

Martin County JOURNAL

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Commissioners going Monday to request wheel tax

BY COURTNEY HUGHETT
Martin County Journal Publisher

The Martin County Commissioners plan to go to the county council on Monday night to request once again that they consider implementing a wheel tax. The commissioners discussed this with Highway Superintendent Leo Padgett at their meeting Tuesday night, March 31. Padgett said that there are so many roads that are black-topped but need to be repaved because the asphalt has gotten very thin. He said at this point, with the lack of funding for paving, the county may need to just cut their losses and let the roads go back to gravel. "Something's got to give," said Padgett.

They also discussed Crane timber money and the fact that the county used to use this for road improvements but it has decreased

substantially over the past several years.

Back in May of 2011, the county council and commissioners met in joint session to discuss the wheel tax. At that time, a majority of council members were not in favor of implementing a new tax. One major discussion at that meeting was the county's need for ditching. Council Member Randy Winger had said that without proper ditches, the roads would not last. He felt that the highway department needed to improve this aspect of roads before paving was done. Winger stated that when he was a commissioner in 1997 they went on a mission to dig ditches throughout the county and the entire county was draining within six months. "We hit it hard and we would not spend any money on a road until it was done," he said back in 2011.

LOHUT (Local Option Highway User

Tax) is actually two different taxes. The first is the county motor vehicle excise surtax which applies to cars, trucks under 11,000 pounds, and motorcycles. The excise surtax can be two to 10 percent of the excise tax or a flat amount of \$7.50 to \$25 per vehicle. If a flat rate is chosen it must be the same amount on each vehicle.

The second tax is the county wheel tax. It is actually a vehicle tax because taxpayers pay based on a vehicle and not the amount of wheels/tires on the vehicle. Included in this tax are buses, recreational vehicles, semi tractors, tractors, trailers, and trucks - anything other than a car, truck, or motorcycle that is plated counts.

The county wheel tax rate can be between \$5 and \$40 per vehicle. The vehicles categories can each have a different rate depending on what the county council de-

termines. It can also be based on weight. The county wheel tax does not include vehicles owned by the state such as INDOT snow plow trucks; political subdivisions such as police vehicles, any vehicle subject to the annual excise surtax, and buses owned by religious or non-profit youth organizations.

Also benefiting from the wheel tax are the cities and towns. Based on the populations discussed back in 2011, Loogootee would receive 9.4 percent, Shoals would receive 3.24 percent, and Crane would receive 2.01 percent of all collected. At the maximum rate the county would receive \$361,436.90, Loogootee would get \$33,958.93, Shoals would receive \$11,725.84 and Crane would get \$2,715.30.

The county council meets Monday night, April 6 at 6 p.m. in the courthouse. The (See' WHEEL TAX' continued on page 2)

County's jobless rate for February stood at 5.5 percent

BY COURTNEY HUGHETT
Martin County Journal Publisher

Martin County's unemployment rate dropped from 6 percent in January to 5.5 percent in February. Of the 92 Indiana counties, Martin was tied for 61st place for lowest jobless rate, along with White, Union and Marshall counties.

In February, the county had 5,009 residents in the workforce with 273 of them without jobs. In January there were 5,093 citizens able to work and 306 of them unemployed.

In February of last year, Martin County's jobless rate was 6.4 percent with 4,924 residents in the workforce and 313 of them without jobs.

Daviess County saw a slight drop in their jobless rate from January to February, moving from 5 percent to 4.7 percent. The county had the fourth lowest jobless rate in the state, tied with Boone and Bartholomew counties.

In February, Daviess County had 15,652 residents in the workforce with 736 of them without jobs. In January, there were 15,930 residents able to work and 798 of them un-

employed.

In February of last year, Daviess County's unemployment rate was 5.1 percent with 14,904 residents in the workforce and 765 of them without jobs.

Dubois County's unemployment rate also dropped slightly, going from 4.8 percent in January to 4.2 percent in February. The county had the second lowest jobless rate in the state for February.

In February, Dubois County had 22,194 residents in the workforce with 940 of them without jobs. In January, there were 22,418 residents able to work and 1,071 of them unemployed.

In February of 2014, Dubois County's unemployment rate was 4.9 percent with 21,734 residents in the workforce and 1,065 of them without jobs.

Orange County's jobless rate also went down to 7.8 percent in February, from 8.5 percent the month before. The county had the 12th highest jobless rate of the 92 Indiana counties, tied with Fayette, Parke and Sullivan counties.

In February, Orange County had 8,869 residents in the workforce and 695 of them without jobs. In January, there were 9,124

residents able to work and 771 of them were unemployed.

In February of last year, the county's jobless rate was 9.3 percent with 8,665 residents in the workforce and 804 of them without jobs.

Lawrence County's unemployment rate dropped slightly in February to 8.5 percent, down from 8.9 percent in January. The county had the fifth highest jobless rate in the state for February.

In February, the county had 20,632 resi-

dents in the workforce with 1,760 of them without jobs. In January, there were 20,721 residents able to work and 1,845 of them

were unemployed. In February of last year, Orange County's unemployment rate was 10.6 percent with 20,388 residents in the workforce and 2,170 of them without jobs.

The top ten spots in the state for lowest unemployment rate for February were: Hamilton at 4.1 percent, Dubois at 4.2 percent, LaGrange at 4.5 percent (See' RATE' continued on page 2)

| | Feb. 2014 | Jan. 2015 | Feb. 2015 | Monthly Change |
|----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------------|
| Indiana | 6.1% | 6.0% | 5.9% | -0.1% |
| U.S. | 6.7% | 5.7% | 5.5% | -0.2% |
| Illinois | 7.9% | 6.1% | 6.0% | -0.1% |
| Kentucky | 7.3% | 5.5% | 5.2% | -0.3% |
| Michigan | 7.8% | 6.3% | 5.9% | -0.4% |
| Ohio | 6.2% | 5.1% | 5.1% | 0.0% |

The Harlem Wizards are coming to town again

The Famous Harlem Wizards with their trick-style basketball game are coming to Shoals High School Thursday, April 16 at 7 p.m. Door will

be open at 6 p.m. The Wizards will play against the Martin County All-Stars which will feature teachers and staff from both Shoals and Loogootee schools along with community leaders from Martin County.

The Harlem Wizards are a professional entertainment basketball team. The game includes an audience participation half-time show and free autograph session at the end of the game. The kids dance team will also be performing at intermission.

Tickets are now on sale until April 14 at Williams Bros Pharmacy and Toy's Auto Parts in Loogootee, and RJ's Food Mart and Toy's Auto Parts in Shoals. Advanced tickets are \$10 for everyone and \$12 at the door. Reserved tickets are \$15 featuring premium assigned seating and free team poster giveaway. Courtside Plus tickets are \$25 which features a 10-minute meet & greet with Wizards players along with free credential

and team poster giveaway. This event, a comedic take on a regular basketball game, with lots of slam dunks, athletic tricks and humor, will benefit In

His Hands Daycare and Preschool, a ministry of the Dover Hill Christian Union Church. Proceeds from the concessions will benefit the Shoals Band Boosters and proceeds from the Wizards souvenir sales will benefit Ryan's Hope.

For more information, contact Mike Newland at 812-709-0517.



Good Friday and Easter Services

A Community Good Friday Service will be held Friday, April 3 at noon at Loogootee United Methodist Church at 208 W. Main Street in Loogootee. Area churches will be involved with a combined choir and pastors. The message will be "The Seven Last Words of Jesus". An offering will be taken for the local transient fund

Holy Week Services for Loogootee United Methodist Church are as follows:

Palm Sunday March 29 - Easter Cantata at 8:15 a.m.

Maundy Thursday April 2 - Communion Service at 7 p.m.

Good Friday April 3 - Community Service at noon at Loogootee UMC

Easter Morning April 5 - Youth led

Sunrise Service at 7 a.m.; Breakfast at 8 a.m.; one worship service Easter celebration at 9 a.m.

The Loogootee Revival Center Church, located on Wood Street, will be having

Easter breakfast from 8:15-9:10 a.m. on Sunday, April 5. At 9:30 a.m. service will begin with worship, communion, testimonies, and the children's program. Pastor Debbie Davis and the congregation invites you to come and celebrate.

The River, 401 Water Street, Shoals, will have a Community Good Friday service at Shoals High School at 6 p.m. on Friday, April 3.

Easter Sunrise service at 7 a.m. followed by breakfast, egg hunt and Sunday school. Regular service at 9:30 a.m.



Happy Easter!



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WHEEL TAX

(Continued from page one)

county council must pass both types of tax at the same time, notice must be given to taxpayers, and if the council does not vote unanimously to pass the tax, they must vote in two different meetings. If not passed before July 1, 2015, the tax cannot be implemented for next year.

Also discussed Tuesday night was a road issue in Indian Springs. Brenda LaMar was present to find out if Chestnut Street was still officially a county road or if it had

been abandoned by the county. She said the road has not been maintained in many years and there are trees now grown down through it. She said she doesn't care either way, she just wanted to know the status. The commissioners told LaMar that it would take about a month for County Attorney David Lett to look into it and they would call her when they found out.

Highway Superintendent Leo Padgett told commissioners that he currently has three crews out patching roads. He also reported that Duke Energy did damage to Rusk Road and they are willing to either pay to have the road repaired or repair it themselves. Padgett suggested letting them repair it themselves so that he didn't have to move a crew away from other tasks. The commissioners suggested that Padgett be present when repairs are done to oversee the work.

The commissioners voted to have a surplus sale with highway department equipment on Thursday, April 30 at 10 a.m. at the highway department.

The commissioners also agreed to have Padgett bring back the highway department's part-time help for the warmer weather months.

Andy Burkhardt, with the sheriff's department, reported for Sheriff Travis Roush that the jail currently has a population of 52 inmates - 49 from Martin County and three from the department of corrections.

RATE

(Continued from page one)

cent, Daviess, Boone and Bartholomew at 4.7 percent; and Tippecanoe, Hendricks, Gibson, Elkhart and Adams at 4.8 percent.

The top ten spots in the state for the highest unemployment rate for February were: Vermillion at 9.3 percent, Lake at 8.8 percent, Greene and LaPorte at 8.6 percent; Lawrence at 8.5 percent, Crawford at 8.4 percent, Jasper and Starke at 8.2 percent, and Owen and Vigo at 8.1 percent.

Continuing the recent trend, the Hoosier State added 1,700 private sector jobs in February. Indiana has now experienced private sector job growth in 20 of the past 25 months. Gains in February were concentrated in the Private, Educational & Health Services (+2,500), Leisure and Hospitality (+2,200), and Manufacturing (+600) sectors. Private sector employment in the Hoosier State has grown by 98,700 over the past two years. Since July 2009, the low point of employment, 268,400 private sector jobs have been added in total.

Indiana's unemployment rate also declined by 0.1 percent to 5.9 percent in February. Unemployment in the Hoosier State is now down by 2.4 percent over the past two years, and the labor force has grown by 82,000 individuals. Although Indiana's labor force participation rate decreased by 0.1 percent to 62.8 percent in February, it continues to be a full percentage point higher than the national average, and has exceeded the national rate for 11 months in

a row.

"Indiana's consistent private sector growth, particularly over the past two years, is an encouraging trend," said Steven J. Braun, Commissioner of the Indiana Department of Workforce Development. "Equally as important is the fact that during that time, our labor force has also grown by 82,000 individuals, which is one of the largest increases in the nation. Hoosiers, encouraged by the availability of good jobs, are reengaging in the workforce."

Employment by Sector

Sectors showing gains in February include: Private Educational & Health Services (2,500), Leisure and Hospitality (2,200), Manufacturing (600), and Construction (500). The Professional and Business Services (-2,000), Trade, Transportation & Utilities (-1,000) and Financial Activities (-500) sectors declined in February. Total nonfarm employment increased in February (4,200).

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OBITUARIES

Wednesday, April 1, 2015 ~ Martin County Journal

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CAROLYN SIMS

Carolyn Evelyn (Harder) Sims passed away at 10 a.m. Saturday, March 28, 2015 at Loogootee Healthcare and Rehabilitation Center. A resident of Loogootee, she was 77.



CAROLYN SIMS

She was born July 13, 1937 in Shoals; the daughter of Theodore H. and Mary Hazel (Dunlap) Harder. She married Hiram G. Sims on September 28, 1957 at the Hindostan United Methodist Church and he preceded her in death on September 15, 2009.

She was a graduate of Shoals High School Class of 1955. She retired as produce manager from Loogootee Buehler's and was formerly a bus driver for the Loogootee Community School Corporation.

She is survived by daughters, Lu Ann (David) Dye of Shoals; Beth Brown of Rising Sun; Donna (Chris) Beckman of Forsyth, Illinois; and Marsha (Tim) Lynch

of Jasper; grandchildren, Zachary (Veronica) Brown of Ellettsville, Ashley (Mike) Stanton of Versailles, Katie, Caroline, and Curt Beckman of Forsyth, Illinois; Lindsay Beth (Todd) Bender of Hillsboro, Ohio; and Cody and Alyssa Lynch of Jasper; great-grandchildren, Eli Turner, Macie Kilburn, Mikey and Ryan Stanton, all of Versailles; Dylan and Tyler Bender of Hillsboro, Ohio; and Esme' Brown of Ellettsville; and one brother, Neal W. Harder of Bargersville.

She is preceded in death by her husband, Hiram; parents, one brother, Ted (Sonny) Harder; and sisters, Janet Farrell, Helen Louise Harder and Donna Sue Harder.

Friends may call on Saturday, April 4 from 11 a.m. until the hour of service at 2 p.m. at the Queen-Lee Funeral Home in Shoals. Pastor Joseph Seger will officiate the service. She will be laid to rest in Goodwill Cemetery.

Preferred memorials are to the Goodwill Cemetery Association. Envelopes will be available at the funeral home.

Online condolences may be made to the family at www.queenlee.com.

LILLIAN WININGER

Lillian M. Wininger passed away at 9:25 p.m. Friday, March 27, 2015, in St. Charles Health Campus in Jasper. A resident of Dubois, she was 93.



LILLIAN WININGER

She was born in Martin County on March 14, 1922; daughter of Edward and Anna (Mann) Harder. She married Ralph Wininger on January 14, 1945 in St. John's Church at the Dubois Crossroads. He preceded her in death on December 18, 2008.

She worked at the sewing factory in Martin County and later worked retired for the Indiana Cabinet Company in 1985 in Dubois.

She was a member of St. John's Lutheran Church at the Dubois Crossroads where she taught Sunday school for many years and was a member of the church choir.

She enjoying sewing and crocheting and playing guitar.

She is survived by daughters, Carol Jones and her husband, Jacob; Shirley Jones and her husband, Charles, both of Dubois; son, Jim Wininger and wife, Paula, of Dubois; eight grandchildren, Marcie, Shara, Chad, Angie, Deanna, Tess, Chris and Julie; step grandchild, Jarrod; 17 great grandchildren; and three brothers, Karl Harder of Jasper, Tom Harder and wife, Clara Ann, of Shoals, and Bill Harder and wife, Dot, of Mt Juliet, Tennessee.

Preceding her in death besides her husband are one sister, Christine Harder and two brothers, Edgar Harder and Howard Harder.

Funeral services were held this morning, Wednesday, April 1, in St. John's Lutheran Church at the Dubois Crossroads with burial following in St. John's Cemetery. Rev. Mary Poston officiated.

Becher-Kluesner North Chapel in Jasper was in charge of arrangements. Memorial contributions may be made to St. John's Lutheran Church.

Southwest Indiana AHEC presents award to Memorial Hospital

On March 10, Memorial Hospital and Health Care Center was honored with the Southwest Indiana Area Health Education Center (AHEC) 2015 Partnership Matters Award. This award recognizes organizations or programs whose partnership has provided outstanding opportunity for success of local AHEC programs and demonstrates a motivation to work collaboratively to transcend boundaries and leverage scarce resources effectively to build the next generation of Hoosier health professionals.

"A vibrant community requires not only a strong health care system, but an ongoing commitment to the future health care workforce and unique educational opportunities for its own residents," said Jane Friona, Director of Southwest Indiana AHEC, when presenting the award to Tonya Heim, Memorial Hospital's Vice President of Patient Services and Chief Nursing Officer. "Recognized as a regional leader in the provision of comprehensive health care, Memorial Hospital is also a strong supporter of medical education."

Friona said that during the 2014-15 academic year, family physicians affiliated with

Memorial Hospital will precept nine family medicine clerkships for third-year medical students, providing lodging at no cost when needed by the student, as well as free meals in the hospital's Tower Café during the entire clerkship.

"Memorial Hospital has also hosted a health careers camp the past two summers in partnership with AHEC and Vincennes University - Jasper, which allows regional high school students to experience the array of health careers available to them," said Friona. "This summer experience is funded by Memorial Hospital, and many of their employees participate in planning and conducting the camp with the full support of hospital administration."

In addition, Memorial Hospital representatives are actively involved on the Southwest Indiana AHEC advisory council, including hosting a meeting each year. "All of these activities contribute to an excellent partnership between Memorial Hospital and Health Care Center and Southwest Indiana AHEC," said Friona. "This is positively impacting the pipeline of future health professionals in southern Indiana."

Southwest Indiana Area Health Education Center began as a regional center in 2008 and is hosted by the University of Southern Indiana in the College of Nursing and Health Professions. Southwest Indiana AHEC is part of a national network with a mission to improve health by leading the nation in the recruitment, training, and retention of a diverse health workforce for underserved communities.

Kerns family sets up memorial fund after loss of their son

BY DAN GREGORY
MCCF Acting Director

Broken Chain

We little knew that morning that God was going to call your name...

In life we loved you dearly, in death we do the same...

You left us peaceful memories, your love is still our guide; and although we cannot see you, you are always at our side...

Our family chain is broken, and nothing seems the same:

but as God calls us one by one the chain will link again...

The above poem named "Broken Chain" hangs on the dining room wall of the Alyssa and Eddie Kerns home north of Loogootee. They are the parents of Carter Lee Kerns. It is beneath a pencil portrait drawn by Alyssa's sister that came from a photograph of Carter shortly before his accidental death just one day before his first birthday. The portrait shows a happy little boy. His hair is short and cute, and his eyes are bright and full of promise. Other photos show Carter with his parents at Christmas time, outside playing with his dog "Harley", and being pushed on a swing by his father.

Carter is no longer held in their loving arms, but that doesn't stop the love felt for

him. Love was showered on their only son, and his passing leaves a loss impossible to replace... and that love for him will never end.

Broken hearts were felt by all that knew Carter, Alyssa and Eddie. The loss of a child is every parent's worst nightmare.

There are many pictures of this happy and full family. Memories of those times provide some peace that while here on Earth, Carter felt the full force of love from his parents and family members. He is gone from their presence, but will never be forgotten.

Yes, the family chain is broken...for now. But God promises to reunite us someday with our loved ones and then the chain will be put back together and be stronger than ever.

The Carter Lee Kerns Memorial Fund was established with the Martin County Community Foundation as a means to honor the memory of Carter. Its purpose is to enhance the lives of children and families in Martin County. Carter's Legacy 5K run will be held on Saturday, May 16 at West Boggs Park. Proceeds from the race will go into the endowment fund and help honor Carter's memory. More information is available on the website Carter's Legacy 5K (www.wizathon.com/carters-legacy-5k/index.php) along with a video of Carter and his parents.

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Martin County Sheriff's Department log

MONDAY, MARCH 23

8:28 a.m. - Received a report of a person with mental problems needing assistance. Deputy Dant met with the subject and transported him to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

10:18 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance north of Loogootee. Martin County Ambulance transported the subject to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

2:00 p.m. - Deputy Dant transported an inmate to the doctor.

3:00 p.m. - Received a report of a field fire south of Shoals. Lost River Fire Department responded.

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

5:18 p.m. - Received a report of an irate driver causing a disturbance in Loogootee. LPD was advised.

8:39 p.m. - Received a report of a reckless driver in Shoals. Sgt Keller was advised.

10:12 p.m. - Received a report of a domestic disturbance in Loogootee. LPD Sgt Norris took the call.

10:14 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Ambulance responded.

TUESDAY, MARCH 24

1:35 a.m. - Received a report of a reckless

driver on US 50 east of Shoals. Sgt Keller was unable to locate the vehicle.

5:31 a.m. - Received a report of a possible break-in south of Loogootee. Sgt Keller and LPD Sgt Norris checked the area.

8:45 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Ambulance transported the subject to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

10:30 a.m. - Deputy Dant took three inmates to court.

11:15 a.m. - Received a report of a vehicle in someone's driveway north of Loogootee. LPD Sgt Hennette checked on the vehicle.

1:47 p.m. - Received a report of a domestic situation in Loogootee. LPD Chief Rayhill and Captain Hennette responded.

5:47 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance west of Shoals. Shoals 1st Responders and Martin County Ambulance responded.

11:03 p.m. - Received a report of several cows out in the Loogootee area. Corporal Baker and LPD officer Norris responded.

11:55 p.m. - Received a report of loud music in Loogootee. LPD officer Norris checked the area.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 24

'TXT L8R' social media contest offers \$5,000 scholarships

Indiana high school and college students have a choice: Use their smartphones behind the wheel and make a tragic mistake, or engage their social media followers to "Drive Now. TXT L8R." and earn a \$5,000 scholarship.

Lt. Governor Sue Ellspermann, the Indiana Bureau of Motor Vehicles, Indiana Criminal Justice Institute, Indiana Department of Labor, Indiana Department of Transportation and Indiana State Police are again partnering to award \$5,000 scholarships to students who compose the most creative and viral social media posts on Twitter, Instagram and Vine.

Contest Rules

Students may register their public Twitter accounts through April 10 and read contest rules at www.txtl8r.in.gov. Entries must be

posted during April, which is Distracted Driving Awareness Month, and use the hashtag #TXTL8RIN.

Keeping one's hands on the wheel and eyes on the road is not just a safe driving practice - it's the law. Social media posts that are composed while driving will be disqualified.

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

- Twitter - most tweets/retweets/favorites
- Vine - most likes
- Vine - most creative
- Instagram - most likes
- Instagram - most creative

Martin County real estate transfers

US Bank National Association to Gary A. Myers and Glenna F. Myers, a tract of land in the southeast quarter of the southwest quarter of Section 28, Township 4 North, Range 3 West, in Martin County, Indiana, containing .6 acre, more or less. More commonly known as 17147 Baker Road, Shoals, Indiana 47581.

Roger C. Parsons, of Martin County, Indiana to **Samuel J. Mehringer**, of Martin

County, Indiana, a part of the south half of the southeast quarter of Section 31, Township 2 North, Range 4 West containing 30 acres, more or less.

Robert Loren Spurgeon and Naomi Joyce Walls, of Martin County, Indiana to **Eugene A. Spaulding**, of Martin County, Indiana, a part of the southeast quarter of the northwest quarter of Section 24, Township 3 North, Range 4 West.

Claude Jones, of Martin County, Indiana to **Eugene A. Spaulding**, of Martin County, Indiana, a part of the southeast quarter of the northwest quarter of Section 24, Township 3 North, Range 4 West containing 0.22 acres, more or less.

Kathi Dee Lower and Susan Jan Caveney, of Martin County, Indiana to **Jay Dee Faris and Charlotte Sue Faris**, of Martin County, Indiana, a part of the southwest quarter of Section 19, Township 3 North, Range 4 West containing approximately .35 acre, more or less.

Lois Downey, of Brevard County, Florida to **Melanie Downey, Tony Downey, Roger Scott Downey, and Stacy Hornaday**, of Martin County, Indiana, the south half of Lots Numbered 66 and 67 in Campbell and Breen's Addition to Loogootee, Indiana.

Magnum Farms, LLC, of Martin County, Indiana to **Adam Tompkins and Jerry Tompkins**, of Martin County, Indiana, part of the south half of the northwest quarter of Section 6, Township 1 North, Range 4 West, Martin County, Indiana, containing 10.56 acres, more or less.

7:45 a.m. - Deputy Dant took an inmate to the doctor.

9:35 a.m. - Deputy Dant transported two inmates to prison.

10:45 a.m. - Received a report of an accident in Loogootee. LPD Captain Hennette responded.

11:10 a.m. - Sheriff Roush, Chief Deputy Greene, and ISP Trooper Lents did a welfare check north of Shoals.

1:39 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. Loogootee 1st Responders and Martin County Ambulance responded. The subject was transported to Daviess Community Hospital.

2:46 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. Loogootee 1st Responders and Martin County Ambulance responded. The subject was transported to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

3:03 p.m. - Received a report of a semi west bound on US 50 leaking diesel fuel. Sheriff Roush intercepted the vehicle.

7:30 p.m. - Received a report of a verbal altercation south of Shoals. Major Burkhardt took the call.

7:50 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. LPD Captain Hennette and Martin County Ambulance responded. The subject was transported to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

8:45 p.m. - Received a report of a possible theft in Loogootee. LPD officer Nolan responded.

THURSDAY, MARCH 26

10:00 a.m. - Deputy Dant took an inmate to court.

1:28 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Ambulance responded and transported the subject to Daviess Community Hospital.

1:45 p.m. - Received a report of a theft in Loogootee. LPD Officer Keller responded.

2:00 p.m. - Deputy Dant took two inmates to court.

3:10 p.m. - Received a report of threats against an individual in Loogootee. LPD Officer Keller responded.

3:35 p.m. - Received a report of a hit-and-run accident in Odon. One of the vehicles fled towards Loogootee. LPD officer Keller and Deputy Dant responded.

6:09 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance south of Shoals. Shoals 1st Responders and Martin County Ambulance responded. Subject was transported to Daviess Community Hospital.

10:19 p.m. - Received a report of a reckless driver on US 231 northbound from Haysville. LPD and Corporal Baker responded.

10:34 p.m. - Received a report of a vehicle off the road on SR 550. Corporal Baker responded.

FRIDAY, MARCH 27

3:29 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Ambulance transported the subject to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

9:58 a.m. - Received a report of a dead animal on SR 150. Major Burkhardt re-

moved the animal.

10:10 a.m. - Received a report of an injured owl south of Loogootee. ICO officer Mann responded.

11:40 a.m. - Major Burkhardt and Deputy Harmon did an educational presentation at Loogootee School.

1:20 p.m. - Received a report of a domestic situation in Loogootee. LPD Captain Akles responded.

1:30 p.m. - Received a report of an injured duck in Shoals. ICO Mann responded.

1:42 p.m. - Received a report of a reckless driver in Loogootee. LPD Captain Akles and ISP Sexton responded and checked the driver.

2:26 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Ambulance transported subject to Daviess Community Hospital.

3:14 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Burns City. Martin County Ambulance transported the subject to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

11:58 p.m. - Received a report of car vandalism in Crane. Corporal Baker responded.

SATURDAY, MARCH 28

11:52 a.m. - Received a report of domestic situation near Loogootee. Sgt Keller responded.

12:54 p.m. - Received a report of a possible stolen bicycle in Loogootee. LPD Captain Akles responded.

1:55 p.m. - Received a report of a domestic situation near Shoals. Sgt Keller and Corporal Baker responded and spoke with the subject.

3:31 p.m. - Received a report of an alarm in Loogootee. LPD Captain Akles responded. All was okay.

SUNDAY, MARCH 29

1:30 a.m. - Received a report of a reckless driver near Loogootee. Deputy Harmon responded.

6:30 p.m. - Received a request for a vehicle unlock on SR 450. Deputy Harmon responded.

MONDAY, MARCH 30

12:39 a.m. - Received a report of a confused male at a home in Shoals. Town Marshal Eckert and Deputy Harmon responded.

2:17 a.m. - Received a report of cows out along US 231 north of Loogootee. Deputy Harmon was unable to locate any cows.

JAIL BOOKINGS

MONDAY, MARCH 23

4:38 p.m. - Zachary Clifton, 20, of Shoals, was arrested by Deputy Harmon on a charge of battery. No bond has been set.

TUESDAY, MARCH 24

12:10 p.m. - Karl Young Jr, 45, of Shoals, was arrested by ISP Trooper Lents on a Martin County warrant and is being held without bond.

FRIDAY, MARCH 27

9:54 p.m. - Rick O'Connor, 54, of Loogootee, was arrested by ISP Trooper Sexton for operating while intoxicated and no bond has been set.

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Loogootee Police log

MONDAY, MARCH 23

10:18 a.m. - First responders were requested on US 231 for a medical call.

11:20 a.m. - Caller reported a disturbance on North Oak Street.

1:30 p.m. - Caller reported a theft of fuel from a vehicle parked on North Line Street.

4:22 p.m. - Caller reported a male driving without a driver's license.

5:21 p.m. - Caller reported a man and women yelling at each other in front of IGA.

10:12 p.m. - Caller reported a domestic dispute on North Line Street.

TUESDAY, MARCH 24

11:15 a.m. - Captain Hennette assisted the Martin County Sheriff's Department with a suspicious person call on Pineview Drive.

1:47 p.m. - Caller on County Line Road reported her daughter was out of control.

11:03 a.m. - Caller reported several cattle out on US North.

11:55 p.m. - Caller reported loud music on Walnut Street.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 25

2:12 a.m. - Caller reported cattle out near the city park.

5:51 a.m. - Caller reported cattle out near the Marathon Station.

1:39 p.m. - First responders were requested on Queen Street for a medical call.

5:08 p.m. - Caller reported a person dumping trash in her dumpster without her permission.

5:09 p.m. - Caller reported a parking violation.

6:21 p.m. - Caller reported a disturbance in Shaded Estates.

8:00 p.m. - First responders were requested on Fairview Street for a medical call.

9:03 p.m. - Caller reported a domestic dispute on Church Street.

THURSDAY, MARCH 26

1:08 a.m. - Caller reported loose cattle on

US 231.

1:28 p.m. - Officer Keller assisted with obtaining a mental evaluation for a female.

1:45 p.m. - Caller reported a theft of medication.

4:00 p.m. - Caller reported harassment.

7:27 p.m. - Caller reported a domestic dispute in Bowling Trailer Court.

8:23 p.m. - Caller reported a reckless driver on US 231. Officers were unable to locate.

FRIDAY, MARCH 27

1:20 p.m. - Caller reported a child custody dispute.

1:42 p.m. - Caller reported a reckless vehicle in the high school parking lot. Officers located the vehicle and spoke with the driver.

8:00 p.m. - Caller reported a possible intoxicated driver on Broadway Street.

9:31 p.m. - Officer Nolan assisted Trooper Sexton with an operating a vehicle while intoxicated arrest.

SATURDAY, MARCH 28

11:52 a.m. - Captain Akles assisted Sgt. Keller with a welfare check.

12:54 p.m. - Caller reported a bicycle on his property.

2:46 p.m. - Captain Akles assisted Trooper Lents with a suspicious vehicle in Whitfield.

7:37 p.m. - Caller reported a theft of fuel from Chuckles. Vehicle was located and the driver returned to pay for the fuel.

Accident report

TUESDAY, MARCH 24

10:53 a.m. - Matthew D. Knepp, of Loogootee, was operating a 2004 truck at the stoplight at US 231 and Hwy 50. At this time, Knepp backed and stuck a 2014 Chevy operated by Bruce Whitaker, of Fairview, North Carolina. Captain Hennette investigated.

Martin County Court News

CRIMINAL CONVICTIONS & SENTENCING

March 12

Nikki R. Mandabach, convicted of dealing in methamphetamine, a Class B Felony. Sentenced to serve six years in the Indiana Department of Corrections with 2,064 days suspended and credit for 63 actual days previously served and 63 good time credit days. Defendant received 2,064 days of probation.

March 19

James D. Hunt, convicted of burglary, a Class B Felony. Sentenced to serve eight years in the Indiana Department of Corrections with 2 years suspended and credit for 475 actual days previously served and 475 good time credit days. Defendant received 2 years of probation.

March 23

Richard P. Ervin, Jr., convicted of operating a vehicle as an habitual traffic violator, a Class 6 Felony; operating a vehicle while intoxicated, a Class C Misdemeanor; operating a vehicle while intoxicated, a Class 6 Felony. Sentenced to serve 2.5 years in the Indiana Department of Corrections with one year suspended and credit for 187 actual days previously served and 187 good time credit days. Defendant received one year probation.

Jarrod A. Zins, convicted of reckless driving, a Class B Misdemeanor, amended from operating a vehicle with an ACE of .08 or more, a Class C Misdemeanor. Sentenced to serve 180 days in the Martin County Security Center with 174 days suspended. Defendant received five months of probation. Also convicted of theft, a Class D Felony. Sentenced to serve 305 days in the Indiana Department of Corrections with 0 days suspended and credit for 12 days of incarceration at the Martin County Security Center and 293 days of pretrial home detention

through Martin County Community Corrections.

March 24

Robert Taylor, convicted of operating a motor vehicle after forfeiture of license for life, a Class 5 Felony. Sentenced to serve six years in the Indiana Department of Corrections with one year suspended and credit for 56 actual days previously served and 56 good time credit days. Defendant received 1 year of probation.

CRIMINAL CHARGES DISMISSED

March 12

Nikki R. Mandabach, visiting a common nuisance, a Class B Misdemeanor, dismissed.

March 18

Edward Bundy, criminal trespass, a Class A Misdemeanor, dismissed.

March 19

James D. Hunt, residential entry, a Class D Felony, dismissed; criminal trespass, a Class A Misdemeanor, dismissed.

CIVIL COURT

New Suits Filed

March 23

Capital One Bank vs. Lynnetta D. Bell, civil collection.

CIVIL COURT JUDGMENTS

March 26

Judgment in favor of the plaintiff Green Tree Servicing, LLC and against the defendant Victoria L. Sipes, for mortgage foreclosure in the amount of \$59,219.93.

SMALL CLAIMS COURT

March 24

Byron and Norma Slaubaugh vs. Russell J. Purlee and Georgia R. Purlee, complaint.

SMALL CLAIMS JUDGMENTS

March 18

Judgment in favor of the plaintiff Byron Stevenson and against the defendant Aaron McPike in the amount of \$4,353.97.

Classified ADS

YARD SALE

YARD SALE 407 Wood Street, Saturday, April 4, 8 a.m.-1 p.m. Girls' clothes siz 5 to juniors, boys' juniors, shoes, women's, lots of misc.

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In the Garden

By Ralph Purkhiser
Purdue University Master Gardener

A few weeks ago, I wrote a column advising winter-weary gardeners to visit a garden show to get a quick dose of spring. I have followed my own advice. In addition to the Hoosier Hillside Master Gardeners' Spring Tonic and the Land of Limestone Master Gardeners' Blooms-a-Bustin', I recently made a trip to the Windy City for the Chicago Flower and Garden Show.

Billed as the second-largest and oldest garden show in the United States, Chicago's Navy Pier became the home of temporary gardens constructed by various entities in the great hall. I had scarcely entered the hall when my nose was treated to the spring-time scent of hyacinths. One of the show gardens was surrounded by hyacinths in a variety of colors. Another features tulips. Of course, these bulbs had been forced to be in bloom at this time, but one must admire the exact timing of the nurserymen who get the blooms right on time.

The show featured more than flowers. The latest in pavers were set up in mock gardens, as well as wall blocks, edging and even garden decor. As always, I wished I could bring home every bench I saw. I love to have seating areas throughout my garden, giving opportunities to sit and enjoy the garden from various points of view or to rest a spell when working in any of the many beds.

My traveling companions and I were treated to a lecture by a gentleman who runs a landscape service on Mackinac Island. He was entertaining and informative. He issued an invitation to visit the island for its own gardening show in late July through early August.

No garden show would be complete without vendors, and there were plenty of vendors at this show, selling everything from garden tools to wine and food. I purchased a new hose nozzle, which I hope lives up to its claim to be the last nozzle I will ever have to buy. It certainly appears to be well-made, patterned after the nozzles of fire hoses. I also bought some hard-

Michigan City angler catches state record lake whitefish

Dan Rostecki didn't catch what he was after while fishing from the Michigan City pier last Saturday, but he did haul in a state-record lake whitefish instead.

"I was out there brown trout fishing on the bottom and thought I had one," Rostecki said. "It ended up being a whitefish. It's the first one I've ever caught. It was really, really a bonus."

A record bonus no less.

DNR State Record Fish Program coordinator Jamie Smyth certified the record catch on Monday. Rostecki will receive a certificate and patch from the DNR Division of Fish & Wildlife as recognition of the record.

"Congratulations to Dan on his record catch," Smyth said. "Since this one came so early in the year, perhaps it's a sign that we're in for a great year of fishing in Indiana."

Rostecki's catch from Lake Michigan weighed 5 pounds, 8 ounces and topped the previous Indiana record by more than a pound. He had an inkling it might be a contender after a friend caught one a week earlier that weighed 3 pounds, 6 ounces.

"She said something a couple days later about the record being 4-6," Rostecki said. "That's crazy."

Rostecki used squid and nightcrawler for bait.

"It's a good combination for brown trout," he said. "The squid has a nice oil smell, and the brown trout kind of dial in on it. My friend caught a couple last week

to-find seeds and some baked cheese. The cheese will go well with the fresh salads I am already imagining from my garden.

Other than the flower show, there was not a lot of gardening to see in Chicago. I did enjoy the Crystal Garden, a glass house at Navy Pier. We walked under arches created by streams of water shooting from one raised bed to another. Many of the plants used in the beds were the same as those I grow as houseplants, except much larger.

We also spent a day at the Lincoln Park Zoo, which has two glass houses. The first is in the zoo itself and provides habitat for some of the zoo's smaller reptiles, insects and mammals. The larger, known as the Lincoln Park Conservatory, had rooms in which various climates supported a variety of plants. The huge domed roof of the first room was high enough for palms that have grown to mature heights. Around the palms, tropical plants from many countries grew and twined around each other. One room was dedicated to orchids and other epiphytes. These plants do not need soil to grow, often growing attached to trees and shrubs. However, they are not parasitic and do not harm the host plants. Epiphytes take most of the water and nutrients they need out of the air.

Another room brought spring to Chicago a little early. Tulips, daffodils and other spring bulbs were in full bloom, as were many azaleas and rhododendrons. The bright colors of these shrubs were in stark contrast to the general landscape in Chicago.

We were housed in a condominium in the downtown area, where green space was a premium. There were few areas where one could see enough soil to support any plant life even when the weather warms. There were some large pots to hold summer flowers. I could not help but feel sorry for the people who have to go to public gardens to even glimpse the beauty of spring that is now unfolding at Sandhill Gardens and in the gardens of many of my readers. Chicago was nice for a visit, but I certainly would not want to live there.

using it and a couple more this week."

Lake whitefish is a relatively new category in the DNR's State Record Fish Program. The first year it was included was 2012 after DNR fisheries biologists determined an increasing number of lake whitefish in Indiana waters of Lake Michigan required establishment of a daily bag limit of 12 fish.

Scott Nieman set the initial record at 3.05 pounds in 2012, and Donald Hans topped it later that year with one weighing 4-6.

According to Ken Schultz's Fishing Encyclopedia, the average size for lake whitefish is in the 1- to 2-pound range. Different accounts put the line-catch world record at 14-6 or 15-6, but the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources website cites one weighing 42.67 pounds caught in Lake Superior in 1918.

"Traditionally they are found in northern Lake Michigan," said Brian Breidert, Lake Michigan fisheries research biologist for the Indiana DNR. "We're starting to see a bit of a range expansion and have for about the last four or five years. Illinois is starting to see them as well."

Indiana's Record Fish Program began in 1963 and now recognizes 52 species. Visit dnr.in.gov/fishwild/3577.htm for more information on the record fish program and the companion Fish of the Year contest.

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Bald eagle update

-Photo provided

Conservation Officer Eric Doane provided an update on the bald eagle that was found on Monday at the Jim Williams farm in Mitcheltree Township in Martin County. It was found by Tyler Williams, of Shoals. It did not have any apparent injuries but was weak and unable to fly. The bird was transported to a Federal Rehabilitator in Vincennes. The eagle tested negative for any poisons, and x-rays showed no major injuries. The eagle is having vision problems and is possibly blind which could be due to injury like a concussion. The veterinarian says could be permanent or temporary but only time will tell. It is eating well and is getting stronger.

Indiana spring weather outlook: Expect swings in conditions

BY KEITH ROBINSON
Purdue University News Service

As Indiana frees itself from the grip of a harsh late winter, the state climate office says a developing weather pattern is likely to produce variable conditions this spring.

A developing El Niño - a cyclic warming of the Pacific Ocean along the equator - is the focus of climatologists giving a glimpse into potential conditions for planting season in April and May.

Studies by the state climate office, based at Purdue University, show that when an El Niño is in progress, April temperatures range from below normal in northern Indiana to above normal in the southern counties. April precipitation tends to be below normal in northern Indiana to above normal in the south.

Although some "seasonalization" in temperature patterns is expected, Indiana hasn't experienced "normal" conditions consistently for quite a while and isn't likely to see them anytime soon.

"We are in early days of the El Niño formation, so expect lot of variability and swings in the weather patterns," said Dev Niyogi, state climatologist. "There will be likely little 'normal' of this season as has been the norm for the last few seasons."

But cold temperatures and drier-than-normal conditions are expected through April 1.

This winter was not as severe as a year ago, so it has not been as damaging to plants. But harsh weather in February took its toll on peach buds in southern Indiana because temperatures dipped to 14 degrees below zero at one point.

"There very likely will be little or no crops of peaches in the south," said Peter Hirst, Purdue Extension fruit tree specialist.

Peach trees in the northern part of the state did not sustain as much damage because the temperature drop was not as severe at the time - if by only a less than 10 degrees.

"In the northern area we'll see some peach

crops," he said.

Although there are only about 500 acres of peach trees throughout the state, the peach crop can be valuable, Hirst said.

Indiana apple trees, which can withstand colder temperatures than peach trees, fared well over the winter. "The buds look good," he said.

Hirst said cool weather in the coming weeks actually would be good for fruit trees because it would make them less susceptible to cold that could follow an early spring warm-up.

Grape growers are finally getting the chance to help their grapevines recover from the exceptionally harsh cold of last year's winter. Indiana vineyards suffered severe winter injury in 2014; many vines were killed to the ground and since have regrown shoots from the base of the trunks. How to properly handle those vines to re-establish trunks and cordons for future years of production will be the main purpose of a Purdue Wine Grape Team workshop April 8 at Dulcius Vineyards in Columbia City.

There has been some damage this year to grape varieties tender to cold, but Extension viticulture specialist Bruce Bordelon said growers can adjust by pruning.

"It's not a good thing to have any damage while we are trying to retrain vines, but I don't expect it to be a major problem assuming that we get no more sub-zero temperatures," he said.

This winter's weather is unlikely to affect crop insect pests such as corn rootworm, the eggs of which overwinter and are well adapted to Indiana climate in most years, said Purdue Extension entomologist Christian Krupke.

A pattern of warm days followed by freezing in January and February can kill the eggs, but Indiana did not have that weather this year.

"What we are seeing now, a 'typical' warming period for the season, is unlikely to have any adverse effect on corn rootworm egg survival," he said.

Calendar of Events

Talk to a lawyer scheduled for April 2
 Due to the winter storm on March 4 and 5, Talk to a Lawyer was unable to take place. Still have that legal question that needs answering? Talk to a lawyer telephone clinic will take place on Thursday, April 2 from 4:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. CST (4:30 to 8 EST). The telephone number is 812-618-4845 and toll free 888-594-3449. As a tip, the telephones are usually very busy early in the clinic, so if there is difficulty getting through, try a little later. Anyone with a general legal question regarding Indiana law can call in and talk to a volunteer attorney. Talk to a lawyer is co-sponsored by Volunteer Lawyer Program of Southwestern Indiana, Evansville Bar Foundation and Indiana Bar Foundation.

Easter Egg Hunt
 There will a community Easter Egg Hunt Saturday, April 4 at the American Legion Country Club. The Easter Bunny will be present at 11 a.m. for pictures so bring your camera to get pics of children with him. The egg hunt will start at noon sharp. All children between the ages of one and 10 are welcome to attend.

Mustering Elm Park Group meeting
 The Mustering Elm Park Group will have its first meeting of the year on Monday, April 6 at 7 p.m. at the park located along Hwy 450 in Trinity Springs. Events will be discussed. The public is welcome to attend.

Weather spotter class
 Martin County Emergency Management

Recycling center sets spring clean-up dates

The Martin County Solid Waste Management District will host spring clean-up and yard sale at the recycling center in Loogootee Friday, April 24 from 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m. and Saturday, April 25 from 8 a.m.-11:30 p.m. This event is for all Martin County residents and businesses only. This is an opportunity for everyone to clean out the garages, attic, and homes of unwanted trash, and junk that plagues every one.

The recycling center will accept items such as mattresses, indoor and outdoor furniture, carpeting, bagged garbage and other bulky items.

The center is also hosting a yard sale - make a few dollars by selling your items while we have the clean-up. You are responsible for your own sale. There is no cost to you. All yard sale patrons will use the lawn to set up for their sale. Yard sale will be same hours as the clean-up event.

The recycling center asks that you separate materials for recycling from the trash.

What will be recycled: All scrap metals, such as TV towers, metal fence, and appliances. They do not throw out: newspaper, magazines and catalogues, plastic bottles, tin cans, aluminum cans, cardboard, hard-back books, paperback books, phone books, plastic film such as grocery sacks, and dry cleaning bags. Never throw away your junk mail or any personal records that contain your name. The recycling center has a shredder for you to use.

The fees: a truck load will be \$10. Tires; auto and small pick up truck size are \$2 each, if you have rims add one dollar, tractor and semi tires are \$15 each. Paint and paint products are \$1 each, if you have larger than gallon size the prices is \$1 per gallon. Appliances with Freon are \$10 each. Computers monitors are \$5 each, TVs are \$5 and up depending on how big.

If you cannot afford the fees, please call the recycling center at 812-295-4142 and arrangements will be made for you to dispose of your stuff. There is no reason that any property in Martin County should be an eye sore with piles of trash and junk lying around.

(a/k/a civil defense) has invited a representative from the Indianapolis Weather Service to teach a severe weather spotter class Tuesday, April 7 at 6:30 p.m. at the civil defense fire station on the fairgrounds. The class will be about two hours. This class is an opportunity to learn how to assist the weather service in identifying dangerous weather. For more information, visit the Skywarn page at www.crh.noaa.gov/ind/?n=spotter. If you interested but are not able to join, use this site to find other classes in the area or view online training.

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

Cub Scout meetings
 Cub scout meetings are held at Loogootee United Methodist Church on the first, third, and fourth Monday of each month from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. For more information, contact Bryan Adams at 812-854-7837.

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 third Monday 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.

Animal Shelter featured pet



Norman is a 1-2 year old male beagle/basset mix. Very sweet, calm, gets along with other dogs. He is neutered and has had all his shots. Adoption fee is \$60. If interested in adopting Norman or one of the shelter's many other dogs or cats, stop by the animal shelter at 507 N. Oak Street in Loogootee. There are several dogs and cats to choose from! Shelter hours are Monday and Wednesday from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. and Saturday 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. or by appt.

More Neat Stuff



By Ann Ackerman



PUNS. The usually humorous use of a word in such a way as to suggest two or more of its meanings or the meaning of another word similar in sound. A pun is a figure of speech which consists of a deliberate confusion of similar words or phrases for rhetorical effect, whether humorous or serious.

The person who invented the knock knock joke won the no-bell prize

I couldn't work out how to buckle my seat belt, then it clicked.

People who say they suffer from constipation are full of poop.

Never trust atoms. They make up everything.

I can't believe I got fired from the calendar factory. All I did was take a day off.

Singing in the shower is all fun and games until you get shampoo in your mouth, then it just becomes a soap opera.

To the guy who invented zero. Thanks for nothing.

8. A bicycle can't stand alone because it is two-tired.

9. What's the definition of a will? (It's a dead giveaway).

10. Time flies like an arrow. Fruit flies like a banana.

11. A backward poet writes inverse.

12. In democracy it's your vote that counts; in feudalism it's your count that votes.

13. A chicken crossing the road is poultry in motion.

14. With her marriage she got a new name

and a dress.

15. Show me a piano falling down a mineshaft and I'll show you A-flat minor.

16. When a clock is hungry it goes back four seconds.

17. The man who fell into an upholstery machine is fully recovered.

18. A grenade thrown into a kitchen in France would result in Linoleum Blow-n-part.

19. You feel stuck with your debt if you can't budge it.

20. Local Area Network in Australia: the LAN down under.

21. He often broke into song because he couldn't find the key.

22.. Every calendar's days are numbered.

23. A lot of money is tainted. 'Taint yours and 'taint mine.

24. A boiled egg in the morning is hard to beat.

25. He had a photographic memory which was never developed.

26. A plateau is a high form of flattery.

27. The short fortune teller who escaped from prison was a small medium at large.

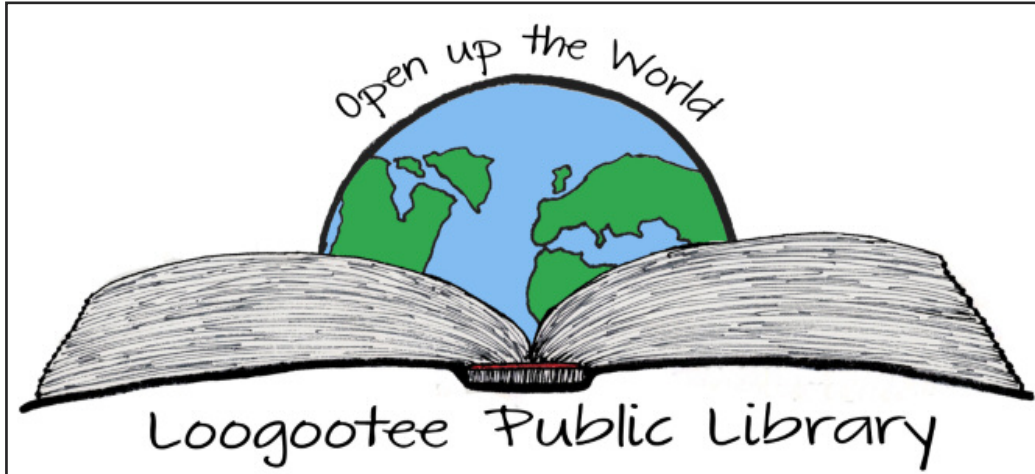
28. Those who get too big for their britches will be exposed in the end.

29. When you've seen one shopping center you've seen a mall.

30. Those who jump off a Paris bridge are in Seine.

31. When an actress saw her first strands of gray hair she thought she'd dye.

Make someone smile today!



BY DARLA WAGLER
 Librarian, Loogootee Public Library

The library board meeting for April has been rescheduled to April 20, 2015 at 5:30 p.m.

The staff is busy working on the 2015 summer reading program and this year's theme is "Every Hero Has a Story". The program will focus on superheroes as well as local heroes (military, policeman, fireman, rescue, etc.) There will be lots of hands-on activities, crafts, field trips, programs, and a lot more. There will be more information posted in May including when registration begins.

It is Bring Your Ancestors to Life at Loogootee Public Library on Tuesday night, April 14 at 7 p.m. Pre-registration required. The presentation will help will help you

know your ancestors for th epeople they were instead of just cold facts and meaningless numbers.

New Books
 Mystery Fiction: "The Stranger" by Harlan Coben, "The Dead Play On" by Heather Graham, and "Folly" by Stella Cameron
 Fiction: "The Cavendon Women" by Barbara Taylor Bradford.

Children's Books: "Bear's School Day" by Stella Blackstone, "Glasswings: A Butterfly's Story" by Elisa Kleven, "Public School Superhero" by James Patterson, "Ten Rules of Being A Superhero" by Deb Pilutti, "Do Superheroes Have Teddy Bears?" by Carmela LaVigna Coyle, "The Amazing Adventures of Bumblebee Boy" by David Soman, "Princess Super Kitty" by Antoinette Portis, and "Space Song Rocket Ride" by Sunny Scribens.



NSWC Crane Commanding Officer speaks at WestGate Academy

What does Southern Indiana have to do with international phone calls and inter-continental cargo ships? Quite a lot, according to Naval Surface Warfare Center, Crane Commanding Officer, Captain JT Elder.

During his remarks at the National Defense Industrial Association (NDIA) lunch at learn at the WestGate Academy Conferencing and Training Center, Elder noted that the United States Navy is the primary presence in the world's oceans, actively protecting international waterways. That includes the cables that travel under the ocean's surface to provide international communication and connectivity as well as the trade routes that are still the cheapest, best way to transport goods.

"Our activity at NSWC Crane supports the United States Navy and its ability to provide those services," said Elder, who proudly touted the technical capacity of the nation's third largest naval base.

Elder spoke at one of the NDIA's regular networking lunches, which are open to the public, and regularly bring in tenants from the WestGate@Crane Technology Park. One tenant, Greene County Health WestGate, sponsored the lunch and learn, opening up the main conference room for Elder's remarks.

"We have a full service clinic here at WestGate," said Amy Lore, Marketing and Business Development Manager for Greene County General Hospital. "It's our goal to provide world-class medical services worthy of the phenomenal technical talent we have at Crane and in the technology park. We want to support them as they support the warfighter and contribute to the strength of the Crane communities."

After speaking, Elder took questions. Lynn Coyne, President of the Bloomington Economic Development Corporation, asked how the surrounding communities and organizations like his could do a better job of supporting Crane.

"Just keep doing what you're doing," Elder responded. He noted several programs including the state's Stellar Grants and the Southwest Central Indiana Strategic Plan (available at westgatecrane.com) that are important to the base because they are supporting strong communities and strategic workforce development.

"We need to see more of the private sector stepping up to the gate to see what we have to offer," Elder added, referring to NSWC Crane's substantial portfolio of patents that are available to the public for development for the open market.

\$5.3 Million in ID theft tax refunds stopped

To date, the Indiana Department of Revenue has identified and stopped more than \$5.3 million in attempted identity theft and tax refund fraud. Last year at this time, the department had stopped just over \$1 million in identity theft and refund fraud.

"This demonstrates the extent of the iden-

tity theft epidemic and the department's efforts to combat it," said Indiana Department of Revenue Commissioner Mike Alley.

The fraudulent returns were stopped by the increased security features of the department's 2015 identity protection program. These security features confirm the identity of each Hoosier before processing their returns.

This process has helped 3,000 taxpayers discover their identities were stolen and used to file fraudulent Indiana tax returns. As part of the program, more than 179,000 taxpayers have been asked to complete an Identity Confirmation Quiz so far. More than 126,000 taxpayers already successfully have completed this four-question, three-minute quiz.

Those required to complete the quiz receive an instructional letter from the department. The quiz can be completed via the department's secure website or over the phone.

Those asked to take the quiz are not suspected of identity theft. This effort is designed to further protect taxpayers' identities and tax refunds. After successful quiz completion, the taxpayer receives his or her refund within 14 days if electronically filed and within 12 weeks if filed by paper.

Taxpayers who receive an Identity Confirmation Quiz letter from the department but who have not yet submitted an Indiana tax return should NOT complete the quiz—this may indicate the taxpayer's identity was compromised. Instead, these taxpayers should follow the letter's instructions to immediately contact the department.

Last year the department's ID protection program stopped \$88 million in identity theft refunds and 78,000 fraudulent returns. Commissioner Mike Alley testified earlier this month before the U.S. Senate Committee on Finance. His statement about identity theft and the department's identity protection program is located at www.in.gov/dor/files/indiana-testimony-senate-finance-committee-3-12-15.pdf.

State, local and federal health officials respond to HIV outbreak

State health officials reported last Friday a total of 81 HIV positive tests, which includes 74 confirmed and 7 preliminary cases related to the outbreak in southeastern Indiana. Oral fluid HIV tests (swab in the mouth to collect saliva), which are being utilized, are very accurate and all of the preliminary positives in the outbreak have so far become confirmed positives. All positive cases have been linked to injection drug abuse, with some individuals also reporting sexual intercourse as a possible mode of transmission.

Governor Mike Pence has declared a public health emergency in Scott County due to the outbreak reaching epidemic proportions.

"Scott County is facing an epidemic of HIV, but this is not a Scott County problem; this is an Indiana problem," said Governor Pence. "I am confident that together, we will stop this HIV outbreak in its tracks."

The public health emergency declaration was issued in Executive Order 15-05, which orders the state to coordinate a multi-agency response and provides additional resources and tools to tackle the outbreak.

"The order issued yesterday gives local officials the authorization and tools needed to help stop this tragic epidemic," said State Health Commissioner Jerome Adams, M.D., M.P.H. "Stopping this outbreak will take the full collaboration and partnership of federal, state and local resources. I am encouraged by the compassion and collaboration by those at both the state and local level to stem the tide of the outbreak."

The Indiana State Department of Health is working closely with local health officials, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), drug treatment facilities, academic and local medical providers, other State agencies and other partners to contain the outbreak and get HIV positive individuals treatment. This includes:

Providing free HIV testing to individuals

Utilizing a rapid HIV screening test that takes 20 minutes to process. If that test is reactive, or indicates the likely presence of disease, blood is being drawn to send to the State Lab for confirmatory testing, which produces results within a week.

Interviewing newly identified HIV positive individuals to obtain sex and needle sharing partner information by Disease Intervention Specialists (DIS). Individuals are also referred to medical care and HIV Care Coordination services.

Setting up an incident command center in Scott County to coordinate HIV treatment and substance abuse treatment.

Launching a medical clinic to assist with individual care.

Providing resources and support to help individuals sign up for the Healthy Indiana Plan (HIP 2.0), gain access to substance abuse treatment and other needs as determined.

Creation and implementation of a public education awareness campaign called You Are Not Alone, which focuses on substance abuse treatment, safe sex, needle disposal and HIV testing and treatment.

Viewers are encouraged to contact the HIV services hotline or addiction hotline for local treatment and care resources.

The Executive Order issued by the Governor authorizes the Scott County local officials to take the actions they deem necessary, including a targeted, short-term needle exchange program for the sole purpose of containing the epidemic. Needle exchange programs are illegal in Indiana.

The Scott County Board of Health met Thursday evening to discuss and vote on a request for a needle exchange program. The request was approved by officials and sent to the Indiana State Department of Health. State health officials are working closely with local officials to coordinate the program.

"All members of the Board of Health voted unanimously to approve the needle-exchange program request," said Scott County Health Officer R. Kevin Rogers, M.D. "We appreciate the opportunity that Governor Pence is giving us to authorize this intervention."

All cases so far related to the outbreak have originated in Scott County but health officials continue to investigate contacts in Scott, Clark, Perry, Washington and Jackson counties.

State health officials recommend that all Hoosiers know their HIV status. The best way for an individual to learn their HIV status is by getting tested by a health care professional. Hoosiers in the southeastern portion of the state, especially individuals who have engaged in high-risk behavior such as needle sharing and unprotected sex, are advised to get tested and then re-tested after about two to three months because HIV can take up to three months to appear in a person's system.

To help reduce risk of HIV infection, avoid:

- injection drug use;
- sharing or re-using needles and other drug paraphernalia;
- engaging in unprotected sex; and,
- engaging in sex with commercial sex workers.

For HIV testing locations and information about HIV Care Coordination, individuals are encouraged to call the ISDH HIV Services Hotline at (866) 588-4948.

Individuals seeking help with substance abuse should call the national 24-hour addiction hotline at 1-800-662-HELP (4357). This hotline provides confidential, free, 24-hour-a-day, 365-day-a-year, information service, in English and Spanish, for individuals and family members facing mental health and/or substance use disorders. This service provides referrals to local treatment facilities, support groups, and community-based organizations. Callers can also order free publications and other information.

To learn more about the link between HIV infection and drug abuse, visit the National Institute on Drug Abuse at <http://hiv.drugabuse.gov/index.html>.

Hoosiers who do not have health care coverage or access to a doctor are encouraged to check availability for the new Healthy Indiana Plan—HIP 2.0—by visiting www.HIP.IN.gov or calling 1-877-GET-HIP-9.

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