conklin, 29, of Loogootee, was arrested by Loogootee Officer Floyd and charged with public intoxication and residential entry. He is being held on a \$10,000 10% bond.

FRIDAY, MARCH 10

10:35 p.m. - Christian Winter, 21, of Carmel, was arrested by Loogootee Officer Floyd and charged with possession of a synthetic drug. His bond has been set at \$20,000 10%. Assisting with the arrest were Major Burkhardt and K9 Officer Asher.

SATURDAY, MARCH 11

2:56 p.m. - Darren Watson, 45, of Indianapolis, was arrested by Sergeant Keller and charged with operating while intoxicated, intimidation, and possession of a legend drug. He is being held on a \$25,000 10% bond. Assisting with the arrest were ISP Trooper Lents, Deputy Reed, and K9 Officer Yirka.

THE SMOKER WILL BE FIRED UP ALL WEEKEND LONG!

Friday night we will be serving Smoked Salmon with a Bourbon Glaze

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More Neat Stuff



By Ann Ackerman



I have a great neighbor, Darlene, and she has a sister-in-law, Mary Ann. I have been told that they like this article so I am dedicating it to them. Thanks for being my friends.

PARAPROSDOKIANS:

First time I heard about paraproso-dokians, I liked them. Paraproso-dokians are figures of speech in which the latter part of a sentence or phrase is surprising or unexpected and is frequently humorous. (Winston Churchill loved them). Bob Prather sent me the following. He always seems to find the neatest stuff. Thanks again, Bob.

1. Where there's a will, I want to be in it.
2. The last thing I want to do is hurt you . . . but it's still on my list.
3. Since light travels faster than sound, some people appear bright until you hear them speak.
4. If I agreed with you, we'd both be wrong.
5. We never really grow up – we only learn how to act in public.
6. War does not determine who is right, only who is left.
7. Knowledge is knowing a tomato is a fruit. Wisdom is not putting it in a fruit salad.
8. To steal ideas from one person is plagiarism. To steal from many is research.

9. I didn't say it was your fault, I said I was blaming you.

10. In filling out an application, where it says, "In case of emergency, notify . . ." "I answered, "a doctor."

11. Women will never be equal to men until they can walk down the street with a bald head and a beer gut, and still think they are sexy.

12. You do not need a parachute to skydive. You only need a parachute to skydive twice.

13. I used to be indecisive, but not I'm not so sure.

14. To be sure of hitting the target, shoot first and call whatever you hit the target.

15. Going to church doesn't make you a Christian, any more than standing in a garage makes you a car.

16. You're never too old to learn something stupid.

17. I'm supposed to respect my elders, but it's getting harder and harder for me to find one now.

Sadly, this is true. Spread the laughter, share the cheer, let's be happy while we're here!

I talked to a to a homeless man this morning and asked him how he ended up this way.

He said, "Up until last week, I still had it all. I had plenty to eat, my clothes were washed and pressed, I had a roof over my head, I had HDTV and Internet, and I went to the gym, the pool, and the library. I was working on my MBA online. I had no bills and no debt. I even had full medical coverage."

I felt sorry for him, so I asked, "What happened? Drugs? Alcohol? Divorce?" "Oh no, nothing like that," he said. "No, no.... I was paroled."

WEEKLY PONDERISMS:

1. The hour we lost last weekend was the one when I was planning to go to the gym. Darn.
2. May your coffee be stronger than your toddler.
3. The Macarena was just a tutorial on how to fold a fitted sheet.
4. You know what part of waking up I like? None of it. Let me sleep.
5. Some days I feel like I'm surrounded by idiots. Other days, I realize it's not just some days.
6. They say good things take time so that's why I make my pizza rolls in the oven and not in the microwave.
7. A day without reading is like . . . Just kidding, I have no idea.
8. The secret to a clean kitchen is simple. Don't cook. Ever.
9. We all know that mirrors don't lie. I'm just grateful that they don't laugh.
10. Relationships are a lot like algebra. Have you ever looked at your X and wondered Y?

Respect the old when you are young. Help the weak when you are strong. Confess your faults when you are wrong. Because one day you will be old, weak, and wrong.

Make someone smile today!

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Board of Works executive meeting

The Loogootee Board of Public Works will meet in executive meeting Wednesday, March 15 at 5:30 p.m. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss personnel. The meeting is closed to the public.

Loogootee School Board meeting

The Loogootee School Board will meet Thursday, March 16 at 5 p.m. in the meeting room off the superintendent's office. The meeting is open to the public.

Democrat meeting

The Martin County Democratic Party will meet Monday March 20 at 6:30 p.m. at Loogootee City Hall.

Sunday nights of revival

New Beginnings Community Church and Maranatha Tabernacle Church are holding 14 continuous Sunday nights of revival starting January 8 through April 9, 2017. The "Code Blue" (start your heart with God) revival meetings begin at 6 p.m. (EST) each Sunday night and meet at Maranatha Tabernacle Church, 13111 Hwy 231 N., Loogootee. Special revival speakers and worship bands will participate each month. For additional information, contact Pastor Ernie at 812-709-0258 or Pastor Duane at 812-295-4349.

AL-ANON meetings

AL-ANON, a support group for those impacted by substance abuse, meets every Thursday at 8 p.m. at Loogootee Redemption Church.

Attention Senior Citizens

The Loogootee Senior Citizen Center, located in the Annex building attached to JFK Gym on JFK Avenue in Loogootee provides activities for seniors every Monday and Thursday from 8 a.m. to noon. For \$5 a year, seniors can participate in Euchre tournaments, games, puzzles, etc., with other local seniors. Anyone interested is welcome to stop by, there are no age or residency requirements to participate.

Free lunch for kids

New Beginnings Community Church will be offering a free lunch to all school-age children every Saturday from noon to 1 p.m. at the fellowship hall of the church, located at 200 West Main Street next to the post office. For more info, call 812-709-2525.

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!

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 5:30 p.m. Members of the humane society are invited to attend.

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.

Tourism meetings

The MCCC Tourism Committee meets on the third Wednesday of each month at 7 p.m. at Loughmiller Machine, 12851 E 150 N, Loogootee. The public is invited to attend.

Soil and Water meetings

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

Humane society launches shoe collection drive

The Martin County Humane Society Animal Shelter is conducting a shoe collection drive from now until the end of April to raise funds for the animal shelter. The humane society will earn funds based on the number of pairs collected as Funds2Orgs will purchase all of the donated goods. Those dollars will go to the care of the shelter dogs and cats. Anyone can help by donating gently worn, used or new shoes, to the animal shelter. If you can't make it during open hours, there is a bin on the porch of the shelter at 507 N. Oak Street, Loogootee.

All donated shoes will then be redistributed throughout the Funds2Orgs network of microenterprise partners in developing nations. Funds2Orgs helps impoverished people start, maintain and grow businesses in countries such as Haiti, Honduras and other nations in Central America and Africa. Proceeds from the shoe sales are used to feed, clothe and house their families. One budding entrepreneur in Haiti even earned enough to send to her son to law school.

"We are excited about our shoe drive," said Humane Society President Josh Hughett. "We know that most people have extra shoes in their closets they would like donate to us and help those less fortunate become self-sufficient. It's a win-win for everyone," he said.

By donating shoes to the animal shelter, the shoes will be given a second chance and make a difference in people's lives.

For more information, call the shelter at 812-295-5900, email mchs@frontier.com or message Martin County Humane Society – Indiana on facebook.

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Making A Difference

MARTIN COUNTY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

By Curt Johnson
MCCF Executive Director



4-H NEWS

By Stacy Brown
Martin County Purdue
Extension Educator



-- ACCOMPLISHMENTS --

What gives you a sense of accomplishment? Whatever it is, I can assure you it is because you reached a goal. You set out to do something, and you did it. Sometimes the goal you set is a quick reaction to something that sparks you into action. Sometimes the goal requires a lot of planning, time, practice, or multiple trials. Setting goals is a good way to improve yourself, to improve the quality of life around yourself and others.

-- GOALS ARE SMART --

Setting goals can apply to nearly every aspect in your life. But you usually need to put some thought into a goal if it is going to make a significant impact. One way to develop a goal is to be sure it follows the SMART principle. SMART stands for Specific/Significant, Measureable, Attainable, Realistic, Timely. There are other variations of that acronym, but all focus on finding something that needs done, knowing what it is, and that it's something within your reach. It's about overcoming something and reaching beyond it to something better.

-- CHALLENGES, YES --

Challenges are around us every day. Do you give in to them or do you tackle them and find a way to overcome? Setting goals can help find that way. But we often need more than that. We all need someone to support us, to be there as we reach out to do something different. They can be coaches, teachers, parents, mentors, friends, or just about anyone that cares and wants to help you succeed. Looking to the wisdom, knowledge and experience of others will help you accomplish your goals.

-- OVERCOMERS --

Our youth have many challenges facing them every day, more than most of us may know. Recognizing this particular need of our youth, Shoals United Methodist Church (SUMC) Pastor Josh and wife, Britney Sanders, began an Overcomers Group for Shoals 7th and 8th graders. The Group is designed to encourage, strengthen, and empower teenagers to overcome the challenges they face. They learn that every challenge and obstacle can be overcome.

So, every Wednesday during lunch period the group discusses topics such as substance abuse, alcoholism, peer pressure, suicide, relationships, divorce, depression, bullying, and others. They focus on becoming a team, strengthening each other, and always standing for what is right.

-- COMMUNITY SUPPORT --

The Overcomers Group has grown to around 40 students. Since they meet during their lunch period, they are provided pizza and drinks for lunch. And it should be no surprise that 40 kids can put down a lot of pizza. They also have activities that reinforce the weekly topic lesson. All this requires money and support from the community. The MCCF is one of several in the community helping support the SUMC and the Overcomers Group.

-- MORE INFORMATION --

For more information about the MCCF, please contact the Executive Director, Curt Johnson, at 812-295-1022 or mccf@cfpartner.org.

You are also welcome to visit our website at www.cfpartner.org/mccf.htm, follow us on Twitter at www.twitter.com/MartinCountyCF, and "like" the MCCF Facebook page at www.facebook.com/mcccommunityfoundation.



Pictured left to right is Annette Taylor, MCCF Board Member, presenting a grant check to Britney and Pastor Josh Sanders of the Shoals United Methodist Church.

Spring Break Science Day Camp
Looking for something to do over spring break? Martin County Extension is offering a two-day science day camp for youth grades 3-12. The camp will be on March 29 and 30 from 1-4 p.m. each day. This is your chance to work with computer programming, robots, 3D pens, construction toys, and other exciting science gadgets. The camp is free to current 4-H members and \$15 for non-4-Hers. Deadline to register is March 24. Please call the Extension Office at 812-295-2412 to register.

4-H Livestock Team Judges at Kentucky Beef Expo

The 4-H Livestock Judging Team took second place honors at both the junior and senior level at the Kentucky Beef Expo in March. Members judging were Haileigh Suheski, Cora Ausbrooks, Tucker Walton, Karter Burrs, and Wade Burris. Congratulations to everyone. If you are a 4-Her interested in joining the Livestock Team, please call the Extension Office at 812-295-2412.

4-H Camp

This year's 4-H Camp will be June 12-14. Any 4-Her grades 3-8 are welcome. Applications have been sent out through the mail. You are also able to pick one up at the Extension Office. This year's theme is game boards. This is a great opportunity to meet new people from different counties, learn new things, and have lots of fun! Applications are accepted on a first come first served basis.

Club Meetings

Jolly Juniors—Tuesday, March 21 at 6 p.m. at the Truelove Church.

Jolly Jug Rox—Tuesday, March

21—This meeting will be at Shoals Senior Center 6 p.m. Monday, April 10, Monday, April 24, Tuesday, May 2, Monday, May 22, Thursday, June 6 and Monday, June 19. The last meeting will be Thursday, July 6. All meetings are at the Hindostan Church from 6-7 p.m. Please mark your calendars and see you at the meetings.

Shooting Sports—Shooting Sports is becoming its own club. Please join us for meetings every 2nd and 4th Monday of the month at 6 p.m. at the Martin County Community Building starting January 9.

Horse and Pony--

Monday, March 13, 6:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m. at Martin County Learning Center Monday, April 3, 6:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m. at Martin County Community Building

Upcoming Events

Livestock weigh-ins

Beef: March 18, 2017, 2-4 p.m.

Sheep & Goat: May 6, 2017, 9-11 a.m.

Swine: May 13, 2017, 9-11 a.m.

Poultry: June 17, 2017, 9-11 a.m.

Volunteer Meeting—March 22 at 6 p.m. in the community building. We will be having fun with some of our new maker equipment like 3D pens and robots. Dinner will be served. Please call or email Stacy to RSVP.

Become a Volunteer

Volunteers for 4-H have the unique opportunity to grow true leaders in our community. Volunteering can be as active as leading a 4-H club or just helping out at fair time. Volunteers learn educational programs to take out to community youth. If you are interested in becoming a volunteer, please call the Purdue Extension Martin County office at (812) 295-2412.



-Photo provided

The 4-H Livestock Judging Team took second place in both the junior and senior divisions at the Kentucky Beef Expo. From left to right are Haileigh Suheski, Cora Ausbrooks, Tucker Walton, Karter Burris, and Wade Burris.

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I officially have spring fever. I admit that this latest cold snap has frustrated my desires to get out into the gardens. With temperatures dropping into the teens, there may be some damage to some early buds. I have some peach trees that have bloomed, and this cold will certainly affect the crop. Other trees and shrubs are still in tight bud, so they should be fine. If you have some small trees or shrubs, you may be able to give some protection by draping sheets or blankets over them. Do not use plastic, as it actually may make the situation worse. One may also cover plants with a cardboard box. Whatever you choose to use, be sure to take it off when temperatures are above freezing during the daytime. Plants need the light.

At least I have had one dose of good medicine for my spring fever. On Saturday, I attended the Indiana Flower and Patio Show at the Indiana State Fairgrounds in Indianapolis. Two buildings at the fairgrounds allowed vendors to exhibit and sell their goods. There were several vendors of seeds and plants and I was able to find some hard-to-find seeds at a good price. There were also vendors of garden art, fencing, hardscape materials and other garden-related items. I was a little disappointed, though, that the majority of the vendors had little to do with gardens and patios. In the past, this and other such shows would be mostly landscapes that various companies recreated in the buildings. I know doing that is expensive and involves forcing plants to be in bloom out of season, but I do miss those exhibits. There were a few, but they mostly involved the hardscapes. If the exhibits are to be seen as indicators of the trends in the area, it appears that the big emphasis in landscapes will be stone patios with gas fire pits. Another trend is that fairy gardens are becoming very popular. There were several booths with all sorts of accessories for fairy gardens and some nice miniature display gardens. The show continues through this weekend, and it is a good way to chase away the winter blues.

The Chicago Flower Show is also open this week at Navy Pier. It has been a couple of years since I attended that show, but, like others, it had less to do with gardening than in the past. I know that they have to pay the bills to continue the shows, but I do lament that less than half of the booths at the shows have anything to do with gardens.

Gardening shows are traditionally like style shows, with the latest trends being rolled out for the public to see. I saw a report on MSN about the Northwest Flower Show, which is being held in Seattle this week. Apparently, the display gardens there show a trend toward more informal borders, mixing large boulders with a variety of shrubs in a more natural landscape. Finally, my garden will be trendy. In the northwest, this will be a big change from the minimalist style that has dominated the garden shows for several years, including Japanese gardens and very formal settings. The trend is probably a reaction to the desire for lower maintenance. The natural-look gardens are

also more wildlife friendly.

On the subject of wildlife, I also saw an internet article telling readers that feeding birds is harmful. Upon reading the article, I learned that most of the situations they decried were geared more toward feeding other wildlife than toward feeding birds. My ornithologist friend assures me that there is nothing harmful about feeding the birds. Granted, it is not necessary and the birds will not die if you do not fill the feeders daily. The food from feeders is a small portion of the actual nutrition of birds. The article does point out that bread is not a good food for wild birds, but using sunflower seeds and other seeds is not detrimental to them. One should also clean the feeders frequently to lower the chance of disease problems. A bird expert also pointed out that more birds die in March than at any other time of the year. This is because the food supply has been depleted over the winter and the insects are not yet active to provide other nutrition. Also, birds have begun their spring migration, so you may see birds that you do not normally see as they pass through this area heading to their northern breeding grounds. So, go ahead and fill the feeders and watch the antics of our feathered friends.

I would like to thank the congregations of the West Baden and Springs Valley United Methodist Churches for their faithfulness in donating birdseed for the feeders at Springs Valley Meadows. You have enriched the lives of the residents, who love to watch the birds that come to the feeders.

UNEMPLOYMENT

(Continued from page one)
able to work and 644 of them without jobs. In January of 2016, the county's unemployment rate was 3.6 percent with 23,094 residents in the workforce and 835 of them without jobs.

Daviess County's jobless rate also went up just a bit, from 3.2 percent in December to 3.8 percent in January. The county had the ninth lowest jobless rate in the state for January, tied with Gibson, Johnson and Kosciusko counties.

In January, the county had 15,671 residents in the workforce with 594 of them unemployed. In December, there were 15,528 residents able to work and 501 of them without jobs. In January of last year, Daviess County's jobless rate was 4.1 percent with 15,812 residents in the workforce and 647 of them without work.

The top ten spots in the state for the lowest jobless rate for January went to: Hamilton County at 3.3 percent, Elkhart County at 3.4 percent, LaGrange, Dubois and Bartholomew counties at 3.5 percent; Hendricks and Boone counties at 3.6 percent, Adams County at 3.7 percent and Kosciusko, Daviess, Gibson and Johnson counties at 3.8 percent.

The top ten spots in the state for the highest jobless rate for January went to: Vermillion County at 7.4 percent, Newton County at 7.3 percent, Greene County at 7.1 percent, Crawford County at 6.9 percent, Lake and LaPorte

2017 reserved youth turkey hunts on DNR properties

Youth hunters can apply for reserved turkey hunts during the special youth wild turkey hunting season, April 22 and 23, on selected DNR properties.

Youth hunters must be younger than age 18 on the day of the hunt.

Participating fish & wildlife areas are Atterbury, Chinook, Crosley, Fairbanks Landing, Glendale, Goose Pond, Hillenbrand, Hovey Lake, Jasper-Pulaski, Kankakee, Kingsbury, LaSalle, Pigeon River, Roush Lake, Sugar Ridge, Tri-County, Wabashiki, Willow Slough and Winamac.

Two lake properties, Mississinewa and Salamonie, also are participating.

A limit will be placed on the number of youth hunters allowed to hunt a property on each hunting day. Registration begins March 20 and runs through March 31. Interested hunters or an adult representing them must register in person or by phone during the normal office hours for the property they wish to hunt. Hunters are allowed to register for only one property.

Those wanting to sign up for the Chinook or Wabashiki hunts may do so at Deer Creek FWA. Those wanting to sign up for the Fairbanks Landing or Hillenbrand hunts may do so at Goose Pond FWA.

At properties where the number of registered hunters exceeds the spots available, a drawing will be held April 3. A youth hunter may be drawn for either or both hunt days, depending on the number of applicants. All applicants will be notified of drawing results by mail.

Applicants must possess a 2017 youth consolidated hunting & trapping license, a 2017 non-resident youth spring turkey license with a game bird habitat stamp privilege, or a lifetime

counties at 6.6 percent, Starke and Sullivan counties at 6.4 percent, and Jasper and Lawrence counties at 6.3 percent.

Indiana's unemployment rate remained at 4.0 percent in January, which marks its lowest point since 2001. The unemployment rate is a U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) indicator that reflects the number of unemployed people as a percentage of the labor force. Indiana's Labor Force increased by 7,162 over the previous month with a 6,344 increase in employment and an 818 increase in unemployment. Indiana's total labor force stands at over 3.3 million and the state's 64.2 percent labor force participation rate remains above the national rate of 62.9 percent.

"While Indiana's unemployment rate is a positive indicator for the state's workforce, it also represents a significant challenge for Hoosier employers in identifying and hiring qualified employees," said Steven J. Braun, Commissioner of the Indiana Department of Workforce Development (DWD). "To this end, DWD is engaging Hoosier employers to inform our state's workforce training and education efforts so that programs and courses are aligned with employer demand and producing pipelines of skilled employees."

Commissioner Braun also noted private sector employment has grown by more than 31,000 over the year. He added that initial unemployment insurance claims remain at the lowest point in three decades.

comprehensive hunting license. Apprentice hunting licenses of the types named above also may be used.

To register a youth for one of the hunts, the following information is needed:

- Hunter's name
- Type of license and license number
- Date(s) for which applying
- Mailing address
- Phone number
- Parent or guardian's name, address and phone number.

Hunts will be conducted one-half hour before sunrise until noon at properties in the Central Time Zone, and one-half hour before sunrise until 1 p.m. on properties in the Eastern Time Zone.

Youth hunters who are selected for the hunt may check in at any time each day until the end of legal hunting hours for that property. Properties will not have a daily "no-show" drawing. Hunters interested in possible unfilled quotas at a property should call that property for more information before showing up.

During youth wild turkey season, hunters younger than age 18 on the day of the hunt can take a bearded or male wild turkey. The youth must be accompanied by someone 18 or older.

The youth hunter may use any legal shotgun, bow and arrow or crossbow. The adult accompanying the youth hunter must not possess a firearm, bow and arrow or crossbow while in the field. The adult does not need to possess a turkey hunting license unless the youth is using an apprentice license, or unless the adult is calling turkeys.

Phone numbers for information or to register at a specific property:

- Atterbury — (812) 526-2051
- Pigeon River — (260) 367-2164
- Crosley — (812) 346-5596
- Roush — (260) 468-2165
- Deer Creek — (765) 653-0453
- Sugar Ridge — (812) 789-2724
- Glendale — (812) 644-7711
- Tri-County — (574) 834-4461
- Goose Pond — (812) 512-9185
- Winamac — (574) 946-4422
- Hovey Lake — (812) 838-2927
- Willow Slough — (219) 285-2704
- Jasper-Pulaski — (219) 843-4841
- Salamonie — (260) 468-2125
- Kankakee — (574) 896-3522
- Mississinewa — (765) 473-6528
- Kingsbury — (219) 393-3612
- LaSalle — (219) 992-3019

To purchase a youth consolidated or turkey license go to IndianaOutdoor.IN.gov.

For wild turkey hunting regulations go to eregulations.com/indiana/hunting/wild-turkey.

For turkey hunting safety tips go to wildlife.IN.gov/2710.htm.

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Agricultural producer sentiment falls from January peak

BY JENNIFER STEWART-BURTON
Purdue University News Service

Agricultural producer sentiment fell in February after three straight months of gains, according to the latest reading of the Purdue/CME Group Ag Economy Barometer.

The barometer dropped to 134 in February, a 19-point decrease from January's record high of 153. Even with the drop, the February reading is still the second-highest since data collection began in October 2015.

Both of the barometer's component indices—the Index of Current Conditions and the Index of Future Expectations—dropped from their January levels.

"The concern producers expressed about current economic conditions is consistent with other measures of conditions in the farm economy," said James Mintert, barometer principal investigator and director of Purdue's Center for Commercial Agriculture. "For example, during the recent annual Agricultural Outlook Forum, USDA projected net farm income in 2017 will fall to \$62 billion, a 9 percent decrease from 2016 and a 50 percent drop from the peak net farm income set in 2013."

With uncertainty surrounding U.S. trade policy since the November election, the Purdue/CME Group survey asked producers to rate the importance of agricultural exports to the U.S. economy. Ninety-three percent reported that agricultural exports were important or very important. Nearly 80 percent also said that agricultural exports were important or very important for their individual farms.

The rapidly approaching spring planting season is another factor with the potential to influence producer sentiment. Two-thirds of February survey respondents said they expect soybeans to be more profitable than corn this year.

"Corn and soybean growers are finalizing their planting decisions as we speak," Mintert said. "The expected profitability of corn versus soybeans in 2017 will be one of the key factors that determines the crop mix. The indications that more producers think soybeans will be more profitable means that there will be extra interest in the USDA's annual Planting Intentions Report."

The Planting Intentions Report releases on March 31.

Read the full February Ag Economy Barometer report at <http://purdue.edu/agbarometer>. This month's report includes readings of the Index of Current Conditions and the Index of Future Expectations, as well as producer sentiment toward farmland values. The website also offers additional resources, such as past reports, charts and survey methodology, and a form to sign up for monthly barometer email updates and quarterly webinars.

The Ag Economy Barometer, Index of Current Conditions and Index of Future Expectations also are available on the Bloomberg Terminal under the following ticker symbols: AGECCBARO, AGECCURC and AGECCFTEX.

Living with Canada geese during nesting season

If Canada geese have become a problem on your property, helpful information is available through the Indiana Department of Natural Resources website.

Most goose problems occur from March through June, during nesting season. That is when geese are especially aggressive, sometimes attacking and nipping at people to protect their nest or nesting mate. Geese also can cause localized damage if many young are hatched in one area. After hatching, goslings can't fly for about 70 days, so the young birds and their parents will graze near the hatching area for that time. Damage to landscaping can be significant, and large amounts of excrement can render areas unfit for human use.

Geese will use land near any water-

body, especially land with short, well-groomed turf grass planted to the water's edge. Small retention ponds often fit the bill and become a hot spot for geese. Some people regard geese as an annoyance without recognizing that humans unintentionally encourage the birds' undesirable behavior with such landscaping.

Planting native wildflowers and prairie grasses around a pond can help resolve such conflicts. More information on how to reduce Canada geese conflicts is at wildlife.IN.gov/2996.htm.

Other solutions include goose annoyance techniques. Those techniques include using noisemaking devices, using herding dogs used to chase off the birds, supporting goose hunting, and obtaining

a DNR relocation or euthanasia goose permit. The U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS) also allows landowners who are properly registered to destroy resident Canada goose eggs and nests on their property.

More information on registering for federal permission to destroy eggs and nests is at epermits.fws.gov/eregr/gesi.aspx. It's against federal law to destroy a Canada goose nest that contains one or more eggs without first securing permission through the USFWS.

"It's best to use preventive measures such as habitat modification or harassment before geese become a nuisance," said Megan Dillon, urban wildlife biologist with the DNR Division of Fish & Wildlife.

Martin County Ag Day Saturday, March 18th

8:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

Martin Co. Community Building

- At the 4-H Fairgrounds — Between Shoals & Loogootee -



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- Martin County Sheriff's Department
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Sponsored by the Martin County Ag Day Committee. For more information, contact David Gregory, at 812-644-7599 or Teresa Harder, at 812-295-3149

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2017 Senior SPOTLIGHTS



LINDSEY LUKENS

Lindsey LeeAnn Lukens is the daughter of Treva and Bill Lukens. After graduation, Lindsey plans to attend USI or Olivet to study nursing. While in high school Lindsey participated in Cheerleading (9-12), FCA (9), Intern (12), Musical (9,10), Spanish Club (9-11), Chorus (9,10), Pep Club (9-12), SADD (9,10,12), Cadet Teaching (12), Peers (9,10), Show Choir (9,10), and Student Council (9-12). Lindsey was a senior representative in SADD, and also participated in Track (9,11,12).



MATTY JONES

Mattyson Josie Jones is the daughter of Matt and Megan Jones. After graduation, Mattyson plans to attend higher education to study music education. While in high school Mattyson participated in Spanish Club (10-12), Right to Life (11,12), SADD (9-12), Jazz Choir (11,12), Musical (9-12), Pep Club (9,10), Peers (9,10), Lion Pride (9,10), Madrigals (9,10), Chorus, (9-12), Band (9-12), Cadet Teaching (12), Student Council (9-10), Beta Club (11,12), and Softball (9,10). Mattyson was also Choir Vice President (11,12), Choir Secretary (10), and Band Junior Class President Representative (11).



COLIN BOWLING

Colin J. Bowling is the son of Rachel Bruner and Adam Bowling. After graduation, Colin plans to attend a place of higher education to study web design and cyber security. While in high school, Colin participated in Intern (11, 12) and Cadet Teaching (11, 12).



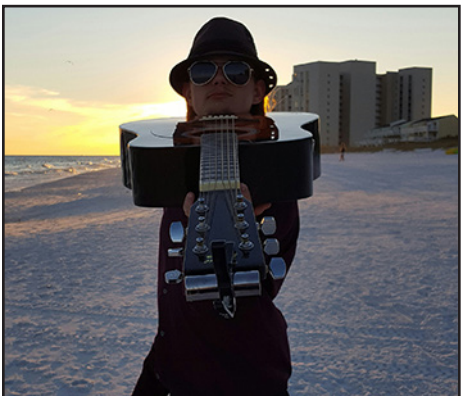
WILSON HATTER

Wilson H. Hatter is the son of Suzanna Hatter and Wilson Hatter. After graduation, Wilson plans to attend the Air Force or IUPUI for computer engineering. While in high school, Wilson participated in Band (9-12), Musical (11, 12), and Job Shadow (11, 12). Wilson was also the Publicity Senior Editor (11, 12).



MEGHAN MATHIES

Meghan Nicole Mathies is the daughter of Kevin and Beth Mathies. After Graduation, Meghan plans to attend Vincennes University for a higher education. While in high school Meghan participated in Beta Club (9-12), Spanish Club (9-12), Pep Club (9-12), SADD Club (9-12), Cadet Teaching (11), Inter (12), Job Shadow (12), and Student Council (9-11). She also participated in Basketball (9-10) and Tennis (9-12).



KALEB LYON

Kaleb Austin Lyon is the son of Jeff and Shelby Lyon. After graduation, Kaleb plans to attend IUPUI to study electrical engineering. While in high school Kaleb participated in Musical (9-12), Spanish Club (9-12), Beta Club (9-12), Chorus (9-12), Pep Club (9-12), SADD (10,11), Cadet Teach (10), Peers (9), Show Choir (9-11) and Student Council (11,12). Kaleb also participated in Golf (9-11) and Cross Country (11,12). Kaleb was Chorus VP (10), Chorus Secretary (11,12), and Class President (12).



Academic win

-Photo provided

Logoooteer High School's academic teams traveled to Northeast Dubois on Thursday, March 9. Members of the teams include Sara Bailey, Courtney Burch, Haley Burch, Max Christmas, Josh Cook, Hope Fischer, Eden Jenkins, Amber Page, Shania Swigler, and Garrett Williams. Members of the English team placed second. From left to right are Haley Burch, Sara Bailey, Courtney Burch, Amber Page, and Coach Ann Hohl.

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YARD SALES

ANNUAL RSVP ARTS AND CRAFTS SUPPLY SALE March 23, 24, and 25 at Eastside Park Community Building in Washington. Fabric, yarn, paints, books, needlework, scrapbooking and much more. Item donations are still being accepted. Thursday and Friday 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Saturday 8 a.m. to noon. Support RSVP and find some great items. For more info, call 812-254-1996.

INSIDE SALE LUMC Family Life Center (enter from Wood Street) Saturday, March 18, 10 a.m.-noon. Lots of miscellaneous from church clean-up.

HELP WANTED

The City of Logoooteer Park and Recreation Dept. is accepting applications for Pool Manager, Assistant Manager and Life Guards.



Applications may be picked up at City Hall between 8 a.m.-4 p.m., Monday-Friday.


HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT POSITIONS

The Martin County Highway Department is accepting applications for **Part-Time Operators** (with potential full time) and a **Full-Time Mechanic**. Applicants must have a valid CDL Class A or B license. A pre-employment drug screen will be required.

Applications can be picked up and submitted to the Martin County Highway Department, 10753 Sherfick School Rd, Shoals.

Deadline for submitting applications is March 24, 2017 at 3:30 p.m.

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National unemployment at 4.7 percent for February

Total nonfarm payroll employment increased by 235,000 in February, and the unemployment rate was little changed at 4.7 percent, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported last week. Employment gains occurred in construction, private educational services, manufacturing, health care, and mining.

Household Survey Data

The number of unemployed persons, at 7.5 million, changed little in February. The unemployment rate, at 4.7 percent, was little changed over the month but was down from 4.9 percent a year earlier.

Among the major worker groups, the unemployment rate decreased for whites to 4.1 percent in February, while the jobless rates for adult men (4.3 percent), adult women (4.3 percent), teenagers (15.0 percent), Blacks (8.1 percent), Asians (3.4 percent), and Hispanics (5.6 percent) showed little or no change.

The number of long-term unemployed (those jobless for 27 weeks or more) was essentially unchanged at 1.8 million in February and accounted for 23.8 percent of the unemployed. Over the year, the number of long-term unemployed was down by 358,000.

In February, the labor force participation rate, at 63.0 percent, and the employment-population ratio, at 60.0 percent, showed little change.

The number of persons employed part time for economic reasons (sometimes referred to as involuntary part-time workers) was little changed at 5.7 million in February. These individuals, who would have preferred full-time employment, were working part time because their hours had been cut back or because they were unable to find full-time jobs.

In February, 1.7 million persons were marginally attached to the labor force, little different from a year earlier. (The data are not seasonally adjusted.)

These individuals were not in the labor force, wanted and were available for work, and had looked for a job sometime in the prior 12 months. They were not counted as unemployed because they had not searched for work in the 4 weeks preceding the survey.

Among the marginally attached, there were 522,000 discouraged workers in February, little changed from a year earlier. (The data are not seasonally adjusted.)

Discouraged workers are persons not currently looking for work because they believe no jobs are available for them. The remaining 1.2 million persons marginally attached to the labor force in February had not searched for work for reasons such as school attendance or family responsibilities.

Establishment Survey Data

Total nonfarm payroll employment increased by 235,000 in February. Job gains occurred in construction, private educational services, manufacturing, health care, and mining.

In February, construction employment increased by 58,000, with gains in specialty trade contractors (+36,000) and in heavy and civil engineering construction (+15,000).

Construction has added 177,000 jobs over the past 6 months.

Employment in private educational services rose by 29,000 in February, following little change in the prior month (-5,000). Over the year, employment in the industry has grown by 105,000.

Manufacturing added 28,000 jobs in February. Employment rose in food manufacturing (+9,000) and machinery (+7,000) but fell in transportation equipment (-6,000). Over the past 3 months, manufacturing has added 57,000 jobs.

Health care employment rose by 27,000 in February, with a job gain in ambulatory health care services (+18,000). Over the year, health care has added an average of 30,000 jobs per month.

Employment in mining increased by 8,000 in February, with most of the gain occurring in support activities for mining (+6,000). Mining employment has risen by 20,000 since reaching a recent low in October 2016.

Employment in professional and business services continued to trend up in February (+37,000). The industry has added 597,000 jobs over the year.

Retail trade employment edged down in February (-26,000), following a gain of 40,000 in the prior month. Over the month, job losses occurred in general merchandise stores (-19,000); sporting goods, hobby, book, and music stores (-9,000); and electronics and appliance stores (-8,000).

Employment in other major industries, including wholesale trade, transportation and warehousing, information, financial activities, leisure and hospitality, and government, showed little or no change over the month.

The average workweek for all employees on private nonfarm payrolls was unchanged at 34.4 hours in February. In manufacturing, the workweek was unchanged at 40.8 hours, and overtime remained at 3.3 hours. The average workweek for production and nonsupervisory employees on private nonfarm payrolls has been 33.6 hours since August 2016.

In February, average hourly earnings for all employees on private nonfarm payrolls increased by 6 cents to \$26.09, following a 5-cent increase in January. Over the year, average hourly earnings have risen by 71 cents, or 2.8 percent. In February, average hourly earnings of private-sector production and nonsupervisory employees increased by 4 cents to \$21.86 in February.

The change in total nonfarm payroll employment for December was revised down from +157,000 to +155,000, and the change for January was revised up from +227,000 to +238,000. With these revisions, employment gains in December and January combined were 9,000 more than previously reported. Monthly revisions result from additional reports received from businesses since the last published estimates and from the recalculation of seasonal factors. Over the past 3 months, job gains have averaged 209,000 per month.

Tourism spending on the rise for Radius Indiana

Tourism is thriving in the Radius Indiana region, according to a newly released study by market research firm Rockport Analytics. The study shows visitor spending totaling \$271.6 million, marking a 13 percent increase from the previous year and a regional economic impact of \$198 million.

The study compared tourism data during a two-year period for Crawford, Daviess, Dubois, Greene, Lawrence, Martin, Orange and Washington counties and reports that nearly 5,000 area residents are directly employed in tourism, making it the 7th largest industry in the region.

"Tourism is not only good for the local economy in the Radius Region, but also has many other benefits for the community. A booming tourism industry also helps create a healthy job market and puts dollars into our school systems. Moreover, it helps to relieve the tax burden of households in the region," said Radius Indiana President and CEO Jeff Quyle.

The study was commissioned by the Indiana Office of Tourism Development and Radius Indiana and is the first-ever analysis of the economic impact of tourism for Radius. It shows that the region outpaced the state's growth in tourism spending by 5 percent and has a nearly 2.5 percent share of overall tourism spending in Indiana.

"I applaud Radius Indiana for undertaking this study to establish a baseline of tourism's impact for their area," said Mark Newman, executive director of the Indiana Office of Tourism Development. "This region is an asset-rich part of the state and has some of the state's most important historical sites within just miles of one another. This data will help us to better support the region as we work together to develop tourism strategies for the state."

Radius Indiana facilitates a regional tourism advisory council, and the group will use the study to create new initiatives that will support this vital part of the local economy.

"The data shows us that 73 cents of every \$1 spent on tourism stayed in the local economy and saves our taxpayers about \$359 per year in taxes -- money that stays in the region stimulates our communities and promotes vitality and growth," said Quyle.

Highlights of the study include Orange County, home to French Lick Resort and Casino and historic West Baden, with the largest amount of tourism spending for the region and coming in at No. 2 for the state in spending per capita; Washington County recorded a 30 percent increase in tourism spending during the study period, ranking it as the No. 1 county in the state for tourism spending growth.

Health officials offer free tobacco cessation support

Indiana tobacco users will be able to obtain free medication to help them quit smoking as part of an Indiana Tobacco Quitline promotion offered in conjunction with a nationwide smoking cessation campaign.

The promotion, scheduled from March 13 to April 2 or until supplies run out, will encourage smokers to call the Indiana Tobacco Quitline at 1-800-QUIT-NOW (800-784-8669) for free help getting medication, in the form of gum or patches, and quit assistance. It will coincide with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) Tips from Former Smokers national tobacco education campaign.

"We want anyone addicted to nicotine to know that although quitting is hard, they can do it," said Miranda Spitznagle, director of the Tobacco Prevention and Cessation Commission at the ISDH. "Smokers often try to quit several times before succeeding, but proven treatments and services are available that can improve your chances to quit for good. We encourage all Hoosiers to try to quit and to take advantage of this opportunity for free help."

To participate in the free offer, tobacco users must enroll in the Indiana Tobacco Quitline, which provides a trained coach who will work with them to create a personalized quit plan.

Although overcoming nicotine addiction can be difficult, Hoosiers quit smoking every day. Today, there are more former smokers than current smokers nation-wide. Surveys have found that nearly 70 percent of all cigarette smokers want to quit, and research

shows quitting at any age has health benefits. Stopping tobacco use:

- Lowers your risk for lung cancer and many other types of cancer

- Reduces your risk for heart disease and stroke

- Reduces respiratory symptoms, such as coughing, wheezing, and shortness of breath

- Lowers the risk of developing lung diseases, such as chronic obstructive pulmonary disease

- Reduces the risk of infertility

- Reduces the risk of having a low-birth-weight baby

- Counseling, including Quitline coaching, and medication are both effective in helping smokers quit, and using them together is more effective than using either one alone. Medications help smokers quit by decreasing urges to smoke and easing withdrawal symptoms.

Smoking is the leading preventable cause of disease and death in the United States. Approximately 20 percent of Indiana adults smoke, and smoking kills 11,100 Hoosiers each year. More than 330,000 Hoosiers live with smoking-related diseases.

The Indiana Tobacco Quitline (1-800-QUIT-NOW) is a service provided by the Indiana State Department of Health. Additional information on quitting is available at QuitNowIndiana.com or cdc.gov/tips.

Visit the Indiana State Department of Health at www.StateHealth.in.gov for important health and safety information, or follow us on Twitter at @StateHealthIN and on Facebook at www.facebook.com/isdh1.