Martin County OIRNA

Year 12, Issue 12 **WEDNESDAY, MARCH 24, 2021** Nine pages







Photo not available

JOE MORRIS DANA STRANGE

MARK BARTLOW

KENT PARISIEN

WestGate Authority Board welcomes four new members

The WestGate Authority Board has four new members appointed by each of their respected County Redevelopment Commission. The board welcomed Kent Parisien, Retired Army Colonel Dana Strange, Joe Morris and Mark Bartlow to the team earlier this month. Representatives from Greene, Daviess and Martin counties occupy the board of nine members to develop and maintain the West-Gate@Crane Technology Park as the premiere economic development asset of the region.

The WestGate Academy is just one of 25 buildings within the tech park and may possibly be the "crown jewel", but it is the center of support for the 64 tenants at WestGate plus the numerous events held at the Academy. Originally designed to support Indiana's critical defense network, WestGate Academy has developed into one of the best locations in the region for events, as well as regional impact of the business incubator and coworking space.

Board President John Mensch commented, "Our mission for the WestGate Authority Board is to improve the quality and experience for all employees and visitors within the WestGate@Crane techology park and to support NSA/NSWC/ CAAA Crane to the fullest extent possible. With its 875 employees and \$67M annual payroll, WestGate has become a regional economic development engine and the annual payroll numbers continue to grow. Our goal is to become indispensable to all our partners and neighbors within the WestGate region, continue to drive Hoosier economic development and to become one of the most important research destinations for America's robust defense industry."

Purdue@WestGate is a regional partner supporting and connecting startups, industry, universities, and the DoD, including hosting several monthly webinars that dive into topics within the defense industry, entrepreneurship, innovation, and personal development. Visit www.westgate-academy.com/event view a full calendar of upcoming events, including startups and defense organizations driving Hypersonic innovation.

View the full list WestGate Authority Board members at https://westgatecrane. com/contact-us/.

View the WestGate Authority Board monthly meeting minutes at https://medium.com/westgate-authority.

Equipment violation leads to four arrested on drug charges

On Monday, March 15, Martin County Sheriff's Office Deputy Johnathan Wells observed a silver Chevy Equinox with an equipment violation. Deputy Wells initiated a traffic stop on the vehicle and Sergeant Larry Gibson utilized his Certified Narcotics K9 Spike to do a free-air sniff of the exterior of the vehicle. K9 Spike gave a positive indication of the odor of narcotics. Sergeant Gibson and Loogootee Police Sergeant Kevin McBeth searched the vehicle and located approximately 1.6 grams of a white crystal-like substance that field tested positive for methamphetamine; schedule III and schedule IV drugs, marijuana, hypodermic Needles, and paraphernalia.

The following people were transported to the Martin County Security Center without incident and charged:

Kendra Burton, 19, of Washington, was charged with possession of methamphetamine, a Level 6 Felony; possession of a schedule 3 controlled substance, a Class A Misdemeanor; possession of marijuana, a Class B Misdemeanor; and possession of paraphernalia, a Class C Misdemeanor.

Michael Heuser, 26, of Washington, was charged with possession of methamphetamine, a Level 6 Felony and unlawful possession of a syringe, a Level 6 Felony.

Carol E. Brock, 27, of Odon, was charged with maintaining a common nuisance, a Level 6 Felony and possession of marijuana, a Class B Misdemeanor.

Damon B. Meek, 28, of Branchville, was charged with unlawful possession of a syringe, a Level 6 Felony and possession of a schedule 4 controlled substance, a Class A Misdemeanor.

All suspects are presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

Martin County man arrested on warrant for rape

In January, Indiana State Police Detective Jarrod Lents began an investigation



into an allegation of rape involving a male suspect and a female victim, both from Martin County. The investigation by Det.

Lents resulted in an arrest warrant for Waylon Wininger, 33, of rural Shoals.

On March 20, Martin County Sheriff's Deputy Rob Lents and Trooper Steven Nolan located Wininger walking on Progress School Road in Martin County. Wininger was taken into custody and transported to the Martin County Jail.

Wininger was charged with rape, a Level 3 Felony. All suspects are presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty in a court of law.

Commissioners faced with questions regarding legal fees

BY COURTNEY HUGHETT Martin County Journal Publisher

The Martin County Commissioners were faced with questions about legal fees at their meeting Tuesday night, March 23. Resident Barb Hager asked for clarification regarding the county hiring an outside attorney to deal with a personnel issue in the community corrections department. She asked why the county attorney, Dave Lett, couldn't be utilized instead. Commissioner Paul George said that the community corrections advisory board requested hiring an outside attorney to avoid a conflict of interest. Hager asked what attorney was hired and at what rate. Commissioner George replied that the attorney was Dirck Stahl and Auditor Bobbie Abel said the fee was \$250 per hour which was reduced to be more comparable to attorneys in the county. County Attorney Lett said that Stahl has experience in municipal law. Hager asked if Stahl is still on the payroll. Attorney

"I didn't ask for this and nobody else asked for this," said Commissioner Aaron Summers who attended the meeting via

Lett replied that the lawyer was hired

under a retainer agreement to fulfill the

request of the community corrections ad-

visory board. Commissioner George said

he is unsure if the issue is ongoing. "If

you're paying him, you guys ought to

know," said Hager.

Hager asked Summers what he was referring to.

"This situation," replied Summers.

Hager asked why Attorney Lett couldn't handle it.

"He can handle it, he's very qualified to handle it, he was asked to step aside. He did his job," said Commissioner Sum-

Hager asked if it is standard procedure to put a chunk of money in a pot without knowing how much the bills are going to be. Commissioner George replied that they have never really had a situation like this before.

Attorney Lett said that in his case, as county attorney, he submits hours he works and is then paid by the county. He said there is no way to know, from one month to the next, how many hours he will need to work on behalf of the county. He said it's the same situation with the hired lawyer.

Hager asked if the commissioners were willing to put a cap on how much the lawyer can charge.

Commissioner George said he doesn't believe they can do that.

Attorney Lett said when you need legal representation, you need to get the job done. He said when the job is done, the hours will stop accumulating.

"Sounds like you are in a hell of a mess," said Hager.

"Nobody asked for this mess," replied Commissioner Summers.

"Okay, that doesn't make me feel real good as a taxpayer," said Hager. She said she has always trusted the commissioners with the money, but she questions it now.

Mary Smith, of Shoals, spoke to the commissioners about what Commissioner George said prior to the start of the

last commissioners' meeting. George had stated that no one could speak unless they requested, in writing, to be on the agenda. Smith said she has attended several meetings in the past and people could always speak if they had a question or concern. She asked Commissioner George who prompted him to make such a statement at the last meeting. Commissioner George said Attorney Stahl told him it would be the best way to handle the situation. Smith said she feels she should be able to talk to the commissioners about questions and concerns in the open meeting platform. She thanked the commissioners for allowing her to speak that evening.

Kim Showalter said she was told at the March 1 county council meeting to speak to the commissioners regarding the \$55,000 additional appropriation request for legal fees. She said she attended the last commissioners' meeting and was told she couldn't speak. She said she was glad she was asked back for this meeting. She said she has questions but doesn't expect any answers from the commissioners. She said at the council meeting this month, Council Members Warren Albright and Randy Wininger "defended to the moon and back" their responsibility to pay bills "without laying eyes on them." She said they have that much faith in the auditor and her honesty. She said the additional appropriation request was not broken down to explain what the \$55,000 was for and learned later that the auditor requested that amount not knowing how much the bills would be. She asked how the auditor came up with the \$55,000 number and if it had been \$155,000, would the council blindly approve that as well. She said this opens it up for potential fraud with the auditor or collusion between the auditor and vendors.

Commissioner Summers interrupted Showalter saying allegations against the auditor are uncalled for.

Showalter asked Commissioner George to "shut him up" so she could finish speaking.

She then went on to say that everyone is quick to blame the former community corrections director for the need to hire an outside lawyer however if the community corrections' employees had followed the proper chain of command with their grievances against the director, the lawyer would have never been needed. She said the original contract between the commissioners and the attorney was for up to \$10,000 and she asked why the lawyer didn't come back after the \$10,000 was met and request more money. And she asked why the commissioners didn't update the county council on the matter. She asked how the amount went from \$10,000 to \$55,000 and how does it get

Showalter also asked why the commissioners chose to hire an employee for the highway department from a previous pool of applicants without readvertising for the position. She said that Commissioner Cody Roush should have a conflict of interest in hiring displaced coal miners since he has a relationship to the industry. She asked why the only qualification needed to work at the highway depart-(See 'COMMISSIONERS' on page 3)



Goodwill, St. John grants

-Photos provided

The Goodwill Cemetery Association received a \$9,200 grant from the Goodwill Cemetery Fund and the George and Barbara Cropp Fund of the Martin County Community Foundation for Goodwill Cemetery endowments. Shown above, from left to right, are Ken Woods (President), Dick Barber (Vice-President), Ralph Ausbrooks, Joy Ausbrooks (Secretary/Treasurer), Beth Lett, and Curt Johnson (MCCF Director). The Martin County Community Foundation presented St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church with grants totaling \$10,517 from the St. John's Perpetual Fund, Spirit of St. Martin's Church Fund, Rosemary Arvin Whitfield Cemetery Fund, and the St. John's Cemetery Fund endowments. Shown below is Fr. Ken Walker (St. John Church) receiving the grant checks from Curt Johnson (MCCF Director).



Loogootee and Shoals participate in ISSMA contest

On February 27, Loogootee High School had 25 students participate in ISS-MA Solo and Ensemble Contest bringing home 23 gold medals and two silver. selves performing "Radetzky March: A Concert in Vienna" and submitted it to ISSMA to be judged. Three judges scored their performance and all three

At the state level, they had three soloists earn gold: Reece Tippery, Bridget Like, and Tasha Kreilein.

At the district level, there were 20 soloists who earned gold: Abby Survance, Ava Summers, Ashden Walton, Cacia Wilcoxen, Luke Guy, Brianna Eckerle, Luke Roark, Spencer Stevens, Emily Frisz, Ryken Chandler, Caitlyn Meade, Bailee VanMeter, Marlee McAtee, Dalton Strange, Julianna Baker, Brooklyn Carrico, Dax Lee, Evan Williams, Olivia Holt, and Carson Brown

Also, at the district level, LHS had two soloists earn silver: Noah Esch and Makenzie Mauder.

The Shoals Middle School Band also participated in the ISSMA virtual contest. The band recorded a video of them-

selves performing "Radetzky March: A Concert in Vienna" and submitted it to ISSMA to be judged. Three judges scored their performance and all three gave the band a gold rating, for an overall rating of gold. They will be receiving a new gold plaque by mail to hang in the band room.

Typically, this event is a live performance. The middle school band usually travels to Tecumseh High School to perform in front of judges, and there are several other sites around the state where bands can participate. With the COVID situation it has been changed to a virtual event this year.

The Shoals High School Band will be participating in the virtual High School Organizational Contest in the coming weeks. They typically travel to Castle High School in Newburgh to participate in this event but will also be submitting a performance video.



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MONUMENTS



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Page 3 MARTIN COUNTY JOURNAL

RICK ELLIS

Rick Ellis passed away March 15, 2021. He was 62.

He was born December 5, 1959 in Loogootee; son of the



late Charles and Linda (Horn) Ellis. He resided in

Walkerton area since his early childhood and enjoyed the companionship of longtime partner, Gwenda Royce. Children

RICK ELLIS

include daughter, Katelind Ellis and son, Matthew (Amanda) Ellis, all of North Liberty and grandchildren, Madison and Kaylee Ellis. Rick is survived by sister, Theresa (Randy) Hunt of Osceola and preceded in death by sister, Debra Stoner.

Rick was employed by AM General where he was a dedicated employee for 33 years; he was proud of the Hummers he built and the friendships he acquired. He enjoyed NASCAR and farming with his father. Rick was a caring and helpful friend to all who knew him. He enjoyed family, restoring tractors, and watching his children and grandchildren grow.

A memorial service took place Saturday, March 20 at the Palmer Funeral Home in Lakeville. An additional memorial service was held St. John Church in Loogootee and burial followed at St. Joseph's Church Cemetery in Bramble.

Charitable contributions in memory of Rick Ellis may be made to the Cancer Research Foundation. Condolences for the family may be shared at www.blakefuneralhomes.com and www.palmerfuneralhomes.com.

MARY BUSSINGER

Mary Emma Bussinger passed away at 8:30 p.m. Tuesday, March 16, 2021 at Prairie Village Nursing and Rehabilitation. A resident of Loogootee, she was 82.

She was born October 5, 1938 in Loogootee; daughter of the late Otis R. and Geneva M. (Conover) Crays.

Mary was a dedicated mother, wife and farmer. She enjoyed tending to her flowers and being outdoors.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Jerry E. Bussinger; parents, Otis and Geneva Crays; siblings, Wesley Crays, Ernest Crays, John Crays, Frank Crays, Merle Crays, Don Crays, Norbert Crays, Charles Baker and Loretta Harper. Mary is survived by her sons, Daniel

Bussinger and Jerry M. (Starrla) Bussinger, both of Loogootee; sister, Martha Ferguson of Odon; and grandchildren, Moriah and Sarah Bussinger.

Funeral services were conducted Friday, March 19 at Blake Funeral Home in Loogootee. Burial followed in Goodwill Cemetery.

Condolences may be made online at www.blakefuneralhomes.com. Blake Funeral Home is honored to serve the family of Mary Bussinger.

LIVIA GILLICK

Livia (Maros) "Baba" Gillick passed away January 3, 2021. A resident of Orange, California, she was 93.

She was born on September 8, 1927 in Budapest, Hungry. Livia married Raymond Gillick and he passed away April

She received a degree in astronomy and accounting. She enjoyed horoscopes and reading the stars. She was as sharp as a tack, loved to dance and adored men in uniform. Livia was a member of the American Legion in Newport Beach and the Yacht Club.

Livia is survived by a special friend, Arturo Contreras of California.

Graveside services will be conducted at 11 a.m. Wednesday, March 24 at Truelove Cemetery in Loogootee.

Condolences may be made online at www.blakefuneralhomes.com. Blake Funeral Home is honored to serve the family of Livia Gillick.

RAYMOND TRUELOVE

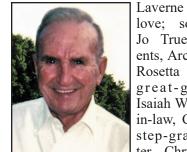
Raymond Cleo Truelove passed away at 9:35 p.m. Monday, March 22, 2021 at his home. A resident of Cannelburg, he

He was born February 21, 1927 in Rutherford Township; son of the late Archibald and Rosetta (Rutherford) Truelove.

Raymond married Laverne Carrico on November 27, 1946 and she preceded him in death.

He was a United States Navy veteran and bravely served in the South Pacific during World War II. He was a member of All Saints Catholic Church, Knights of Columbus and the American Legion Post 120. Raymond enjoyed volunteering for the Right to Life paper drives and as a Red Coat at Daviess Community Hospital for many years. He was an avid "master" gardener and enjoyed taking care of honeybees. He loved playing euchre.

He was preceded in death by his wife,



RAYMOND

love; son, Eddie Jo Truelove; parents, Archibald and Rosetta Truelove; great-grandson, Isaiah Watson; sonin-law, Carl Luthe; step-granddaughter, Chrystal Wat-

True-

TRUELOVE Raymond is survived by his children, Mary Luthe of Pleasantview, Tennessee; Paul (Kathy) Truelove of Loogootee, Anthony Truelove of Fort Wayne, Michael (Retha) Truelove of Lubbock, Texas; James (Laura) Truelove of Montgomery, Patricia Baxter of Washington and Rita (Janet) Truelove of Greenwood; 12 grandgreat-grandchildren.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated by Rev. Sudhakar Bhastati and concelebrant Very Rev. J. Kenneth Walker at 10 a.m. Saturday, March 27 at All Saints Catholic Church in Cannelburg. Burial will follow in St. John Catholic Cemetery in Loogootee.

Wednesday, March 24, 2021

Visitation will be held Friday, March 26 from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. at All Saints Catholic Church and Saturday, March 27 from 9 a.m. until the time of service at the church.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions can be made to Heart to Heart Hospice of Southwest Indiana.

Condolences may be made online at www.blakefuneralhomes.com.

Blake Funeral Home in Loogootee is honored to serve the family of Raymond C. Truelove.

COMMISSIONERS

(Continued from page one)

children, 30 great-grandchildren and 10

ment was to have a high school diploma or be a displaced coal miner and not have a CDL. She asked who pays for the employee to get proper licensing and again asked if Commissioner Roush should have abstained from hiring the last highway department employee.

Once Showalter was done speaking, Commissioner George moved on to other business without any commissioner offering a reply to any of her questions.

At the end of the meeting, Auditor Abel requested permission to explain the additional appropriation for \$55,000. Abel said she had talked with Attorney Stahl who had given her an estimate of his costs. She had then set the additional appropriation amount not knowing if it would reach that amount of exceed that amount. She said it's her job as auditor to make sure funding is in the correct line item to pay bills once they arrive. She added that because money is appropriated, doesn't mean it's being spent, that's up to the county council. Auditor Abel said that she is audited by the state board of accounts and can't spend money how she sees fit. "I have in no way, in any form, committed fraud or asked the county to spend money on expenditures that have not happened," she said.

Julia Albright, public health nurse, reported that there have been just 10 new cases of COVID-19 in Martin County since the start of March. She said she hopes spring break doesn't cause a spike in cases. The health department has administered more than 2,300 COVID vaccines to date and done 1,000-plus so far this month. She noted that Williams Bros. Pharmacy will now be offering vaccines by appointment which will help ease the workload of the health department. Albright requested the commissioners approve creating a line item in the budget for vaccine clinics due to receiving a \$40,320 grant from the CARES Act.

Dave Welsh, with German American, and Rex Strawn, with Strawn Insurance, were present at the meeting to give pitch-

es on handling the county's workers' compensation policy. Commissioner Paul George requested that they both attend a special meeting next Tuesday at 5:30 p.m. to give those presentations. Both agreed.

The commissioners approved a contract with Core Facilities to plan for updates to the jail. The original contract was \$24,500 but has been reduced to \$15,000.

Danielle Murphy, Martin County Sheriff's Department Matron, reported there are currently 81 inmates in the jail and 31 of them are from Vigo County. She also requested the commissioners approved a contract with eJail for jail records management software. The cost is based on the number of beds and will be \$8,640 per year to maintain. Murphy said the current system is riddled with issues and will become obsolete in the future. The commissioners approved the change.

Laura Albertson requested the highway department chip and seal 400 feet in front of her house if she pays for the materials. She said the dust is causing damage to her property and her health. The commissioners agreed to allow the highway department to do the work with Albertson paying for materials.

A resident in the audience asked if the commissioners decided to use taxpayer money to clean up private property in Shoals. Commissioner George said the property in question is located as you enter Shoals and it's a mobile home laying on its side and has been for a year and a half. He said they have not agreed to pay for the cleanup however if they did, it would be to make Shoals look better and not because of who the owner is.

Auditor Abel reported that the county will receive \$1.9 million from the recently passed American Recovery Act, signed by President Biden. She said the funding is very specific on what it can be used for and has to be COVID-related. She gave an example of MVH (Motor Vehicle Highway) funding that has been reduced due to COVID. She said the funding could be used to compensate that fund due to the lost revenue.



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MARTIN COUNTY Steriff's Department log Martin County Sheriff's Department log 1. The results south of Shoals Denuty Flageant McBeth responded.

2:02 a.m. - Received an alarm call in Loogootee Captain Hennette responded.

4:25 a.m. - Received a report of lines down north of Loogootee. Captain Reed

6:20 a.m. - Received a medical alarm for lift assistance in Loogootee. Martin County Ambulance responded but did not

6:34 a.m. - Received an alarm call in Loogootee. Loogootee Assistant Chief Rayhill responded. All was secure.

8:30 a.m. - Received a dog complaint in Loogootee. Animal Control Officer Hughett was notified.

9:15 a.m. - Received a pony complaint north of Shoals. The owners were contact-

12:05 p.m. - Received a dog complaint south of Loogootee. Animal Control Officer Hughett was notified.

down north of Loogootee. Major Keller responded.

1:35 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Ambulance transported the subject to Daviess Community Hospital.

2:23 p.m. - Deputy Seymour took one inmate to court.

2:53 p.m. - Received a report of a tree down south of Shoals. Lost River Fire re-

3:45 p.m. - Received a report of a semi in the ditch north of Shoals. Sergeant Gibson and Chief Deputy Greene responded.

4:21 p.m. - Received a report of a line down east of Shoals. Deputy Wells re-

TUESDAY, MARCH 16

5:50 a.m. - Received a report of a reckless driver in Shoals. Captain Reed re-

9:14 a.m. - Received a report of a domestic dispute in Loogootee. Major Keller and Loogootee Chief Floyd responded.

9:53 a.m. - Deputy Seymour took one inmate to court.

11:25 a.m. - Deputy Seymour took two inmates to court.

4:25 p.m. - Received a report of an accident south of Loogootee. Deputy Wells

8:00 p.m. - Deputy Wells assisted a motorist with a vehicle identification check near Loogootee.

9:40 p.m. - Deputy Wells assisted a bicyclist north of Shoals.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 17

6:58 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance south of Loogootee. Martin County Ambulance and Haysville Fire responded. The subject was transported to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

8:02 a.m. - Received a report of an accident north of Loogootee on US 231. Chief Deputy Greene, ISP Trooper Beaver, Loogootee Chief Floyd, Loogootee Fire, Crane Fire, and Martin County Ambu-

10:59 a.m. - Deputy Seymour took five inmates to court.

1:26 p.m. - Deputy Seymour took one inmate to court.

3:31 p.m. - Received a dog complaint south of Loogootee. Deputy Lents re-

3:56 p.m. - Received a dog complaint in Loogootee. Animal Control Officer Hughett was notified.

6:40 p.m. - Received a report of a tree down on SR 550. Major Keller removed the tree.

10:18 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance near Loogootee. Martin County Ambulance responded but did not transport.

THURSDAY, MARCH 18

9:41 a.m. - Received a dog complaint north of Shoals. Animal Control Officer Hughett was notified.

9:49 a.m. - Corporal Barnett assisted 12:45 p.m. - Received a report of a tree a motorist with a vehicle identification check north of Shoals.

> 10:08 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Ambulance responded but did not trans-

> 10:24 a.m. - Major Keller assisted a motorist near Shoals with two vehicle identi-

> fication checks. 10:47 a.m. - Deputy Seymour took one

inmate to court. 11:26 a.m. - Deputy Seymour took three

inmates to court. 1:40 p.m. - Major Keller took one in-

mate to court. 1:30 p.m. - Received a report of a tree down on SR 450, north of Shoals. Corporal Barnett, Deputy Lents, Indian Creek

Fire, and the State Highway responded. 1:35 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Ambulance responded but did not trans-

2:10 p.m. - Corporal Barnett took two inmates to court.

2:25 p.m. - Received a report of a disabled vehicle west of Shoals. Town Marshal Eckert, Major Keller, and Deputy Lents responded.

3:39 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Ambulance transported the subject to Daviess Community Hospital.

5:50 p.m. - Received a request for a welfare check in Shoals. Corporal Barnett and Deputy Lents responded.

6:41 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Ambulance and Loogootee Fire responded. The subject was transported to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

9:10 p.m. - Received a report of a domestic dispute in Shoals. Deputy Lents responded.

10:08 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Shoals. Martin County Ambulance responded but did not transport.

10:20 p.m. - Received a report of a pos-

nagan responded.

FRIDAY, MARCH 19

5:38 a.m. - Received a report of a person causing a disturbance in Loogootee. Deputy Flanagan and Loogootee Captain Hennette responded.

8:17 a.m. - Received a request for a welfare check south of Loogootee. Major Keller and ISP Trooper Beaver responded.

8:34 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance south of Loogootee. Martin County Ambulance responded but did not transport.

11:06 a.m. - Received a fire alarm call near Shoals. Major Keller, Corporal Barnett, Lost River Fire, and Shoals Fire re-

1:42 p.m. - Received a report of a tree down on SR 150, east of Shoals. Shoals Fire responded.

5:09 p.m. - Received a report of a domestic dispute in Loogootee. Deputy Lents and Loogootee Chief Floyd re-

10:42 p.m. - Received a report of a large tree limb on SR 150, east of Shoals. Shoals Fire responded.

11:40 p.m. - Received a report of a drunk driver in Loogootee. Loogootee Sergeant McBeth, Chief Deputy Greene, and Deputy Flanagan responded.

SATURDAY, MARCH 20

1:05 a.m. - Received a report of a possible drunk driver near Loogootee. Deputy Flanagan and Loogootee Sergeant Mc-Beth responded.

10:42 a.m. - Received a report of an accident in Loogootee. Loogootee Assistant Chief Rayhill responded.

3:38 p.m. - Received a report of a fire near Shoals. Shoals Fire, Lost River Fire, Martin County Civil Defense, and Martin County Ambulance responded.

7:56 p.m. - Received a report of a sign down on SR 450. Deputy Lents respond-

10:12 p.m. - Received a report of a suspicious vehicle north of Shoals. Deputy Lents responded.

11:43 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance near Shoals. Shoals Fire and Martin County Ambulance responded. The subject was transported to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

SUNDAY, MARCH 21

12:55 a.m. - Received a report of a disturbance in Loogootee Ser-

4:17 a.m. - Received a report of an accident south of Loogootee. Deputy Flanagan and Loogootee Sergeant McBeth

7:19 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Ambulance responded but did not trans-

11:15 a.m. - Received a report of glass on US 231, south of Loogootee. Loogootee Assistant Chief Rayhill responded.

12:20 p.m. - Deputy Wells assisted with a traffic detail west of Shoals.

1:52 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance near Loogootee. Martin County Ambulance and Loogootee Fire responded. No one was transported.

2:34 p.m. - Received a report of reckless driving in Shoals. Deputy Wells and Sergeant Gibson responded.

2:47 p.m. - Received a report of an accident near Loogootee. Sergeant Gibson, Deputy Wells, Loogootee Fire, and Martin County Ambulance responded. One subject was transported to Daviess Community Hospital and one subject was transported to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

4:07 p.m. - Received a report of an accident on SR 150, east of Shoals. Sergeant Gibson, Deputy Wells, Shoals Fire, Orange County EMS and Air Evac responded. The subject was transported to an Indianapolis hospital.

4:30 p.m. - Received a report of an accident on US 50, west of Shoals. Deputy Wells responded.

6:32 p.m. - Received a report of an accident near Loogootee. Sergeant Gibson

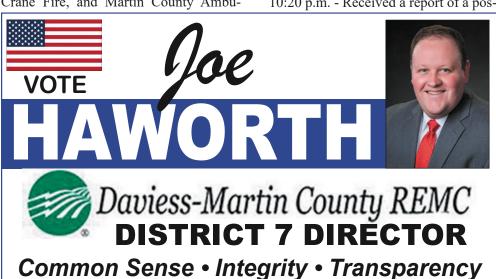
7:00 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Ambulance and Loogootee Fire responded. No one was transported.

7:53 p.m. - Received a report of harassment in Shoals. Sergeant Gibson respond-

8:31 p.m. - Received a report of an accident north of Shoals. Sergeant Gibson responded.

10:53 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Ambulance and Loogootee Fire responded. No one was transported.

11:30 p.m. - Received a report of a disturbance in Shoals. Captain Reed, Martin County Ambulance, and Shoals Fire responded. No one was transported.



-Paid for by Joe Haworth



COURT NEWS

CRIMINAL CONVICTIONS AND SENTENCING March 10

Christopher J. Senne, convicted of operating a vehicle while intoxicated, a Level 6 Felony and refusal to submit to breath or chemical test, a Class A Infraction. Sentenced to serve 318 days with 0 days suspended and credit for 159 actual days previously served plus 159 Class A credit days.

March 11

Jason C. Grow, convicted of possession of methamphetamine, a Level 6 Felony. Sentenced to serve 850 days with 0 days suspended and credit for 114 actual days previously served plus 114 Class A credit days. Remainder of sentence to be served as a direct commitment through the Davies County Community Corrections electronically monitored home detention program.

Darin T. Brooks, convicted of possession of marijuana, a Class B Misdemeanor. Sentenced to serve 180 days with 180 days suspended. Defendant received 6 months of probation.

CRIMINAL CHARGES DISMISSED March 11

Jason C. Grow, unlawful possession or use of a legend drug, a Level 6 Felony, dismissed; possession of methamphetamine, a Level 6 Felony, dismissed; possession of a controlled substance, a Class A Misdemeanor, dismissed.

CIVIL COURT New Suits Filed March 11

Heather D. Campbell vs. Travis R. Campbell, petition for dissolution of marriage.

Real estate transfers

Kimberly Hickman, of Martin County, Indiana to **S. Anita Letterman**, of Martin County, Indiana, a part of Lot Number 16 in the original plat of the Town of Memphis, now Town of Shoals.

Wayne Pendley, a/k/a Randall W. Pendley and Geraldine Pendley, of Martin County, Indiana to Debra Lynn Bateman, of Daviess County, Indiana; Angela Kay Hagen, of Dubois County, Indiana with Wayne Pendley. Tract I: A part of the southwest quarter of the southeast quarter of Section 26, Township 2 North, Range 3 West. Tract II: Also, part of the southwest quarter of the southeast quarter of Section 26, Township 2 North, Range 3 West, containing 20 acres, more or less, except sections containing 1.864 acres, 3.091 acres and 7.55 acres, more or less.

Georgia Ann Sorrells, of Martin County, Indiana to Charles Gregory Sorrells, of Fairfax County, Virginia, Lot Number 42 in the original plat of West Shoals, now Shoals, Indiana.

Hannah R. Stoll, f/k/a Hannah R. Graber and Curtis Stoll, of Martin County, Indiana to Nicholas K. Gerkin, of Martin County, Indiana, a portion of the south half of the northeast quarter of Section 24, Township 3 North, Range 5 West, in the City of Loogootee, Indiana, containing 0.09 acre, more or less.

CIVIL COURT JUDGMENTS March 12

Judgment in favor of the plaintiff The Huntington National Bank and against the defendant Emma Burch in the amount of \$7,316.85.

SMALL CLAIMS JUDGMENTS March 15

Judgment in favor of the plaintiff Hoosier Accounts Service and against the defendant Lyndzee Hart in the amount of \$3,055.66.

Judgment in favor of the plaintiff Hoosier Accounts Service and against the defendant Wendy L. Chapman in the amount of \$6,950.28.

Judgment in favor of the plaintiff SHWS Development, LLC and against the defendant Brian Wildman in the amount of \$2,344,87

ARRESTS

MONDAY, MARCH 15

11:10 p.m. - Damon Meek, 28, of Branchville, was arrested by Deputy Wells and charged with possession of methamphetamine and unlawful possession of a syringe. He is being held on a \$15,000 10% bond.

11:10 p.m. - Carol Brock, 27, of Odon, was arrested by Deputy Wells and charged with possession of marijuana, maintaining a common nuisance. She is being held on a \$15,000 10% bond.

11:30 p.m. - Michael Heuser, 26, of Washington, was arrested by Deputy Wells and charged with possession of methamphetamine and unlawful possession of a syringe. He is being held on a \$15,000 10% bond.

11:30 p.m. - Kendra Burton, 19, of Washington, was arrested by Deputy Wells and charged with possession of methamphetamine, possession of a schedule III drug, possession of marijuana, possession of paraphernalia, and a Daviess County warrant. Her bond has been set at \$15,000 10%.

TUESDAY, MARCH 16

9:55 a.m. - Damon Dant, 43, Loogootee, was arrested by Loogootee Chief Floyd and charged with domestic battery. He is being held without bond.

SATURDAY, MARCH 20

6:55 a.m. - Steven Arthur, 52, of Fort Branch, was arrested by Deputy Flanagan and charged with being a habitual traffic violator and is being held without bond.

4:57 p.m. - Marty Peek, 36, of Shoals, was arrested by Deputy Wells and charged with criminal mischief and is being held without bond.

6:54 p.m. - Waylon Wininger, 33, of Shoals, was arrested by ISP Trooper Nolan on a Martin County warrant and is being held without bond.

SUNDAY, MARCH 21

7:56 a.m. - Ryan Miller, 21, of Jasper, was arrested by Deputy Flanagan and charged with operating a vehicle while intoxicated and is be held without bond.

11:30 p.m. - Connie Carlson, 42, of Loogootee, was on station for a commitment. She is being held without bond.

Loogootee Police log

MONDAY, MARCH 15

2:02 a.m. - Sgt. Hennette responded to an active burglar alarm at a local business

6:34 a.m. - Assistant Chief Rayhill responded to an active burglar alarm at a local business.

8:48 a.m. - Assistant Chief Rayhill responded to a residential burglar alarm.

9:01 a.m. - Assistant Chief Rayhill completed a vehicle inspection.

TUESDAY, MARCH 16

9:15 a.m. - Chief Floyd responded to a domestic dispute on Ackerman Drive.

4:00 p.m. - Chief Floyd completed a vehicle inspection.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 17

8:06 a.m. - Loogootee Fire Department and Chief Floyd responded to an accident with entrapment on US 231 North.

3:54 p.m. - Caller reported a dog running loose on West Broadway Street.

7:44 p.m. - Sgt. Hennette completed a welfare check on West Broadway Street.

10:15 p.m. - First responders were dispatched to a medical call on Mt. Pleasant Road.

THURSDAY, MARCH 18

10:11 a.m. - First responders were dispatched to a medical call on East Broadway Street.

11:56 a.m. - Chief Floyd responded to an issue regarding a student at school.

1:31 p.m. - Chief Floyd responded to a property damage accident on West Broadway Street.

2:23 p.m. - Caller reported a dog running loose.

3:45 p.m. - First responders were dispatched to a medical call on Locust Street.

6:22 p.m. - Sgt. Hennette responded to a civil disturbance on Northeast Third Street.

6:37 p.m. - First responders were dispatched to a medical call on William Daily Drive.

FRIDAY, MARCH 19

1:17 p.m. - Chief Floyd completed a vehicle inspection.

4:04 p.m. - Chief Floyd completed a vehicle inspection.

5:15 p.m. - Chief Floyd responded to a residential burglar alarm.

7:16 p.m. - Sgt. McBeth assisted with traffic control on West Broadway Street.

11:40 p.m. - Sgt. McBeth responded to a report of a possible impaired driver on East Broadway Street.

SATURDAY, MARCH 20

6:30 a.m. - Assistant Chief Rayhill assisted the Martin County Sheriff's Department with an arrest on West Broadway Street.

10:42 a.m. - Assistant Chief Rayhill responded to a property damage accident on East Broadway Street.

12:11 p.m. - Assistant Chief Rayhill responded to a property damage accident on Sycamore Street.

3:50 p.m. - Assistant Chief Rayhill responded to a report of hazardous items along the roadway.

7:14 p.m. - Sgt. McBeth responded to a report of a suspicious vehicle in the city park.

9:42 p.m. - Sgt. McBeth assisted a stranded motorist on JFK Avenue.

SUNDAY, MARCH 21

12:55 a.m. - Sgt. McBeth investigated a possible disturbance in the Green Acres area.

4:17 a.m. - Sgt. McBeth assisted the Martin County Sheriff's Department at an accident on US 231 South.

10:39 a.m. - Assistant Chief Rayhill assisted Martin County on a traffic stop and arrest on US 231 South.

1:55 p.m. - First responders were dispatched to a medical call on Brickyard Road.

2:51 p.m. - Loogootee Fire Department responded to a vehicle accident on US 231 North.

6:57 p.m. - Sgt. McBeth assisted the Martin County Sheriff's Department with traffic control at an accident on US 231 South

7:02 p.m. - First responders were dispatched to a medical call at the skate park.

9:36 p.m. - Sgt. McBeth spoke with a complainant in reference to erratic driving.

9:28 p.m. - Sgt. McBeth spoke with a complainant in reference to possible violation of a protective order.

10:57 p.m. - First responders were dispatched to a medical call on Cedar Street.

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Page 6 MARTIN COUNTY JOURNAL Wednesday, March 24, 2021





THOUGHTS

*You drop something when you were younger, you just pick it up. When you're older and you drop something, you stare at it for a bit contemplating if you actually need it anymore.

*When you're dead, you don't know you're dead. The pain is only felt by others. The same thing happens when you're stupid.

*I've found that growing up in the sixties was a lot more fun than being in my sixties.

*When I grow up, I'd like to be a retired lottery winner.

*If your eyes hurt after you drink coffee, you have to take the spoon out of the cup.

*I find these days, that most of my conversations start out with, "Did I tell you this already? Or What was I going to say?"

*Yesterday my husband thought he saw a cockroach in the kitchen. He sprayed everything and cleaned thoroughly. Today I'm putting the cockroach in the bathroom.

*It's weird being the same age as old people.

*Some people aren't just missing a screw, the whole toolbox is gone.

*When you are dissatisfied and would like to go back to your youth, think of algebra.

*Do you know that 13 muscles are activated when opening a bottle of wine? Fitness is my passion.

*I don't care if the glass is half full or half empty. Is there coffee in it? *The main function of the little toe is to make sure that all of the furniture in the house is in place.

*If I got rid of everything that didn't "spark joy," I'd be on the side of the road holding my dog and coffeemaker.

Ad: Want thin lean arms?

Me: Yeah.

Ad: Do these exercises 3 times a week. Me: Nevermind.

SERIOUSISMS

*The happiest people I know are always evaluating and improving themselves. The unhappy people are usually evaluating and judging other people.

*"There is always light if only we are brave enough to see it...If only we are brave enough to be it." -Amanda Gorman

*Listen to anything your children want to tell you. If you don't listen to the small stuff now, they won't tell you the big stuff later.

*Be so happy that when other people look at you, they become happy too.

*Someone out there feels better because you exist.

*Speak to people in a way that if they died the next day, you'd be satisfied with the last thing you said to them.

*I love you. You're probably thinking, "You don't even know me, but if people can hate for no reason, I can LOVE for no reason.

Make someone smile today!

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Goodwill Cemetery clean-up

Spring clean-up will begin this week at Goodwill Cemetery in Loogootee. Please remove all old worn flower arrangements, Christmas arrangements and Christmas ground blankets. Ceramic pieces that interfere with weed eating are asked to also be moved close to the headstone or removed. Quite a few are left from last year and weeds have taken over or are broken. The mowing crew cannot be asked to remove them, weed eat and replace as this takes too much of their time. Workers will go through beginning April 1 and remove any that have not been taken care of by then in preparation for the upcoming cutting season.

Grief support program

A grief support program is being provided by Thorne George Funeral Homes free of charge. The program, normally \$79, can be received for free by using the coupon code "Thorne-George". The program is confidential and self-directed. Those interested can visit www.grief-plan.com and click "take me to the grief plan program".

St. Vincent Food Pantry

The St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry, on Park Street in Loogootee, is open the fourth Thursday of the month except November and December when they are open the third Thursday. The hours are 8 a.m.-noon and 1-4 p.m.

Mental Health Task Force

The Martin County Mental Health Task Force meets on the second Wednesday of the month from 1-2 p.m. at the Community Learning Center on the Martin County Fairgrounds.

Celebrate Recovery meetings

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

Generations offers meals to homebound seniors

March is National Nutrition Month and Governor Eric Holcomb has proclaimed this week, March 15-19, 2021, Nutrition Awareness Week in Indiana.

Nutrition plays a vital role in our overall health. Since 1974, Generations' nutrition program has been providing homebound older adults and individuals with disabilities nutritious home delivered meals in order for these individuals to maintain a healthy lifestyle and to remain in their own homes. Many homebound individuals begin to neglect their diets when shopping, cooking and cleaning become more difficult, or when dietary problems restrict their food choices. The Generations Meals on Wheels program tackles the problem of senior hunger by providing a lifeline serving meals to the most vulnerable, frail, and isolated seniors in its six-county service area of Daviess, Dubois, Greene, Knox, Martin and Pike counties. Nutrition programs such as Generations' home delivered meals and congregate meal sites provide a balanced daily meal with fresh fruits and vegetables and a variety of healthy choices. In addition, the Generations' Nutrition Program shares vital nutrition education with older adults throughout the service area.

If you are a homebound older adult age 60 or over, or a homebound individual of any age who is disabled, and you are in need of nutritional support, please contact Generations at 1-800-742-9002 and speak to one of your Options Counselors to see if you qualify for home delivered meals.

anyone is welcome to attend.

Local recovery meetings

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

Free lunch for kids

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

SOAR Tutoring

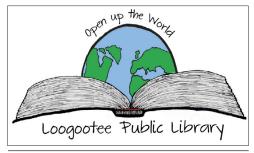
Need Skills? SOAR tutors can help! Free and confidential. Call or text Karen at 812-709-1618 to learn more. Located in the Martin County Community Learning Center Improve Your Skills, Improve Your Life!

Solid waste board

The Martin County Solid Waste Board holds their monthly meetings on the third Wednesday of each month at 5:30 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.

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.



BY DARLA WAGLER

Librarian, Loogootee Public Library

During the COVID-19 crisis, the library board had to decide the best way to provide services to the community plus keep employees safe. With data changing on a regular basis, they had to make a decision and stick to it. They implemented a mask policy, sanitation protocol, and reduced library hours. Indiana Code 590 IAC 1-1-2 minimum standards for public libraries lists libraries with populations of 10,000 or less are required to be open 20 hours per week. The library was providing service 28 hours per week and has resumed our normal 36 hours per week. As restrictions are lifted, we will be able to offer community and meeting rooms and begin programming again.

New Books:

Mystery: "Double Jeopardy" by Stuart Woods, "Eternal" by Lisa Scottoline, "The Bounty" by Janet Evanovich, and "Danger in Numbers" by Heather Graham.

Library hours: Monday 10-7, Tuesday 10-5, Closed on Wednesday, Thursday 10-7, Friday 10-5, and Saturday 9-1. The library phone number is 812-295-3713 and check out the website www. loogootee.lib.in.us or like us on Facebook. The library has free Wi-Fi service available for patrons.

590 IAC 1-1-2 Minimum standards for public libraries



CLASSIFIED A

HELP WANTED



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YARD SALE

THE ANNUAL RSVP Volunteer Center Arts and Crafts Supply Sale will be held from 8am to 4pm on Thursday, March 25th and Friday, March 26th, and from 8am to noon on Saturday, March 27th at Eastside Park Community Building in Washington. Tons of supplies such as fabric, yarn, paints, books, patterns, scrapbooking and much more. New items everyday. On Saturday, fill a bag for just \$1! Call 812-254-1996 for more information. Face coverings and social distancing are required.

Advertise in the **Martin County** Journal

Email courtney@ martincountyjournal.com

HELP WANTED



Program Director of Martin County Community Corrections

Applications Accepted: March 16, 2021- April 1, 2021 (midnight deadline) Internal and External Post: Open to any interested applicants

Terms of Employment: Full time salary position with benefits. FLSA: exempt (Effective May 2021)

Salary: Competitive salary based upon degrees held and years of experience.

Benefits to include (but not limited to): Public Employees Retirement Fund, health, dental, vision, life insurance, long term disability, paid time off, and use of agency owned vehicle for businesses purposes.

Pre- Employment Screening Requirements to include (but not limited to): Drug test, Department of Child Services (CPS) history check, criminal history background check & driver's record check.

General Summary/Overview: Primary function of the job is to supervise and coordinate the Community Corrections Program within the Circuit Court, including overseeing the work of community corrections employees. The Director is also responsible for working closely with the Advisory Board, writing and applying for grants, assessing offenders, and creating programs for rehabilitation.

Preferred Essential Qualifications: Bachelor's Degree in criminal justice, law enforcement, human services or related field, four to six years of experience in related field, grant writing experience/skills, a resident of Martin County or willingness to

Minimum Qualifications/Requirements: All minimum qualifications and requirements are listed in detail on the position description provided in the application packet.

Applicants must meet all of the minimum requirements as listed on the position description, agree to all conditions of employment with Martin County, and be able to successfully perform all essential duties and responsibilities with or without reasonable accommodations. This position may require irregular hours. Travel is required at times to attend meetings, workshops, or training sessions that can take place out of town, overnight or on weekends. Serves on a 24-hour on-call basis and responds to emergencies pertaining to the agency.

Interested applicants can pick up an application packet at the Martin County Auditor's Office located in the Martin County Courthouse. The application packet includes: Martin County application for employment, complete position description with all duties and requirements, pre-employment screening forms. Applications being submitted for consideration should be sealed and include a completed Martin County employment application, the applicants resume, completed pre-screening requirement forms and be marked ATTN: MCCC Advisory Board. Submissions can be mailed in or dropped off at the Martin County Auditor's Office. Martin County is an equal opportunity employer.

NOTICE

NOTICE:

In preparation for mowing season, spring cleanup of St. John Catholic Cemetery will take place on Saturday, March 27, 2021. All grave blankets and other ground decorations as well as obviously outdated gravestone decorations (e.g. Christmas) must be removed prior to that time. Any ground or outdated decorations remaining will be removed by the cleanup crew.

Making A Difference



By Curt Johnson MCCF Director



-- GIFTS IN A WILL --

Last week I talked about bequests, particularly charitable bequests. Gifts like these, made through a will, are an extremely popular way of providing longterm support for the charitable organizations that mean the most to us.

There are many reasons donors choose to make these gifts: the opportunity to make a statement about personal values, the satisfaction of supporting an important cause to benefit future generations, the chance to honor a loved one, or to provide a gift that inspires others to give.

-- PLANNING YOUR GIFT --

Tax planning can be an important factor in this decision. With some foresight, you can make a gift in your will that helps you meet specific planning goals.

Every gift in your will should accomplish these important objectives: provide personal satisfaction, complement important personal goals as an integral part of an estate plan, and enjoy tax and financial rewards for your family or other beneficiaries.

-- FLEXIBLE PLANNING --

Gifts in your will can take different forms, so it is important to plan your gift in a way that will accomplish all of your estate objectives.

Your gift can be outright or deferred. It can be absolute or contingent upon certain events. It can honor a beloved family member or cherished friend. It can provide general support to the charity or be restricted to a purpose you feel is especially important.

When you make a gift in your will, you retain full use of your property during life, so there is no immediate out-of-pocket cost, reduction in net worth, or disruption of cash flow. What's more, you can change your gift at a later time, which means you remain in complete control of the process. -- TYPES OF GIFTS --

Typically, when we think of a gift made through a will, we see it as a direction to distribute a specific asset or to pay a certain sum of money to a designated charitable beneficiary. This is an outright gift and is the most popular method of benefiting

You can make an outright gift in your will simply by indicating that a specific sum of money or a specific asset (for instance, 100 shares of stock) be used to

make your gift.

Alternatively, your gift can be a specified percentage of the value of your estate. Because the value of an estate can change

up or down quickly and dramatically, a percentage gift is often the best way to accomplish your personal objectives. This is the option that I chose for my will.

You could also decide that a residual gift to charity will best accomplish your objectives. The residue of an estate is the amount remaining after all costs, debts and taxes have been paid and all monetary and specific bequests have been satisfied. This form of charitable bequest can be especially appropriate if you want other bequests in your will to have priority.

-- YOUR CHOICE --

In planning your outright gift in your will, you have several basic options. Your personal objectives should determine the exact form of your gift. Consult your attorney for advice on your situation. And, of course, we will be pleased to provide any assistance you or your attorney may need in planning your gift.

-- MORE INFORMATION --

For more information about how to meet your charitable goals with a will, please contact the MCCF Director, Curt Johnson, at 812-295-1022 or mccf@cfpartner.org.

You can also receive complimentary copies of "Planning Your Will" and "Six Steps to an Effective Will". These documents will help you prepare for your discussion with your attorney, tax and/or financial advisor. Contact Curt to find out what documents and information is available.

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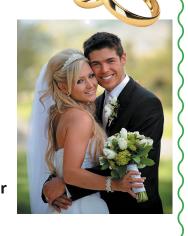


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FARMING & OUTDOORS

Spring began in almost perfect fashion. Saturday was a beautiful day to get out and play in the dirt. At Sandhill Gardens, the soil was actually still a little too wet for cultivation, but some garden clean-up was possible. It was also a good day to just walk through the gardens to see what is happening. It seems every time I turn around, there is another flower in bloom. With every step, I praise God that he allows me to spend my life in this beautiful place. While many of my friends are taking off for spring break trips to sunny beaches, I cannot imagine leaving the Hoosier Hills during this beautiful season.

The first big box of bare-root perennial plants arrived on my porch this week. While the soil over the weekend was too wet for planting, a few days of warm weather should have the ground perfect to accept these new plants. When setting out bare-root plants, dig a hole large enough for the roots to spread out. Be careful to keep the crown above the ground. While I do use an organic root stimulating fertilizer, I do not recommend amending the soil in the planting hole. Any amending is better done using compost and an organic mulch, allowing the earthworms and other creatures to carry it down to the root zone.

These early spring days are also a good time to attack the weeds. It is important to get those winter annual weeds, such as chickweed, out before they set seeds. It is fine to cut them off at ground level. If done before they bloom, they may be safely added to the compost pile. However, once they have bloomed, it is better to destroy them in another way.

It is also a good time to do some checking on the garden hardscape and ornamentation. Garden furniture may need a few screws tightened or a new coat of paint. Trellises may need some support and ornaments may need a good cleaning. This is especially important with birdbaths. A healthy place to drink and bathe is important for our feathered friends. It is also time to get the birdhouses up or clean out last year's nests. Most birds use the houses or boxes only for raising their broods. Otherwise, they will roost in the trees. However, during the spring nesting season, they need clean, safe places to raise

their broods. Do some research. Select the appropriate houses for the birds that call your garden home. Some birds do not need houses at all but will build nests from natural materials. While birds will sometimes pick up pieces of plastic or string, do not put out such materials to encourage their use. If anything, leave some of the pieces of grass clippings for the birds. Access to bare dirt is also important, as some birds use mud as mortar.

It is also an important time for bees and other pollinators. Here at Sandhill Gardens, there are plenty of flowers to provide nectar. If you do not have a lot of flowers yet, you may wish to leave pieces of over-ripe fruit to provide the sugars needed by bees. They will also need water, but a birdbath is usually too deep for bees to drink. Instead, place some small stones or decorative items in a shallow bowl and fill the bowl with water. The bees will sit on the stones and drink from the water around them.

Most of all, I urge you to just get out and enjoy the beautiful world around you. A walk in the garden goas a long way in relieving the stresses of life. If you do not have a garden to enjoy, find a public garden or come see me on Sandhill. From now until late fall, I can safely guarantee that there will be flowers in bloom.

DNR Recreation and Fishing guidebooks available

Your guide to Indiana's best values in outdoor recreation is available now at on.IN.gov/recguide.

And your guide to Indiana fishing is available now at wildlife.IN.gov/2347.

Free printed copies of each are available at local retail outlets, state parks, lakes and other DNR properties all over the Hoosier state.

The DNR's 2021 Indiana Recreation Guide is the one-stop source for information on state parks, state forests, lakes, fish & wildlife areas, nature preserves, state park inns, and other DNR properties.

This year's guides also offer advice on responsible recreation and what it means to be a courteous guest when visiting DNR properties.

Annual entrance passes for state park

Turkey hunting equipment rule changes approved for spring season

Yesterday, the Natural Resources son for trapping beavers. Commission (NRC) granted final approval to administrative rule changes that will allow turkey hunters to use .410 caliber and 28-gauge shotguns in addition to already-legal shotguns.

The amendments also include requirements associated with shot size and density for these additional firearms, which includes allowing tungsten super shot No. 9 and 10.

This change gives turkey hunters greater flexibility with hunting equipment, particularly for turkey hunting by youth and others who may have been previously hindered by having to use more traditional hunting equipment.

By emergency rule, DNR Director Dan Bortner has authorized the rule's immediate use in time for this year's spring turkey season.

In other action, the NRC:

-Granted final adoption to amend 312 IAC 9-3-3 to allow muzzleloaders that have the powder loaded from the breech end and require only that the bullet be loaded from the muzzle end to be used during firearms, youth, late special antlerless, and reduction zone (when firearms are allowed) seasons for taking white-tailed deer.

-Granted final adoption to amend 312 IAC 9-3-11 to allow trappers to take beavers at any time of day on the opening and closing days of the existing sea-

properties can be purchased in person at the gatehouse or offices of state park properties during business hours, at the Indiana Government Center South in Indianapolis during business hours, or at innsgifts.com.

Indiana resident annual entrance passes cost \$50. For individuals 65 years old or older, the price is \$25. Annual passes for vehicles with out-of-state license plates cost \$70.

Normal daily gate fees for residents at most properties are \$7 per in-state vehicle. For more information on Indiana state park properties, visit stateparks. IN.gov.

Fishing licenses can be purchased and printed at INHuntFish.com. They can also be purchased at retailers, county clerks and most DNR properties throughout the state.

-Approved the merger of the Division of Outdoor Recreation into the Division of State Parks and the merger of the Division of Oil & Gas into the Division of Reclamation in order to better serve Hoosiers. These actions will be presented to the Governor's office for final ap-

-Approved for consideration the addition of a new nonrule policy document, Information Bulletin #80, which lists qualified organizations that are approved to conduct underwater surveys. This bulletin is necessary to fulfill the requirements of IC 14-15-6-2.5, a new section that became effective on July 1, 2020, requiring that each boat that carries passengers on public water for hire must be inspected.

-Accepted the report from the DNR that supports the request to allow the 330 ConibearTM trap to be halfway submerged. Both 312 IAC 9-3-18(f) and 312 IAC 9-10-11 would need to be modified to allow these changes. The DNR plans to request preliminary adoption of these rule changes in a future NRC

-Accepted a report rejecting a citizen petition seeking to amend 312 IAC 9-7-2(m) to allow underwater spearfishing of all game fish other than black bass at all lakes of at least 100 acres.

More details on all actions taken by the NRC and supporting documents can be found at nrc.IN.gov/2354.htm.

The NRC is an autonomous board that addresses topics pertaining to the DNR and the NRC Division of Hearings.

NRC members include the DNR director, heads of three other state agencies (Indiana Department of Environmental Management, Indiana Destination Development Corporation, and the Indiana Department of Transportation), six citizens appointed by the governor on a bipartisan basis, the chair of the DNR's advisory council, and the president of the Indiana Academy of Science. The Academy of Science president and the agency heads, other than the DNR director, may appoint proxies to serve the commission in their absences.

DNR to survey anglers at Dogwood Lake

The DNR will conduct an angler creel survey at Dogwood Lake, which is located in Daviess County, beginning this month and running through October 31.

A DNR employee will be stationed at the main boat ramp to conduct brief interviews as anglers end their fishing trips. Periodic angler counts will also take place at some of the largest ponds on the property. Boat and shoreline anglers will be included in the survey.

The survey's main purpose is to help evaluate the experimental crappie length limit that was placed on the lake in 2016. Fisheries biologists have monitored the crappie population since the limit began, and angler harvest and release data gathered from interviews will be key components of the DNR's evaluation of the rule and determination if it should remain in place.

Harvest and catch-and-release information for all species collected through the interviews will provide biologists with valuable information to help manage Dogwood Lake and the property's ponds.

Dogwood Lake is located at Glendale Fish & Wildlife Area (FWA) in Daviess County. Learn more about Glendale FWA at on.IN.gov/glendalefwa.



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JOCELYN HARDER

Jocelyn Rose Harder is the daughter of Amber and Bradley Harder Jr. She has three siblings, Ruby, Travin, and Garrett. While in high school, Jocelyn participated in Project Aspiree. Jocelyn couldn't think of a single moment to classify as her favorite as there were many memories created. However, when she thinks about the best parts of high school, four friends come to mind. Jocelyn states, "If we aren't friends forever, the moment that we were is going to stay with me for the rest of my life." After graduation, Jocelyn plans to work full time with her mother at Hickory Ridge Soaps, her mother's business. She has a dream to write and publish her own novel while remaining close to her family, whom she values over anything else.



ALYSSA HOWELL

Alyssa Lynn Howell is the daughter of Mike and Misty Newland and Chris Howell. She has six siblings, Andrew, Lucas, Bella, Zachary, Easton, and Mikenna. While in high school, Alyssa participated in basketball, softball, track, cross country, Beta Club, and Impacct Club. Her favorite high school memory was getting the phone call that she had been awarded the Lilly Scholarship. After graduation, Alyssa plans to attend the University of Evansville to study nursing and eventually become a nurse anesthetist.



JACQUELINE WARREN

Jacqueline Fayth Warren is the daughter of Jason Warren and Jeannie Warren. She has one sibling, Gillman Warren. Her favorite high school memory is yet to come, which will be the day that she graduates. After graduation, Fayth plans to attend college and start a family.



LEVI PENDLEY

Levi Garrett Pendley is the son of Steven and Becky Pendley. He has one brother, Brandon Pendley. While in high school, Levi participated in basketball, track, soccer, and baseball. His favorite high school memory is just being with friends and having a good time. Levi is still undecided what he would like to pursue after graduation.



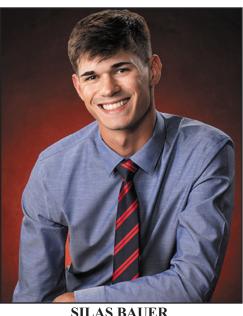
NOAH STOLL

Noah Lee Stoll is the son of Brian and Christy Stoll. His siblings are Abby, Olivia, Eli, and Anna. While in high school, Noah participated in Baseball and Robotics. His favorite high school memories are the hog roasts in Mr. Kent's class. After graduation, Noah plans to attend college and major in electrical trades.



KALEY ROUSH

Kaley Ann Roush is the daughter of Cody and Michelle Roush. She has two siblings, Collin and Ellie Roush. While in high school, Kaley participated in volleyball, cheerleading, softball, SADD, Pep Club, and prom committee. Kaley's favorite memories are having her first winning season in volleyball her junior year and all of the seniors coming together at the start of senior year. After graduation, Kaley plans to obtain her RN and medical esthetician licences and eventually work in a dermatologist office.



SILAS BAUER

Silas Reid Bauer is the son of Josh and Rachel Bauer. Silas is undecided on his plans after high school. While in high school, Silas participated in French club (9-10), Intern (11-12), Unified football (11-12), Golf (9-12), and Basketball (9-12).



AYDEN WILSON

Ayden Michael Wilson is the son of Karen Wilson and Michael Wilson. After graduation, Ayden plans to study Conservation and Law Enforcement but is undecided on where to attend. Ayden participated in Band (9), Intern (10-12), FFA (9-10), Cadet Teacher (9-10), Job Shadow (11), and JV/Varsity Basketball Manager (11-12).



SARA STREET

Sara Elizabeth Street is the daughter of Rob and Dee Dee Street. After graduation, Sara plans to study Biomedical Engineering at Xavier University. While in high school, Sara participated in Cheerleading (11-12), FCA (9-12), Beta Club (9-12), French Club (9-12), Pep Club (9-12), SADD (9-12), STudent Council (9-12), Softball (9-12), Volleyball (9-12), and Class Vice-President (9).



BROOKLYNN JONES

Brooklynn Opal Jones is the daughter of Jimmy Mesarosh and DeVaughn Mesarosh. After graduation, Brooklynn plans to attend Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College to study Elementary Education. While in high school, Brooklynn participated in Beta Club (9&11), Cadet Teaching (9-11), FCA (9-12), Spanish Club (9-11), Basketball (9-12), Cross Country (9), and Softball (9).



SAMANTHA COOK

Samantha Anne Cook is the daughter of Nina Cook and Collin Cook. Samantha plans to attend Vincennes University for general studies. While in high School Samantha participated in band (9-12), musical (9-12), chorus (9-12), french club (9-10), GSA (11), show choir (9-12). Samantha was show choir secretary (10), and show choir president (12).



SETH BLACKWELL

Seth D. Blackwell is the son of Rob and Martha Blackwell. After graduation, Seth plans to attend Vincennes University to study Electrical Technology. While in high school, Seth participated in Intramural Basketball (9-12), Intern (10-12), and Golf (9-12).