

Quarry to start repairing road

BY COURTNEY HUGHETT
Martin County Journal Publisher

Matt Hart with Indian Creek Quarries explained to the Martin County Redevelopment Commission at their meeting Tuesday night, March 18 to give an update on the status of repairing Mt. Olive Road, the road leading to the quarry. He said they are waiting to accumulate enough sand, which has been hard to acquire, and are looking for a start date of April 1 to start working on the road. Hart said they just purchased a truck to mix their own concrete to put down on the road. He added that as you come off Hwy. 450 there is a hill and a curve; they are going to be flattening the hill by cutting off seven feet and also widen the road. Commission member Dan Gregory asked if Lawrence County is putting forth money to fix the section of the road in their county. Hart said they did agree to pay some money but he wasn't sure how much. Gregory said that Martin County committed to paying up to \$50,000 but that was contingent on what Lawrence County put forth. He said Martin County will match what Lawrence County puts in. The rest will be paid for by the quarry.

Hart added that he will be giving area residents notice when they plan to start working on the road.

Gregory asked Hart how many employees the company has now. Hart said they just purchased more trucks so between drivers, the drivers they will be hiring and workers at the quarry, they will be approaching 30 employees. Hart said they are getting ready to hire 10 drivers and he was told to get at least 50 percent of them (See 'QUARRY' continued on page 2)

County's jobless rate at 5.5 for January

BY COURTNEY HUGHETT
Martin County Journal Publisher

Martin County's jobless rose slightly from December to January, moving from 5.1 percent to 5.5 percent. The county had the 11th lowest unemployment rate in the state for January, tied with Boone and Posey counties.

In January, the county had 5,130 residents in the workforce with 283 of them without jobs. In December there were 5,111 citizens able to work and 263 of them were unemployed. In January of 2013, Martin County's jobless rate was 6.8 percent with 5,248 residents in the workforce and 356 of them without jobs.

Daviess County's unemployment rate went from 4.6 percent in December to 4.8 percent in January. The county had the third lowest jobless rate in the state. In January, Daviess County had 14,871 residents in the workforce with 718 of them without jobs. In December there were 14,859 citizens able to work and 677 of them were unemployed. In January of 2013, the county had a jobless rate of 6.6 percent (See 'RATE' continued on page 2)



Soaring

-Photo by Bill Whorrall, www.billwhorrall.com

Birds are amazingly adapted for life in the air. The Red-tailed Hawk is one of the largest birds you'll see in North America. The Red-tailed Hawk has a thrilling, raspy scream that sounds exactly like a raptor should sound. Whenever a hawk or eagle appears on the movie screen, no matter what species, the shrill cry on the soundtrack is almost always a Red-tailed Hawk.

Employees want raises before pool

BY COURTNEY HUGHETT
Martin County Journal Publisher

The Martin County Commissioners and Martin County Council spent almost two hours with department heads Tuesday night, March 18 discussing county employees' salaries and the recent discussion about the county giving money to the Loogootee pool project.

At the last county council meeting, council member Lonnie Hawkins spoke about EDIT (Economic Development Income Tax) funds and giving \$297,000 for the Loogootee pool project over the next five years. This sparked a debate between the council and county employees present at the meeting. This year employees lost their health savings account contributions due to the lack of funding. The employees present wanted to know why the county could give so much money to the

pool but not increase employee wages.

Auditor January Roush told the council that since a salary ordinance is already in place for this year, any elected official could not receive a wage increase or a bonus. Regular employees could but elected officials, such as the auditor, clerk, treasurer, assessor, surveyor, coroner, and recorder, would have to receive money by way of health savings accounts.

"I think we were all living with the fact that we have no money because that's what we keep hearing, 'we have no money, we have no money sorry about your luck,'" said Clerk Julie Fithian. "Now all of the sudden you have \$300,000 to throw to the pool in Loogootee."

Several members of the council replied saying they were not giving \$300,000 to the city for the pool. Council member Randy Winger said this is what was requested but not what has been decided.

Council member Hawkins noted that it is \$297,000 not \$300,000 and it was over a five-year period - \$100,000 now and then an additional \$39,400 for four years.

Council member Albright questioned the amount and whether that much needed to be given to one place this early in the year.

"Well, it's got to go somewhere if it's in EDIT. I mean we are going to spend it somewhere," said council member Lynn Gee.

"It don't have to go somewhere," replied (See 'EMPLOYEES' cont. on page 3)

"If you have \$300,000 to blow, think of us because it's getting pretty disheartening, it really is."

-Martin County Clerk
Julie Fithian

Middle Way needs community's help forming response team

BY COURTNEY HUGHETT
Martin County Journal Publisher

Jennifer Young, Women's Advocate with Middle Way House of Martin County, spoke to the Martin County Commissioners at their meeting Tuesday night, March 18 about the need to form a Sexual Assault Response Team (SART) for the county. Middle Way offers programs and services to women and children who are victims of domestic violence and sexual assault, including crisis intervention, emergency and transitional housing, support services, legal advocacy, child care, economic development activities, and community outreach. She said they are in need of volunteers from the community to assist with this response team. A meeting will be held on April 3 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the commissioners' room of the courthouse for anyone interested in being a part of the team.

Anyone who is a victim of domestic vio-

lence and needs help, call the Martin County office at 295-2993. The office is located in the chamber of commerce building, downtown Loogootee.

Veteran Service Officer Linda Dillon gave her February report. She said there were two trips to Bloomington and one trip to New Albany and Louisville and she had five trips cancelled, four by veterans and one by her for inclement weather. She had contact with seven veterans in February, one out of the office visit, 19 incoming phone calls and 39 outgoing calls.

The commissioners also passed a resolution pertaining to veteran reimbursements. Dillon explained that she has veterans that are utilizing free rides in the veterans van provided by the county but those veterans are also getting reimbursed for travel from VA for the same ride or getting reimbursed by the county. She said she didn't think it was right for them to be paid for mileage when they rode for free in the veterans van

and not their own vehicle. Dillon said she will now be notifying the VA when veterans ride in the van at no cost to get to appointments. She said she will also be asking veterans if they receive travel benefits and if they do she will let them know they don't qualify for county reimbursement. She said her issue is that veterans who receive travel benefits are taking away from the fund that veterans without travel benefits need.

Rhonda Rumble with SIDC requested permission from the commissioners to extend the Lost River Fire Station grant for 90 days. She said the station is complete and the fire department has moved in but there are a few issues that need to be dealt with before closing out the grant. One issue is the air conditioning unit. They can't turn it on and cycle it until the weather is warm. The other issue is grading and seeding which can't be done until the ground is dry and warm. The end date would be June 30 in (See 'TEAM' cont. on page 2)

GET OUTDOORS

Because Reality TV Is Still Just TV

DAVIESS-MARTIN JOINT COUNTY
PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT

WEST BOGGS PARK

GLENDALE SFWA CAMPGROUND

QUARRY

(Continued from page one)

from Martin County if he could. He said the one they just hired is from Loogootee.

The company received a 10-year tax abatement for personal property totaling \$250,000. The first year they paid zero taxes and the abatement schedule has that increase 10 percent over the ten-year period.

In other business Alliance Director Tim Kinder updated the commission on current projects.

Kinder also asked the commission if they had thoughts on updating the county's five-year comprehensive plan. He said the last plan will be expiring soon.

Gregory asked Kinder if the plan gave Martin County any benefits. Kinder said that some grants require an updated comprehensive plan be in place. He said the plan also serves as a guide for the county on projects needed.

Kinder said the last plan did not include an industrial site outside of WestGate. He said an area like that would be incentive for companies wanting relocate to the county.

Gregory said the last plan was paid for through I-69 grant funds and he is not sure if the county has the money to pay for one out of their own coffers. The cost to update it would be around \$20,000 but the cost for a new plan would be \$50,000. Gregory

said he wished they had some concrete evidence showing that the plan helped the county get more money than it cost to create.

Kinder also told the commission that the tourism committee has put together a strategic plan and a business plan to increase tourism. He said they will be bringing those plans to the county council first.

Gregory asked Kinder about the status of Bowling Manufacturing. Kinder said the project is still progressing at its own pace and he has no new information to report.

Gregory asked if Stimulus renewed their lease for the former Swift building that the county owns. Kinder said he was told by Stimulus that they would be renewing and he provided them with the address to the auditor's office. According to County Attorney David Lett, they must renew 180 days before the lease expires. The commission discussed when the expiration was, but were not sure. Gregory said he thought it was August.

Commission member Kevin Boyd asked Kinder if the plan for the Dollar Store coming to Shoals was dead. Kinder replied that as of now it is. He said there are two issues, one is an environmental issue with the site and the other is the owner coming to a selling agreement. Kinder said he has tried to do what he can on his end to help the deal along.

Shoals School Board discusses personnel, school happenings

Meeting minutes provided by Andrea Qualkenbush, Shoals School Corporation Secretary

The Shoals School Board met last Thursday, March 13. Board member Tony Cundiff was not present.

The board accept the resignation of Ed Farhar from the position of girls' varsity basketball coach. The board thanked Mr. Farhar for his work with the athletic programs over the last several years. A motion to approve the resignation was made by Lorna Troutman, seconded by Jim Bruner, and a 3-0-1 vote was given with Christy Farhar abstaining.

Superintendent Keller recommended the board accept a retirement notification from Deborah Asbell effective at the end of the current 2013-14 school year. Miss Asbell has taught in the jr.-sr. high since 2001. Asbell addressed the board about her teaching career at Shoals. She made several suggestions and thanked the board for giving her the opportunity to work with the students and for supporting her over the years.

Due to school being cancelled on Monday, March 3, the board approved an additional make-up day on Wednesday, June 4.

Superintendent Keller asked for direction from the board regarding the scheduling of athletic moratorium week(s) during the upcoming summer break. She recommended one moratorium week be scheduled during the week of June 29 – July 6 as has been the practice in past years. Following discussion by the board, it was agreed to schedule a second moratorium the week prior to the start of school July 27 – August 3.

The board held a first reading of the job description for the position of athletic director. The board reviewed the details of the job description and discussed changes to be made. A second reading of the athletic director job description will be held at the April 10 meeting.

The board approved Cory Roach as a substitute/ECA school bus driver pending completion of all requirements for the addition of the school bus endorsement to his existing CDL license.

The board held a first reading of a policy on the senior class activity fund. The policy outlines how money can be spent from class funds following graduation. A second reading will be held at the April 10 meeting.

The board approved Jondavide Hopkins as boys' high school track assistant and Melissa Fields as junior high girls' track attendant.

The board approved the following field trips:

- 4th grade to Indianapolis Motor Speedway in Speedway on April 3
- Kindergarten to French Lick Railway on April 9
- Science Fair at Westgate Academy, Crane, Indiana on April 23
- 5th grade to Martin County Courthouse on May 9
- Mr. Evans taking students in grades 10-12 to Indianapolis Motor Speedway on May 13
- 3rd grade to Lincoln Boyhood Park on May 14
- 5th grade to Spring Mill State Park on May 15

The board approved a request from Rebecca Harmon to hold a dance clinic for students in grades K-8. Students participating in the dance clinic will practice after school April 1-5, 2014 and perform during the Harlem Wizards Basketball game on April 7, 2014.

The board approved another request from Rebecca Harmon to hold an elementary volleyball league this spring for students in grades 3-6 to learn basic volleyball fundamentals. Practice is scheduled one night per week beginning the week of March 17 and continuing through the week of May 26. Miss Harmon requested approval for Courtney Otero, John Gore, Jesse Sutton, and Heidi Cockerham to serve as volunteer coaches during the volleyball league practices.

The board approve the following facility usage requests:

- Lions Club to hold annual Easter Egg Hunt on school grounds on April 19

-Girl Scout Troop #395 to hold weekly meetings in cafeteria on Tuesdays after school during April and May of 2014

The board approved a fundraiser request from staff member Cindy Clymer to ask school staff and members of the community to donate money, drinks, and or food for students participating in Special Olympics on May 8-9.

The board approved Jamie Hays to serve as a substitute in the cafeteria during the 2013-14 school year.

The board approved extending the medical leave of Lisa Ader through the end of the current 2013-14 school year.

The board approved renewal of the operating agreement with Joint Services in Bedford for special education services during the 2015 calendar year.

Elementary teacher, Leeza Adams, addressed the board about the "Start Your Engines" running plan she has started for students in grades 5 and 6. It coincides with the Indianapolis 500 race. Mrs. Adams requested permission to purchase a pedometer for each student in 5th and 6th grade to use for the program. The board approved the purchase of 85 pedometers to be paid for through the elementary student activity fund.

Austin Malone, elementary principal, and Candace Roush, jr. sr. high school principal/assistant superintendent reported on several events including:

- Raptor Presentation scheduled at 1:30 p.m. on Friday, March 21
- Congratulations to the MathBowl team for placing 2nd in their class at recent competition
- Project LEAD Trial for students in 5th grade is scheduled for Friday, May 9
- Book Fair was successful – thanks to Mrs. Sango for making it possible
- Kindergarten round up is scheduled for Friday, April 4
- ISTEP Applied Skills testing is complete for most students
- A testing celebration for elementary students will be held on Friday, March 21
- Thank you to Shoals American Legion 61 Ladies Auxiliary for the donation of art supplies
- Thank you to Loogootee Knights of Columbus for the donation of 10 winter coats
- Thank you to high school for inviting 3rd and 4th grade elementary students to anti-bullying presentation with Jim Williams recently
- Thank you to Barbara Hager for preparing 3rd grade students for ISTEP and IREAD testing while substituting during the maternity leave of Mrs. Hovis
- Mr. Evans has started after school math tutoring on Mondays after school. Thank you to Mrs. Sutton and Mr. Johnson for volunteering to help tutor as well
- 38 students attended Women's Leadership Conference
- Jr.-sr. high teachers are forming professional leadership committees to collaborate on new teaching strategies and one-on-one student mentoring
- Congratulations to the drama club for a great dinner and show Tuesday evening
- Harlem Wizards game scheduled for April 7

-Jr.-sr. high testing completing celebration scheduled for May 2

Superintendent Keller reported on the following:

- February student enrollment numbers reflected an increase of 3.5 students
- Working on implementing a school-wide Title I program for the elementary next year
- Application for second portion of safety grant has been extended until April 1
- Pat Keefe has requested permission to use "My Big Campus" as part of a technology curriculum class she has enrolled in
- State tax fund collections are down so far this year. This could affect our general fund revenue.
- Planning to poll the teachers for feedback on how effective they feel the extra 30-minute remediation period is for students.
- The next meeting of the board will be on April 10 at 5 p.m.

RATE

(Continued from page one)

with 14,966 residents in the workforce and 986 of them without jobs.

Dubois County's unemployment rate moved from 4.2 percent in December to 4.7 percent in January. The county held the second spot in the state for lowest jobless rate.

In January, Dubois County had 21,612 residents in the workforce with 1,009 of them without jobs. In December there were 21,502 citizens able to work with 913 of them unemployed. In January of last year, the county's jobless rate was 6.5 percent with 21,378 residents in the workforce and 1,382 of them unemployed.

Orange County also saw an increase in their unemployment rate from December to January, going from 7.1 percent to 7.5 percent. The county had the 28th highest jobless rate of the 92 Indiana counties for January.

In January, Orange County had 10,104 residents in the workforce with 759 of them without jobs. In December there were 9,894 citizens able to work with 702 of them without jobs. In January of 2013 the county had a jobless rate of 10 percent with 10,192 residents in the workforce and 1,024 of them without jobs.

Lawrence County's jobless rate moved from 8.2 percent in December to 9.1 percent in January making them the third highest unemployed county in the state.

In January Lawrence County had 21,165 residents in the workforce with 934 of them without jobs. In December there were 20,997 residents able to work and 1,723 of them were unemployed. In January of last year, the county had a jobless rate of 11.7 percent with 21,331 residents able to work and 1,024 of them without jobs.

The ten counties with the lowest unemployment rate in the state for January were Hamilton at 4.5 percent, Dubois at 4.7 percent, Daviess at 4.8 percent, Bartholomew at 5 percent, Hendricks at 5.1 percent, LaGrange and Jackson at 5.3 percent, and Monroe, Kosciusko, and Knox at 5.4 percent.

The ten counties with the highest jobless rate in the state for January were Vermillion at 11 percent, Crawford at 9.2 percent, Lawrence at 9.1 percent, LaPorte at 9 percent, Fayette and Newton at 8.9 percent,

Fulton and Lake at 8.8 percent, Sullivan at 8.6 percent, and Starke and Vigo at 8.5 percent.

Indiana's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate dropped 0.4 percent to 6.4 percent in January and is now at the lowest point since September of 2008 (6.3 percent). The rate of unemployment in Indiana remains below all neighboring states and is now lower than the national rate by 0.2 percent. Prior to the benchmarking process, the last time Indiana's rate was lower than the national rate was June of 2012.

Despite a gain of 4,600 jobs in the manufacturing sector, Indiana shed a total of 7,100 private sector jobs in January mainly due to the extreme nature of the winter season, which has been cited by the U.S. Federal Reserve as one of the chief causes of employment contraction throughout the country.

"There are many positives to note this month," said Scott B. Sanders, Commissioner of the Indiana Department of Workforce Development. "Indiana's unemployment rate is not only lower than our neighboring states, but the national rate as well. In addition, 2,700 Hoosiers returned to the labor force and fewer were unemployed in January than at any time since August of 2008, causing our rate to fall almost one-half of a percentage point in one month."

Sanders also noted Indiana's 2013 total private sector job growth number was revised upward by 8,200 jobs to 50,800 by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics and despite the extreme winter weather, initial claims for unemployment insurance benefits were nearly 6,000 below January 2013 levels.

Employment by Sector
Sectors showing gains in January include: Manufacturing (4,600), Financial Activities (1,400) and Professional & Business Services (200). Sectors showing decline in January include: Trade, Transportation & Utilities (-4,900), Construction (-4,300), Private Educational & Health Services (-2,100) and Leisure and Hospitality (-600). Total non-farm employment decreased in January (-10,000).

This release was written in part with a press release from the Indiana Department of Workforce Development.

OBITUARIES

Wednesday, March 19, 2014 ~ Martin County Journal

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JUDITH HARRIS

Judith D. Harris died at 2:20 a.m. Wednesday, March 12, 2014 at Daviess Community Hospital. A resident of Montgomery, she was 65.

She was born August 14, 1948, in Washington; the daughter of James A. "Hap" and Nona L. (Waggoner) Tomey.

She was a pantry manager and had worked at Tokheim. She was a member of Montgomery Christian Church, Eagles Ladies Auxiliary, American Legion Ladies Auxiliary, and Moose Ladies Auxiliary.

She is survived by her husband, Roy Harris; two daughters, Deborah S. Gross of Washington, and Stacy M. (Brandon) Stone

of Shoals; grandchildren, Jacob A. Gross, Lauren N. Gross, Caleb J. Payne, Ashley M. Payne, Austin G. Payne, Peyton Stone and Levi Stone; two sisters, Phyllis (Don) Burton and Cheryl Noble, all of Washington; and two brothers, George (Sharon) Tomey of Bedford, and Richard (Anita) Tomey of Washington. She is preceded in death by her parents.

The funeral was held Saturday, March 15 at Poindexter-McClure Funeral Home, Washington Chapel, with Bro. Mark Frances officiating. Burial followed in Goodwill Cemetery in Loogootee.

In lieu of flowers the family requests memorial donations be made to the American Diabetes Foundation.

EMPLOYEES

(Continued from page one)

Albright.

Hawkins said that he thinks the council can do both – give to the pool fund and increase employee wages – if they can all come to an agreement.

Commissioner Paul George asked if the commissioners would also have to approve giving money to the pool fund.

Hawkins replied that several years ago it was verbally decided that each of the three commissioners would receive 25 percent of the EDIT funds and the council would retain the remaining 25 percent.

Council member Randy Winger disagreed saying it may have been discussed but he disagrees with it. "That's probably what we did back five or six years ago, that didn't mean it was longstanding, it's not written in stone," he said.

"And it wasn't a blank check. The council didn't say, hey, here's 25 percent go spend it wherever you want," said Albright.

George replied that his point was he won't vote to give money to the pool fund if the county employees don't get a raise.

Council member Richard Summers asked why the city couldn't float a bond to pay for the pool. George replied that the pool is not a big money maker and he didn't think they could pay back a bond with what they bring in.

Summers said he is not against the pool or giving money to employees but he has been told of issues with repairs to the jail and updates to the courthouse where money may be needed.

Commissioner Dan Gregory then spoke about EDIT funds and what their original purpose was and how that has changed over the years with counties using those funds to pay for a wide array of expenses. He said Martin County has mostly used its EDIT funds to pay for employee wages and benefits. The purpose of the funds though, he explained, is to help with economic development.

Kathy Collins, community corrections director, then spoke saying she wanted to come to the table to speak about what funds she has available in her department to supplement her employees' wages. She said the department heads have waited a long time to be given the opportunity to do this, that's what they were told to do for the meeting, and she wanted each one to have a chance. Collins said her budget is different from any other in the county. She said her department recently received a performance bonus from the state totaling around \$13,800. Her advisory board approved dividing up \$5,000 of that money in the form of bonuses for her staff – two full-time and three part-time. She said this is a one-time bonus that cannot be continued into next year.

Clerk Julie Fithian was next. She said she has four full-time staff members, including herself, and one part-time. She said one of her funds has \$25,000 and she is allowed to spend \$3,200 on each full-time employee for wage increases this year. Fithian said she is the lowest paid elected official in the state along with the auditor, assessor, and treasurer. She said even with a five percent raise, she would be tied for the lowest paid in the state. She said her staff needs a seven or eight percent raise to be tied with the current second lowest paid in the state. She said that yes, they can find other jobs but they like where they work and the people they work with.

Commissioner Gregory asked if benefits are factored into the breakdown of what all the elected officials in the state are paid. Au-

ditor Roush said they are not included.

Fithian said she is making \$2,500 less now than she did when she started as clerk in 2008 due to the changes in insurance premiums. She said she has worked hard as clerk to save the county money and bring in extra money. "And that's how I get repaid, just take more and more and more and then tell me you are going to give it all to Loogootee for a pool?" she said. She added she agrees Loogootee needs a pool but noted, "If you have \$300,000 to blow, think of us because it's getting pretty disheartening, it really is." She said that two of her employees are taking home \$16,000 a year and asked the council how anyone is supposed to live off of that. She said besides the salaries there are other things the boards need to consider spending money on such as a security guard for the courthouse, an office for the veteran service officer, or remodeling work in the upstairs of the courthouse.

Linda Dillon, veteran service officer, explained to the council that she now has to be accredited according to state law. She said the original job of the veteran service officer was to manage the veteran van. She said the new law requires she work 20 hours per week. She currently makes \$5,000 a year and under the new law she would be making \$5.02 per hour. She gave the boards examples of what other counties of the same size are paying their officers, from \$13,000 to \$14,000 a year. Dillon was asked if she had enough work to stay busy 20 hours a week. Dillon replied that she did and gave the group a list of her duties. She added that she would also like an office where veterans can go to get help from her.

Treasurer Vicki Boyd told the council that she had no money in her budget that she could spare for employee raises. She reminded the boards that from 2009-2012 no raises were given to employees. In 2013 and 2014, \$500 bonuses were given to all full-time employees. She also told the boards that her workload increased last year with the implementation of the solid waste tax and now with a new rule regarding mobile homes. She has two full-time employees, including herself, and two part-time.

Assessor Carolyn McGuire spoke saying she has three full-time employees, including herself, and one part-time. She said the number of part-time employees will increase this year because of the new annual reassessment. She said she has no extra money in her budget for raises.

Council member Winger noted that even if departments have money now, it doesn't mean they will have it by the end of the year. He said if they spend it now they will just be back to the council requesting additional appropriations.

Gerald Montgomery, recorder, said he has \$40,000 in one of his funds and part of that could be used for his deputy to have a raise but none of it can be used for him. He currently has two full-time employees, including himself.

Commissioner George then asked if anyone has sat down and figured up how much a five percent raise across the board for full-time employees would be. Auditor Roush said she had but it did not include the highway department, community corrections, extension secretary or 9-1-1 employees. The total would be around \$40,000.

George asked if this was a lot of money to make employees happy. More discussion ensued on how the five percent raise would be given since elected officials could not receive raises or bonuses. It was suggested that the

raises be given to everyone in health savings accounts or in the form of additional buyouts for those who opted out of the health insurance. The five percent raise would be in addition to the \$500 raise already approved for this year.

Judge Lynne Ellis then spoke up saying that department heads were asked to bring what they had available in their budgets to give extra to their employees. "The whole thing has been everybody has to be treated the same. Everyone works different. We were asked to bring what we have to the table and five percent, \$800, over the year doesn't buy you lunch for the week," she said. "It's an insult quite frankly." She noted that the state pays her salary, none of it comes from the county, but she is sticking up for her employees. She said her employees don't want an \$800 raise because it doesn't help them. She said they want to be back where they were before the insurance premiums were changed. She said she has three employees that took the insurance instead of the buyout and because of that, the people they supervise are making more money than they are now. She singled out Dan Gregory saying he is the one who stated there was no more money to help with the insurance for employees but he is also the one who brought forth the proposal to help the Loogootee pool fund. She asked how there could be no money for insurance but money to help Loogootee build their pool.

Gregory replied that they are different issues.

Ellis asked where the money to pay the insurance was coming from.

Gregory replied that some of it is coming from EDIT fund and some from the general fund.

Ellis asked why the raises couldn't come out of EDIT then if it has been used in the past.

She said she has \$69,000 in her budget, money collected by the probation office that can only be used for raises for those employees.

"I'm not in charge of the purse strings but I will tell you judge, and I love you to death, but the more you keep preaching on that \$70,000, all these others are going to be cut out of their five percent," said George.

Sheriff Rob Street said he thinks everything should be fair. He said his department is limited on what monies they can collect and mentioned several areas where he doesn't collect but could such as dispatching for fire departments and the ambulance service, charging to unlock car doors, or being dispatched to personal security alarms. He noted that he has no intention of charging the fire departments or ambulance service for dispatching, he was just using that as an example. He added that over the years the sheriff's department has given the county well over a million dollars housing DOC inmates and past sheriffs asked to use some of that money to give raises and were told no because other departments did not have the ability to raise that much money to give to employees. "I'm only asking for fairness. If you guys got a dollar that you can give them, give it to them. If you have \$1,000 to give to them, give it to them. I know I am probably not popular here among a lot of them but I just think if you're going to do something you need to be fair about it," he said.

Terri Alcorn, with the highway department, said they have the money in their budget to give their employees raises too. She said everyone else pretty at the meeting pretty much summed up the need for raises.

Council member Barb McFeaters said the question now is to decide whether to give everyone the same amount or to allow some departments to pay their employees more based on what extra they have in their budgets.

Commissioner Gregory suggested putting together a small committee of a commissioner and three council members to crunch numbers and see what could be done for increases. In the end, Commissioner George, council members Randy Winger, Rich Summers, and Barb McFeaters, and Auditor Roush agreed to meet next week to go over the salary issue. When asked if the same committee would like to look into funding the Loogootee Pool, McFeaters said she would not be interested in discussing that issue.

County Attorney David Lett said he missed the last meeting and wanted to know if the city came to the council and requested the dollar amount that is being discussed. Hawkins replied that no, a formal additional appropriation was not requested, a schedule of what was proposed was presented. Lett asked what the city has explored as far as getting the funding. He asked if they have looked into bonds or raising fees. "I personally don't think these bodies are in any kind of position to make any kind of decision because you don't know what the City of Loogootee has come up with," he said.

A decision will be reached on salaries by the next council meeting on April 7 at 6 p.m. Council member Hawkins said he would like to decide on giving to the pool at that meeting also.

TEAM

(Continued from page one)

stead of March 31. The commissioners agreed to the change.

Terri Alcorn, highway department secretary, asked the commissioners how they felt about lifting the weight limit on county roads. The commissioners agreed that the limit should be lifted. Commissioner Paul George said no one abided by the limit anyway.

Alcorn also reported that they have a mechanic resigning at the highway garage and requested permission to advertise for the position. The commissioners agreed. The commissioners approved paying him 370.65 hours of comp time. They also thanked him for his 15 years of service.

The commissioners also granted permission for the two part-time seasonal help positions to start back at the highway department on March 24.

The commissioners approved purchasing cameras for the highway garage from Area 1 Protection at a cost of \$3,505.

Commissioner George asked Alcorn to notify Highway Superintendent Leo Padgett about a culvert giving out on Indian Springs Road and the road falling.

Sheriff Rob Street told the commissioners when asked about department of corrections inmates that he could take up to 20. He said he spoke to the DOC about three weeks ago, letting them know how many he could take, but hasn't heard back yet. He said the jail has 66 beds and he currently has 42 inmates.

Resident Dale Tedrow told the commissioners that turkey trucks have torn up the chip and seal on Emmons Ridge Cemetery Road. Commissioner George said the highway department will go look and see if it can be salvaged.

COPS & COURT

Wednesday, March 19, 2014 ~ Martin County Journal

4

Martin County Sheriff's Department log

SATURDAY, MARCH 8

3:30 p.m. - Received a report of an accident on U.S. 50.

7:40 p.m. - Received a report of a property damage accident on U.S. 231, north of Loogootee.

9:05 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Shoals.

SUNDAY, MARCH 9

12:02 a.m. - Received a report of a domestic dispute in Shoals.

6:00 p.m. - Received a report of a scam.

8:33 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee.

MONDAY, MARCH 10

12:03 a.m. - Received a request for an

ambulance in Loogootee.

8:08 a.m. - Received a report of a property damage accident on U.S. Highway 50.

6:27 p.m. - Received a report of a domestic dispute in Shoals.

9:00 p.m. - Received a report of a structure fire in Shoals. Martin County Ambulance Service and Shoals Volunteer Fire Department responded.

TUESDAY, MARCH 11

12:46 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee.

2:00 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee.

3:47 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee.

Loogootee Police Department log

MONDAY, MARCH 10

2:15 p.m. - Caller reported a parking violation.

5:45 p.m. - Caller requested an officer be present during a child custody exchange.

6:00 p.m. - Female came on station to report a theft.

6:20 p.m. - Male came on station to report harassment.

7:13 p.m. - Caller reported a suspicious vehicle in his driveway.

9:17 p.m. - Caller reported a reckless driver on US 231.

TUESDAY, MARCH 11

12:46 a.m. - First responders were requested for a medical problem on South Point Drive.

12:12 p.m. - Chief Rayhill responded to a

residential alarm on US 231.

5:50 p.m. - Loogootee Fire was paged to a field fire on Hickory Ridge Road.

6:51 p.m. - Caller reported property damage at the Methodist church.

8:30 p.m. - Loogootee Fire was paged out to a field fire near Lark's Ranch.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 12

3:40 a.m. - Loogootee Fire was paged out to a house fire on Lingenfelter Road.

5:51 a.m. - Caller reported a 911 hang-up on 1st Street.

11:25 a.m. - Caller requested a welfare check on a male.

4:15 p.m. - Caller reported a reckless driver on Hwy 50.

4:57 p.m. - Caller reported a possible phone scam.

6:17 p.m. - Caller reported a possible violation of a protective order.

THURSDAY, MARCH 13

11:47 a.m. - Loogootee Fire was paged out to assist with a garage fire on South Point Drive.

11:35 a.m. - Caller reported a possible illegal burn on SE 1st Street.

11:47 a.m. - Caller reported having problems with a neighbor.

FRIDAY, MARCH 14

5:25 p.m. - Caller reported a scam. Caller stated their credit card had been hacked. Caller wanted the person to dial 0. Number was 700-999-1234.

11:27 p.m. - Caller reported a suspicious vehicle on Bellbrook Road.

SATURDAY, MARCH 15

9:45 p.m. - First responders were requested on JFK Avenue for a medical problem.

12:56 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee.

2:00 p.m. - Shoals Volunteer Fire Department and Martin County Civil Defense assisted Lawrence County on a fire on Stump Hole Bridge Road.

2:42 p.m. - Received a report of a field fire on West River Road. Shoals Volunteer Fire Department responded.

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

4:25 p.m. - Received a report of a field fire on State Road 450. Martin County Ambulance Service, Shoals Volunteer Fire Department, Lost River Volunteer Fire Department, Martin County Civil Defense, DNR Fire, and Loogootee Volunteer Fire Department responded.

4:50 p.m. - Received a report of a property damage accident on U.S. 231 North.

4:58 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Shoals.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 12

3:40 a.m. - Received a report of a structure fire on Lingenfelter Road. Martin County Civil Defense assisted Haysville Fire.

9:37 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee.

12:20 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Shoals.

5:30 p.m. - Received a report of a theft in Shoals.

6:22 p.m. - Received a report of a domestic dispute in Loogootee.

THURSDAY, MARCH 13

7:28 a.m. - Received a report of a property damage accident U.S. 231, north of Loogootee.

9:20 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Shoals.

7:05 p.m. - Received a request for an am-

bulance in Loogootee.

FRIDAY, MARCH 14

5:27 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Shoals.

11:55 a.m. - Received a report of a domestic dispute in Shoals.

1:21 p.m. - Received a report of a field fire on Mill Road. Shoals Volunteer Fire Department responded.

3:35 p.m. - Received a report of a field fire on State Road 450. Shoals Volunteer Fire Department responded.

4:40 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Shoals.

SATURDAY, MARCH 15

2:30 p.m. - Received a report of an alarm on Lynwood Street. Deputy Baker responded and all was okay.

6:14 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Doe Run. Martin County Ambulance transported subject to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

SUNDAY, MARCH 16

6:20 a.m. - Received a report of a tree down on Tedrow Road.

8:01 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance on Sherfick School Road. Martin County Ambulance and Shoals First Responders responded. Subject was transported to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

2:45 p.m. - Received a report of a tree down on Red School Road. Shoals Fire Department was dispatched.

3:21 p.m. - Received a report of an accident on US 231 near Stoll's Restaurant. Loogootee Fire Department, Martin County Ambulance, Deputy Baker, and LPD officer Hennessee responded. Subject was transported to Daviess Community Hospital.

4:44 p.m. - Received a report of an alarm on Brooks Avenue. Loogootee Officer Hennessee responded.

Martin County JOURNAL

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Bingo Permit #125186 Tell the bingo staff you saw their ad in The Journal!

Join us for a Scavenger Hunt

Proceeds benefit the Martin County Humane Society

Saturday, March 22

Start time is 10 a.m. at the animal shelter, 507 N Oak Street in Loogootee

Auction will be held prior to the start of the hunt for special "perks" to help you win!

Read and solve clues to find items around Loogootee

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

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

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

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

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

Mail payment and registration or drop off to the Martin County Humane Society Animal Shelter, 507 N Oak Street, Loogootee IN 47553

Questions? Call the shelter at 295-5900, email mchs@frontier.com or message us on facebook

\$10 per person • \$30 per team of four (\$5 per additional team member)

Individual/Team Name: _____

Team Members (optional): _____

Contact name _____ Phone number _____

Email _____

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

Martin County Court News

CRIMINAL CONVICTIONS & SENTENCINGS

March 4

Rector T. Worley, convicted of dealing in methamphetamine, a Class B Felony. Sentenced to serve 8 years in the Indiana Department of Corrections with 0 days suspended and credit for 150 actual days previously served and 150 good time credit days. Also credit for 163 days on electronic monitoring home detention.

CRIMINAL CHARGES DISMISSED

March 4

Rector T. Worley, possession of methamphetamine, a Class D Felony, dismissed.

CIVIL COURT

New Suits Filed

March 5

Midland Funding, LLC vs. Julie MacKinnon, civil collection.

March 10

Jordan D. Wright vs. Christine E. Wright, petition for dissolution of marriage.

SMALL CLAIMS COURT

New suits filed

March 10

Reba and Andy Arvin vs. Chris Hupp, complaint.

March 11

Crane Federal Credit Union vs. Christopher W. Brooks, complaint.

Crane Federal Credit Union vs. Alexandra E. Delp, complaint.

Crane Federal Credit Union vs. Samantha J. Cassidy, complaint.

Crane Federal Credit Union vs. Matthew J. Warne, complaint.

MARRIAGE LICENSES

March 5

Cory Daniel Roush of Shoals and Kanitta Sodachan of Shoals.

March 7

Mark Anthony Powell of Loogootee and Anna M. Bush of Loogootee.

March 14

Jeremy R. Braun of Loogootee and Crystal L. Persohn of Loogootee.

Martin County real estate transfers

Mark L. Taylor, Dawn D. Taylor, and Zachary M. Taylor, of Martin County, Indiana to Philip G. Todd and Catherine A. Todd, of Martin County, Indiana, Lot Number 37 in Campbell and Breen's Addition to the Town, now City of Loogootee, Indiana.

James R. Goldsberry, of Martin County, Indiana to Randall F. Bauernfiend and Vicky L. Bauernfiend, of Martin County, Indiana, Lot Number 48 in McCormick's Subdivision of Lot Number 103 in Chenoweth's Extension to the Town of Shoals, Indiana, formerly West Shoals, Indiana.

Larry Fitzgerald, of Marion County, Indiana to Timothy Pottorff, of Martin County, Indiana, in the east half of the northeast quarter of the southwest quarter of Section 28, Township 4 North, Range 3 West, also known as 17947 Baker Road, Shoals, Indiana.

Charlotte Wagoner and Angela Killion, of Martin County, Indiana to Cody M. Sexton, of Martin County, Indiana. Tract I: The south half of Lots Numbered 7 and 8 in J.W. O'Brian Addition to Loogootee, Indiana. Tract II: A part of Lot Numbered 6 in J.W. O'Brian Addition to Loogootee, Martin County, Indiana containing 0.1607 of an acre, more or less.

William T. Price, of Daviess County, Indiana to Jerahn Tilford Kemp, III, of Martin County, Indiana, Lot 77 in the original plat of Memphis, now Shoals, Indiana.

Martin Tarrh and Mary Tarrh, of Martin County, Indiana to Daniel T. Haulk, of Martin County, Indiana, a part of the east half of the northeast quarter of Section 3, Township 2 North, Range 4 West containing 15.10 acres, more or less.

John E. Gaither, Grace J. Gaither, Susan Elizabeth Garines a/k/a Susan E. Garines; Jona Lynn Butler, of Martin County, Indiana, and David Lee Gaither, of Lawrence County, Indiana to David Lee Gaither, of Lawrence County, Indiana, a part of the southeast quarter of Section 3, Township 4 North, Range 3 West, situated in Mitcheltree Township, Martin County, Indiana containing 6.436 acres, more or less.

Sergeant Aaric Correll promoted to first sergeant

On Sunday, March 16, Indiana State Police Superintendent Douglas Carter promoted Sergeant Aaric Correll to the rank of first sergeant to serve as the assistant district commander for the Jasper Post. Correll is a native of Robinson, Illinois, and a 1993 graduate of Robinson High School. After high school, Correll earned an Associate Degree in Law Enforcement Conservation from Vincennes University and a Bachelor's Degree in Criminology from Indiana State University. Correll graduated from the Indiana State Police Recruit Academy in 1999. Upon graduation he was assigned to the Jasper Post and primarily patrolled Martin and Daviess counties. In October, 2011, Correll was promoted to sergeant, supervising troopers working in Martin and Daviess counties. During his career, Correll has been a member of the ISP Underwater Search and Rescue Team, the tactical intervention platoon team leader, and is a field training officer. As the assistant district commander, First Sergeant Correll's responsibilities will include serving as the district commander when needed, overseeing civilian and police personnel, and managing and maintaining district facilities and resources. First Sergeant Correll and his wife, Jodi, reside in Pike County with their children.



SGT. AARIC CORRELL

Jail bookings

TUESDAY, MARCH 11

2:00 p.m. - John Stoll, of Montgomery, was arrested by Martin County Major Burkhardt on a Martin County warrant.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 12

5:14 p.m. - Delles Hert, of Shoals, was arrested by Indiana State Police Trooper Sexton on preliminary charges of manufacturing methamphetamine, possession of methamphetamine, possession of marijuana, and possession of precursors.

FRIDAY, MARCH 14

4:05 p.m. - Brittany Erwin, of Shoals, was arrested by Indiana State Police Trooper Beaver on a Martin County warrant.

Accident report

THURSDAY, MARCH 13

9:35 a.m. - Donna L. Foster, of Loogootee, was operating a 2010 Ford on SW 3rd Street when her vehicle proceeded across Mill St and struck a road sign. Foster stated she may have fallen asleep. Chief Rayhill was the investigating officer.

Catch the latest edition of "The Indiana State Police Road Show"

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

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

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

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

This week's show features Indiana State Police Sergeant Anthony Emery and Trooper Brian Harshman. Emery, Harshman and the show's host, Sergeant Richard Myers, discuss Operation Pull Over and safe driving practices that should be adhered to while attending St. Patrick's, Big Ten and other events taking place in the Indianapolis area over the weekend and throughout the week.

Classified ADS

YARD SALE

YARD SALE for missions at New Beginnings Community Church, 200 W. Main Street, Loogootee. Saturday, March 22 from 9a.m. to 1 p.m.

HELP WANTED

Spartan Staffing, a TrueBlue company, is hosting a Recruiting EVENT

WHERE: The Work One Center, 123 Cooper Street, Loogootee, IN 47553
If you have completed Work Keys through Work One your almost on your way to work!

WHEN: Thursday, March 20, 2014

HOW: Apply online www.spartanstaffing.com then call the office to set an appointment 812-482-6826 ext 13

Bring your Resume and be prepared to interview at this Recruiting Event for the following jobs and more:

- **Experienced Finish Sprayers.** \$11-13/hour starting pay, based on experience. Temp2Hire. Days.
- **Experienced Upholsterer,** able to work 30-40 hours/week. \$12/hr or more starting pay, based on experience. Temp2Hire. Days.
- **Whitewood Sanders.** \$10.00-\$10.60/hour. Temp2hire. Days.
- Customer:**
- **Electronics Assemblers & Inspectors.** Entry-Level! Must pass WorkKeys testing through WorkOne. Days, Nights, or Weekends. \$10-\$11/hr. Temporary, through June.
- **Yard Labors in Ag Industry.** Seasonal. \$10+ per hour, DOE. Must be able to work flexible hours, 30-80 hours/week.
- **Medical Receptionist.** 30-36 hours/wk. Must be able to work some evenings some Saturdays. \$10+ based on experience.
- **Customer Service Rep** with parts or landscaping experience. 20-40 hrs/week. \$10+ based on experience.

Spartan Staffing is an equal opportunity employer. We may conduct a formal background check and drug screen prior to placement.

HELP WANTED

HELP WANTED

The City of Loogootee is accepting applications for **Part-Time Seasonal Help.** This is a part time position and applications may be picked up at the Mayor's Office from 8 am-4 pm. Deadline for applications is March 31st, 2014.

Accepting Applications

Manufacturing Openings

2nd shift: 2pm - 10 pm
3rd shift: 10 pm - 6 am
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LOOGOOTEE HIGH SCHOOL



2014 Senior SPOTLIGHTS



LIAM HOLLIHAN

Liam Michael Scott Hollihan is the son of Jason Scott Hollihan and Brandy Lee Hollihan. While in high school, he has been in show choir all four years, was in the Spanish Club in 9th and 10th grades, was on the fine arts academic team his sophomore year, did job shadowing in 10th-12th grades, was on the spell bowl team his junior year, and was on the yearbook staff, played intramural basketball, and was in the musical his senior year. Liam ran track all four years and cross country in 10th-12th grades. He plans to attend Manchester University after graduation and study psychology.



TRISTAN HORSTING

Tristan Lee Horsting is the son of Doris and Larry Peek. While in high school, he was in French Club his junior and senior years. Tristan plans to join the Army after graduation.

It's about time to plan for another Loogootee Alumni Banquet

BY ANN ACKERMAN
Loogootee Alumni Committee

Well, we've had a few days of warm weather so I guess summer is not too far down the road. Once again, the Loogootee Schools Alumni Association is planning its annual festivities and plans have already started. The kickoff meeting was held on Wednesday, March 5, and people have already begun their assigned tasks.

Guess what my assigned task is? Right. I have to keep you informed of the plans and encourage you to attend. The big event will be on Saturday, July 26, and the honored classes will be the LHS class of 1989 and LHS and SJHS classes of 1964.

Wanda Haag has consented to serve as president of the association and has been working hard to increase the number of attendees by adding new and exciting stuff to

New scholarship honors Ed and Harriett Klinker

A new Vincennes University memorial scholarship honors Drs. Ed and Harriett Klinker, who both retired from VU in 1981. The fund has been established with the VU Foundation by former students, colleagues, friends, and family members.

"Although many aspire, few ever attain the recognition and respect that Drs. Ed and Harriett Klinker gained during their respective careers at Vincennes University," states Dr. Charles W. Reinhart, dean of the College of Humanities. "Their professional talents were widely recognized and their dedication to students and the University gained admiration from peers, students, and families alike."

Dr. Ed Klinker served as dean of faculty until his retirement in 1981. Dr. Harriett Klinker began her career in the English Department, followed by serving as department chair and then as the chair of the Humanities Division.

Gazella A. Summitt, Foundation relations

the evening's happenings. There will be numerous door prizes given from donations from various individuals and businesses, pictures will be taken, food will be consumed, classes will be recognized, awards will be given, and memories will be made. I'm sure other surprises are in store! The Butcher-Gee Golf Tourney, under the new leadership of Wayne Flick and Tracy Baker, is held the same day with proceeds going to a scholarship for a Loogootee graduate.

Watch The Tribune and Martin County Journal for further information but if you have someone you would like to nominate for Outstanding Alum for 2014, just drop a note to P.O. Box 78, Loogootee 47553. Include the year they graduated from LHS or SJHS and the reasons you think this person should receive the award.

This is just a reminder but I'll do my best to let you know of any other developments.

assistant, states that "The Klinkers were devoted to Vincennes University, its students, and its goals. They loved entertaining faculty, staff, and students in their home, and their commitment contributed to the success of VU's students. Dr. Harriett Klinker gave encouragement to students who struggled to learn writing and was rewarded by their success. And Dr. Ed Klinker was a mentor to young faculty, many of whom were hired during his tenure."

A memorial portrait and plaque hang in the Shircliff Humanities Center and an unveiling ceremony is planned for late spring 2014.

Once donations to the fund reach \$2,000 (the cost of the memorial), all additional gifts will be placed into the scholarship fund. Additional information about the memorial and scholarship, as well as how to support the scholarship, is available by contacting the VU Foundation at 812-888-4510 or www.vinu.edu/foundation.

Shoals Jr.-Sr. High School Honor Roll

Term 2 - Grading Period 4

SEVENTH GRADE

All A's: Lori Albright, Caleb Belcher, Joshua Doane, Nicholas MacKinnon, John Sukup, Klayton Tichenor, and Jarod Waggoner

Distinguished Honor Roll: Angelica Hampton, Ryan Hawkins, Tristan Peterson, Olivia Stoll, Evan Wagoner, Daniel Wright, and Ruth Wright

Honor Roll: Kayla Conley, Amber Fields, Jordan Fromme, Melanie Hawkins, Kyle Montgomery, Joshua Richardson, and Katrina Sipes

EIGHTH GRADE

All A's: Suzanna Scott and Abigail Stoll
Distinguished Honor Roll: Gabrielle McCarty

Honor Roll: Faith, Abel, Benjamin Clymer, Amelia Cooper, Kaitlin Cooper, Jeffrey Crowder, Haylee Davis, Dylan Hembree, Colin Hoffman, Lindsey Love, Mitch McKibben, Graham Montgomery, Justin Sanders, Hope Self, Caleb Tanksley, Phillip Troutman, and Craig Tuttle

NINTH GRADE

All A's: Ashely Mullins and Alex Tedrow
Distinguished Honor Roll: Eli Scott

Honor Roll: Makaya Baylis, Rusty Bonham, Allison Boyd, Ashley Boyd, Aleia Couchman, Christopher Cushman, Jace Erwin, Quinton Floyd, Kelsie Graves, Jessica Montgomery, Mykaela Peterson, Jonathan Sullivan, and Keylee Tow

TENTH GRADE

All A's: Allison Albright, Logan Harker, Reva Troutman, and Dawn Wright

Distinguished Honor Roll: Christina Hovis and Victoria Mills

Honor Roll: Taylor Atkison, Kaden Butler, Britney Cooper, Julie Dorsey, Jasmine Gates, Alaina Graves, Cassidee Harker, Damion Hart, Megan Hawkins, Ashley Phillips, Jessica Ryan, Corbyn Sipes, Aundie Tinkle, and Danielle Whaley

ELEVENTH GRADE

All A's: Logan Albright and Josey Waggoner

Distinguished Honor Roll: Brittany Bauernfiend, Haylie Brace, Michael Hawkins, Austin Jones, Grady Key, Ashley Montgomery, and Holly Self

Honor Roll: Ashton Albright, Amber Bessie, Kirstie Bradley, Kyle Courtright, Kylee Hardwick, Eilis Haviland, Jordan Haviland, Dakota Newkirk, Enoch Redman, Audrey Sanders, Kelsey Sellers, Qiyong Song, Donald Stoner, and Tyler Williams

TWELFTH GRADE

All A's: Robin Hamby, Nicole Harder and Ariel Hert

Distinguished Honor Roll: Erica Bratton, Jalynn Hilderbrand, Sistoria Neeley, Ashley Payne, Summer Shaw, and Briana Wagler

Honor Roll: Jamie Bennington, Richard Davis, Cody Hert, Sarah Holt, Cole Hovis, Hannah Land, Victoria McGuire, Cody McKibben, Dakota Mullins, Garrett Parsons, Aaron Qualkenbush, Damon Roach, Katlyn Sanders, Tia Sanders, Roger Terry, Kandi Tichenor, Adrianna Todd, Skyler Veilleux, Kristen Waggoner, and Trandon Williams

Shoals High School 2014 SENIOR Spotlights



KIMBERLY ERWIN

Kimberly Dawn Erwin was born on November 20, 1995. She is the daughter of Tim and Nancy. She has one brother, Cody. While in school Kimie participated in the Special Olympics. Her favorite pastime is watching TV and her favorite song is "Lullaby" by Nickelback. Her favorite teachers are Mrs. Holt, Mrs. Fox, Mrs. Crews, and Patty. Kimie's best high school memory is spilling food on her brother's head. Kimie plans to enjoy life and visit Shoals often.



NICOLE HARDER

Nicole Elaine Harder was born on February 2, 1996. She is the daughter of Kevin and Joni Harder. Nicole has one sister, Rachel. While in high school, she participated in basketball, bolleyball, beta, SADD, IMPACCT, Spanish Club, pep club, media, student council, and cadet teaching. She was also class vice president for two years, and yearbook editor. Nicole's favorite song is "It Goes Like This" by Thomas Rhett. Her favorite teacher is Mr. Dahlen. Nicole plans to attend Indiana University and major in accounting.

Lady Lions Softball to host scrimmage

On Thursday, March 20, the Lady Lions softball team will play host to a scrimmage game against the visiting Jasper Wildcats. Head Coach Greg Clark has 25 players on his roster as he prepares for his eleventh season in charge. Helping Clark on the dia-

mond this season is JV Coach Megan Miller and volunteer assistants Kelly LaMar, Steph Chambers, and Paula Brookshire. The girls' first regular season game takes place on April 2 against the Vincennes Lincoln Al-ices.

Indiana schools archery tournament, March 22 in Indy

Indiana's eighth annual National Archery in the Schools Program (NASP) state tournament—the largest indoor youth archery tournament in state history—will take place March 22 at the Indiana State Fairgrounds in Indianapolis.

More than 1,600 students representing 76 schools qualified to participate, up from about 1,000 students last year from 57 schools. Participation has increased each year since the original state tournament in 2007.

The tournament will be in the Champions Pavilion at the fairgrounds, 1202 E. 38th St., Indianapolis. Parking at the fairgrounds costs \$5, and admission for spectators also costs \$5. Admission for children 8 and younger is free.

Doors open at 7 a.m. and flight (shooting) times start at 7:30 a.m. A new flight starts every 70 minutes, with the last flight

scheduled for 4:50 p.m. The awards ceremony will start around 7 p.m.

Competitive divisions are 4th-5th, 6th-8th and 9th-12th grade divisions. A shoot-off of the six top scorers, both male and female, from each division will follow the last flight to determine the overall individual winners. A Spirit Award will also be presented. Results will be posted at IndianaNASP.com. Go to facebook.com/IndianaNASP for tournament photographs and highlights.

"NASP has become increasingly popular throughout the world and has provided an opportunity for our youth to get involved with a lifelong activity that can involve their whole family," said Outdoor Education Lt. Larry Morrison.

The Indiana Field Archery Association will officiate the tournament, along with volunteers and Indiana Conservation Offi-

cers from the DNR. The Indiana Hunter Education Association and Renfro Productions are the underwriting sponsors.

Supported as a joint venture between school corporations throughout Indiana and the DNR, NASP provides international target archery training in Indiana's physical educational classes, grades 4-12. NASP supports student education and introduces many life skills through archery.

Tournament competition is open only to schools that have received the archery training provided by the DNR Law Enforcement Division and have the archery program as a part of their curriculum. More than 300 Indiana schools participate in NASP.

The program is supported and often funded through local school corporations, the Indiana Hunter Education Association, individual donations, conservation organi-

zations, and corporate sponsors such as the National Wild Turkey Federation.

For more information, visit IndianaNASP.com and facebook.com/IndianaNASP.

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Rep. Messmer, at left, is shown serving as honorary Speaker. House Speaker Brian Bosma is shown on the right.

State Representative Mark Messmer honored for his service to the General Assembly

After serving House District 63 for six years, State Representative Mark Messmer (R-Jasper) is retiring from the Indiana General Assembly. Last week, Caucus Chairwoman State Representative Kathy Richardson (R-Noblesville), and fellow House Republicans, honored Rep. Messmer for his years of service and commitment to improving the lives of those he served.

"For the past six years, I have had the unique opportunity of serving the community that I love in the Indiana House," said Rep. Messmer. "I am extremely thankful that my community has entrusted me with their well-being, and I am humbled by the opportunities that I have been given."

During his time in the Indiana House of Representatives, Rep. Messmer has served as Chairman of the Commerce, Small Business and Economic Development Committee and as a member of the Family, Children and Human Affairs Committee, the Financial Institutions Committee and the Public Policy Committee.

"Mark has done a tremendous job as Chairman and in representing his constituents of southwest Indiana. He has provided wise counsel and has taken a lead role in overseeing crucial issues in business and economic development," said Speaker Brian C. Bosma (R-Indianapolis).

In 2012, Rep. Messmer served as a co-sponsor on Senate Enrolled Act (SEA) 4, which dealt with human trafficking. This was a vitally important piece of legislation considering Indianapolis would soon be hosting the Super Bowl. The Super Bowl has long had an issue with human trafficking, and Rep. Messmer wanted to take precautionary steps to ensure adequate protection for Hoosiers. Under SEA 4, human trafficking was made a Class B felony. A Class B felony is punishable by a prison term ranging from

6 to 20 years depending upon mitigating and aggravating circumstances.

This session, Rep. Messmer authored HB 1332 which takes several entrepreneurship initiatives and organizations and combines them into a single office known as the Office of Small Business and Entrepreneurship (OSBE). The goal of this legislation was not only to bring more efficiency to government but also to focus on the needs of small businesses, the backbone of Indiana's economy.

Rep. Messmer has also been very supportive of Hoosier veterans and military bases. This year, he authored HB 1052 to expand the definition of "military base" to include the Glendora Lake Test Facility in Sullivan County. The Naval Surface Warfare Center at Crane uses this facility for missile tests and other important functions. Local governments are unable to take action concerning planning or zoning within three miles of the perimeter of a military base without first notifying the base's commander. By adding the lake to the definition of "military base," this provides Crane an opportunity to preempt any actions by a local government which would impede their ability to operate the base.

"I cannot thank my fellow legislators enough for this unexpected honor," said Rep. Messmer. "Every representative that I have had the pleasure to serve with brings tremendous dedication and vitality to our capitol, always working to make a positive difference for Indiana. It is with bittersweet emotions and a lot of wonderful memories that I retire from serving House District 63. I will always cherish my time in the Indiana House of Representatives."

In honor of his retirement, Rep. Messmer presided over the Indiana House of Representatives for a portion of session yesterday as the honorary Speaker.

Senate approves preschool pilot program

On Thursday, the Indiana Senate signed off on a measure establishing a state-funded preschool program. House Enrolled Act (HEA) 1004 creates a five-county pre-kindergarten pilot program, enrolling as many as 3,000 four-year-olds.

"This is a victory for common sense," said Senate Democratic Leader Tim Lanane (D-Anderson). "Moving forward with this pilot is the first step. Tomorrow we need to ensure we don't leave middle class families behind."

The pilot program will be open to families earning up to 127 percent of the federal poverty level, or about \$30,000 for a family of four, and will utilize \$10 million in reversions from the state budget and up to another \$5 million in contributions. A provision linking the preschool pilot to the state's controversial K-12 voucher program was removed in final negotiations. The measure includes a longitudinal study tied to the pilot program. Senate Democrats argued that while the pilot program is a step

in the right direction, the legislature needs to commit to making quality early learning options a reality for all Hoosier children.

"The lifelong benefits of preschool have been clearly established," said State Senator Earline Rogers (D-Gary). "All students deserve an opportunity to take advantage of these benefits, not just those who meet narrow income eligibility requirements."

Senate Democrats argued that a quality preschool option is a critical part of ensuring that Hoosier children get a head start on education and develop the skills to be life-long learners.

Until the bill is signed into law, Indiana is one of only nine states that do not provide state funding for pre-K programs after Mississippi began rollout of a state-funded option earlier this year.

The final conference committee report for HEA 1004 was approved by the Senate by a vote of 40-8, and the act now moves to the governor for his signature, veto or passage into law without his signature.

The Messmer Report

By District 63 State Representative
Mark Messmer



Session Successful in Growing Businesses, Jobs

When the Indiana House Republicans unveiled the 2014 legislative agenda, we knew that we had set some lofty goals for a short session. Our goals included cutting taxes, increasing funding for roads, bridging the skills gap, creating a preschool voucher program and cutting unnecessary government regulations. Ten weeks later, I am proud of the work that we have done to achieve those goals, and I would like to share some of the specifics and how Hoosiers will benefit.

It has long been our priority to make Indiana the most business-friendly state in the country, so more jobs would be created in Indiana. The Business Personal Property Tax (BPPT) is one of the last black marks on our otherwise attractive tax climate checklist. We wanted counties to have the option to eliminate the BPPT on new investments, so local governments would have more tools available to them to attract employers looking to relocate from out of state, or encourage existing employers to expand. All of Indiana's neighboring states either do not tax BPPT or do so at a much lower rate. This is a good step to making Indiana more competitive to outside investors and entrepreneurs.

Businesses also look at the condition of the state's infrastructure to support commerce. As the Crossroads of America, we are known for being a connector of goods and services in the Midwest. We passed House Bill (HB) 1002, which allows a transfer of up to \$400M in state funds to be used with upwards of \$1.6B in federal dollars supplementing our investment for statewide road construction projects. This increased investment in roads will directly provide more jobs for Hoosiers and help our state to realize future economic opportunity.

With the new jobs being created in Indiana, we want to make sure Hoosiers have the skills to fill these available positions. It's important to offer educational opportunities outside the traditional scope of the class-

room. We must give students the skills required to meet the demands of tomorrow. While Indiana's unemployment rate continues to drop, too many jobs are going unfilled because qualified candidates cannot be found. HB 1003 provides additional incentives to employers who partner with education institutions to provide internships in high-wage, high-demand jobs. This will help Hoosier students get real-world experience in industries and give businesses an opportunity to fill positions with their company.

While this is a great educational tool for high school and college students, the importance of an education begins much earlier. Indiana has some of the best academic standards in the country for K-12, however our state is also one of the few states without a state-supported preschool program. As a result, 60 percent of children ages 3-4 are not enrolled in preschool. HB 1004 establishes a preschool pilot program for students of low-income families. The program is limited to families at 127 percent of the federal poverty level and below. While pre-school remains just an option, no child should have to start kindergarten at an academic disadvantage simply because of their economic status.

As legislators, we must do everything we can to promote economic growth, and sometimes that means reevaluating the work of previous sessions and repealing measures that have proven to be ineffective. In an effort to bring more efficient delivery of government services and greater functionality of the free market, HB 1005 does just that. This legislation removes outdated regulations and burdensome policies that hamstringing small businesses. A smaller government is a more efficient government.

Together, these measures will encourage economic growth and continue to push our state forward as the economic and fiscal envy on the nation. I am proud to serve in this legislative body, and I look forward to the interim when we will continue to work for the successful future of our great state.

SBOE extends spring ISTEP window, adopts social studies standards

After losing consecutive monthly meeting dates to winter weather, the Indiana State Board of Education (SBOE) last week tackled several key issues, including extending the testing windows for ISTEP/IMAST, adopting new social studies standards, and debating teacher licensing requirements during its seven and half hour meeting.

Following requests from multiple school corporations, the SBOE extended the testing windows for the spring multiple-choice ISTEP and IMAST tests. The spring ISTEP testing window is now April 28-May 13 and the IMAST period from April 28-May 9. The change is anticipated to provide flexibility for school districts that lost instructional days due to severe winter weather. The timeline for the ongoing review of math and English/language arts standards was also modified, with the Education Roundtable to review the recommended drafts on April 21 and the SBOE meeting to follow in late April. Timelines were adjusted to allow staff sufficient time to effectively review more than 1,400 on-line comments as well as to consider input from national evaluators. Under the regular six-year cycle of standards review, social studies standards were up for adoption, following a process which began last summer and involved more than 175 Hoosier social studies teachers. The resulting drafts were not substantially different from the 2007 version, and will be accompanied by a resource guide prepared by the Indiana Department of Education (DOE), a practice recommended by the reviewing teachers which has become more popular across the country.

Board member Cari Whicker told the group

that after receiving several constituent emails, she sat down to compare the previous standards, marking the existing standards in green marker and the new words in orange. She said the standards were substantially similar, finding approximately 25 word changes in the elementary/middle school grades.

"I taught social studies for 14 years, and my middle school standards differed only by a few words," Whicker said. "The high school version changed in that examples that were previously included in the standards text are now listed in a separate reference sheet. They're still in here, but now in the reference documents, which also offers links to papers and resources that really help me as a middle school teacher."

The SBOE also considered feedback to the proposed rulemaking for teacher licensure, known as REPA III, with a variety of opinions across all issues for both teacher and administrator licenses. The current rules were adopted in 2010 and the proposed revisions drew more than 1000 online and public hearing comments. Debate included use of adjunct permits, administrator requirements and reciprocity with other states. Staff will reflect the comments in a new draft to the SBOE likely in April. The board also took under advisement the appeal of a transportation reimbursement dispute between Hamilton Heights and Fayette County School Corporations, approved a motion to allow the Glenwood Leadership Academy in Evansville to continue working with management partner Mass Insight in conjunction with greater oversight by the DOE and SBOE, and heard updates on existing Turnaround Academies.



-Photo provided

Larry Bucshon is shown above receiving the "Spirit of Enterprise Award" from U.S. Chamber President and CEO Thomas J. Donohue.

Dr. Bucshon honored by U.S. Chamber

Last Wednesday, Congressman Larry Bucshon, a physician from Southern Indiana, received the U.S. Chamber of Commerce's annual "Spirit of Enterprise Award" in recognition of his support of pro-growth, pro-jobs policies during the first session of the 113th Congress.

"Entrepreneurs are the engine our nation's economy. They support our local communities, drive economic growth, and provide the jobs on which our families depend," said Bucshon. "Job creators can only be successful if we protect our system of free enterprise that affords everyone the opportunity to make it through hard work and dedication. I'm proud to have a strong and consistent record of supporting policies that protect the free market and foster an economic climate that helps businesses be successful and entrepreneurs to lay their foundation."

According to this year's scorecard, Bucshon received an 85 percent rating with the Chamber in 2013 and has a cumulative rating of 95 percent for his tenure in Congress. Bucshon has received this recognition every year since being elected.

"2013 was challenging, but Congressman Bucshon worked to pass legislation and enact policies that will keep our country

moving forward economically," U.S. Chamber President and CEO Thomas J. Donohue said. "The Spirit of Enterprise Award recognizes legislators like Congressman Bucshon who have demonstrated their commitment to supporting pro-growth policies in the 113th Congress."

The Chamber's prestigious Spirit of Enterprise Award is given annually to members of Congress based on their votes on critical business legislation outlined in the Chamber publication, *How They Voted*. Members who supported the Chamber's position on at least 70 percent of those votes qualify to receive the award.

During the first session of the 113th Congress, the Chamber scored members on 13 House votes, including those to delay enforcement of the employer mandate provision of the Affordable Care Act and approve the Keystone XL pipeline project. Also scored were votes on a number of other issues including trade, transportation, legal reform, and the budget.

The U.S. Chamber of Commerce is the world's largest business federation representing the interests of more than 3 million businesses of all sizes, sectors, and regions, as well as state and local chambers and industry associations.

Skillman outlines key priorities at Radius Indiana annual meeting

Radius Indiana hosted the organization's 2014 Stakeholder Meeting on Wednesday, March 12 at the French Lick Resort. Becky Skillman, President/CEO of Radius Indiana, recapped 2013 accomplishments and outlined the key priorities for the coming year. In addition, Dan Peterson, Vice President, Industry & Government Affairs at Cook Medical and Chairman of the Southwest Central Planning Steering Committee provided an update on the Lilly Endowment-funded Southwest Central Indiana Planning initiative.

In describing Radius Indiana's priorities and work moving forward, Skillman said, "With the help of our partners in progress, we have made great strides over the past year. We are committed to continuing an intentional approach, ensuring that all of our activities are linked to regional impact."

Addressing the over 100 assembled business leaders, elected officials, and economic development partners, Skillman stated the top three Radius Indiana focus areas moving forward are workforce development, business attraction, and continuing its work to protect and grow NSA Crane.

"As a region, we must continue to be creative in our approach to business attraction," Skillman said. "Just as the Radius Indiana region was at the forefront in taking a regional approach to economic development, we are now at the forefront in a marketing and business attraction approach. Our business-to-business marketing and business development methods are on par with those of larger urban areas, while being scaled to

meet the needs of our region." Skillman continued, "Rather than passively awaiting economic opportunity to find us, we will, as a region, continue to develop key strategic relationships targeting industries and businesses that are a good fit for the workforce, resources, and quality of life we have to offer."

As steering committee chair, Dan Peterson took the podium to provide an update of the \$650,000 Lilly endowment-funded Southwest Central Indiana Planning activities. The initiative has been focusing on identifying opportunities, assets and resources that can be better utilized and coordinated to provide economic opportunities for its residents and communities. "Each of our committee members is deeply invested in the success of this unique part of the state," he said. "Collaborative community engagement and participation representing a diversity in expertise are making this a successful project."

Radius Indiana's advisory councils including its defense and national security council and tourism development council will continue to work toward advancing the Radius Indiana region in those sectors.

Radius Indiana is a regional economic development partnership comprised of eight counties in southern Indiana: Crawford, Daviess, Dubois, Greene, Lawrence, Martin, Orange and Washington. Formed in 2009, Radius Indiana also serves as the primary point of contact outside the gates for NSA Crane. Former Lt. Governor Becky Skillman assumed the role of President/CEO in February 2013.

Vectren gas infrastructure case: Consumer comments invited, April 14 public hearing scheduled in Evansville

The Indiana Office of Utility Consumer Counselor (OUCC) continues to encourage Vectren Energy Delivery customers to comment on the utility's pending gas infrastructure replacement case. Consumers may comment by:

-Speaking at the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission (IURC) public field hearing in Evansville on Monday, April 14, 2014, or

-Sending written comments to the OUCC by the close of business on Monday, April 21, 2014.

The April 14 IURC public field hearing will be held at the Old National Events Plaza (715 Locust St. in Evansville), with public comments accepted starting at 6:00 p.m. local time.

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

Oral and written consumer comments carry equal weight and will become part of the case's evidentiary record.

Commissioners are not allowed to answer questions during the field hearing. (However, OUCC and IURC staff will be available before, during and after the hearing.)

The OUCC will conduct an informational session on the regulatory process immediately before the field hearing, at 5:30 p.m. local time.

In IURC Cause No. 44429, Vectren is seeking IURC approval of seven-year infrastructure replacement plans for its natural gas utilities in Indiana in order to make investments in eligible transmission, distribution and storage system improvements to their facilities. Vectren is also seeking IURC permission to implement a new rate adjustment mechanism (or tracker) that will allow it to recover costs of the infrastructure projects as they are incurred. The company refers to the new mechanism as the "Compliance System and Improvement Adjustment (CSIA)" and states that it plans to file its first CSIA rate adjustment requests in September 2014.

The proposed CSIA would have two components:

The first component would recover expenses for pipeline safety projects that are required under federal mandates and would comprise the majority of the tracker's costs. These costs are now being recovered through Vectren's pre-existing Pipeline Safety Adjustment (PSA) that was authorized by the Indiana General Assembly in 2011 (Indiana Code 8-1-8.4).

The second component consists of a new charge known as a "Transmission, Distribution, and Storage System Improvement Charge (TDSIC)" and would include rate recovery for projects within the plans which are outside the scope of the federal mandates. A 2013 Indiana law (Indiana Code 8-1-39) allows natural gas and electric utilities to submit seven-year infrastructure improvement plans for IURC approval, and then seek rate adjustments every six months – subject to OUCC review and IURC approval – to recover project costs under the seven-year plans as they are incurred. A utility may recover 80 percent of the incurred costs through the TDSIC while deferring the remaining 20 percent to its next base rate case, which must be filed by the end of the seven-year period. According to Vectren's testimony, the proposed projects throughout its North and South service territories would start later this year. Projects in both territories would include gas main replacements and upgrades to transmission and distribution pipelines. The Vectren North plan would also include extensions into rural areas that currently do not have natural gas service.

The seven-year plan for the Vectren South service territory – which includes approximately 110,000 customers in nine southwestern Indiana counties formerly served by Southern Indiana Gas & Electric Co. (SIGECO) – includes a total of \$216.8 million in capital improvement projects. This total includes \$173.7 million under the federal mandate law and \$43.1 million in TDSIC rate recovery.

The seven-year plan for the Vectren North service territory – which includes about 570,000 customers in 48 central, south-central and southeastern Indiana counties formerly served by Indiana Gas Co. – includes a total of \$647.1 million in capital improvement projects. This total includes \$369.7 million under the federal mandate law and \$277.4 million in TDSIC rate recovery.

In its testimony and exhibits, Vectren projects that the TDSIC portion of the CSIA would raise an average residential customer's monthly bill – in the first year – by \$1.34 in the South territory and \$0.97 in the North territory. Larger increases would ensue each year during the term of the plans through 2021. This proposal would not affect service or rates for Vectren's electric utility in southwestern Indiana.

The OUCC – the state agency representing consumer interests in cases before the IURC – is reviewing Vectren's request. Its initial testimony with the Commission is due on March 21, 2014, with supplemental testimony due by April 23, 2014.

A number of additional parties have intervened in this case and are scheduled to file testimony on the same dates as the OUCC. They include the Citizens Action Coalition of Indiana, Nucor Steel, Steel Dynamics, Inc., and the Vectren South Commercial and Industrial Group (including CountryMark Refining and Logistics, LLC and Saint-Gobain Containers, Inc.). More information on this case is available at www.in.gov/oucc/2770.htm.

Consumers who wish to submit written comments in this case may do so via the OUCC's website at www.in.gov/oucc/2361.htm, or by mail, email or fax:

Mail: Consumer Services Staff, Indiana Office of Utility Consumer Counselor, 115 W. Washington St., Suite 1500 South, Indianapolis, IN 46204, email: uccinfo@oucc.IN.gov, Fax: (317) 232-5923

Written comments the OUCC receives before the close of business on Monday, April 21, 2014 will be filed with the Commission and included in the case's formal evidentiary record. Comments should include the consumer's name, mailing address, and a reference to "IURC Cause No. 44429."

Governor Pence signs Military Family Relief Fund Bill to help veterans

Last Thursday, Governor Mike Pence signed a bill that will help Hoosier heroes and their families by expanding access to the Military Family Relief Fund.

"Veterans face higher rates of unemployment than the general population, as well as other hardships," said Governor Pence. "Helping our Hoosier veterans who served our nation and sacrificed their lives to protect our freedom is the right thing to do."

Under Senate Enrolled Act Bill 352, approximately 26,000 post-911 veterans will be eligible to apply for assistance through the Military Family Relief Fund. The bill eliminates the three-year restriction on access to the fund, which provides grants that may be used for needs such as food, housing, utilities, medical services, transportation and other essential family expenses. The Military Family Relief Fund has a balance of more than \$7 million, and lifting the cap will ensure those funds are available to support Hoosier veterans and their families. The new law becomes effective on July 1, 2014.

Last year, during the Governor's first year in office, the Pence Administration announced a budget and the legislature passed bills that made a clear commitment to Hoosiers who have served our nation in uniform, from investing more money in job training to certifying Veteran Service Officers in every Indiana county, in order to ensure our heroes get the benefits they deserve. The administration also set a State procurement goal of three percent for veteran-owned businesses and established higher education tuition breaks for veterans.

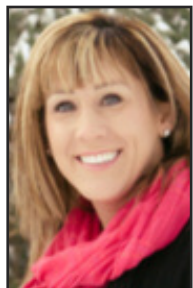
DCS appoints Susan Ford director in Martin County

The Indiana Department of Child Services announced last Wednesday Susan Ford has been appointed the office director for the Indiana Department of Child Services, Martin County office. In her new role Ford will set goals and objectives for child welfare management helping to ensure children are protected from abuse or neglect. In addition, she'll oversee three family case managers and an administrative assistant. She'll also handle general office operations.

"Susan brings a wealth of experience with her and we're pleased to have her take the reins for Martin County," said Jane Bisbee, DCS' Deputy Director of Field Operations. "Her work experience as a child and adolescent therapist and as a DCS family case manager and supervisor will be invaluable to her as she continues to help strengthen families."

A life-long resident of southwest Indiana, Ford was born in Washington in Daviess County and grew up in Bruceville in neigh-

boring Knox County. In 2005 she joined Ireland Home-Based Services as a therapist and provided intervention services to children, adolescents and adults in several southwest Indiana counties. In 2006 she was promoted to supervisor and later worked as a community partners program manager at Ireland.



SUSAN FORD

She became a family case manager for the Daviess County office of the Indiana Department of Child Services in 2008. She transferred to the Knox County office of DCS in 2010 where she was promoted to supervisor in 2012.

Ford has Bachelor of Science and Master of Science degrees in criminology from Indiana State University.

She began her new duties February 24.

The Martin County office of the Indiana Department of Child Services is located at 609 Ravine Street in Shoals. To report child abuse or neglect, call the child abuse/neglect hotline: 800.800.5556.

The 17th Indiana Mounted Infantry rides again

BY PATRICK TODD
Martin County resident

As the 150th anniversary cycle of the Civil War progresses, the re-enactment at the battle of Chickamauga, Georgia was performed in September of 2013. One of the most famous civil war Hoosier battle units, the 17th Indiana Mounted Infantry, more commonly known as Wilder's Lightning Brigade, fought courageously at the opening volleys of this battle and continued to repel Confederate units through the course of the battle as the Northern units retreated to Chattanooga, Tennessee. John Wilder, a resident of Greensburg, Indiana when the Civil War began, became the leader of the unit in 1862, along with one of his captains, artillery leader Eli Lilly who went on to found the Eli Lilly and Company pharmaceutical corporation in Indianapolis. Wilder was known as an intelligent leader who helped his units purchase repeating Spencer rifles that could out-shoot the muskets commonly carried by many soldiers. He also had his soldiers obtain riding animals and transitioned from infantry to mounted infantry, which allowed the soldiers to ride to the point of battle, dismount, and enter the battle as regular infantry, which was not a practice of the military at the time. Wilder's techniques are still studied by officers in training in the U.S. Army.

Of the few thousand Hoosiers who volunteered and were mustered into the Lightning Brigade, which was later informally considered a sister unit to the Indiana "Gallant" 14th, Company A was rostered almost entirely of men from Martin County, Indiana. Many of the last names of the men still occupy Martin County, with descendants from soldiers such as William Bateman, Fletcher Bruner, James and John Butler, Lewis and Joshua Crim, John Davis, Jacob Elliott, James Gibson, L.W. Lindley, George and William Houghton, Nathan and Hiram Holt, Aaron Jackman, Charles McCarty, John Montgomery, Isaac Quackenbush, Albert Ragsdale, William Simmons, Henry Sexton, Theodore Smith, Harrison Trainor, Newton Walker, Levi, James, and John Williams, Joseph Wilson, Starling Woody, and John and Thomas Wagoner. With approximately 100 men in the original company A, plus many more that volunteered later, there is a long list of Martin Countians who participated in this famed brigade.

Other companies in the Lightning Brigade were also mustered in with groups from similar areas. Soldiers came en masse from Boone, Decatur, Dubois, Floyd, Gibson, Harrison, Johnson, Lake, Lawrence, Madison, Marion, Martin, Miami, Sullivan, Vanderburgh, Vigo, and Whitley counties and many individuals came sporadically from other Indiana counties to serve.

One of the earliest battles at Chickamauga occurred at Alexander's Bridge, where parts of Wilder's Lightning Brigade were positioned to watch for approaching Confederates. As the Southerners arrived to try and cross the bridge over Chickamauga Creek, a contingency of Wilder's Brigade held off a much larger force for hours, allowing other Union Army units to fall back and re-group. At the preserved battlefield, this is the first dated marker of many where the 17th proudly fought, all the way to the large Wilder's Monument Tower that was commissioned and built under the watchful eye of John Wilder years after the war. While the North was forced to retreat back to Chattanooga during this battle, the 17th later became part of Sherman's march to Atlanta and then were sent into Alabama and back into southern Georgia where they were at when the war ended.

Now, 150 years later, an independent filmmaker, Panteao Pictures, has been inspired to make a sci-fi movie that incorporates modern day Special Forces soldiers going back in time to the battle of Chickamauga who wind up meeting soldiers from the Lightning Brigade. The movie has been in the process of being made since 2013 and should wrap up production in 2014, with release for late 2014 or early 2015 as an independent film on DVD/Blu-ray. Hopefully, this movie can capture the interest of viewers and encourage Hoosiers, young and old alike, to find out more about the many Hoosiers in the Lightning Brigade and all Hoosiers who fought in battles, not just in the Civil War but in all wars. For more information about Alexander's Bridge and to become a part of the film, visit the movie IndieGoGo campaign at: <http://igg.me/at/panteao/x/2939732> or check out Alexander's Bridge Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/AlexandersBridge>, Alexander's Bridge YouTube page: <http://www.youtube.com/user/AlexandersBrgMovie>, or Alexander's Bridge IMDb website: <http://www.imdb.com/title/tt3092814>.

Calendar of Events

Tea Party meeting

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

ACCTS 12th Annual Banquet

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

Burns City Cemetery meeting

The Burns City Cemetery Association will hold its 2014 annual meeting on Tuesday, March 25 at 7 p.m. at the Burns City Methodist Church. Guests are welcome to attend.

Community-wide VBS

Last year four area churches came together for a community wide vacation bible school. Since it was successful, the churches are doing it again this year. They will be having their first meeting on Thursday, April 3 at 6 p.m. in the Shoals Public Library. Anyone interested in participating should attend. Bring your datebook and ideas. If you are unable to attend but are interested, please call Julie Fithian at 247-2162.

New Beginnings Church event

Return to God (it is never too late) with David Frazier will be held at New Beginnings Community Church Wednesday, March 26 thru Saturday, March 29 each evening at 7 p.m. and Sunday March 30 at 10:30 a.m. A cookout will begin at 2 p.m. Sunday. The church is located at 200 W Main, Loogootee. Everyone invited. Further information, call Pastor Ernie Canell at 812-709-0258.

Vote machine testing

Notice is hereby given that the public testing of Accu-Vote OS Tabulators and Accu-Vote TSX units to be used in the 2014 Primary Election will be conducted in the commissioners' room at the Martin County Courthouse located at 129 Main Street, Shoals on Monday, March 31 at 1 p.m. This public test is open to the general public per (IC 3-11-22). The last day to register to vote for May 6 Primary election is Monday, April 7. The first day to vote ab-

sentee in the clerk's office is Tuesday, April 8.

Youth football meeting

The Martin County Youth Football League will be holding their first meeting open to the public on Thursday, March 27 at 6 p.m. in the upstairs of the Loogootee Legion. This meeting will establish our board members for 2014 and provide any information to anyone wanting to learn more about the league.

Boy Scouts

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

GED exam fees

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

SOAR Tutoring

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

Solid waste board

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

Humane society meetings

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

Tourism meetings

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

Soil and Water meetings

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

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Loogootee Master Plan Committee discusses stakeholders, city zoning

Meeting minutes provided by Julie Berry, SIDC

The Loogootee Comprehensive Master Plan Steering Committee met on Monday, March 10, immediately following the Loogootee City Council meeting at Loogootee City Hall. Those present include Cary Bledsoe, Bo Wilson, Kelly Rayhill, Jonathan Krzesniak, Michael Krzesniak, Jenny Dearwester, Ashley Graber, Marianne Schwartz, Phyllis Panko, Ruth Smith, Morgan Huelin, Andrew Hopkins, Jason Jones, Elaine Renoire, Mayor Noel Harty and Julie Berry.

The first order of business was the identification of key stakeholders that were not present. Names offered included Darla Wagler, librarian; and bank officers of German American, Old National, Martin County Credit Union, Crane Federal Credit Union, and First Federal; church leaders; county commissioners; county councilmen; school superintendent/school board; and the chamber of commerce. Discussion was held about drawing these community members into the meetings, and future survey options for gaining their insight. Julie Berry asked the committee members present if they would be interested in Midwestern Engineers helping obtain community members' input through written surveys, and also through an online survey program called "Survey Monkey." Berry told the members that this technique had been employed in other communities and worked well in obtaining local input into the final plan. It was the consensus of committee members to use both written and online methods to obtain community feedback into the plan.

Members then reviewed the Strength/Weakness/Opportunity/Threat (SWOT) Analysis that had been compiled from the February 19 steering committee meeting. Much discussion ensued. Some of the discussion centered around Loogootee's population staying largely the same between the 2000 and 2010 United States Census – (Loogootee showed a net gain of 10 in the population category.) Jason Jones commented that, "We lose people in the 20-35 age brackets." Several commented that Loogootee lacks industry, with the exception of the Crane facility. Michael Krzesniak said that "the majority of people who work at Crane live in the Bloomington area." There was also a great deal of discussion about the lack of quality housing. When asked by Julie Berry if it would be a good idea to include a "Windshield Housing

Report" in the comprehensive plan update, most agreed that it would. Jenny Dearwester, from SIDC, will get back to us with an estimated cost of this undertaking. Such a study would give the city documentation when seeking grants for housing improvements as to existing conditions of housing stock.

Zoning was another issue discussed that had been mentioned as a weakness and an opportunity in the SWOT Analysis. Several members of the steering committee commented that zoning in the City of Loogootee would give the community "some control" over development, but should also offer "flexibility." There was some discussion if Loogootee could even be considered by the State of Indiana for a Stellar designation if no zoning existed to plan for growth. Some also thought that if Loogootee does it – it might spur action in Martin County. It was noted that nearby Daviess County had recently enacted some zoning ordinances and was working cooperatively with the City of Washington on some.

Several volunteer firemen on the committee commented that they needed to ensure an improved fire station was a part of the plan update for Loogootee.

Steering committee members were asked to carefully review the SWOT Analysis and come back to the next meeting with comments, adjustments and additions.

The last item covered at the meeting was current and future land use planning. Detailed maps were provided from the 2009 plan, and blank maps were provided for the placement of additional development that had occurred in the city since that time. Jonathan Krzesniak was the scribe for the committee and he used colored markers to write in additional housing, business and green space development that had happened during the last five years. Those maps were a collaborative effort and will be used developing the final product for the plan update.

Lastly, a conflict with the next meeting date of March 26 was discussed. The Indiana Association of Cities and Towns (IACT) will be hosting a town roundtable in nearby Odon the same evening. It was the consensus of committee members to next meet on Monday, April 7 to free up the evening for those who wished to attend the town roundtable.

A reminder of that meeting will be sent out closer to the actual date.

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Top six physician nominees announced for Little Company of Mary Outstanding Physician Award

Memorial Hospital and Health Care Center has announced the names of the top six physicians nominated for the second annual Little Company of Mary Outstanding Physician Award. They are Mary Burgeson, M.D., Marc Campbell, M.D., Joseph El-Houjairy, M.D., William Lehmkuhler, M.D., Mark Luff, M.D., and Kevin Lusk, M.D. This award is named in honor of the Sisters of Little Company of Mary, the sponsors of Memorial Hospital and Health Care Center.

Dr. Mary Burgeson received her medical degree from Indiana University School of Medicine Indianapolis and completed a residency in family practice at St. Mary's Medical Center in Evansville. Dr. Burgeson's office is located at The Huntingburg Clinic.

Dr. Marc Campbell received his medical degree at Medical College of Wisconsin in Milwaukee and completed his internship and residency at St. Vincent's Hospital in Indianapolis. Dr. Campbell's office is located at Memorial Internal Medicine.

Dr. Joseph El-Houjairy received his medical degree at Kursk State Medical University in Russia, and completed a general surgery residency at American University of Beirut and a residency in internal medicine at Christ Hospital in Cincinnati, Ohio. Dr. El-Houjairy is a hospitalist at Memorial Hospital.

Dr. William Lehmkuhler received his medical degree at Indiana University School of Medicine. He completed a residency in internal medicine at Indiana University Medical Center, a fellowship in cardiovascular medicine at University of Louisville Hospital, and a fellowship in interventional cardiology and peripheral intervention at St. Vincent's Hospital in Indianapolis. Dr. Lehmkuhler's office is located at Heartland Cardiology Associates, LLC.

Dr. Mark Luff received his medical degree at Indiana University School of Medicine in Indianapolis and completed his residency in family practice at the USAF Medical Center at Scott Air Force Base in Illinois. Dr. Luff's office is located at Petersburg Family Medicine.

Dr. Kevin Lusk received his medical degree from Indiana University School of Medicine and completed his residency at Community Hospitals in Indianapolis. Dr. Lusk's office is located at Ferdinand Family Medicine.

This award is based on outstanding job performance reflecting Memorial Hospital's Mission Statement and the Core Values of Respect for Human Dignity, Compassionate Caring, Stewardship, Quality and Justice. To be accepted as a nominee, a physician must be classified as a member of the hospital's Active Medical Staff for a minimum of twelve months and be in good standing with the Medical Staff. The LCM Outstanding Physician Award will be presented by the Medical Staff President during the hospital's Medical Staff Appreciation Banquet in April.



DR. MARY BURGESON



DR. MARC CAMPBELL



DR. JOSEPH EL-HOUJAIRY



DR. WILLIAM LEHMKUHLER



DR. MARK LUFF



DR. KEVIN LUSK



Valentine's Day at the Statehouse

The Arc of Indiana held their annual Valentine's Day at the Statehouse event on February 13. This year, The Four Rivers Gang board members, the newly-formed self-advocacy group of Four Rivers Resource Services, as well as staff attended the event. Over 300 people from local chapters of The Arc and other self-advocate groups delivered valentine's to legislators and state officials, including Lieutenant Governor Sue Ellspermann, Secretary of State Connie Lawson, State Auditor Suzanne Crouch, State Superintendent of Public Instruction Glenda Ritz, FSSA Secretary Debra Minott and DDRS Director Nicole Norvell.

The Four Rivers Gang also met with local legislators including Representatives Kreg Battles, Mark Messmer and Matt Ubelhor. Upon delivering valentine's to Secretary of State Connie Lawson, the group was given valentine treats in return! The group also attended the Self-Advocates of Indiana (SAI) state-wide lunch meeting. The Four Rivers gang is a local chapter of SAI. The luncheon provided a great opportunity to hear about upcoming statewide events and how to get further involved. Representative Ed Clere was the guest speaker. He spoke on advocacy and how to contact local legislators about issues that might affect them.



In the Garden By Ralph Purkhiser Purdue University Master Gardener

Spring finally arrives this week. It has been one of the harshest winters in recent memory and I'm certainly ready for some better weather. However, there are still many chores that I need to do before spring begins.

Last weekend, I began cutting the old foliage on the many hellebores at Sandhill Gardens. The new blooms are coming out and we can count on blooms to last well into the summer. Removing last year's foliage will make the blooms stand out better. The number of hellebores in my landscape makes this a daunting task.

The ornamental grasses also need to be cut back before new growth begins. I have burned off some clumps that are out away from structures, but others will require cutting down the old stalks and hauling off the debris.

Winter has caused some breakage in the limbs of the old soft maples in my yard, so I need to get all of the sticks picked up before the first mowing. I also need to clear last year's leaves out of some beds. While the leaves may be left in some places for a layer of mulch, they may form too much of a mat in other areas, especially where they cover the crowns of perennials. The leaves make a great addition to the compost bins.

There is also some debris left from last year in my vegetable beds. Usually, I try to get this out to prevent over-wintering of diseases, but the quick on-set of winter weather last year meant that some of that work was left undone. It is important to get out the debris as soon as possible. That debris should not be added to the compost bin if there were any signs of disease in last year's garden.

While winter has been slow to loosen its grasp, the more moderate temperatures of the last couple of weeks have made the daffodil foliage to come up and some buds have formed. Last year, I lost some of the early daffodils because they came up so early that the buds were killed by a late cold snap. This year, the sprouting has been delayed, so we may actually have more daffodils this year, just a little later than in the past few years. The same may be true of other spring bulb flowers.

In recent years, applications of pre-emer-

Purdue workshop to cover fruit, vegetable food safety

Purdue Extension will teach vegetable farmers and others who distribute produce to the public about practices that help to keep food safe from seed to market.

"Good Agricultural Practices from A to Z" will be held in March 25 at the Southern Indiana Purdue Agricultural Center, 11371 E. Purdue Farm Road, Dubois, and will run from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. EDT. The workshop will include sessions on health and hygiene, water quality and treatment, animals and animal products, farm sanitation, documentation and recordkeeping, and farm food safety plans.

The target audience is current and prospective fruit and vegetable farmers. The workshop's goal is to present current science-based information on how to reduce risk of contamination during production of fruits and vegetables, as well as provide practical knowledge on planning and documenting food safety practices from planting through marketing. The Welborn Foundation is covering the fee for those interested in selling to school cafeterias. This training is a requirement of local producers that sell to schools, as mandated by the State Department of Health food safety training requirement to wholesale and institutional accounts.

To register for the event contact the Purdue Extension - Dubois County office at 812-482-1782, duboisces@purdue.edu. Registration is requested at least one week before each program date and costs \$30 per person and \$10 for each additional person from the same farm.

gence herbicides in lawns have been made in February. This year, there is still time for such applications. I still concur that the bloom of forsythia is a good indicator for making such applications, and I have yet to see those bright yellow blossoms. However, the more muted yellow of the witch hazel has appeared this week, nearly six weeks later than in 2013.

In the vegetable garden, the beginning of spring is the signal for planting peas. I prefer the edible pods of snow peas or sugar snaps

peas, but all peas have similar growing requirements. Growing peas on a trellis will help make harvesting easier and will keep the plants from being beat down by the spring storms. If you want to spread out the harvest time, plant a few seeds now and make another planting in a couple of weeks.

It is now safe to set out plants of cole crops, including cabbage, broccoli, cauliflower and Brussels sprouts. You may also make succession planting of lettuce, kale and other salad greens. Should we get another extreme cold

snap, you may need to cover the plants with some cardboard boxes or some row covers. These crops can take some frost, but temperatures in the low 20's will burn the plants.

With all of the work to do to get ready for spring, we may want winter to last a little longer. Just don't be so caught up in getting things ready for the perfect garden that you miss the perfect beauty of the emerging plants and early flowers. The work will still be there after you take time to enjoy the rebirth of the landscape.

Martin County Ag Day Saturday, March 22nd

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

Martin Co. Community Building

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

BREAKFAST SERVED - 8:00 A.M. TO 10:30 A.M.

Prepared by the Martin County Junior Leaders!

Eggs, Sausage, Potatoes, Biscuit, Fruit and a Beverage only...\$3.00

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Free Health Screenings provided by Daviess Community Hospital

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- Daviess Community Hospital
- Daviess County Metal Sales
- Farbest Farms, Inc.
- Farm Bureau, Inc. - Martin Co.
- German American Bank
- Good Samaritan Hospital
- Hopf Equipment, Inc.
- Howell Law Office
- IN Dept. of Natural Resources
- IN Farm Bureau Insurance
- Lost River Watershed Project
- Martin Co. Community Foundation
- Martin County SOAR
- Martin Co. SWCD
- Martin Co. Sheriff's Dept.
- Martin State Forest
- Old National Bank
- Patoka Equipment
- Psi-Iota-Xi
- Purdue Extension - Martin Co.
- Shelter Insurance
- Springs Valley Bank & Trust Co.
- White River Co-op

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



Things are popping up

When it seems like winter will never lose its icy grip, the dainty goblet-shaped crocus pushes through the snow to put on a show of colorful revival.

-Photo by Bill Whorrall,
www.billwhorrall.com

Better profits bring opportunities for dairy farm improvements

BY JENNIFER STEWART
Purdue University News Service

Growing dairy profit margins on the heels of strong export demand are giving producers more opportunities to improve and repair farm equipment and facilities, a Purdue Extension dairy specialist says.

While Mexico continues to be the largest buyer of dairy products exported from the U.S., growing demand in Southeast Asia for powdered milk and whey has helped boost on-farm profits. That, coupled with lower feed prices, has put dairy farmers into better financial positions than what they've faced in recent years.

"These improved margins really provide an opportunity for producers to keep up on the things they've had to delay," Mike Schutz said. "That could mean doing facility or equipment repairs or even installing new and improved milking equipment that could ultimately lead to higher milk quality premiums - anything you can do to save on labor costs and improve operation efficiency."

Dairy producers since 2009 have faced a lot of volatility in milk prices. Between 2004 and 2008, record profits encouraged dairy farmers to expand the national herd at a rapid rate. But when global recession struck, the bottom fell out of the U.S. dairy markets, leaving producers with an abundance of cattle and more dairy products than they could sell. That resulted in a nearly 50 percent decrease in dairy prices almost overnight.

Purdue workshop to offer advice about hardwood lumber

The Purdue University Department of Forestry and Natural Resources is offering a workshop for those interested in the hardwood industry and wanting to learn about lumber production, proper handling and use.

"Hardwood Lumber: Producing, Using and Selling" will be a one-day workshop on April 16 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., at the Southern Indiana Purdue Agricultural Center (SIPAC), 11371 E. Purdue Farm Road, Dubois. Dan Cassens, a Purdue professor of wood products and author of "Manufacturing and Marketing Eastern Hardwood Lumber Produced by Thin Kerf Band Mills," will be the instructor for this event.

Workshop topics include wood quality and characteristics, log scaling, hardwood lumber grading and pricing, sawing patterns and grade sawing, determining veneer quality logs, wood moisture and drying, stain and insects, and selling and marketing wood products for small and traditional producers. There will also be a sawing demonstration.

Prices have rebounded since then. According to Schutz, milk prices in 2013 were the most stable they've been since 2000. But feed prices remained high for much of the year because of short supplies from the drought of 2012. It wasn't until late 2013 that feed prices started to come down as new grain and forage crops were harvested.

"While dairy producers certainly welcomed the reasonably stable milk and dairy product prices last year, high feed costs still resulted in tight margins," Schutz said. "A large 2013 corn crop in the eastern Corn Belt, along with moderating demand for ethanol production, has driven down feed prices."

Another facet to the complex reasons why U.S. dairy margins are improving is that producers in Australia and New Zealand, both major dairy production countries, aren't able to expand quickly enough to meet the demands of Southeast Asian markets.

"U.S. exports to Southeast Asia, especially China, are growing because the Asian demand exceeds the expansion rates in Australia and New Zealand," Schutz said.

But even though this is good news for U.S. producers, Schutz pointed out that they still need to be cautious.

"Nothing right now leads us to believe the bottom will fall out of the dairy market in the near future unless something changes internationally," he said. "But at this point, we also can't forecast whether herd expansion would be a safe investment."

The workshop will be geared towards the very diverse group of landowners, individuals, small companies and large companies that produce timber and continue to add value until a wood product finally ends up available to an individual consumer or to an industrial user.

The registration fee is \$20, and participants should bring their own lunch. To register online and pay with a credit card, go to https://mdc.itap.purdue.edu/wk_sessions.asp?itemID=21371.

To pay by check, complete the registration form with check payable to Purdue University and mail to Purdue Extension - The Education Store, 700 Ahlers Drive, MMDC Building, West Lafayette, IN 47907-2012. Registration by phone, at 888-398-4636, also is available.

The Society of American Foresters has approved the workshop for professional Continuing Forestry Education (CFE) credits of 6.5 hours. For more information about the workshop, contact Cassens at 765-412-6844, dcassens@purdue.edu.

Spring brings threat of severe weather, flooding

Local, state and national organizations are encouraging Hoosiers to prepare now for thunderstorms, tornadoes and flooding as part of Severe Weather Preparedness Week.

State agencies, including the Indiana Public Safety Commission, Indiana Department of Education, Indiana State Police, Indiana Department of Transportation, Indiana Broadcasters Association and the Indiana Department of Homeland Security, in cooperation with the National Weather Service, the American Red Cross, local emergency management agencies and the amateur radio community, will be observing Severe Weather Preparedness Week, March 16-22.

While severe weather can strike at any time, volatile weather frequently accompanies the arrival of spring. Historically, Indiana has experienced some of the worst thunderstorms, tornadoes, and flooding incidents during the spring months. Planning and preparedness can help minimize weather-related deaths, injuries, and property damage.

As part of Severe Weather Preparedness Week, on Thursday, March 20, a test of the Emergency Alert System will sound both in the morning and evening on commercial radio, television networks, and all-hazards radios. These drills provide an excellent opportunity for families, schools, and businesses to practice their weather safety action plan.

In addition to knowing what to do during a severe weather emergency, it is also important to be prepared in advance. All Hoosiers, who are able to, are encouraged to purchase an all-hazards radio for their home. These battery-powered radios air more than 60 emergency alerts such as hazardous weather and other local area warnings, including up-to-date weather information broadcast directly from the National Weather Service.

All citizens are also encouraged to prepare or update a disaster preparedness kit.

Important items to include in a family disaster kit:

- Food and water for three days (includes one gallon of water per person, per day)
- Battery operated all hazards radio
- Flashlight
- Extra batteries for radio and flashlight
- First aid kit
- Extra clothing, sturdy shoes, rain gear, blankets, and personal hygiene items
- List of emergency phone numbers
- Important documents (copies of photo ID, social security card, insurance and banking information)
- Cash (Small bills. Power outages can limit ability to use ATMs and credit cards)
- Special items (baby formula, insulin, life sustaining medication)

Finding suitable shelter is another important aspect to preparing for severe weather. If living in a mobile home or similar structure, it is important to locate a safe shelter in advance. For those living in homes or apartment buildings, residents should take shelter in the lowest level of the building, away from windows and doors.

Flooding is also an issue Hoosiers may deal with in the spring months. Floods can be very expensive, and purchasing flood insurance is

one of the most cost-effective steps a homeowner can take to protect their home. FEMA's FloodSmart website has created a tool to quickly estimate the cost of damages from various amounts of floodwater in a home. FloodSmart.gov also includes resources to help homeowners prepare their homes for a flood.

Driving on flooded roadways can often place Hoosiers and emergency response personnel in unnecessary danger. Never drive through flooded roadways, even if the water appears shallow. The road may have washed out under the surface of the water.

To find out more about preparing for severe weather and floods, visit GetPrepared.IN.gov.

Why is Indiana's Severe Weather Week different?

Indiana observes Severe Weather Preparedness Week later than the nationally recognized week. Why? Following are two reasons.

First, the national week is earlier to raise awareness in time for potential severe weather in the Gulf States. Although Indiana can experience severe weather at any time, it generally does not increase significantly before April. So mid-March is chosen to help Hoosiers think ahead about actions they can take.

Second, schools are a big part of Severe Weather Preparedness Week in Indiana. There is a state-wide tornado drill day. (March 20 for this year.) Indiana's preparedness week is timed to minimize conflict with ISTEP testing. The goal is also to have the week take place before many schools go on Spring Break to encourage as much participation as possible.

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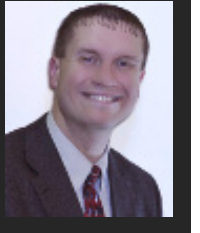
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The Mayor's Den

By Loogootee Mayor Noel Harty



February started at Lee Kavanaugh Gym, watching our 5th and 6th grade Lady Lions taking on the Northeast Dubois Jeeps. The Lady Lions 5th grade prevailed and the 6th grade finished only shy a couple points. After both matches, I walked over to St. John's Center to attend the reception honoring Dr. Larry Sutton's years of service and celebrating his retirement. On Sunday the 2nd, ground hog Punxsutawney Phil saw his shadow and foretold six more weeks of winter; and, unfortunately he's been right on the money with his prediction! That evening, I gathered with friends at Biggin's to watch the Super Bowl.

The city council met Monday the 3rd in special session to discuss the city employee's health insurance needs. Two representatives from local insurance providers attended to discuss options for the city employees. I spent most of Tuesday the 4th as well as Wednesday the 5th in the office, working on day-to-day operations and keeping close check on road conditions. Highlights of the day Thursday the 6th were the swearing in of new city police officer, Steve Nolan, and attending the Four Rivers Board meeting in Linton. On Friday the 7th, I met with Craig Martin to discuss various energy savings programs offered by his firm. The rest of the day I spent in the office. In the afternoon of Saturday the 8th, I headed to JFK Gymnasium to catch one of the 3rd grade Lions games and then to Jack Butcher Arena for varsity and junior varsity action. The 3rd grade took on North Daviess and played very well, winning by a large margin. The varsity and junior varsity squared off with the South Ridge Raiders. In both matches, our Lions played very hard but the Raiders prevailed.

Sunday the 9th, I watched part of the Loogootee 4th-5th grade tournament. It was an action packed day with our Lions 4th going up against Precious Blood in the final game; and our Lions came out on top by one! Monday the 10th, was the city's monthly board of works and city council meetings. The main topics were the ongoing health insurance quotes being received by the municipality for employees and a storm water drainage grant the city is pursuing for \$500,000. After the meetings, I went to Jack Butcher Arena to watch our Lions 8th grade square off with the Wood Memorial Trojans for the Blue Chip Title. In the end, despite the hard work our Lions put forth, they fell short by four. Tuesday the 11th was the 2014 IHSAA Girls Basketball Sectional at Jack Butcher Arena. The first match was the Shoals Jug Rox vs. the Washington Catholic Cardinals. The Jug Rox came out on top by a nice size margin. In the second game, our Lady Lions took on long-time rival, the Barr Reeve Vikings, and Barr Reeve emerged with the victory. I want to congratulate our Lady Lions on a season filled with so much hard work and effort on their part. We are expecting great things in the near future from this very dedicated group of young ladies!

Wednesday the 12th, was the monthly Loogootee Community School Council Meeting at the county civil defense building. The primary focus of the meeting was planning, among other issues discussed and acted upon. Thursday the 13th, I headed back to Jack Butcher Arena to watch our Lions Varsity and Junior Varsity basketball teams take on the Orleans Bulldogs. In both matches the Lions played hard and were successful in the junior varsity match but not successful in the second match. Valentine's Day, the 14th, schools were dismissed early due to expected significant snowfall, and I spent the day inside working at the office. Saturday, February 15th Martin County Farm Bureau Incorporated sponsored a Cracker Barrel Session at the Martin County Community Building featuring State Representatives Mark Mesmer

and Matt Ubelhor. Approximately 20 people attended and asked good and provocative questions of the representatives which led to good discussions. In the evening, due to the snowfall, only two of the girls' sectional games were played at Jack Butcher Arena with the Shoals Jug Rox and Vincennes Rivet Patriots matching up in the first game and the Battle of Daviess County was second with the Barr-Reeve Vikings vs. the North Daviess Cougars. Vincennes Rivet and Barr-Reeve prevailed in the two matches.

Sunday the 16th, the Loogootee United Methodist Church held a chili soup dinner fundraiser for the City of Loogootee Pool Fund and raised \$1812. A special "thank you" and appreciation to the Methodist church for hosting this most worthwhile fundraiser and to all those who attended and enjoyed a good meal for a good cause! City hall was closed Monday the 17th, for President's Day. That evening was the final game of the 2014 IHSAA Girls' Sectional at Jack Butcher Arena between the Vincennes Rivet Patriots and the Barr-Reeve Vikings and it was very intense as the two evenly matched teams fought hard for the 2014 title. In the end, the Patriots claimed it. Tuesday the 18th, I went to Old National Bank for a brief chamber of commerce meeting to discuss the upcoming chamber dinner which will be on St. Patrick's Day this year. That evening, I went to Washington to watch our Lions Varsity and Junior Varsity boys basketball teams take on the Cardinals of Washington Catholic. As always, it was two great match-ups in the historic Bird Cage, and our Lions prevailed in both matches. Tuesday the 19th, members of the city council met to discuss health insurance quotes. A lot of work and effort has been put into the process to provide the best coverage for the least amount of money for the city employees. After the meeting, John Craig with Midwestern Engineers came to begin the process of updating the city's five-year comprehensive plan which was last put in place in 2009. The comprehensive plan is vital to our future plans, projects and growth. Many members of the community attended to provide input on this strategic process, and we hope citizen participation increases as this process continues.

Thursday February 20th was the monthly school board meeting at LHS. Highlights of the meeting were the presentation of "Teacher of the Quarter," Ernie Martin; the new Lego robots being made at Loogootee Elementary; recognizing Brock Rayhill for his essay; and student success as a whole. After the school board meeting, I attended the college graduation of Terria Fellers in Washington. Mrs. Fellers graduated from Oakland City with a teaching license in elementary education. Friday the 21st, we gathered to enjoy a nice lunch and delicious cake in celebration of Nancy Spaulding's birthday. Nancy has been employed at city hall for 25 years and continues to be a big asset to our community. Sunday the 23rd ended the Martin County Humane Society's "Flush Your Friends" fundraiser, the final flushing taking place at the square. The program was a huge success and brought in over \$1500 for the MCHS. Monday the 24th, I spent most of the day in the office working on day-to-day operations. Tuesday the 25th, I started the day at Loogootee Elementary doing document duplication. Then to St. John's to assist with the funeral of Beverly Summers. Bev, as most of us knew her, was a big asset to Crane and she was employed there for 25 years. She is well-known for treating her dear mother as a queen; and she will be sadly missed by our community. In the evening, I headed to Jack Butcher Arena for the final home game (Senior Night) of the 2013-2014 boys varsity-junior varsity basketball season. Both teams took on the

Wildcats of Jasper and despite a lot of hard work and effort from our teams, the Wildcats prevailed in both games. Seniors on the Loogootee Cheerleading Squad, Loogootee Dance Team and band will be missed next year; fans have enjoyed their performances.

Wednesday the 26th, I attended the opening of Pioneer Club at Loogootee United Methodist Church. The group of young individuals raised a much appreciated \$150 for the new City of Loogootee Pool Fund. A special thank you to Fiona Sorrels, Jean Survance, and all of the youth who participated and made this possible. Thursday the 27th I went to North Knox High School to

watch the last Loogootee Junior Varsity and Varsity basketball teams play in regular season action. Both teams played hard, finishing out the season well. Friday the 28th I watched the Jug Rox take on the Vincennes Rivet Patriots at Shoals. Despite rescheduling numerous times with the Patriots due to inclement weather, the Lions were unable to meet in regular season play. Both games were well played with the Rox Junior Varsity winning the first game and the Patriots winning the second game against varsity. I wish each and every one of you a very blessed March and join everyone in hoping if March comes in like a lion, it goes out like a lamb!



Researchers are working to enable smartphones and other mobile devices to understand and immediately identify objects in a camera's field of view, overlaying lines of text that describe items in the environment. Here, a street scene is labeled by the prototype, running up to 120 times faster than a conventional cell-phone processor. (Purdue University image/e-Lab)

Smartphone to become smarter with 'deep learning' innovation

BY EMIL VENERE
Purdue University News Service

Researchers are working to enable smartphones and other mobile devices to understand and immediately identify objects in a camera's field of view, overlaying lines of text that describe items in the environment.

"It analyzes the scene and puts tags on everything," said Eugenio Culurciello, an associate professor in Purdue University's Weldon School of Biomedical Engineering and the Department of Psychological Sciences.

The innovation could find applications in "augmented reality" technologies like Google Glass, facial recognition systems and robotic cars that drive themselves.

"When you give vision to machines, the sky's the limit," Culurciello said.

The concept is called deep learning because it requires layers of neural networks that mimic how the human brain processes information. Internet companies are using deep-learning software, which allows users to search the Web for pictures and video that have been tagged with keywords. Such tagging, however, is not possible for portable devices and home computers.

"The deep-learning algorithms that can tag video and images require a lot of computation, so it hasn't been possible to do this in mobile devices," said Culurciello, who is working with Berin Martini, a research associate at Purdue, and doctoral students.

The research group has developed software and hardware and shown how it could be used to enable a conventional smartphone processor to run deep-learning software.

Research findings were presented in a poster paper during the Neural Information Processing Systems conference in Nevada in December. The poster paper was prepared by Martini; Culurciello and graduate students Jonghoon Jin, Vinayak Gokhale, Aysegul Dundar, Bharadwaj Krishnamurthy and Alfredo Canziani.

The new deep-learning capability represents a potential artificial-intelligence upgrade for smartphones. Research findings have shown the approach is about 15 times

more efficient than conventional graphic processors, and an additional 10-fold improvement is possible.

"Now we have an approach for potentially embedding this capability onto mobile devices, which could enable these devices to analyze videos or pictures the way you do now over the Internet," Culurciello said. "You might have 10,000 images in your computer, but you can't really find an image by searching a keyword. Say you wanted to find pictures of yourself at the beach throwing a football. You cannot search for these things right now."

The deep learning software works by performing processing in layers.

"They are combined hierarchically," Culurciello said. "For facial recognition, one layer might recognize the eyes, another layer the nose, and so on until a person's face is recognized."

Deep learning could enable the viewer to understand technical details in pictures.

"Say you are viewing medical images and looking for signs of cancer," he said. "A program could overlay the pictures with descriptions."

The Purdue researchers initially worked with deep-learning pioneer Yann LeCun, Silver Professor of Computer Science and Neural Science at the Courant Institute of Mathematical Sciences and at the Center for Neural Science of New York University.

The research has been funded by the Office of Naval Research, National Science Foundation and Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency.

Culurciello has started a company, called TeraDeep, to commercialize his designs.

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