

Martin County JOURNAL

Year 15, Issue 15

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 10, 2024

Eight pages



LHS Prom

-Photo provided

Loogootee High School's "Under the Lights" Grand March will be held at Jack Butcher Arena on Saturday, April 13 at 7 p.m. Prom royalty candidates are shown above. Prom princess candidates are Brianna Eckerle, Breanna Courter, Ashley Green, Cacia Wilcoxon, Anistyn Aiman, and Cora Ausbrooks. Prom prince candidates are Kanton Dearwester, Wade Walton, Landon Bowling, Jackson Bauer, Ryken Chandler, and Brock Rayhill. Prom queen candidates are Alivia Willis, Abbigail Nonte, Alana Hedrick, Sydney Wittmer, Ashlynn Gilbert, and Allie Henninger. Prom king candidates are Cale Greene, Chance Carrico, Reis Whitney, Drew Walker, Connor Swartzentruber, and Leighton Jeffers.

Property tax bills have gone out to residents Election reminders

Property tax bills have been mailed out to Martin County residents. The spring installment is due May 10, 2024 and the fall installment is due November 12, 2024. Payments can be made in the office, Monday through Friday 8 a.m. until 4 p.m. Payments can be mailed to P.O. Box 359 Shoals, IN 47581 or you can use the drop box located in front of the courthouse for after-hours payment, along with online payments that can also be made at www.govtechtaxpro.com an additional of 2.65 percent will be added to your bill by the card processor.

Taxpayers have a responsibility to pay their tax bill. If you do not receive a tax bill, you can request one by calling the treasurer's office at 812-247-3701. Unpaid tax bills or late payments will incur a penalty. You may experience long wait times on the phone. Your patience is greatly appreciated.

All registered voters in the county will be eligible to vote in the May 7 Primary Election. If you are unsure of your voting status, you may contact the Martin County Clerk's office.

In-office absentee voting starts at the clerk's office on April 9, 2024. In-person voting hours in the clerk's office will be Monday through Friday 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. with the last day being May 6, at noon. The clerk's office will also be open for in-person voting from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturdays, April 27 and May 4. Absentee ballot by mail applications can be requested any time before April 25 by calling the clerk's office at 812-247-3651.

Independent candidates have until noon on July 1 to file in order to be on the November 5 ballot.

School board offices will be on the November General Election ballot only. The school board candidate filing period (See 'ELECTION' on page 2)



Shoals Basketball awards

The Shoals High School Basketball Teams recently received awards for the season. Shown above, on the left, are varsity players who received honors. From left to right are Maliki Bridges (most assists, best free throw percentage and co-MVP), Andrew Banks (Believe Award), Coach Hopkins, Brydon McKibben (most rebounds, best field goal percentage and co-MVP), Carson Shaw (defense award) and Ralph Holman (mental attitude award). Not pictured is Zeth Grafton (JugRox Award). Shown above, on the right, are the junior varsity award winners. From left to right are Coach Jordan, Wyatt Boyd (MVP), Skylar Boyd (best free throw percentage), Kyle Winger (mental attitude award), Aiden Taylor (best field goal percentage) and Coach Crutch. Not pictured is Jamer Potts (most rebounds).

-Photos provided

Loogootee Council approves raises for most employees

BY COURTNEY HUGHETT
Martin County Journal Publisher

The Loogootee City Council met Tuesday night, April 9.

Mayor Brian Ader read a statement regarding changing the wages of the city employees. He said they decided to give a two percent raise to all city employees, excluding himself, the clerk-treasurer and the city council because elected officials cannot change their salaries mid-year. He said they also changed the way the money was taken from funds as a lot was coming out of the general fund. He said now, it is more in line with each position and whether it is for water and sewer, street department, parks and recreation, etc.

They also took one police captain position that hasn't been filled in the police department and divided up that salary for all officers. According to Police Chief Jimmy Hunt, the police department currently has three full-time officers with the goal to get that back up to six, eight part-time officers and four reserve officers. Fully staffed, the police department would have 18 officers, according to Hunt. Mayor Ader said they looked at the surrounding cities to try to get the officers' salaries more in line. He said the officers' salaries now are \$2,000 or less than the City of Washington which will help with officer retention. He said the city has lost 13 officers over the past few years which has cost the city more than \$200,000 in training, uniforms, etc. The council approved the changes to the salary and wage ordinance.

The council approved spending \$2,275 for all officers to have a membership with the Fraternal Order of Police which also provides legal defense to those officers if they should ever need it. Chief Hunt said the cost will increase to \$4,380 next year once they are fully staffed and when the amount is not prorated for starting four months into the year.

Clint Roos, with Midwestern Engineers, opened bids received to do infrastructure work for the new 30 home development off Country Court. The bids

received were as follows: Don Gress Construction, of Washington, \$1,824,909; Jerry Aigner Construction, Inc., of Boonville, for \$2,101,850; Kerns Excavating, LLC, of Bicknell, for \$2,239,050; Knies Construction, Inc./Calcar Paving, Inc., of Jasper, for \$2,603,745 and Striegel Design & Construction, Inc., of Medora, for \$3,250,459.

The project is being funded in part with READI grant funds of \$600,000, City of Loogootee funds of \$640,000 and the developers' funds of \$700,000. Roos said, based on the bids received, the lowest would still put the project \$250,000 short. He said that extra money would be the responsibility of the developer and not the city. The council tabled the bids until they could be reviewed by Midwestern.

The mayor again tabled discussion regarding allowing events to be held in the downtown area of the city. He said they still have some research that needs to be done.

The council approved spending \$79,000 to purchase three acres next to the wastewater treatment plant from Adam Greene. Mayor Ader said the wastewater treatment plant is currently landlocked and there is a lot they can do with those three acres. He said they may use it to store the culverts and other supplies that are currently being housed on the city's property on North Oak Street. He said the brush pile on North Oak Street could also be moved to the three acres and then they can fence off that lot and potentially turn it into a park. Two appraisals were received on the three acres with the one approved being the lowest, which is what Greene agreed to. The other appraisal (See 'LOOGOOTEE' on page 2)

CORRECTION

In the April 3 issue of The Journal, it was incorrectly reported that the Martin County Commissioners approved paying for health insurance for community corrections employees. The commissioners actually tabled the decision because Commissioner Paul George was not present.





G2

By Gordon Grindstaff

I celebrated my 84th birthday a few weeks ago and as a consequence, received several well wishes on social media from my online friends and acquaintances. This is a phenomenon of 21st century technology, my receiving many more of these online greetings than I ever received actual birthday cards in the Neanderthal days before the Internet. I imagine this is because it is quite easy to log on and peruse the day's birthdays. I don't know about other social media platforms, but Facebook conveniently provides me with a daily list of folks having birthdays and even helps me type a greeting by magically anticipating what I want to say in my greeting.

This virtual birthday card is a two-edged sword in that it creates a warm feeling when folks take the time to acknowledge that one of their fellow human beings is celebrating a special day. The other edge to that sword; I can't help but think that the virtual version tends to lack the sincerity found in a birthday card. However, since I enjoy hearing from people, even if it's only a pre-programmed 'Happy Birthday' statement, I'm not going to explore that idea any further; I'll leave that up to the sociologists to argue over.

Birthdays, at least every four years or so, also mean a visit to the Bureau of Motor Vehicles for a renewal of the license that allows us the privilege of navigating the highways and byways of these United States. A couple of years back, I made one of those trips to the BMV on a Saturday morning one day after my license expired and this procrastination cost me an additional six dollars in a late fee.

So, the morning after my recent birthday celebration, I got out my wallet and checked my driver's license to make sure it hadn't expired. It hasn't. I'm good until 2026. Now, looking forward to that time, I fully plan to still be behind the wheel. Of course, because I will be over 85 years old, I will only get a two-year renewal and then, only after passing a vision test. (1).

Things have changed somewhat since my first license was issued in the spring of 1956 after completing the St. John High School Driver's education class taught by Mr. Jim Watson. I'm operating from memory when I say this but I'm pretty sure my initial license had my social security number as the identification number. Unlike today, folks didn't care if other people knew your Social Security ID. What could it hurt?

The other thing I'm pretty sure of is that the license did not have my picture on it. I base this memory on a couple of things; the first being the belief that the technology to accomplish a picture ID did not exist at the time. The other reason is that I do not recall having my picture taken nor do I remember preparing for a picture. I'm pretty sure that if I had known my picture was to be taken, I would have brought my Brylcreem along to hold my D. A. haircut in place.

On that long ago day when I was scheduled to take my driver's test, Mr. Watson took two or three of us from Loogootee to Shoals in the vehicle I was to take the test in, a light blue and white 1956 Ford Fairlane on loan from the Bill Fisher Ford Dealership in Loogootee.

During the trip from Loogootee, even though there were no traffic lights in the whole county, nor had I ever been confronted with one, I prayed that one had not been installed in Shoals since my last visit there a few days before; the thought of having to negotiate an intersection with a traffic light was making me a nervous wreck. (2)

The driver's education car had a couple of recently introduced optional safety features, one of which was front seat lap belt restraints; I don't remember if there were belts in the back seat, but I don't think there were. At any rate, we pretty much ignored them because the devices, not having any retraction features, were cumbersome and usually tangled. The shoulder belts came along about 10 years later but only a small portion of drivers actually used the things. They were too much trouble.

Even into the late 1970's, families pretty much ignored restraints and children bounced around in the back seat like ping pong balls, unaware and unconcerned about the potential of becoming launched rocket in a head-on collision.

The government finally enforced the mandatory usage of the restraints sometime in the 1980's and of course, today, everyone, myself included, knows that the car should not move until all occupants are safely strapped in.

The other safety feature worth mentioning in that '56 Ford was the dashboard; the whole thing was padded, covered with some sort of light blue vinyl. In addition, all the information dials were recessed into the dashboard display area. But even with all those features, the new design was flawed; the cigarette ash tray occupied a prominent position in the center of the dashboard, surrounded by padded material. As a result, Mr. Watson, a smoker, caught the dashboard's padding material on fire when he parked his cigarette in the ash tray, leaving the area around the ashtray a seared, melted mess.

I guess we can file that under 'Back to the drawing board....'.

G2 notes:

1: Believe it or not, The AARP organization says that the average age at which people give up driving is 75 years old.

2: I won't keep you in suspense; there were no traffic lights, so I passed the test including the parallel parking maneuver although it took a while to find a spot where parallel parking was available.

Gordon Grindstaff is a retired Octogenarian residing in Central Indiana with Susie, his wife of 59 years. Gordon is an avid gardener, self-proclaimed humorist, observer of the human condition and former traveling man; he also serves as the caregiver for Susie who is living with vascular dementia. All of these traits provide a wide range of fodder for his writings. Gordon can be contacted by email at gordongrindstaff@yahoo.com.

ELECTION

(Continued from page one)

has changed and will run from Tuesday, May 21 to Thursday, June 20 at noon. All forms will be available in the Martin County Clerk's Office located at 129 Main St. Shoals. For more information call the clerk at 812-247-3651.

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Painting contest

-Photo provided

Kenzie Graber was the winner of a painting contest held March 9 at H&H Hometown Hardware in Shoals. She received \$100 cash, four free gallons of paint, and a dozen donuts from A Piece of Cake. H&H would like to thank all the painters and community members who came in to vote and who purchased the paintings in the auction. H & H Hometown Hardware owner Grant Sherfick presented Reva Troutman, Shoals High School art teacher, \$554.22 in proceeds from the event, for the Shoals High School Art Department.

LOOGOOTEE

(Continued from page one)

was \$81,250. Greene also split the cost of the two appraisals with the city, each paying \$450.

Adam Greene has also expressed interest in purchasing the city-owned parking lot next to Greene's Body Shop. Mayor Ader said the parking lot isn't doing anything for the city so there is no need to keep it. He said he is not sure what all needs to be done to sell that property, whether the two appraisals were enough or if more needed to be done. He said he would find out and report it back to the council.

Bill Boyd presented information to the council regarding fencing around the four new pickleball courts that are being built next to the city pool. Boyd said the pickleball committee will be paying for the fencing, so he is just providing the information to the council to keep them

informed. The fencing will be four or six feet, all the way around the courts.

Mayor Ader reported that the pavilion has been ordered for the railroad property at the corner of JFK Avenue and Church Street. He said they moved forward with purchasing the pavilion because a price increase of three to five percent would have went into effect on April 1. They purchased the pavilion for \$113,000. He said although CSX hasn't moved their lines and poles from the property yet, the city plans to move forward with constructing the stage and installing sidewalks.

The city council approved a resolution presented by Joe Lannan to support applying for a \$5 million Lilly Endowment grant to provide low-income housing and childcare facilities to Martin County. The county council and commissioners approved the same resolution at their meetings last week.

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OSCAR GILBERT

Oscar J. Gilbert, formerly of Shoals, passed away Wednesday, April 3, 2024, at Daviess County Hospital. A resident of Washington, he was 79.

He was born September 9, 1944 in Shoals; son of Oscar and Myrtle (Pittman) Gilbert.

He married Wanda Marie Hatfield on June 12, 1964 in Shoals, and she survives.

Oscar was a truck driver for Boyd Grain Trucking for 27 years before retiring. He was a mechanic, enjoyed working on engines, lawn mowers, and vehicles of any kind.

Surviving are his wife, Wanda; daughter, Laurie Gilbert; five grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; brother, Kenny Gilbert; and several nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents; son, Jeffrey Gilbert; and siblings, Carl, Arthur, Vernon, Dallas, and Ruby.

Cremation was chosen and no services will be held at this time.

Arrangements are under the direction of the Queen-Lee Chapel of George Funeral Care, Shoals.

Memorial contributions may be made to the family at www.queenlee.com.

BRENDA BRAUN

Brenda L. Braun passed away Tuesday, April 2, 2024, at the Jasper Memorial Hospital and Health Care Center. A resident of Loogootee, she was 71.



BRENDA BRAUN

She was born November 10, 1952, in Washington; daughter of Cleo and Lydia Howell Braun.

She was a 1970 graduate of Shoals High School. She had worked at US Gypsum, Larry Allbright Insurance, and Stonebelt Trucking all in the Shoals area.

Brenda loved animals and always had a cat or two in the house. She adored her cat Buddy which was like family to her. She also enjoyed watching TV and in particular reality shows such as the Bachelor, The Voice, and Dancing with the Stars. She loved watching QVC and was known to purchase many of the kitchen and food items that they promoted.

She also loved sports and was a longtime fan of the New York Yankees. Her favorite player and hero was Derek Jeter who she once named one of her cats after.

She was also a big fan of Purdue Basketball. Surviving are her brother, Jerry Braun and his wife, Sherri (Shaw) Braun; nephew, Jeremy Braun; great-nieces, Aryonna, Avaley, and Acelyn Braun; aunt, uncle, several cousins, and her beloved cat, Buddy.

She was preceded in death by her parents.

Cremation was chosen with graveside services to be performed at a later date. Memorial contributions may be made to the Martin County Humane Society in memory of Brenda Braun.

Arrangements are under the direction of the Queen-Lee Chapel of George Funeral Care, in Shoals.

ISP partner with DEA for the 26th Prescription Drug Take Back

Mark your calendars for Saturday, April 27, 2024, as the Indiana State Police partners with the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) for their 26th "Prescription Drug Take Back" initiative. The "Take Back" initiative seeks to prevent prescription drug abuse and theft through proper disposal of unwanted prescription drugs.

Collection sites will be set up nationwide for expired, unused, and unwanted prescription drugs which will be properly disposed of without threat to the environment. This program is for pill and liquid medications. Vaping pens without batteries and vaping cartridges will also be taken. Needles or sharps of any kind WILL NOT be accepted for disposal. This service is free and anonymous with no questions asked.

This initiative addresses a vital public safety and public health issue. Medicines that languish in home cabinets are highly susceptible to diversion, misuse, and abuse. Rates of prescription drug abuse in the U.S. are alarmingly high, as are the number of accidental poisonings and overdoses due to these drugs. Studies show that a majority of abused prescription drugs are obtained from family and

friends, including from the home medicine cabinet.

In addition, Americans are now advised that their usual methods for disposing of unused medicines—flushing them down the toilet or throwing them in the trash—pose both potential safety and health hazards.

Once again, the Indiana State Police is pleased to partner with the DEA, and as in the past, unwanted medications may be dropped off at any Indiana State Police Post, except for the Toll Road Post.

The Indiana State Police Jasper Post will host their collection site from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. on April 27, 2024. The Jasper Post is located at 2209 Newton Street just off US231.

NEEDLES or SHARPS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED FOR DISPOSAL. Please help keep our officers safe by ensuring no needles or sharps are included in your contents at drop-off.

To locate the State Police Post closest to your home or business, visit www.in.gov/isp/districts/on-the-map/. To find other locations in Indiana or across the U.S. that are participating in the Drug Take Back initiative, visit www.dea.gov/takebackday#collection-locator.

She was also a big fan of Purdue Basketball.

Surviving are her brother, Jerry Braun and his wife, Sherri (Shaw) Braun; nephew, Jeremy Braun; great-nieces, Aryonna, Avaley, and Acelyn Braun; aunt, uncle, several cousins, and her beloved cat, Buddy.

She was preceded in death by her parents.

~LETTER TO THE EDITOR~

'That doesn't sound like what our Founding Fathers had in mind'

To the editor of the *Martin County Journal*,

I saw there was some excitement at last week's Martin County Council meeting. The culmination of the excitement was our county council members unanimously committing to opposition to the Mid-States Corridor project. I salute Mr. McCoy for accomplishing this.

Mr. McCoy made a comment that it is futile to try and get the Mid-States Corridor stopped through legislation or the election of anti-Corridor legislators. It is not futile, although it may be difficult, and a friend in the governor's office will be a tremendous ally; and, in this regard, almost anyone but Sen. Braun will be a good choice.

I want to bring to light some comments made by Mark Messmer. He correctly stated that we, the United States, are not a democracy; but rather a representative

republic. He used this observation to voice his negative opinion of ballot initiatives. His position is, we, the people elect folks to make decisions (legislation) for us. Sounds right, but those decisions should be what is beneficial for and what we, the people of the area want and need. The Mid-States Corridor is an example of our representatives, and businessmen, making decisions, for us, for a project that is overwhelmingly disapproved of by the people and is beneficial only to handful of those representative's friends and associates. That doesn't sound like what our Founding Fathers had in mind.

Let's remember when we go to the polls in a few weeks who we want to make decisions for us. Do we want those who have already proven to ignore our wants and needs, or do we want someone who has our wants/needs in mind? Remember, only you can stop the Mid-States Corridor.

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Martin County Sheriff's Department activity log

MONDAY, APRIL 1

1:14 a.m. - Received a 911 call from a Daviess County address. Transferred call to Daviess County 911.

9:05 a.m. - Received a report of a cow out northeast of Loogootee. Owner was contacted.

9:56 a.m. - Received a report of a road closure in Shoals for maintenance.

10:00 a.m. - Received a report of a controlled burn in Loogootee.

12:02 p.m. - Received a report of a reckless driver east of Shoals. Captain Gibson responded.

12:27 p.m. - Received a call requesting a vehicle identification number check on an RV east of Shoals. Captain Gibson responded.

12:44 p.m. - Received a call reporting a verbal dispute in Loogootee. Loogootee Chief Hunt and Loogootee Assistant Chief Long responded.

1:06 p.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance northeast of Shoals. Martin County Medic 1 and Indian Creek Fire Department responded. Medic 1 transported one patient to IU Bedford.

1:59 p.m. - Received a 911 call reporting an accident with no injuries in Shoals. Deputy Doane responded.

2:54 p.m. - Received a 911 call reporting a structure fire southeast of Shoals. Martin County Medic 2, Lost River Fire Department, Orange County District 1, Springs Valley Fire Department and Deputy Doane responded. No one was transported.

3:08 p.m. - Received a report of possible trespassing northeast of Shoals. Sergeant Wells responded.

3:31 p.m. - Received a 911 call reporting a verbal dispute in Loogootee. Loogootee Assistant Chief Long, Loogootee Reserve Officer Shaw and Sergeant Wells responded.

6:23 p.m. - Received a report of reckless driving northeast of Shoals. Deputy Doane responded.

6:41 p.m. - Received a call reporting possible harassment. Major Reed responded.

7:40 p.m. - Received a 911 call reporting a motorcycle accident south of Shoals. Martin County Medic 1, Medic 2, Shoals Fire Department and Major Reed responded. No one was transported.

7:46 p.m. - Received a call reporting possible harassment north of Shoals. Deputy Doane responded.

8:07 p.m. - Received a report of harassment and threats in Shoals. Deputy Doane responded.

8:30 p.m. - Received a 911 call from a Dubois County address. Transferred call to Dubois County 911.

9:00 p.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Medic 1 and LPD Reserve Officer Shaw responded. Medic 1 transported one patient to IU Bedford.

9:34 p.m. - Received a 911 call reporting a suspicious vehicle in Shoals. Deputy Doane responded.

10:24 p.m. - Received a call requesting an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Medic 2 and Loogootee Fire Department responded. Medic 2 transported one patient to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

11:13 p.m. - Received a call reporting reckless driving in Shoals. Deputy Doane responded.

11:20 p.m. - Received a report of a disabled vehicle west of Shoals. Deputy Doane responded.

TUESDAY, APRIL 2

4:53 a.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Medic 1, Loogootee Fire Department and Major Reed responded. Medic 1 transported one patient to Daviess Community Hospital.

5:43 a.m. - Received a 911 call reporting an accident with no injuries south of Shoals. Major Reed, Shoals Fire Department and Big John's Towing responded.

7:09 a.m. - Received multiple 911 calls reporting a vehicle off the roadway northeast of Shoals. Chief Deputy Keller, Captain Gibson and Big John's Towing responded.

7:29 a.m. - Received a call from Smithville Alarms advising of a residential burglar alarm in Loogootee. Loogootee Chief Hunt responded.

7:37 a.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Medic 1 and Loogootee Fire Department responded. Medic 1 transported one patient to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

10:14 a.m. - Sergeant Wells transported one inmate to court.

10:33 a.m. - Received an animal complaint east of Shoals. Captain Gibson responded.

11:09 a.m. - Received a 911 call reporting a field fire south of Shoals. Chief Deputy Keller advised it is a controlled burn.

12:58 p.m. - Corporal Hawkins transported two inmates to court.

1:01 p.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance north of Shoals. Martin County Medic 1 and Shoals Fire Department responded. Medic 1 transported one patient to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

1:44 p.m. - Received a 911 call reporting smoke south of Loogootee. Loogootee Fire Department responded.

3:57 p.m. - Received a 911 call reporting an accident south of Loogootee. Martin County Medic 1, Corporal Hawkins, Haysville Fire Department and Big John's Towing responded. No one was transported.

3:57 p.m. - Received multiple 911 calls advising of a tree down south of Loogootee. Advised units are enroute.

4:25 p.m. - Received a report of a traffic hazard southwest of Shoals. INDOT was notified.

4:34 p.m. - Received a report of a traffic hazard north of Shoals. Martin County Highway Department was notified.

4:34 p.m. - Received a call reporting a tree down southwest of Shoals. Shoals Fire Department and REMC responded.

4:46 p.m. - Received a report of a traffic hazard east of Shoals. Martin County Highway Department was notified.

5:06 p.m. - Received a report of a suspicious male in Daviess County. Contacted Daviess County.

8:36 p.m. - Received a report of a commercial fire alarm east of Shoals. Shoals Fire Department and Deputy Doane responded.

8:48 p.m. - Received a call reporting a tree down south of Shoals. Shoals Fire Department responded.

9:15 p.m. - Received a report of a water outage in Loogootee. Notified Loogootee utilities.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 3

3:15 a.m. - Received a report of an injured deer in Daviess County. Notified Daviess County.

4:02 a.m. - Received a 911 call from a Daviess County address. Transferred call to Daviess County 911.

8:14 a.m. - Received a call requesting a vehicle unlock in Shoals. Captain Gibson responded.

8:50 a.m. - Received a call from a Daviess County address. Called Daviess County with information.

9:27 a.m. - Received a call requesting a welfare check southeast of Shoals. Captain Gibson responded.

9:51 a.m. - Received a 911 call requesting Monroe County Sheriff's Department. Gave caller information.

10:40 a.m. - Received a call requesting

a welfare check in Shoals. Sergeant Wells responded.

11:14 a.m. - Received a 911 call reporting trash that was dumped south of Loogootee. ISP Trooper Lents and Captain Gibson responded.

3:02 p.m. - Received a report of property damage east of Shoals. Captain Gibson responded.

3:13 p.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Medic 1 and Loogootee Officer Wagoner responded. Medic 1 transported one patient to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

5:00 p.m. - Received a report of a possible missing child in Loogootee. Deputy Shields responded.

5:17 p.m. - Received a 911 call reporting an accident with no injuries in Loogootee. Loogootee Officer Wagoner and Big John's Towing responded.

5:35 p.m. - Received a report of an accident with no injuries in Loogootee. Sergeant Wells, Deputy Erwin and Loogootee Fire Department responded.

6:21 p.m. - Received a report of a possible trespasser in Shoals. Deputy Shields responded.

8:36 p.m. - Received a call advising of a traffic hazard north of Shoals. Deputy Erwin responded.

9:48 p.m. - Received a report of cows out east of Shoals. Notified the owner.

THURSDAY, APRIL 4

5:24 a.m. - Received a report of a suspicious vehicle north of Loogootee. Major Reed responded.

7:10 a.m. - Received a 911 call reporting a reckless semi driver south of Loogootee. Loogootee Chief Hunt responded.

10:31 a.m. - Corporal Hawkins transported two inmates to court.

10:42 a.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Medic 1 responded and transported one patient to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

11:21 a.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance in Loogootee. Loogootee Chief Hunt, Assistant Chief Long, Loogootee Fire Department responded. Martin County Medic 2 responded and transported one patient to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

11:51 a.m. - Received a call reporting stray animals north of Shoals. Sergeant Wells responded.

12:52 p.m. - Received a 911 call advising of stray dogs north of Loogootee. Loogootee Chief Hunt responded.

12:57 p.m. - Corporal Hawkins transported one inmate to court.

2:20 p.m. - Received a 911 call reporting a reckless driver traveling south of Loogootee. Chief Deputy Keller and Loogootee Assistant Chief Long responded.

2:37 p.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance northwest of Shoals. Shoals Fire Department and Martin County Medic 1 responded. Medic 1 transported one patient to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

2:53 p.m. - Corporal Hawkins transported two inmates to court.

4:17 p.m. - Received a call requesting a vehicle identification number check on a vehicle in Loogootee. Sergeant Wells responded.

6:03 p.m. - Received a call requesting an ambulance in Shoals. Shoals Fire Department and Martin County Medic 1 responded. Medic 1 transported one patient to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

7:18 p.m. - Received a call requesting a welfare check in Loogootee. Loogootee Sergeant Wagoner responded.

FRIDAY, APRIL 5

12:43 a.m. - Received a call reporting a disabled vehicle east of Shoals. Deputy Baumgart responded.

9:02 a.m. - Received a call from Med

America advising of a road closure in Shoals.

9:13 a.m. - Received multiple 911 calls requesting an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Medic 1, Medic 3, Loogootee Fire Department, Loogootee Chief Hunt and Loogootee Assistant Chief Long responded. Medic 1 transported one patient to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

10:14 a.m. - Received a 911 call reporting an accident with no injuries east of Shoals. Deputy Branham responded.

2:10 p.m. - Received a call requesting a welfare check north of Shoals. Deputy Branham responded.

3:05 p.m. - Received a report of a suspicious male north of Shoals. Deputy Branham responded.

4:05 p.m. - Received a call requesting a vehicle identification number check on a camper in Loogootee. Deputy Branham responded.

5:16 p.m. - Received a report of a disabled vehicle south of Loogootee. Deputy Shields and Haysville Fire Department responded.

5:58 p.m. - Received a report of a reckless driver on US 50 traveling west. Deputy Erwin, Deputy Branham, and Deputy Shields responded.

6:37 p.m. - Received a 911 call reporting a reckless driver on US 231S traveling south. Transferred call to Dubois County 911.

8:40 p.m. - Received a report of a verbal dispute south of Shoals. Deputy Erwin, Deputy Shields, and Deputy Baumgart responded.

10:21 p.m. - Received a call requesting an ambulance in Shoals. Martin County Medic 1 responded and transported one patient to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

11:00 p.m. - Received a 911 call reporting a verbal dispute southeast of Loogootee. Deputy Erwin, Deputy Shields, and Deputy Baumgart responded.

SATURDAY, APRIL 6

8:08 a.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance in Crane. Martin County Medic 1 and Medic 3 responded. Medic 1 transported one patient to IU Bloomington.

8:12 a.m. - Received a call reporting an accident with no injuries in Loogootee. Deputy Branham responded.

10:50 a.m. - Received a 911 call reporting a domestic dispute northeast of Shoals. ISP Trooper Lents and Indiana Conservation Officer Mann responded.

11:03 a.m. - Received a report of a tree down north of Loogootee. Martin County Highway Department was notified.

12:35 p.m. - Received a report of a controlled burn in Shoals.

1:47 p.m. - Received a report of a controlled burn southeast of Shoals.

2:55 p.m. - Received a 911 call requesting a house unlocked in Loogootee. Loogootee Fire Chief Thomas and keyholder responded.

3:45 p.m. - Received a call requesting to speak with an officer. Deputy Shields responded.

3:49 p.m. - Received a call requesting to speak with an officer. Deputy Branham responded.

5:10 p.m. - Received a report of possible harassment in Shoals. Deputy Branham responded.

6:27 p.m. - Received a call requesting a vehicle identification number check southeast of Shoals. Deputy Baumgart responded.

7:18 p.m. - Received a report of a controlled burn in Loogootee.

10:37 p.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance in Crane. Martin County Medic 1, Medic 3 and Loogootee Fire Department responded. Medic 1 transported one patient to Greene County Hospital.

Martin County real estate transfers

Ray Lengacher and Karen Sue Lengacher, of Daviess County, Indiana to **R&S Land Holding, LLC**, of Daviess County, Indiana. Tract I: The southeast quarter of the southwest quarter, except one acre in the northwest corner thereof. Also, the west half of the southwest quarter of the southeast quarter, all in Section 4, Township 3 North, Range 4 West, containing 59 acres, more or less, except a section containing 28.245 acres, more or less. Tract II: A portion of the west half of the southeast quarter and of the east half of the southwest quarter of Section 4, Township 3 North, Range 4 West, containing 61 acres. Also, the west half of the southwest quarter of the northeast quarter of said section, township and range, containing 20 acres, more or less.

Byron W. Crane, of Martin County, Indiana to **Ray Lengacher and Karen Sue Lengacher**, of Martin County, Indiana. Tract I: The southeast quarter of the southwest quarter, except one acre in the northwest corner thereof. Also, the west half of the southwest quarter of the southeast quarter, all in Section 4, Township 3 North, Range 4 West, containing 59 acres, more or less, except a section containing 28.245 acres, more or less. Tract II: A portion of the west half of the southeast quarter and of the east half of the southwest quarter of Section 4, Township 3 North, Range 4 West, containing 61 acres. Also, the west half of the southwest quarter of the northeast quarter of said section, township and range, containing 20 acres, more or less.

Scott Vaught and Jill D. Vaught to **Seth Kitchens**, Lot Number 114 in the Original Town of Crane, Indiana.

Wagbaugh Properties, LLC, of Martin County, Indiana to **Greene's Properties, LLC**, of Martin County, Indiana, part of the northwest quarter of Section 6, Township 5 North, Range 4 West, situated in Perry Township, Martin County, Indiana, containing 2 acres, more or less.

Lori L. Moore, of Martin County, Indiana to **Stephen R. Simmons and John D. Simmons**, of Martin County, Indiana, a part of the southeast quarter of the southwest quarter of Section 13, Township 3

North, Range 5 West.

Rafael Carrera to **Vaught Rentals, LLC**, Lot Number 84 in the Original Town of Crane, Indiana.

COURT NEWS

CRIMINAL CONVICTIONS & SENTENCINGS

April 2

Jay R. Dallion, convicted of auto theft, a Level 6 Felony. Sentenced to serve 240 days with 0 days suspended and credit for 114 days of time served.

CIVIL COURT New Suits Filed

March 28

Synchrony Bank vs. Audrey Hopkins, civil collection.

April 1

Mariner Finance vs. Christopher Anderson, civil collection.

April 2

Crane Credit Union vs. Chastidy Haven, civil collection.

Portfolio Recovery Associates, LLC vs. Eric King, civil collection.

Mariner Finance, LLC vs. Dillon Norman and Kaci Sorrells, civil collection.

CIVIL COURT JUDGMENTS

March 28

Judgment in favor of the plaintiff Reuben Raber and against the defendant Taylor A. Kavanaugh for civil plenary in the amount of \$8,493.71.

April 2

Judgment in favor of the plaintiff Republic Finance, LLC and against the defendant Timothy Wiscaver in the amount of \$5,009.66.

CIVIL COURT DISMISSED

March 28

Cavalry SPV I, LLC vs. Emily Walton, civil collection, dismissed.

Barclay's Bank Delaware c/o Lloyd and McDaniel, PLC vs. Melisa Hawkins, civil collection, dismissed.

MARRIAGE LICENSES

Mark Eugene Tedrow of Shoals and Amber Nicole Harty of Shoals.

Morgan Marie Combs of Loogootee and Tyler Dale Smith of Loogootee.

Loogootee Police Department log

MONDAY, APRIL 1

12:45 p.m. - Chief Hunt and Assistant Chief Long responded to a call on Queen Street.

3:31 p.m. - Assistant Chief Long and Officer Shaw responded to a call near Clark Street.

9:00 p.m. - Officer Shaw responded to a call at Taco Bell.

10:24 p.m. - Loogootee Fire Department responded to a medical call on Sycamore Street.

TUESDAY, APRIL 2

4:53 a.m. - Loogootee Fire Department responded to a medical call on Main Street.

7:29 a.m. - Chief Hunt responded to a call on Wood Street.

7:37 a.m. - Loogootee Fire Department responded to a medical call on Bellbrook Avenue.

1:45 p.m. - Loogootee Fire Department responded to a call on US Highway 231.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 3

3:13 p.m. - Sergeant Wagoner responded to a call on Kentucky Avenue.

4:58 p.m. - Sergeant Wagoner responded to a call on Walker Street.

5:17 p.m. - Sergeant Wagoner responded to a call on JFK Avenue.

5:35 p.m. - Sergeant Wagoner respond-

ed to a call on JFK Avenue.

THURSDAY, APRIL 4

9:28 a.m. - Chief Hunt responded to a call on Broadway Street.

9:41 a.m. - Chief Hunt responded to a call on Park Street.

11:23 a.m. - Loogootee Fire Department, Chief Hunt and Assistant Chief Long responded to a medical call on Main Street.

12:51 p.m. - Chief Hunt responded to a call on Southwest Third Street.

12:54 p.m. - Assistant Chief Long responded to a call on US Highway 231.

2:25 p.m. - Assistant Chief Long responded to a call near Whitfield Road.

4:17 p.m. - Sergeant Wagoner responded to a call at the BMV.

FRIDAY, APRIL 5

9:13 a.m. - Loogootee Fire Department, Chief Hunt and Assistant Chief long responded to a medical on Washington Street.

SATURDAY, APRIL 6

No calls to report.

SUNDAY, APRIL 7

9:21 a.m. - Loogootee Fire Department responded to a medical call on Walnut Street.

12:57 p.m. - Loogootee Fire Department responded to a call on Mill Street.

ARRESTS

TUESDAY, APRIL 2

10:34 p.m. - Joshua Winger, 33, of Loogootee, was arrested by Deputy Erwin and charged with operating a vehicle while intoxicated-controlled substance. He is being held on \$3,000 10% bond.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 3

12:39 a.m. - Damon Meek, 31, of Shoals, was arrested by Deputy Erwin and charged with dealing methamphetamine, possession of meth, unlawful possession of a syringe, and public intoxication. He is being held without bond.

2:53 p.m. - Guy Hazel, 45, of Loogootee, was arrested by Corporal Hawkins and charged with failure to comply with sex offender registry. He is being held without bond.

11:25 p.m. - Natalie Adams, 26, of Shoals, was arrested by Deputy Shields and charged with possession of methamphetamine, maintaining a common nuisance, possession of cocaine or narcotic drug, and possession of paraphernalia. She is being held on \$15,000 10% bond.

11:27 p.m. - Dylan Adams, 29, of Shoals, was arrested by Deputy Erwin and charged with possession of methamphetamine, maintaining a common nuisance, possession of cocaine or narcotic drug, and possession of paraphernalia.

He is being held without bond.

THURSDAY, APRIL 4

6:00 p.m. - Emily Osbourne, 39, of Loogootee, was arrested by Deputy Shields and charged with visiting a common nuisance. She is being held on \$5,000 10% bond.

6:38 p.m. - Rodney Bateman, 55, of Loogootee, was arrested by Deputy Erwin and charged with dealing in methamphetamine, possession of methamphetamine, maintaining a common nuisance, illegal possession of a syringe, possession of cocaine or narcotic drug, dealing marijuana, possession of marijuana, possession of schedule IV controlled substance, and possession of paraphernalia. He is being held with no bond.

6:40 p.m. - Christina Lytton, 49, of Loogootee, was arrested by Loogootee Sergeant Wagoner and charged with possession of marijuana, visiting a common nuisance, and possession of paraphernalia. She is being held on \$10,000 10% bond.

6:40 p.m. - Paula Mitchell, 55, of Martinsville, was arrested by Sergeant Wells and charged with dealing in methamphetamine, possession of methamphetamine, maintaining a common nuisance, illegal possession of a syringe, possession of marijuana, and possession of paraphernalia. She is being held on a \$60,000 10% bond.

SATURDAY, APRIL 6

2:34 a.m. - Deisy Sandoval, 21, of Jasper, was arrested by Deputy Baumgart and charged with operating a vehicle while intoxicated. She is being held on \$3,000 10% bond.

1:58 p.m. - Michael Sherfick, 37, of Terre Haute, was arrested by Deputy Branham and charged with operating a vehicle while intoxicated-prior and operating a vehicle while intoxicated-endangerment. He is being held on \$15,000 10% bond.

SUNDAY, APRIL 7

12:04 a.m. - Dustin Cramer, 41, of Loogootee, was arrested by Deputy Baumgart and charged with operating a vehicle while intoxicated-refusal. He is being held on \$3,000 10% bond.



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More Neat Stuff



By Ann Ackerman



*Teacher: "Which book has helped you the most in your life?" Student: "My father's checkbook."

*Math Teacher: "If I have 5 bottles in one hand and 6 in the other hand, what do I have?" Student: "A drinking problem."

POSITIVISMS

*If you have to choose between kind and being right, choose being kind and you will always be right.

*Having a dog or cat will open your heart. Reading a book will open your mind. Having both a pet and a book...absolute heaven.

*If not for dogs, how would we know the meaning of unconditional love.

*Some of the things you are never told: The hardest part about growing older is losing people you love.

*It has been said, "Time heals all wounds." I do not agree. The wounds remain. In time, the mind, protecting its sanity, covers them with scar tissue and the pain lessens. But it is never gone."
-Rose Kennedy

A wife comes home late one night and quietly opens the door to her bedroom. From under the blanket, she sees four legs instead of just her husband's two.

She reaches for a baseball bat and starts hitting the blanket as hard as she can. Once she's done, she goes to the kitchen to have a drink. As she enters, she sees her husband there, reading a magazine.

He says, "Hi darling, your parents have come to visit us, so I let them stay in our bedroom. Did you say hello?"

TWELVE COMMANDMENTS FOR SENIORS

1. Talk to yourself. There are times you need expert advice.
2. "In Style" are the clothes that still fit.
3. You don't need anger management. You need people to stop ticking you off.
4. Your people skills are fine. It's your tolerance for idiots that needs work.
5. The biggest lie you tell yourself is, "I don't need to write that down. I'll remember it."
6. "On time" is when you get there.
7. Even duct tape can't fix stupid, but it

sure does muffle the sound.
8. It would be wonderful if we could put ourselves in the dryer for ten minutes, then come out wrinkle-free and three sizes smaller.

9. Lately, you've noticed people your age are so much older than you.

10. Growing old should have taken longer.

11. Aging has slowed you down, but it hasn't shut you up.

12. You still haven't learned to act your age and hope you never will.

And one more: "one for the road" means peeing before you leave the house."

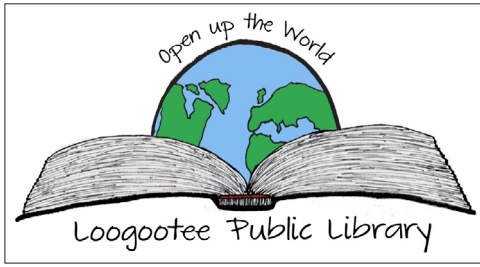
THOUGHTS

*People can keep a dog, but cats keep people. Cats find humans to be very useful domestic animals.

*Momsicle: One who stands at the ballpark and freezes for the love of her children.

*I'm a recovering perfectionist and an aspiring "good-enoughist." Brene Brown

Make someone smile today!



BY DARLA WAGLER
Librarian, Loogootee Public Library

Friends of Loogootee Library (FOLL) book sale is scheduled for Saturday, April 27 from 8-12.

Lethal Library (the mystery podcast program) will be held on Thursday, April 18 at 6 p.m.

Dolly Parton's Imagination Library Kick-Off is April 19 from 3-5 p.m. This is for Martin County residents only. You need to live or own property in Perry or Rutherford Townships to register at Loogootee Public Library. Shoals Public Library will have sign-ups on April 26 from 4-6.

Computer Class will be Saturday, April 13 from 11-1.

Library hours: Monday 10-6, Tuesday 10-5, Closed on Wednesday, Thursday 10-6, 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.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Board of finance meeting

The Martin County Board of Finance will meet Tuesday, April 16 at 5:15 p.m. in the Martin County Courthouse in Shoals. On the agenda includes election of officers and discussion and review of Martin County's finances and investments.

Merit board meeting

The Martin County Sheriff's Merit Board will meet in executive session beginning at 5:30 p.m. (EST) Tuesday, April 16 at the Martin County Sheriff's Office. The purpose of the meeting is to receive information about, and interview prospective employees as authorized by I.C. 5-14-1.5-6.1 (b)(5). An open meeting will be held at 5:40 p.m. following the executive session.

Tourism meeting

The next Martin County Tourism Council meeting will be Tuesday, April 16 at 5 p.m. at the Martin County Alliance conference room at 404 N JFK Avenue Loogootee IN 47553.

Celebrate Recovery meetings

Celebrate Recovery meetings will be held every Tuesday at 6 p.m. at The River Church in Shoals. This is a Christ-centered recovery program and anyone is welcome to attend.

Dog/cat Wellness Clinic

The Martin County Humane Society hosts a wellness clinic on the third Friday of each month from 5-6 p.m. The clinic offers low-cost vaccines, testing, nail trims, etc. No appointment needed.

St. Vincent Food Pantry

The St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry, on Park Street in Loogootee, is open the fourth Thursday of the month except November and December when they are

open the third Thursday. The hours are 9 a.m.-noon and 1-3:30 p.m.

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!

LUMC Food Pantry

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

Solid waste board

The Martin County Solid Waste Board holds their monthly meetings on the third Wednesday of each month at 8:30 a.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 Soil & Water Conservation District (SWCD) meets the third Tuesday of the month at the SWCD office located at 404 JFK Avenue in Loogootee. The meetings are at 7:30 p.m. (April-October) and at 6:30 p.m. (November-March). Office hours are 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Thursday. Please call 812-295-3149 for assistance.

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With plenty of rain and warmer temperatures, lush spring growth has given southern Indiana a complete makeover. The redbud trees have added some color to the edge of wooded areas. (Yes, the flowers are pink to purple, but the tree name comes from the buds, which are actually red.) Flowering dogwood trees are starting to show their bracts, just in time for two dogwood festivals in southern Indiana. Orleans will celebrate the 54th Dogwood Festival April 20-27. The 62nd Perry County Dogwood Festival will be held April 27-28.

The name “dogwood” has nothing to do with canines. The various trees and shrubs in the genus *Cornus* have straight, stiff twigs, which once were used as skewers for roasting meat. Those skewers were known as dags, and that morphed from dagwood to dogwood.

There are more than 30 species in the genus *Cornus* worldwide, with 12 native to North America. Two of those only occur on the west coast, but the other ten may be found over much of North America.

The common flowering dogwood (*Cornus florida*) is a small understory tree. The actual flowers are almost unnoticeable, but they are surrounded by four showy bracts that brighten wooded areas and are the subject of legends and celebrations. The red fruits of *Cornus florida* and other dogwoods are actually drupes, not berries. They are loved by birds and other wildlife. The pink and red varieties are natives or cultivated varieties of the native plant.

While the flowering dogwood gets the attention, there are other members of the genus that are worthy of cultivation. My personal favorite is the pagoda dogwood (*Cornus alternifolia*). The branches of this small tree actually come in layers, creating a pagoda-like appearance. The flowers are small and cream-colored, but they occur in bunches, so they are as showy as other flowering trees. Not all dogwoods are trees. Several are shrubs, and there is one that is actually a groundcover, growing only about 8 inches tall. That diminutive dogwood is commonly known as the bunch-

berry (*Cornus Canadensis*). It is classified as a sub-shrub. The flowers of bunchberry are much like those of *Cornus florida*, but much smaller.

Perhaps the most common of the shrub dogwoods in Indiana is the gray dogwood (*Cornus racemose*). It is a suckering shrub that tolerates many conditions, from wet soil to drought conditions. It will thrive in poor soil and will grow in full sun to full shade. Like most of the shrub dogwoods, the flowers are small and occur in clusters. Green osier dogwood (*Cornus viridissima*) is also known as yellow-twig dogwood. The young stems are yellow-green, and the yellowish flowers occur in clusters. The red osier dogwood (*Cornus sericea*) is similar in growth habit, but sports red bark on the young stems. The flowers are followed by bunches of white drupes. Round-leaved dogwood (*Cornus rugose*) is aptly named and also bears clusters of white drupes. It occurs in moist, shady areas. Silky dogwood (*Cornus amomum*) gets its common name from the silky hairs on the leaves. The flowers are white and in clusters and are followed by blue drupes. Swamp dogwood (*Cornus foemina*) is also known as stiff dogwood. It is found in swampy areas and is a good species to include in rain gardens. The drupes are bluish black, following clusters of small white flowers.

Two non-native dogwoods are often found in nurseries. *Cornus koussa* is an Asian species that gets leaves before the flowers. The drupes look like red raspberries and are used to make an alcoholic beverage in Japan. Since koussas will tolerate more sun and are resistant to some of the diseases that attack *Cornus florida*, many people choose to plant them instead of the native trees. They have not proven to be invasive, and they are available in white, pink and red. The final species common in the nursery trade is *Cornus mas*, known as the Cornelian cherry. Its drupes are edible and may be used for jams and wine.

Get out to one of the Dogwood Festivals and take a drive through Hoosier National Forest and enjoy this dogwood season.

First positive case of chronic wasting disease in Indiana

The Indiana Department of Natural Resources (DNR) has confirmed Indiana’s first positive case of chronic wasting disease (CWD) in LaGrange County. CWD is a neurological disease that affects white-tailed deer, resulting in their eventual death.

This positive case is adjacent to a region where CWD had previously been detected in Michigan. CWD has been detected in wild deer in 33 states, including all states bordering Indiana.

“CWD has been in our region for many years with positive cases in all of our surrounding states,” said Joe Caudell, Indiana DNR deer biologist. “The public can help by reporting sightings of sick or dead deer to the DNR, as well as submitting harvested deer for testing during deer hunting season. Through increased awareness and testing, we can work to monitor CWD within Indiana’s deer population.”

Because CWD had previously been detected in Michigan near the Indiana border, finding it in this area of Indiana was highly likely, Caudell said, and DNR will continue monitoring the area for CWD.

There have been no reported cases of CWD infection in humans.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends that hunters strongly consider having their harvested deer tested before eating the meat. The CDC also recommends not eating meat from an animal that tests

positive for CWD. For more information about the CDC’s recommendations, visit cdc.gov/prions/cwd.

The Indiana white-tailed deer was a male harvested by a hunter and confirmed positive for CWD by two independent tests. CWD is caused by a misfolded prion that causes damage to the animal’s nervous system. CWD can spread from deer-to-deer contact or through contaminated environments and remains in the soil for many years. Animals in the late stages of CWD can appear emaciated, show erratic behavior, and exhibit neurological irregularities. If you see any sick or dead wildlife, please report it at on.IN.gov/sickwildlife.

Indiana’s various deer hunting seasons run from mid-September until the end of January.

During hunting season, to have their harvested deer tested for CWD, hunters can drop off its head in a freezer outside a Fish & Wildlife Area or State Fish Hatchery office or schedule appointments to bring their harvested deer to these sites to be tested. All CWD sampling locations can be viewed through an interactive map. Alternatively, people may submit samples directly to the Animal Disease Diagnostic Laboratory (ADDL) at Purdue University for a fee. More information and submission forms are available on the ADDL website.

Find more information about CWD on our website at on.IN.gov/CWD.



Originally published April 30, 2012
Kids in church? I suppose the debate about whether kids should be in church or not has been raging forever. I personally like to see kids of any age in church. Not that they disrupt my attention to the message so much, to a certain extent they do distract me, but in a good way most of the time. Babies are my favorite followed by the terrible two-to-five-year-olds.

Last night we went to mass at 5 instead of the usual Sunday morning service we attend at St. John’s in Loogootee. Much to my delight a boy about four was a few pews ahead of us. He was directly in line between me and the pulpit. His mother tried valiantly for the next half-hour to keep him still, but true to little boy form he quickly recognized her diminished ability to use the usual discipline techniques she probably employs. He took full advantage of it. He made faces at all of us behind him completely diluting the message coming from the front of the church. I can’t thank him enough for the entertainment.

Another young one in front of us seemed to have some type of pressing issue to relate to her mother. After a few minutes of playing nice, the mother put on her “knock it off we’re in church face” thus ending the persistent questioning from the girl.

Like changing channels on the TV, I switched back and forth from the pastor to the little boy, and to the young girl to see how each was doing in their roles. The pastor won for getting the most of my attention, with the little boy and girl getting equal honorable mention.

Looking back to my early days at True-love Church, I can sympathize with the younger set and the difficulty of keeping still and quiet in church. The topics are more than a little above their heads, and sometimes above mine too. The attempt at putting the gospel into the 21st century language and understanding is something I suspect many ministers struggle with. There is a lot of sheep and goat stuff in the Bible that those far removed from the farm must not understand. Having been around critters all my life I do see the value of using animals to help describe similar human behavior.

Yes, I do think kids belong in church. They should be brought up to ponder a higher order just like us old people. Our attention spans may not be all that much longer than theirs anyway, and if the sermon or homily goes a little beyond our understanding, the kids can provide a little bit of temporary relief from the seriousness of the topic.

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National unemployment rate at 3.8 percent for March

Total nonfarm payroll employment rose by 303,000 in March, and the unemployment rate changed little at 3.8 percent, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported last week. Job gains occurred in health care, government, and construction.

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

Household Survey Data
Both the unemployment rate, at 3.8 percent, and the number of unemployed people, at 6.4 million, changed little in March. The unemployment rate has been in a narrow range of 3.7 percent to 3.9 percent since August 2023.

Among the major worker groups, the unemployment rate for Blacks (6.4 percent) increased in March, while the rates for Asians (2.5 percent) and Hispanics (4.5 percent) decreased. The jobless rates for adult men (3.3 percent), adult women (3.6 percent), teenagers (12.6 percent), and Whites (3.4 percent) showed little or no change over the month.

The number of long-term unemployed (those jobless for 27 weeks or more), at 1.2 million, was little changed in March. The long-term unemployed accounted for 19.5 percent of all unemployed people.

Both the labor force participation rate, at 62.7 percent, and the employment-population ratio, at 60.3 percent, were little changed in March. These measures showed little change over the year.

The number of people employed part time for economic reasons, at 4.3 million, changed little in March. These individuals,

who would have preferred full-time employment, were working part time because their hours had been reduced or they were unable to find full-time jobs.

In March, the number of people not in the labor force who currently want a job, at 5.4 million, was little changed. These individuals were not counted as unemployed because they were not actively looking for work during the 4 weeks preceding the survey or were unavailable to take a job.

Among those not in the labor force who wanted a job, the number of people marginally attached to the labor force, at 1.6 million, was little changed in March. These individuals wanted and were available for work and had looked for a job sometime in the prior 12 months but had not looked for work in the 4 weeks preceding the survey. The number of discouraged workers, a subset of the marginally attached who believed that no jobs were available for them, was little changed at 337,000 in March.

Establishment Survey Data
Total nonfarm payroll employment rose by 303,000 in March, higher than the average monthly gain of 231,000 over the prior 12 months. In March, job gains occurred in health care, government, and construction.

Health care added 72,000 jobs in March, above the average monthly gain of 60,000 over the prior 12 months. In March, job growth continued in ambulatory health care services (+28,000), hospitals (+27,000), and nursing and residential care facilities (+18,000).

In March, employment in government increased by 71,000, higher than the average monthly gain of 54,000 over the prior 12 months. Over the month, employment increased in local government (+49,000) and federal government (+9,000).

Construction added 39,000 jobs in March, about double the average monthly gain of 19,000 over the prior 12 months. Over the month, employment increased in nonresidential specialty trade contractors (+16,000).

Employment in leisure and hospitality trended up in March (+49,000) and has returned to its pre-pandemic February 2020 level. Over the prior 12 months, job growth in the industry had averaged 37,000 per month.

Employment in the other services industry continued its upward trend in March (+16,000). The industry had added an average of 8,000 jobs per month over the prior 12 months. Employment in other services remains below its February 2020 level by 40,000, or 0.7 percent.

Employment in social assistance continued to trend up in March (+9,000), below the average monthly gain of 22,000 over the prior 12 months.

In March, employment was little changed in retail trade (+18,000). A job gain in general merchandise retailers (+20,000) was partially offset by job losses in building material and garden equipment and supplies dealers (-10,000) and in automotive parts, accessories, and tire retailers (-3,000).

Employment showed little or no change over the month in other major industries, including mining, quarrying, and oil and gas extraction; manufacturing; wholesale trade; transportation and warehousing; information; financial activities; and professional and business services.

In March, average hourly earnings for all employees on private nonfarm payrolls increased by 12 cents, or 0.3 percent, to \$34.69. Over the past 12 months, average hourly earnings have increased by 4.1 percent. In March, average hourly

earnings of private-sector production and nonsupervisory employees edged up by 7 cents, or 0.2 percent, to \$29.79.

In March, the average workweek for all employees on private nonfarm payrolls edged up by 0.1 hour to 34.4 hours. In manufacturing, the average workweek was unchanged at 40.0 hours, and overtime edged down by 0.1 hour to 2.9 hours in March. The average workweek for production and nonsupervisory employees on private nonfarm payrolls edged up by 0.1 hour to 33.9 hours.

The change in total nonfarm payroll employment for January was revised up by 27,000, from +229,000 to +256,000, and the change for February was revised down by 5,000, from +275,000 to +270,000. With these revisions, employment in January and February combined is 22,000 higher than previously reported. (Monthly revisions result from additional reports received from businesses and government agencies since the last published estimates and from the recalculation of seasonal factors.)

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