# Martín County

Year 14, Issue 17

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 26, 2023

# **Recycling center out of money** again, board approves 90k loan

#### **BY COURTNEY HUGHETT** Martin County Journal Publisher

The Martin County Solid Waste Board held a special meeting Monday, April 24 due to the recycling center being out of money again. Last month, the commissioners agreed to give the recycling center \$30,000 and the City of Loogootee gave \$15,000 to carry center operations until they receive their asset fee distribution at the end of June. It wasn't enough and according to June Eckerle, who serves as the recycling center's bookkeeper, she has \$13,000 in bills on her desk that cannot be paid and should have been sent already.

When asked what happened to the money given by the county and city, Interim Director Robin Haulk said they had to spend money repairing the cardboard baler they were renting until the new baler could be installed. Cody Roush, who serves on the solid waste board, asked why they were paying for repairs for a baler they were just renting. No answer was provided. Board Member Paul George said they may have to get legal with that because he's not sure why that happened.

The new baler was recently installed and Haulk said they owe an estimated \$9,000 for the installation. When asked if the new baler has been paid for, George said no, they owe \$169,000 and still owe

the \$29,000 payment for this year. They also have four payrolls, \$8,500 each, to get through until the end of June, along with the regular monthly bills.

The solid waste district receives an estimated \$100,000 in asset fees from property owners each year. That distribution comes June 31. The board discussed what to do until that money is received and debated whether to take out a loan. John Mundy, with German American Bank, was present at the meeting to provide information on loans and interest fees. He told the board that when reviewing the solid waste's budgets over the past few years, he found that the recycling center had a horrible year in 2020 due to COVID, broke even in 2021 but then lost \$140,000 last year. He said the county would qualify for a tax-exempt interest rate of roughly 6.3 percent and if the county will guarantee the loan, they can get it done right away. George and Roush, who serve as commissioners, both said they were not willing to do that.

The board members went back and forth on how much they should borrow and for how long. Half of the board (Paul George, Teresa Nolley and Noel Harty) wanted a \$100,000 loan for a year and the other half (Cody Roush, Roger Abel and Jim Hamby) wanted to borrow only what is needed to get to June 31 and pay

(See 'RECYCLING' on page 9)

#### Martin County jobless rate at 3 percent in March unemployed.

#### **BY COURTNEY HUGHETT**

Martin County Journal Publisher

Martin County's unemployment rate edged up to 3 percent in March, from 2.9 percent the month before. The county had the 17<sup>th</sup> lowest jobless rate in the state for March, tied with 11 other counties.

In March, the county had 5,407 residents in the workforce and 162 of them without jobs. In February, there were 5,434 residents able to work and 157 of them unemployed.

In March of 2022, Martin County's jobless rate was 2.8 percent with 5,412 residents in the workforce and 150 of them



Daviess County's unemployment rate went down slightly in March to 2.5 percent, from 2.6 percent in February. The county had the second lowest jobless rate in the state in March, tied with Boone County. In March, the county had 16,551 residents in the workforce and 416 of

them without jobs. In February, there were 16,622 residents able to work and 429 of them unemployed.

In March of last year, Daviess County's jobless rate was 2.6 percent with 16,452 residents in the workforce and 428 of them without work.

Dubois County's unemployment rate went unchanged from February to March, standing at 2.7 percent. The county had the fifth lowest jobless rate in the state, tied with Hendricks and Johnson counties.

# **Loogootee School projects** to increase property taxes, public hearing Thursday

#### **BY COURTNEY HUGHETT** Martin County Journal Publisher

The Loogootee School Board held their first preliminary public hearing for the proposed remodeling and expansion projects last Thursday, April 20. Only one patron was present for the meeting. The proposed projects will cost \$17 million, which includes interest, and will increase property taxes by 0.3013 per \$100 of assessed home value. The board will hold the second preliminary public hearing this Thursday, April 27 at 5 p.m. and then will vote whether to move forward with some or all projects.

The plans were originally presented at the February board meeting and include building a new activity center between Jack Butcher Arena and the elementary school, remodeling the middle school building, adding a bus barn, and remodeling the elementary playground.

The 22,087-square-foot activities center would have an upper mezzanine level which would include two classrooms/ meeting rooms, two bathrooms, and two mechanical rooms. The lower level would include two full-size basketball courts with walking track around them, bleachers to seat 366 people, a storage room, weight room, boys' and girls' locker rooms, and boys' and girls' restrooms.

The bus barn would contain a 3,600-square-foot drive-through shop

# **Shoals Council making plans for Nu-Tap building on Main Street**

The Shoals Town Council met in special session on Friday, April 21. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss methods to deal with dilapidated buildings in the Town of Shoals. Those in attendance were Council Members Cary D. Albright (via zoom) and Micky Crew, Clerk-Treasurer Sierra Rutledge, Ordinance Enforcer Cecil Ragsdale, and Town Attorney Dave Lett. Others in attendance were Cody Roush, President of the Martin County Alliance for Economic Growth Executive Loogootee, there is only a Democrat bal-Committee, Greg Jones with SIDC, Grant Sherfick with HDMG, and Kevin Boyd. Town Council Vice-President Roger L. Abel was absent from the meeting. Council Member Albright stated that Ordinance Enforcer Ragsdale had been working on figuring out a plan with the old Nu-Tap building and turned the floor over to him. Ordinance Enforcer Ragsdale stated he had met with Martin County Alliance for Economic Growth Executive Director Jessica Potts concerning the empty building. He stated he and Potts were then contacted by Greg Sekula, with Indiana Landmarks, and they visited Shoals on April 10 to take a look at the downtown area and the building. Ragsdale stated Indiana Landmarks was very optimistic about the building and with it being a historic building in a historic district he didn't feel it was a lost cause. Since then, Mr. Sekula reached out to Radius Indiana concerning the building. Radius set up a

plus two offices, a restroom, janitor and mechanic areas, storage above the offices for the arts/theater programs, and six bus charging stations. The bus barn will also be fenced in.

The middle school, now 50 years old, will be completely remodeled including 31 new classroom doors, paint in all areas including the lockers, classroom casework for technology storage, science classroom furniture and casework, addition of trophy cases, complete office remodel, new plumbing fixtures, flush valves and toilet partitions in the bathrooms, new doors on each end of the building and 17 marker and tack boards.

Jeff Hammond, with Baker Tilly, the school's tax advisory firm, presented the costs that would be associated with the four projects. The total amount of all projects is estimated at \$17 million (\$9.9 million for the work and \$7.1 million in interest payments). The repayment term is 19 years with a maximum annual payment by the school of \$917,000. This will increase the tax rate for those in the Loogootee School District by 0.3013 for a total of 1.0852 per \$100 of assessed property value. A home with an assessed value of \$100,000, with or without deductions, would pay an additional \$301.30 a year in property taxes. The current rate for a home with the same assessed value would be \$783.90 for a total (See 'PROJECTS' on page 2)

meeting with Potts and Ragsdale and Indiana Landmarks and discussed potential ideas concerning the future of the property and moving forward. Radius told Ragsdale and Potts that there is a Regional Impact Fund which provides an incen-(See 'SHOALS COUNCIL' on page 2)

#### Loogootee Primary Election to be held next Tuesday

This Primary Election, for the City of

Nine pages

#### Summerfest looking for donations for fireworks LAST WEEK'S DONORS: **Sharon Sutton** \$20.00 \$20.00 **Don Greene**

#### **Noel Harty** \$100.00 \$1.130.00 **DONATIONS TO DATE:**

The Loogootee Summerfest Committee needs donations this year for fireworks that end the festival, due to the cost. Donations can be mailed to Summerfest PO Box 341 Loogootee IN 47553 or made online by clicking here. Donors will be listed in this section of The Journal each week with their donation amount and the running amount of total contributions. Donors can be listed as anonymous if they so choose.

In March, the county had 21,797 residents in the workforce with 588 of them unemployed. In February, there were 21,800 residents able to work and 590 of them without jobs. In March of 2022, Dubois County's jobless rate was 2.4 percent with 21,851 residents in the workforce and 525 of them without jobs.

Greene County's unemployment rate moved from 4.4 percent in February to 4.2 percent in March. The county had the 13<sup>th</sup> highest jobless rate in the state for March, tied with Jasper and Jennings counties.

In March, the county had 13,662 residents in the workforce and 578 of them were unemployed. In February, there were 13,707 residents able to work and 605 of them without jobs.

In March of last year, Greene County's jobless rate was 4.1 percent with 13,613 (See 'RATE' on page 2)

lot available due to no contested races in the Republican Party. Republicans will be on the ballots available in November. The Primary will be held Tuesday, May 2.

The absentee ballot by mail application deadline has passed. Any applications postmarked after April 20 will not be accepted. Absentee voting in-person for the Primary Election will continue at the Martin County Clerk's Office at 129 Main Street in Shoals now through Friday 8 a.m.-4 p.m., Saturday 8 a.m.-12 p.m., and Monday, May 1 from 8 a.m. to noon. Democratic candidates on the Primary

ballot:

Mayor: Noel D. Harty and Teresa M. Nolley

Clerk/Treasurer: Roger Downey

Council-At-Large: James (JD) Flynn and Ron Gilbert

Council District 2: Tim Biggin Lawrence

Council District 3: Carroll Rayhill Council District 4: Rick Norris

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#### **MARTIN COUNTY JOURNAL**

they expire with the debt. He stated In-

diana Landmarks had advised they have

worked with similar situations in the past

as well. Attorney Lett stated county tax-

es and liens can be forgiven by the com-

missioners by way of vote for projects as

well. Lett said he was having a title search

conducted. Greg Jones, with SIDC, stated

his office had done leg work on the his-

tory of the liens and seemed most had

been released. Jones also said he wanted

to share that OCRA had opened their pro-

gram recently for demolition projects but

if buildings are registered in a Historic

District, you must submit an application

requesting approval to remove the build-

ing. Ragsdale stated he had a quote from

a demolition company and the cost was

\$150,000-\$200,000 due to the size and

location as the buildings on Main Street

share party walls with each other. Jones

asked that the town keep SIDC involved

in the plans and if there was anything

that could be done to help to let him

know. Council Member Albright asked

Clerk-Treasurer Rutledge if EDIT funds

could be used for this type of work and

projects and Rutledge said they could.

The board then authorized Attorney Lett

to draft a letter of intent to the owner of

the building. Councilwoman Crew made

a motion to go ahead and submit the In-

diana Landmarks grant application for

the structural analysis to be done with

Councilman Albright making the second.

Councilwoman Crew made a motion to

go ahead and submit the Radius Impact

fund application with Councilman Al-

With no further business to discuss,

Councilwoman Crew made a motion to

adjourn with Councilman Albright mak-

ing the second and the meeting closed at

The next regular meeting of the town

council is Monday, May 8 at 5:59 p.m.

bright making the second.

### **SHOALS COUNCIL** are not renewed after ten years and that

Page 2

(Continued from page one) tive to business development projects for potential new business locations that are considering a location within the Radius Region. The program would be a grant within the \$25-\$50k range. Ragsdale said Indiana Landmarks has a "Landmarks Endangered Placed Fund" grant available to non-profit and local government units for up to \$3,000 with a 4:1 match to assist with structural assessments and feasibility studies for endangered historic properties. If awarded, Indiana Landmarks would work with their architect to prepare a plan. Ragsdale said he was then contacted again by Mr. Sekula this week stating he would be in Shoals with a developer who has taken special interest in properties in the Midwest from Indianapolis to Nashville, Tennessee. The developer happened to be in the area and Sekula wanted to show him around Shoals. Ragsdale said they were very impressed with the downtown area.

Council Member Albright asked about liens on properties and how that would work. Ragsdale stated he had conversations with State Representative Shane Lindauer and federal liens drop off if they

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Teresa NOLLEY for Loogootee Mayor **#DoTheWork** 

9:32 a.m.

I am a candidate for Mayor in the Loogootee May 2nd primary.

I've been part of the Loogootee community my whole life, having worked for the Loogootee school system nearly 43 years. I've been active in organizing events, activities, leagues and teams, served on committees, and I have served you the last 8 years on the city council.

I believe part of my duties and responsibilities representing the taxpavers as a city council member were to focus on financial responsibility, asking questions to understand the needs and procedures of PROJECTS (Continued from page one)

of \$1,085.20.

The school took out a 20-year bond in 2018 for \$11,890,000 (\$7,440,000 plus \$4,450,000 in interest) to remodel the elementary school and high school which included adding a media center and science lab. The school also took out a \$2 million bond in 2015 to replace windows, the roofs of each building and lighting and doors in some areas. That bond will be paid off in 2026. The school currently has annual bond payments of around \$523,000. Adding \$917,000 would increase those annual bond payments to \$1,440,000.

In other business, the board approved hiring Olivia Pride as seventh/eighth grade language arts teacher, Bristol Yoder as high school English teacher, Nick Bowman as golf volunteer, and Stephanie Gilbert as CTE Coordinator. They accepted the resignations of Moriah O'Bri-

### RATE

(Continued from page one) residents in the workforce and 555 of them unemployed.

The top ten spots in the state for lowest unemployment rate for March were Gibson County at 2.3 percent, Daviess and Boone counties at 2.5 percent, Hamilton County at 2.6 percent, Johnson, Hendricks and Dubois counties at 2.7 percent, and Adams, Posey and Steuben counties at 2.8 percent.

The top ten spots in the state for highest unemployment rate for March were Lake County at 5.4 percent, Howard County at 5.3 percent, Newton County at 5 percent, Starke and Vermillion counties at 4.8 percent, LaPorte County at 4.6 percent, Fayette County at 4.5 percent, Miami County at 4.4 percent, and Blackford, Crawford, Owen and Lawrence counties at 4.3 percent.

Indiana's unemployment rate in March stands at 3.1 percent, according to the Indiana Department of Workforce Development. By comparison, the national unemployment rate for March stands at 3.5 percent.

In addition, Indiana's labor force par-

an as music assistant and Madeline Cage as art teacher.

The board approved selling current Chromebooks for \$5 to first, fifth and ninth grade students. Those students have paid for those books over the past four years through fees, however the school is not allowed to give them away for free. The board also approved purchasing new Chromebooks for those same students.

Curriculum Director Shelley Christmas talked about the different pathways students can take for chosen career choices which include cybersecurity and computer science, engineering, business and humanities, life and biomedical sciences, manufacturing, welding, automotive services and repair, construction, education, broadcasting, and civic arts. Students can choose more than one pathway but must take six semesters of courses in each. Many students leave Loogootee High School with accumulated college credits.

ticipation rate increased to 63.5 percent for March, remaining above the national rate of 62.6 percent. Indiana's total labor force, which includes both Hoosiers employed and those seeking employment, stands at 3,416,350 -an increase of 6,653 from the previous month.

Private sector employment in Indiana increased by 3,300 jobs over the last month, translating to a gain of 70,200 jobs from this time last year. Indiana's March private employment stands at 2,830,500. This is a new private employment peak for Indiana. Industries that experienced job increases in March included:

Professional and Business Services (+4,400);

Trade, Transportation and Utilities (+800);

Leisure and Hospitality (+700); and Manufacturing (+400).

As of April 17, 2023, there were 130,218 open job postings throughout the state. In March, 17,039 unemployment insurance claims were filed in Indiana.

Individuals looking for work, training or career information are encouraged to visit in.gov/dwd/job-seekers



the city's daily operations.

I believe Loogootee deserves a Mayor who will make managing our city a priority, to always put the needs of the city first, such as infrastructure, prioritizing the city's needs to develop and grow. I believe our city has been stagnant, not growing, and has been somewhat focused in the wrong direction for too many years.

I believe Loogootee has opportunities for growth. Part of my vision as your Mayor will be developing 5 year plans for each department, listing goals, repairs and improvements. Open communication and co-operation between all departments. Balancing the city budget is extremely important, by operating within that budget, it alleviates the tax burden on our citizens.

Preventive maintenance which would help eliminate last minute purchases at inflated prices. I also believe it's important to allow time for the grant application process and alternate funding.

We have not done any planning for the growth of Crane and how that growth potentially could benefit the economic impact and opportunity for Loogootee. We really must focus on this, utilizing the Martin County Alliance for Economic Growth as a partnership. Opportunity is our biggest asset. As Mayor, I will focus on creating a plan of action immediately.

Finally, I also believe other duties of the Mayor are to enforce the ordinances of the city, recommend in writing to the city council actions that he or she considers proper, and to provide supervision and leadership to all departments.

The differences in this election for Mayor could not be more apparent. More of the same stagnation, or Loogootee moving with a focus and vision that grows our city! The time is now!

#### I ask for your support, VOTE TERESA NOLLEY MAY 2nd for MAYOR



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# **JBITUARIES** MARTIN COUNTY JOURNAL

#### **TONY BLEDSOE**

Tony Edward Bledsoe went to be with his Lord and Savior at 6:54 a.m. central



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time Tuesday, April 18, 2023, at Deaconess Gateway Hospital, in Newburgh. A resident of Loogootee, he was 77.

He was born August 20, 1945, in Washington; son of

TONY BLEDSOE the late Dale and Ruby Bledsoe.

He graduated from Loogootee High School in 1963 and then attended Lincoln Christian College, Lincoln, Illinois where he met his wife, Sophie, in the spring of 1965. They were married June 3, 1966, at Pleasant Hill Christian Church rural Kansas, Illinois. She survives.

Tony's first and greatest love was for his Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. He dedicated his life to serving His Lord by serving others and by his leadership at Loogootee Christian Church where he was an Elder for over 40 years. He also served as a Deacon prior to his Eldership. In his earlier years at the church, he and his wife were youth leaders. He was also a Sunday School teacher and taught the senior age class for many years.

Tony spent much of his last weekend at church—Saturday morning at the Men's Prayer Breakfast and both Sunday morning and Sunday evening in worship services where he ran the sound board.

Fishing and fixing "anything" were other joys in his life. He was known for his love of fishing and usually caught more and bigger fish than anyone else. He also loved teaching his grandchildren how to fish. Gardening was another passion.

Tony also served in the United States Marine Corps from February 28, 1968, to May 25, 1973. He spent his active-duty service with H&MS-26, MAG-26 Rotary Wing Marine Corps Air Station at New River, North Carolina. He was deployed to Okinawa, Japan, Sicily and flew humanitarian missions into Tunisia.

During his military time, he received the National Defense Service Medal. Letter of Commendation, Good Conduct Medal & .45 pistol sharpshooter badge. Staff Sergeant Tony Bledsoe also received a Navy Achievement Medal "for professional achievement in the superior performance of his duties while serving as Avionics Chief in HMH 362, Detachment 1 from 16 December 1972 to 18 April 1973".

He served as a Civil Servant at NSWC Crane beginning in 1975, retired from Civil Service and then worked as a contractor for 11 years, totaling 47 years of government service. After retirement he spent every moment he could with his family, especially his grandchildren.

Tony was preceded in death by his parents, Dale and Ruby Bledsoe; sister, Kathy Burks; father and mother-in-law. Bruce & Montine Taber; and brothersin-law, Tom & Jim Taber and Richard Green.

He is survived by his wife, Sophie; his children, Mark A. (Jennifer) Bledsoe of Cannelburg, Marcia (Trey Podham) Fischer of Elizabethtown, Kenrtucky; and Michael Bledsoe of Loogootee; nine grandchildren, Alexis Johnson, Jacob (Courtney) Bledsoe, Lamonte Johnson, Joe Bledsoe, Gabriel (fiancé Krista Priddy) Fischer, Sarah Bledsoe, Jonathan Fischer, Hannah Bledsoe and Lilly Bledsoe and one great-grandson, Liam David Bledsoe. Tony is also survived by his siblings, Ron (Lynn) Bledsoe, Linda Green and Larry (Judy) Bledsoe, all of Loogootee; brother-in-law, Garry Burks of Washington; sister-in-law, Terry Taber of Kansas, Illinois, and many nieces and nephews, cousins and good friends as well as his beloved church family. And special "buddy", his dog, Draco.

Funeral services were held Friday, April 21 at Loogootee Christian Church. Burial and military rights followed at Goodwill Cemetery in Loogootee.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions can be made to Loogootee Christian Church.

Online condolences can be made at www.blakefuneralhomes.com.



Blake Funeral Home in Loogootee, Indiana is honored to serve the family of Tony E. Bledsoe.

#### **JOYCE CONLON**

Joyce Conlon passed away Sunday, April 23, 2023, at Memorial Hospital and Healthcare Center. A resident of Loogootee, she was 70.

She was born May 19, 1952, in Washington; daughter of the late Charles and Bernice (Strange) Burch.

Joyce married Charles Conlon on October 20, 1973, and he preceded her in death on September 19, 2004.

Joyce enjoyed sewing, playing cards, and spending time with her family. She was a member of St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Charles Conlon; parents, Charles and Bernice Burch; and siblings, Evelyn Fullbeck, Wayne Burch, and Linda (Steve) Trambaugh.

Joyce is survived by her children, Nick Joyce Conlon.

(Audrey) Conlon of Cannelburg and Angie (Jeff) Kidwell of Montgomery; grandchildren, Jayland Baker, Peyton Conlon, Jillian Conlon, Destiny Kidwell and Tommy Kidwell; siblings, Bernie Burch, Glen (Patti) Burch, Shirley Burch, and Karen Doyle; brother-in-law, Pete Fullbeck; and sister-in-law, Brenda Burch.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated by Very Rev. J. Kenneth Walker at 11 a.m. Thursday, April 27 at St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church in Loogootee. Burial will follow in St. Patrick Catholic Cemetery.

Visitation will be held Thursday, April 27 from 9 a.m. until 10:45 a.m. at the church.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions can be made to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital.

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

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#### Wednesday, April 26, 2023





"The most dangerous phrase in our language is, "We've always done it this way." -Admiral Grace Hopper

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# COURT & COPS MARTIN COUNTY JOURNAL

### Wednesday, April 26, 2023 Page 4 Martin County Sheriff's Department log

#### **MONDAY, APRIL 17**

12:28 a.m. - Received a call reporting an accident with no injuries east of Shoals. Deputy Erwin and Loogootee Officer Sims responded.

12:58 a.m. - Received a call reporting harassment in Loogootee. Loogootee Officer Sims responded.

2:45 a.m. - Received a call reporting a road hazard west of Shoals. Deputy Erwin responded.

9:15 a.m. - Received a report that Medic 1 will be transporting a patient to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

9:29 a.m. - Received a call requesting a vehicle identification number check in Loogootee. Corporal Hawkins responded.

9:31 a.m. - Received a call reporting a disabled vehicle west of Shoals. Chief Deputy Keller and Shoals Fire Department responded.

12:50 p.m. - Deputy Pressley transported two inmates to court.

1:00 p.m. - Received a 911 call requesting to be transferred to Carter County, Tennessee. Gave caller phone number.

1:17 p.m. - Received an accidental 911 call.

1:54 p.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Medic 1 responded and transported one patient to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

2:37 p.m. - Received a call reporting an accident with no injuries east of Loogootee. ISP responded.

2:49 p.m. - Deputy Pressley transported one inmate to court.

3:19 p.m. - Deputy Pressley transported one inmate to court.

5:09 p.m. - Received a call reporting a reckless driver west of Loogootee. Loogootee Officer Baumgart and Corporal Hawkins responded.

5:18 p.m. - Received an animal complaint south of Loogootee. Animal Control Deputy Hughett was notified.

5:39 p.m. - Received a call from Commercial Protection advising of a commercial burglar alarm north of Loogootee. Loogootee Officer Baumgart and Corporal Hawkins responded.

6:10 p.m. - Received a call reporting a tree down west of Shoals. Corporal Hawkins and Shoals Fire Department responded. REMC was notified.

6:29 p.m. - Received an animal complaint southeast of Shoals. Animal Control Deputy Hughett was notified.

6:55 p.m. - Received a request to speak to an officer. Corporal Hawkins responded.

7:30 p.m. - Received a call requesting a welfare check in Shoals. Corporal Hawkins responded. 7:32 p.m. - Received a call reporting a suspicious male north of Loogootee. Loogootee Officer Baumgart responded.

8:45 a.m. - Received a call requesting a welfare check south of Loogootee. Captain Gibson responded.

9:50 a.m. - Received a call requesting assistance in Shoals. Captain Gibson responded.

9:55 a.m. - Deputy Pressley transported two inmates to court.

10:19a.m. - Received a call requesting a welfare check in Shoals. Sheriff Greene and Chief Deputy Keller responded.

11:01 a.m. - Deputy Pressley transported two inmates to court.

12:57 p.m. - Deputy Pressley transported two inmates to remote court.

1:13 p.m. - Received a call requesting a vehicle identification number check on an ATV. Captain Gibson responded.

3:05 p.m. - Received a call requesting assistance in Loogootee. Advised Loogootee Dispatch.

4:00 p.m. - Received a call about a possible stolen item. Captain Gibson responded.

4:22 p.m. - Corporal Hawkins transported one female to Good Samaritan Hospital in Vincennes.

5:45 p.m. - Received an accidental 911 call

6:28 p.m. - Received an animal complaint in Loogootee. Animal Control Deputy Hughett was notified.

7:38 p.m. - Received an animal complaint south of Shoals. Animal Control Deputy Hughett was notified.

8:05 p.m. - Received a call reporting property damage south of Loogootee. Corporal Hawkins responded.

#### WEDNESDAY, APRIL 19

8:12 a.m. - Received a call requesting a vehicle identification number check southeast of Shoals. Captain Gibson responded.

12:52 p.m. - Received an animal complaint in Loogootee. Animal Control Deputy Hughett was notified.

1:47 p.m. - Received a call reporting a person skateboarding in the road north of Shoals. Captain Gibson responded.

3:01 p.m. - Received an accidental 911 call.

3:02 p.m. - Received an accidental 911 call.

3:15 p.m. - Received a call reporting an accident with no injuries southeast of Shoals. Sheriff Greene and Captain Gibson responded.

3:18 p.m. - Received an animal complaint in Loogootee. Loogootee Chief Means and Loogootee Officer Sims responded.

5:48 p.m. - Received a 911 call reporting a traffic hazard east of Shoals. Deputy Branham, Loogootee Officer Sims, Shoals Fire Department and Big John's Towing responded.

12:13 p.m. - Received a 911 call advis- Loogootee Chief Means responded. ing of same accident.

1:06 p.m. - Received a 911 call reporting an accident with no injuries in Loogootee. Loogootee Chief Means responded.

1:12 p.m. - Received a 911 call from a Daviess County address. Transferred call to Daviess County 911.

1:17 p.m. - Received a call from Care Center advising of a medical alarm push in Shoals. ISP Trooper Lents, Chief Deputy Keller and Martin County Medic 1 responded. No one was transported.

1:57 p.m. - Received an accidental 911 call.

3:53 p.m. - Received a report of a hacked debit card. Deputy Haven responded.

6:06 p.m. - Received a call from an alarm company advising of a commercial burglar alarm north of Loogootee. Keyholder advised to disregard.

8:15 p.m. - Received a 911 call reporting a reckless driver north of Loogootee. Advised all on duty officers.

8:53 p.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance in Shoals. Shoals Fire Department and Martin County Medic 1 responded. Medic 1 transported one patient to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

9:44 p.m. - Received a report of a suspicious person in Shoals. Deputy Haven, Shoals Town Marshal Eckert, Deputy Branham and Loogootee Officer Sims responded.

#### FRIDAY, APRIL 21

12:25 a.m. - Received a call reporting a possible domestic dispute in Loogootee. Loogootee Officer Sims and Deputy Branham responded.

12:42 a.m. - Received a 911 call reporting a person being threatened in Loogootee. Loogootee Officer Sims and Deputy Branham responded.

12:55 a.m. - Received a call from Area One Protection advising of a commercial burglar alarm in Loogootee. Loogootee Officer Sims and Deputy Branham responded.

8:27 a.m. - Received a 911 call reporting a domestic dispute south of Loogootee. Chief Deputy Keller, ISP Trooper Wilson and Martin County Medic 1 responded. No one was transported.

8:30 a.m. - Received a second 911 call call. for the same domestic dispute.

9:37 a.m. - Received a call reporting an accident south of Loogootee. Chief Deputy Keller, Loogootee Chief Means and Martin County Medic 1 responded. No one was transported.

9:39 a.m. - Received a call reporting property damage east of Shoals. Sergeant

2:43 p.m. - Received an accidental 911 call.

4:14 p.m. - Received an animal complaint in Crane. Animal Control Deputy Hughett was notified.

8:02 p.m. - Received an accidental 911 call.

8:15 p.m.- Received an accidental 911 call.

8:46 p.m.- Received a 911 call from an Orange County address. Transferred call to Orange County 911.

9:54 p.m. - Received a 911 call reporting an accident northeast of Shoals. Deputy Haven, Shoals Town Marshal Eckert, Loogootee Officer Baumgart, Martin County Medic 1 and Shoals Fire Department responded. No one was transported. **SATURDAY, APRIL 22** 

4:31 a.m. - Received an accidental 911 call.

7:25 a.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Medic 1, Loogootee Fire Department and Sergeant Wells responded. Medic 1 transported one patient to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

10:02 a.m. - Received a 911 call reporting a vehicle on fire southwest of Shoals. Shoals Fire Department, Martin County Medic 1, Sergeant Wells, Loogootee Assistant Chief Long and Big John's Towing responded. No one was transported.

11:04 a.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an officer southwest of Shoals. Sergeant Wells and Indiana Conservation Officer Mann responded.

11:22 a.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Medic 1 responded and transported one patient to Daviess Community Hospital.

12:10 p.m. - Received a 911 call reporting a verbal dispute south of Shoals. Loogootee Assistant Chief Long responded.

2:19 p.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Medic 1 responded but did not transport.

5:19 p.m. - Received an accidental 911 call.

6:21 p.m. - Received an accidental 911

10:53 p.m. - Received a call requesting a vehicle unlock in Loogootee. Deputy Branham responded.

11:09 p.m. - Received a call requesting a welfare check in Daviess County. Deputy Branham provided information to the caller.

#### **SUNDAY, APRIL 23**

8:03 p.m. - Received an accidental 911 call.

9:44 p.m. - Received a call reporting a possible theft in Loogootee. Loogootee Officer Baumgart responded.

9:56 p.m. - Received a call reporting a reckless driver south of Loogootee. Deputy Erwin and Indiana Conservation Officer Mann responded.

11:14 p.m. - Received a call reporting possible trespassers south of Loogootee. Deputy Erwin responded. **TUESDAY, APRIL 18** 

8:19 a.m. - Received a call reporting a controlled burn south of Shoals.

8:35 a.m. - Received a call reporting an erratic driver in Loogootee. Advised Loogootee Dispatch.

8:36 a.m. - Received a call requesting a welfare check in Loogootee. Loogootee Assistant Chief Long responded.

9:32 p.m. - Received a call reporting harassment in Shoals. Deputy Branham responded.

10:55 p.m. - Received a call reporting a reckless driver on I69 in Greene County. Called ISP with information.

#### **THURSDAY, APRIL 20**

10:55 a.m. - Received an animal complaint in Shoals. Animal Control Deputy Hughett was notified.

10:55 a.m. - Received an animal complaint in Loogootee. Animal Control Deputy Hughett was notified.

11:18 a.m. - Received an accidental 911 call.

12:11 p.m. - Received a 911 call reporting a motorcycle-car accident south of Loogootee. Martin County Medic 1, Loogootee Fire Department, Haysville Fire Department, ISP Trooper Collins, Chief Deputy Keller, Loogootee Assistant Chief Long and Big John's Towing responded. No one was transported.

Wells responded.

9:53 a.m. - Deputy Pressley transported two inmates to court.

10:18 a.m. - Received an accidental 911 call.

11:03 a.m. - Deputy Pressley transported one inmate to court.

11:06 a.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance in Shoals. Chief Deputy Keller, Shoals Fire Department and Martin County Medic 1 responded. Medic 1 transported one patient to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

11:07 a.m. - Received a call reporting a property damage accident south of Loogootee. Sergeant Wells responded.

11:40 a.m. - Deputy Pressley transported two inmates to court.

12:53 p.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Medic 1 responded and transported one patient to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

1:35 p.m. - Received an accidental 911 call.

2:28 p.m. - Received a 911 call reporting an accident without injuries in Loogootee.

10:36 a.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance in Shoals. Martin County Medic 1 and Shoals Fire Department responded. Medic 1 transported one patient to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

12:31 p.m. - Received a call requesting a vehicle unlock in Loogootee. Corporal Hawkins responded.

5:32 p.m. - Received an accidental 911 call.

7:33 p.m. - Received a call requesting a welfare check in Loogootee. Deputy Haven and Loogootee Reserve Officer Shaw responded.

8:31 p.m. - Received a call reporting a trespasser who is making threats north of Shoals. Deputy Haven, Deputy Erwin, Loogootee Officer Baumgart, Loogootee Reserve Officer Shaw and Martin County Medic 1 responded. Medic 1 transported one patient to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

11:47 p.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance southeast of Loogootee. Loogootee Officer Baumgart, Martin County Medic 1 and Loogootee Fire Department responded. No one was transported.

#### MARTIN COUNTY JOURNAL

Wednesday, April 26, 2023

# **COURT NEWS**

#### **CRIMINAL CONVICTIONS AND** missed. SENTENCINGS

#### April 12

Matthew J. Newkirk, convicted of operating a vehicle while intoxicated endangering a person, a Class A Misdemeanor. Sentenced to serve 365 days with 361 days suspended and credit for 2 actual days previously served plus 2 Class A credit days. Defendant received 6 months of probation.

#### April 13

Mahkai T. Petzer, convicted of operating a vehicle with an ACE of .15 or more, a Class A Misdemeanor. Sentenced to serve 365 days with 363 days suspended and credit for 1 actual day previously served plus 1 Class A credit day. Defendant received 12 months of probation.

#### April 14

Peggy R. Stoll, convicted of auto theft, a Level 6 Felony. Sentenced to serve 104 days with 0 days suspended and credit for 52 actual days previously served plus 52 Class A credit days.

#### **CRIMINAL CHARGES DISMISSED** April 12

Matthew J. Newkirk, operating a vehicle with an ACE of .08 or more, a Class C Misdemeanor, dismissed.

#### April 13

Mahkai T. Petzer, operating a vehicle while intoxicated endangering a person, a Class A Misdemeanor, dismissed; minor consuming alcohol, a Class C Misdemeanor, dismissed.

Jeyson Artemio Marroquin Carrera, knowingly or intentionally operating a motor vehicle without ever receiving a license, a Class C Misdemeanor, dismissed.

#### April 14

Billy G. Mitchell, two counts of possession of marijuana, Class A Misdemeanors, dismissed; driving while suspended, a Class A Misdemeanor, dismissed.

Michael A. Jones, driving while suspended, a Class A Misdemeanor, dis-

#### **CIVIL COURT New Suits Filed** April 13

Westlake Financial Services, LLC vs. Dinessa Hawthorne, civil collection.

#### April 14

Nathan L. Carey vs. Braiden P. Lumbert, petition for dissolution of marriage.

#### April 18

German American Bank vs. Andrew C. Haggard and Michelle J. Haggard, mortgage foreclosure.

#### **CIVIL COURT JUDGMENTS** April 12

Judgment in favor of the plaintiff Hoosier Account Service and against the defendant Nicholas Arvin in the amount of \$12,762.65.

#### **CIVIL COURT DISMISSED** April 13

Velocity Investments, LLC vs. Toni Clifton, civil collection, dismissed.

#### SMALL CLAIMS COURT New Suits Filed April 14

General Audit Corporation vs. Curtis W. Craft, complaint.

#### SMALL CLAIMS JUDGMENTS April 12

Judgment in favor of the plaintiff Family Dental Care and against the defendant Jodi Lengacher in the amount of \$422.83.

#### April 14

Judgment in favor of the plaintiff Roger D. Terry and against the defendant Randy Terry in the amount of \$1,425.

#### SMALL CLAIMS DISMISSED April 13

Carla L. Downey vs. Marya Gilliland, complaint, dismissed.

#### **MARRIAGE LICENSES**

Max Eugene Stafford of Loogootee and Darla Francine Simmons of Loogootee. Joshua Kane Wininger of Loogootee

and Kindra Lynn Cole of Loogootee.

# **Loogootee Police log**

#### **MONDAY, APRIL 17**

12:28 a.m. - Officer Sims assisted the Martin County Sheriff's Department with an accident on Highway 50.

12:58 a.m. - Officer Sims responded to a complaint on Ackerman Drive.

3:29 a.m. - Officer Sims investigated a complaint at the city square.

2:20 p.m. - Chief Means investigated a complaint that was reported at the station.

5:09 p.m. - Officer Baumgart responded to a vehicle complaint on West Broadway Street.

5:39 p.m. - Officer Baumgart assisted the Martin County Sheriff's Department with an alarm at West Boggs Park.

7:32 p.m. - Officer Baumgart respond-

Martin County Sheriff's Department with an accident on US 50 East.

#### **THURSDAY, APRIL 20**

12:11 p.m. - Loogootee Fire Department and Chief Means responded to an accident on US 231 South.

1:10 p.m. - Chief Means responded to an accident at Dollar General parking lot.

3:49 p.m. - Officer Sims responded to a civil complaint on North Oak Street.

9:44 p.m. - Officer Sims assisted the Martin County Sheriff's Department on West River Road.

#### FRIDAY, APRIL 21

12:25 a.m. - Officer Sims responded to a civil complaint on North Oak Street. 12:55 a.m. - Officer Sims responded



The Lents Family

# **Jarrod Lents named ISP Trooper of the Year for 2022**

Indiana State Police Superintendent Douglas G. Carter has announced Master Trooper Jarrod Lents as the recipient of the 2022 Indiana State Police Trooper of the Year. This honor is presented to the trooper who inspires others to serve in a manner that significantly exceeds expectations. Performance includes outstanding levels of traffic and criminal enforcement, case and crash investigations, public information programs, and, most importantly, serving the communities within the State of Indiana. The Trooper of the Year has exemplified strength of character, a strong work ethic, and an unsurpassed level of integrity that is the embodiment of being an Indiana State Trooper.

M/Trp. Lents graduated from Bedford North Lawrence High School in 1999. In May 2004, Lents graduated from Indiana State University with a BS in Criminology. In October 2004, Lents graduated from the 64<sup>th</sup> Indiana State Police Recruit class and was assigned to the Lafayette Post for two years before transferring to the Jasper District.

Currently, Master Trooper Lents is assigned a day shift in Martin County. Martin County is a very rural community with a small law enforcement presence. In 2022, Master Trooper Lents issued 1,449 traffic warnings and 687 uniform traffic tickets totaling 2,136 traffic contacts and five operating while intoxicated arrests. Criminally, Master Trooper Lents arrested 76 defendants on 152 criminal charges, 35 of those being felonies. M/Trp. Lents was the lead officer on 54 criminal incident reports which were not all traffic stop related. M/Trp. Lents worked on multiple complex investigations using his experience as a prior field investigator to ensure that victims of crimes were effectively represented.

AWARDS:

Jasper Post, Trooper of the District- 2009 Jasper Post, Trooper of the District-2016 Jasper Post, Trooper of the District-2022

Combat Action Award-2013 & Purple Heart- 2013

M/Trp. Lents resides in Martin County with his wife Susan and family.

## ARRESTS

#### **MONDAY, APRIL 17**

9:56 p.m. - Roger Salmon, 34, of Loogootee, was arrested by Loogootee Officer Baumgart and charged with intimidation with a deadly weapon, harassment, stalking, possession of methamphetamine, possession of marijuana, possession of paraphernalia and possession of a level 2 controlled substance. He is being held on \$30,000 10% and \$15,000 cash only bond. WEDNESDAY, APRIL 19

2:46 a.m. - Christopher Richmond, 31, of West Baden, was arrested by Deputy Erwin and charged with criminal recklessness, reckless driving, resisting law enforcement, intimidation with a deadly weapon and unlawful pointing of a laser. He is being held without bond.

consumption and transporting alcohol by a minor. He is being held on \$3,000 cash only bond with no driving.

2:03 p.m. - Lori Plano, 55, of Shoals, was arrested by Sergeant Wells and charged with operating a vehicle while intoxicated-endangerment. She is being held on \$10,000 cash only bond.

2:50 p.m. - Jerry Allen Sr., 58, of Loogootee, was arrested by ISP Trooper Wilson on a Martin County warrant. He is being held without bond.

8:32 p.m. - Leon Chatelle, 19, of Loogootee, was arrested by Loogootee Officer Baumgart and charged with possession of a schedule one drug. He is being held on \$15,000 10% bond.

10:31 p.m. - Tanner Earl, 22, of Loogootee, was arrested by Loogootee Reserve Officer Shaw and charged with operating a vehicle while intoxicated-endangerment, possession of a controlled substance, and neglect of a dependent. He is being held on \$15,000 10% bond.

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ed to a complaint of a pedestrian on Highway 231 North.

9:44 p.m. - Officer Baumgart responded to a complaint on North Broadway Street. **TUESDAY, APRIL 18** 

8:36 a.m. - Chief Means performed a welfare check on North JFK Avenue.

10:21 a.m. - Chief Means and Assistant Chief Long provided traffic control for INDOT at East Broadway Street and Kentucky Avenue.

1:06 p.m. - Chief Means assisted with a funeral detail on Wood Street.

3:12 p.m. - Chief Means and Officer Baumgart assisted a county employee on Southwest Third Street.

4:38 p.m. - Officer Baumgart performed a vehicle unlock at Subway. WEDNESDAY, APRIL 19

11:45 a.m. - Chief Means responded to a civil dispute on Southwest Third Street.

3:25 p.m. - Chief Means responded to an animal call on Scenic Hill.

4:17 p.m. - Officer Sims responded to a civil complaint on Northeast Second Street.

5:48 p.m. - Officer Sims assisted the

to a commercial burglar alarm on North JFK Avenue.

9:39 a.m. - Loogootee Fire Department and Chief Means responded to an accident on US 231 South.

2:30 p.m. - Chief Means responded to an accident at McDonald's parking lot.

5:35 p.m. - Officer Baumgart responded to an accident in Country Court.

7:03 p.m. - Officer Baumgart responded to a civil dispute on Reason Avenue.

9:55 p.m. - Officer Baumgart assisted the Martin County Sheriff's Department with traffic control on US 50 East. **SATURDAY, APRIL 22** 

10:02 a.m. - Loogootee Fire Department and Assistant Chief Long responded to a vehicle fire on State Road 550 East.

12:10 p.m. - Assistant Chief Long responded to a civil dispute on US 50 and Kentucky Avenue.

#### **SUNDAY, APRIL 23**

8:31 p.m. - Officer Baumgart assisted the Martin County Sheriff's Department with a disgruntled subject on County Farm Road.

2:29 p.m. - Anthony Schnarr, 18, of Shoals, was arrested by Corporal Hawkins and charged with intimidation. He is being held on a \$15,000 10% bond.

#### **THURSDAY, APRIL 20**

4:37 a.m. - Guv Hazel, 44, of Loogootee, was arrested by Deputy Erwin and charged with failure to register as a sex offender in Martin County. He is being held on \$15,000 cash only bond.

#### **SATURDAY, APRIL 22**

12:30 a.m. - Jordyn Walton, 18, of Loogootee, was arrested by Deputy Haven and charged with operating a vehicle while intoxicated-endangerment, possession.

### **Real estate transfers**

Bruce Fithian and Julie Fithian, of Martin County, Indiana to Melvin D. Graber, of Martin County, Indiana. Tract I: Fractional Lot Number 47 in the Town, now City of Loogootee, Indiana. Tract II: Lot Number 12 in the First North Addition in the City of Loogootee, Indiana. Also. Lot Number 13 in the First North Addition to the Town, now City of Loogootee, Indiana.

#### **SUNDAY, APRIL 23**

3:52 a.m. - Kaden Hickman, 20, of Kokomo, was arrested by Loogootee Officer Baumgart and charged with operating a vehicle while intoxicated. He is being held on \$3,000 10% bond.

11:26 a.m. - Willie Wilson, 41, of Loogootee, was arrested by Loogootee Assistant Chief Long and charged with domestic battery, discharge of a firearm in city limits, possession of a firearm by a convicted felon. He is being held without bond.

4:15 p.m. - Reimos Tremble, 19, of Indianapolis, was arrested by Loogootee Reserve Officer Shaw and charged with operating a vehicle while intoxicated. He is being held on \$10,000 10% bond.

8:26 p.m. - Richard Ervin Jr., 63, of Shoals, was arrested by Deputy Erwin and charged with habitual traffic violations. He is being held on \$15,000 10% bond.

# COMMUNITY & EVENTS Wednesday, April 26, 2023

**MARTIN COUNTY JOURNAL** 

# **George C. Waggoner's Mill**

Waggoner's Chapel, it is hard to imagine this area was once native woodland, bridle trails or dirt roads, unbridged streams and rivers, and a few small communities. In the early to mid-1800s, the main means of transportation were walking from place to place, riding horseback, or moving around on horse drawn wagons or carts. Some of these pioneers used boats or rafts to navigate up or down Lost River. But ice, snow, rain, or cold weather did not deter community members from attending church or traveling to the mill which was the center of business activity for the community.

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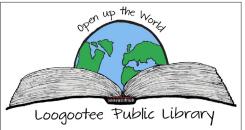
George Waggoner bought the land and mill site in 1847 from Issac Haller, as both George and Issac saw the need for a mill in the Lost River area. The mill dam was approximately 20 to 30 feet wide and about 5 feet deep. Large logs, made secure by massive rocks that were placed on the logs, formed a slanting floor facing upstream. Part of the mill building extended over the dam and a boxlike contraption was built to form a narrow channel through which water could flow. The flume or channel of water was controlled by the opening or closing of the wooden gate. The control of the water furnished the power for the different water wheels made of heavy planks. George, being an outstanding carpenter, fashioned these wheels himself. A large wooden shaft powered these four large wooden wheels. Each wheel had cogs which revolved when the shaft turned depending on the amount of water controlled by the opening or closing of the channel gate. One wheel ground wheat into flour, another ground corn into meal, the third sawed lumber, and a fourth pulled logs from Lost River.

At first, an upright saw was used but was later replaced by a circular saw. When grinding wheat and corn large stoneburrs, called French burrs were used. The burrs, made of heavy stone, were imported from France and were very expensive. Not many mills used these stones because of the expense and few millers knew how to sharpen them. The flour mill was discontinued around 1880 because mills were now being built in several small towns. The grist mill and lumbering business continued to make a profit and survived for several years and were the last to be discontinued. Today,

Today, looking toward Lost River from large stones, still visible in the Lost River site, remain the only evidence of the mill's existence.

> Facts on Waggoner's Mill were acquired from Rachel Dyar, granddaughter of George Waggoner, and great-granddaughter Mary Lou Billings

> The Friends of Waggoner's Chapel, LLC are still accepting donations to preserve, repair, and maintain the historic church in Lost River Township. Please send your donations to Friends of Waggoner's Chapel, LLC care of Mary Lou Billings, 13162 East River Road Shoals, Indiana 47581.



#### **BY DARLA WAGLER** Librarian, Loogootee Public Library

2022 Loogootee Public Library Annual

Statistics: Total resident cardholders: 967

Nonresident cardholders: 233

Circulation of physical materials: 25,945 Circulation of electronic materials: 4.230

Total items checked out for 2022: 30,175 The reports are generated and emailed

to the library by the Indiana State Library. April 23-29 is National Library Week. Stop by the library and see all the services

the library offers.

Carolyn's Book Club is scheduled for Monday, May 1 at 6:00 p.m. at the library. "The Good Sister" by Sally Hepworth will be discussed.

New Books:

Mystery: "The Rescue" by T. Jefferson Parker.

Fiction: "Small Mercies" by Dennis Lehane.

Inspirational Fiction: "Secret to Happiness" by Suzanne Woods Fisher and 'Shell Beach" by Davis Bunn.

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.

#### Loogootee School Board meeting

CALENDAR OF

The Loogootee School Board will meet Thursday, April 27 at 5 p.m. in the high school media center. The meeting will include the second public hearing in connection with the proposed remodeling and expansion project. The meeting is open to the public.

#### Free community meal

The Loogootee Christian Church, at 206 Sherman Street, is having their monthly free meal for the community on Thursday, May 4 from 6-8 p.m. with carry outs starting at 7 p.m. This month they will be having lasagna, baked spaghetti, lettuce salad, sides, garlic bread, desserts and drinks. All members of the community are invited to attend.

#### **Mental Health Task Force**

The Martin County Mental Health Task Force meets via Zoom. If interested in being a part of the tax force, email echristmas@youthfirst.org or toddamy@iu.edu.

#### **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.

#### **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!

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#### **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 second Wednesday of each month at noon at the recycling center located at 500 Industrial Park Drive in Loogootee. The meetings are open to the public and anyone is invited to attend.

#### Soil and Water meetings

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

### **Shoals to host Pop** Into Spring event

The Shoals Business Association will be hosting a "Pop Into Spring" event on Saturday, May 6, from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. The event will include local businesses and local vendors, a business decorating contest, and a golf cart parade. The event will take place on Main Street.

The Business Decorating Contest will take place from 10 a.m.-12 p.m. with the following categories: Most Colorful, Most Spring, and Most Outlandish. The golf cart parade will begin at 1 p.m. with judging at line up at 12:30 p.m. The categories for the golf cart contest are: Most Colorful, Most Spring and Most Outlandish.

To register as a vendor, for the business decorating contest or for the golf cart parade please contact Joyce Foerster at 812-639-8687. All events including vendor spots are FREE.

Main Street from Highway 50 to the 2nd Street intersection will be closed from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. for the event.









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Saturday May 6th

Beer Jarden & Open House at Legion Post 120

**Derby Hat** contest for the Ladies

Breaded tenderloins & seasoned curly fries

Grilled Bratwurst & fixin's

Traditional Mint Juleps available

Live Outdoor Music!



4-6 PM Aaron Bridgewater 7-10 PM First & Main Band

## FARMING & OUTDOORS MARTIN COUNTY JOURNAL Wednesday, April 26, 2023



As promised in my last column, I will be making suggestions this week for your Arbor Day tree selections. I am a gardener, not an arborist, so these selections are made based on the way the trees add to the beauty of a garden. I hope you find at least one that will fit in your garden, and plant it on Arbor Day.

For some time, I have spread the word about the invasiveness of the ornamental pears. I often recommend planting the native serviceberry tree as an alternative. Serviceberry is also known as shadblow or sarvis tree. It has racemes of white flowers in early spring and the berries ripen in June. The name serviceberry is the result of making pies from the berries to take to services on Sunday. If you want the berries, you have to be quick. This native tree is also a bird magnet, and they love those berries as much as I do. The one now growing at Sandhill Gardens is about 20 feet tall, so most of the berries are out of my reach and left to the birds. There are some cultivars that do not grow that large, and I may try to find one of those to plant myself.

If you only have a small yard, plant a tree peony. The peony is Indiana's state flower, and most people are familiar with the long-living herbaceous peonies. In fact, most Indiana homesteads had a few peonies in the yard, and many of those are still around. However, the tree peony is less known, but just as long-lived and the blooms are even more spectacular than those of their herbaceous cousins. Tree peonies are usually multi-stemmed, but those stems are woody and do not die down in the winter. They usually bloom earlier in the year than the herbaceous variety. I have some blooming now at

# Advertise in the **Martin County** Journal

Email courtney(a) martincountyjournal.com

Sandhill Gardens. If your garden is just a balcony, a tree peony may be planted in a large pot. It may need to spend the winter in an unheated garage, but it needs a cool period, so do not treat it as a houseplant.

I could not make tree recommendations without including the majestic oak. Several oak trees are native to Indiana and oak trees are wildlife apartment complexes. Many animals find food and shelter from the mighty oaks. Oaks are great choices if you plan to stay on the property for many years. They take a while to mature, but oaks are great for tree houses and tire swings. Of course, oaks drop acorns in the fall, so if that would be a problem for you, plant something else. It is important to check for the mature size for any tree, but especially with oaks. Make sure you have room for this tree. They do not look good if crowded.

Maple trees are also treasured for shading Indiana homes. Here at Sandhill Gardens, there are three large maples that my uncle, Robert Hooten, planted sometime around 1930, and another that my dad planted in the 60's. They are now losing limbs and are frequented by woodpeckers, but I hope they last as long as I do. Maples grow much faster than oaks, so you will get shade a little sooner from a maple. Maples also provide a lot of fall color. Soft maples usually turn buttery yellow, while sugar maples supply brighter oranges and mauves. If you want bright red, plant a red maple. Norway maples have variegation along the leaf veins, but I do not recommend planting them. They have shown signs that they may be invasive in Indiana. If you just cannot live without that variegated leaf, use a Norway maple as a bonsai specimen, where you will be able to control where the seeds go. Many Japanese maples are also used for bonsai, but also do well in the landscape. They thrive on morning sun but appreciate some shade from the hot afternoon sun.

If you absolutely do not have anywhere for a tree, you may still participate in the celebration of Arbor Day. Make a donation of trees to be planted in forests that have been devastated by fires and storms. Contact the Arbor Day Foundation or the National Forest Service to donate a tree.

### **USDA announces Grassland Conservation Reserve Program signup for 2023**

The U.S. Department of Agriculture lease with a beginning, veteran, or so-(USDA) announced that agricultural producers and private landowners can begin signing up for the Grassland Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) starting now through May 26, 2023. Among CRP enrollment opportunities, Grassland CRP is a unique working lands program, allowing producers and landowners to continue grazing and having practices while conserving grasslands and promoting plant and animal biodiversity as well as healthier soil.

"Grassland CRP clearly demonstrates that agricultural productivity and conservation priorities can not only coexist but also complement and enhance one another," said Julia A. Wickard, FSA State Executive Director in Indiana. "The strength of this program lies in its many benefits — through annual rental payments, the program helps producers and landowners produce and maintain diverse wildlife habitat, sequester carbon in the soil, and support sound, sustainable grazing. These benefits help keep agricultural lands in production while delivering lasting climate outcomes."

More than 3.1 million acres were accepted through the 2022 Grassland CRP signup from agricultural producers and private landowners. That signup—the highest ever for the program-reflects the continued success and value of investments in voluntary, producer-led, working lands conservation programs. The current total participation in Grassland CRP is 6.3 million acres, which is part of the 23 million acres enrolled in CRP opportunities overall.

Since 2021, USDA's FSA, which administers all CRP programs, has made several improvements to Grassland CRP to broaden the program's reach, including:

Creating two National Priority Zones to put focus on environmentally sensitive land such as that prone to wind erosion.

Enhancing offers with 10 additional ranking points to producers and landowners who are historically underserved, including beginning farmers and military veterans.

Leveraging the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) to engage historically underserved communities within Tribal Nations in the Great Plains.

How to Sign Up for Grassland CRP

Landowners and producers interested in Grassland CRP, or any other CRP en-

cially disadvantaged farmer who plans to sustainably farm the land.

Other CRP Signups

Under Continuous CRP, producers and landowners can enroll throughout the year. Offers are automatically accepted provided the producer and land meet the eligibility requirements and the enrollment levels do not exceed the statutory cap. Continuous CRP includes a Climate-Smart Practice Incentive to increase carbon sequestration and reduce greenhouse gas emissions by helping producers and landowners establish trees and permanent grasses, enhance wildlife habitat, and restore wetlands.

FSA offers several additional enrollment opportunities within Continuous CRP, including the State Acres for Wildlife Enhancement (SAFE) Initiative, the Farmable Wetlands Program (FWP), and the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP). Also available is the Clean Lakes Estuaries and Rivers (CLEAR30) Initiative, which was originally piloted in twelve states but has since been expanded nationwide, giving producers and landowners across the country the opportunity to enroll in 30-year CRP contracts for water quality practices.

USDA hosts an annual General CRP signup. This year's General CRP signup was open from February 27 through April 7. The program helps producers and landowners establish long-term, resource-conserving plant species, such as approved grasses or trees, to control soil erosion, improve water quality and enhance wildlife habitat on cropland. The Climate-Smart Practice Incentive is also available in the General signup.

More Information

Signed into law in 1985, CRP is one of the largest voluntary private-lands conservation programs in the United States. It was originally intended to primarily control soil erosion and potentially stabilize commodity prices by taking marginal lands out of production.

The program has evolved over the years, providing many conservation and economic benefits.

Privately owned grazing lands cover nearly 30 percent of the national landscape, and USDA recognizes the tremendous opportunity to address climate-change through voluntary private lands conservation. In addition to CRP, resources are available at FSA's sister agency, Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS). Earlier this month, NRCS announced its \$12 million investment in cooperative agreements for 49 projects that expand access to conservation technical assistance for livestock producers and increase the use of conservation practices on grazing lands.

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# **MOVING FORWARD TOGETHER**

rollment option, should contact their local USDA Service Center to learn more or to apply for the program before the deadlines.

Producers with expiring CRP acres can enroll in the Transition Incentives Program (TIP), which incentivizes producers who sell or enter into a long-term



PARK-LIKE SETTING: Well-kept 3 BR, 2 1/2 bath home features family rm w/ fireplace, basm w/lots of storage, 2-car att grg, covered patio, & above-ground pool just in time for summer enjoyment. \$279,500. Call Bev. MLS#202311966









# Wininger Construction awarded READI grant to advance housing opportunities near WestGate@Crane

Wininger Construction has been awarded a \$900,000 Regional Economic Acceleration and Development Initiative (READI) Grant from the Indiana Uplands READI Steering Committee, Regional Opportunity Initiatives (ROI) Board of Directors, and the Indiana Economic Development Corporation (IEDC). Funds from this grant will be used to build infrastructure (water/sewer) for the Westcott neighborhood, a home development in Greene County.

The development is in close proximity to WestGate@Crane Technology Park, where a November 2022 announcement was made about the construction of a microelectronics facility that will add 550 jobs to the local economy. Westcott will help add to the supply of housing needed to meet the demand of workers moving to the region.

"We are very grateful to have been awarded this READI grant," said Tom Wininger, president of Wininger Construction. "This award will allow us to continue to develop and build housing and home ownership options for the growing workforce serving the South Central Indiana Innovation Corridor. We believe that by expanding the opportunity to buy newly built homes affordable to the area's workforce, this will encourage a path for more to realize the dream of home ownership."

This new neighborhood of modern lifestyle paired ranch and townhomes is adjacent to the WestGate@Crane Technology Park. The planned neighborhood of 120 new Westcott homes is designed to help meet the residential needs of a growing workforce in the area today and for the immediate future. Increasing the area's supply of owner-occupied housing is a vital component of the Ready Housing program funding to meet the goals of the READI "Region on the Rise" plan.

In 2021, READI was launched by Indiana Gov. Holcomb and the IEDC as a transformational initiative with \$500 million in state appropriations to promote strategic investments to make Indiana a magnet for talent and economic growth.

Seventeen regions, including the 11-county Indiana Uplands region, developed plans outlining strategies focused on improving the quality of place, quality of life, and quality of opportunity. To help achieve these goals, the IEDC awarded READI funds to accelerate the implementation of regional development plans and the programs and projects identified to catalyze economic and population growth. The Indiana Uplands region (Brown, Crawford, Daviess, Dubois, Greene, Lawrence, Martin, Monroe, Orange, Owen, and Washington counties) was awarded \$30 million in READI funds to advance projects and programs identified in its "Region on the Rise" plan. For more information and announcements on Indiana Uplands READI projects, visit: https://regionalopportunityinc.org/readi-projects/.

# Lady Lions Tennis win over WC, Wood Memorial; defeated by BNL

The Loogootee High School Girls' Tennis Teams took on Washington Catholic last Thursday, April 20.

The varsity won 4-1 and the junior varsity also got the victory 5-0. Varsity results

#1 Singles Kieragen Napier (L) defeated Chloe Garland 6-0, 6-1

#2 Singles Caitlin Carrico (L) defeated Karen Kanapia 6-2, 6-0

#3 Singles Molly Brown (WC) defeated Marley McAtee 6-3, 3-6, 7-6 (3)

#1 Doubles Ana Toy/Addy Lengacher (L) defeated Addie Talbert/Mya Cline 4-6, 6-1, 6-1

#2 Doubles Abbey Fischer/Macy Knepp (L) defeated Maritza Villagaran/ Stephanie Montoya 6-2, 6-0

Junior varsity results

#1 Singles Kamila Wilson (L) defeated Emily Brown 6-1

#2 Singles Brooklyn Knepp (L) defeated Arilyn Thombleson 6-4

#3 Singles Kamila Wilson (L) defeated Khim Layos 6-0

#1 Doubles Linsey England/Ashylnn Gilbert (L) defeated Audrey Thombleson/Rebekah Doane 6-2

#2 Doubles Ashlynn Gilbert/Britta Browder (L) defeated Jenna Sergesketter/Jessica Sergesketter 6-3

Last Wednesday, the Lady Lions took on Wood Memorial. They swept the Lady Trojans 5-0 and the junior varsity also got the win 3-1.

Head Coach Mike Tippery said after the matches, "After a tough road loss yesterday, it was good to get right back on the courts and even better to pick up a win."

Varsity results

#1 Singles Kieragen Napier (L) defeated Briley Rowe 6-1, 6-0

#2 Singles Caitlin Carrico (L) defeated Grace Strickland 6-0, 6-1

#3 Singles Izzy Rowe (WM) defeated Marley McAtee 1-6, 3-2 ret.

#1 Doubles Ana Toy/Addy Lengacher (L) defeated Cloey French/Abbygail Gates 6-1, 6-2

#2 Doubles Abbey Fischer/Macy Knepp (L) defeated Kenlee Wiseman/ Alex VanMatre 6-2, 7-5 Junior varsity results

#1 Singles Kamila Wilson (L) defeated Grace Shoultz 6-3

#2 Singles Grace Shoultz (WM) defeated Britta Browder 6-0

#1 Doubles Linsey England/Izzy Smith (L) defeated Danielle Fambrough/ Chenznie Taylor 6-2

#2 Doubles Ashlynn Gilbert/Brooklyn Knepp (L) defeated Danielle Fambrough/ Chenznie Taylor 6-3

Last Tuesday, the varsity Lady Lions were defeated by Bedford North Law-rence 2-3.

The junior varsity also took a loss, 3-5.

"We had a slow start on all courts today, including JV. Caitlin and Kieragen made the early adjustments and finished strong in their matches. BNL played better than us today and deserved to win," said Coach Tippery.

Varsity results

#1 Singles Kieragen Napier (L) defeated Becca Epping 6-2,6-2

#2 Singles Caitlin Carrico (L) defeated Ashlyn Wever 6-4, 6-0

#3 Singles Italy Lewis (BNL) defeated Marley McAtee 6-0, 6-1

#1 Doubles Bella Stigall/Mallory Pride (BNL) defeated Ana Toy/Addy Lengacher 6-1, 6-2

#2 Doubles Kenley Craig/Izzy Alldredge (BNL) defeated Abbey Fischer/ Macy Knepp 6-1, 6-1

Junior varsity results

#1 Singles Meryl Kline (BNL) defeated Izzy Smith 8-1

#2 Singles Reagan Corey (BNL) defeated Kamila Wilson 9-7

#3 Singles Emma Conover (BNL) defeated Ashlyn Gilbert 8-3

#4 Singles Ava McKinney (BNL) defeated Brooklyn Knepp 8-1

#5 Singles Kamila Wilson (L) defeated Abby Childers 8-4

#6 Singles Ashlyn Gilbert (L) defeated Kat 8-0

#1 Doubles Layla Gomez/Jessie Faubion (BNL) defeated Linsey England/ Brooklyn Knepp 8-1

#2 Doubles Linsey England/Izzy Smith (L) defeated Madelyn Ritter/Josie Dottes 8-3





Wednesday, April 26, 2023

HOALS

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# **ECYCLING**

(Continued from page one)

it back in 90 days to avoid high interest accumulation. The fear was if they used the money coming in on June 31 to pay back the loan, the recycling center would be back in the same situation again, with no money. "You have to correct the problem," said Roush.

"We just haven't come up with it yet," said Teresa Nolley.

Roush said they did come up with a solution to charge to pick up cardboard from outside the county and then they lowered the amount.

When the board reached an impasse, after two tied votes for each plan, they compromised with a \$90,000 loan for 15 months which would go through two asset fee distributions – June of this year and June of 2024. Roush voted against but it passed 5-1. The board talked about using the Shoals recycling building as collateral for the loan, but Attorney Dave Lett said they should use the asset fee distribution instead.

Interim Director Haulk said they are seeing the cardboard market go back up. He said they were receiving \$40 per ton and that is up to \$67.50 now. Eckerle said they didn't have a baler for so long they got behind and that contributed to the loss of revenue.

Mundy, with German American, said the revenue is still not there and they are going to have to come up with other ways to bring it in. He noted that when reviewing their budgets, payroll has gone up from \$220,000 in 2021 to \$375,000 last year. Eckerle said they had to give raises to get help. The center currently has 11 employees.

Eckerle said the \$24 asset fee charged to taxpayers hasn't gone up since 2013. Haulk added that if they would increase that to twice a year, \$48 total, it would make a difference. "You're probably not going to get the votes for an asset fee increase," said Roush.

Visibly angry, Haulk replied, "I'm tired of fighting you right now." He said they needed to look for a permanent director to replace him. "I'm done with you," he said. "All you do is bicker back and forth, won't come to a damn decision."

George then told Haulk that they are not blaming him. "Just because we bicker back and forth amongst ourselves, it has nothing to do with you," he said.

Eckerle added that many people have told her they don't mind paying an additional asset fee. Roush replied that this may be the case for someone with just one property but not people who are being charged for multiple. Eckerle said it would be different if they weren't charging for every lot with an improvement and they need to get with the trea-

money with that monthly fee to pay for fuel for the out-of-county trips and not all other costs involved.

"There has to be more revenue streams, for sure," said Mundy, with German American.

"Or cut down your expenses," said Roush. "It's not a tough decision, it's just a decision that has to be made."

Board Member Harty asked if there is a chance they can cut back on an employee or two with the new baler. Haulk said they could lose one employee because the old baler took two to operate.

Haulk also noted that he is in talks with Kimball that will bring in a load of cardboard a week. He said a load of cardboard can bring in around \$1,500. He said he plans to contact them again this week.

He said the new baler can do four loads a week, if they can get access to the cardboard.

George asked how many loads the center is picking up from Daviess and Dubois counties. Haulk replied that it is between one and two loads a week, but it varies. George said he didn't think that \$1,500 a week for those out-of-county businesses was really worth their time.

George added that he has never seen a business go through money like they have. "It's bleeding," added Roush.

George told Haulk that he's not saying it's his fault, it's the worn-out equipment. Nolley said they, as a board, should work diligently to come up with a plan by the end of the year. She said it's their job to do that.

In other business, the board approved hiring Janelle Freeman, from Shoals, to replace June Eckerle as bookkeeper as Eckerle is retiring. They also approved spending \$1,500 to purchase a new mower for the Loogootee recycling center property.

At the end of the meeting, the board discussed moving the center back on the tax rolls instead of doing the user fee. George said he thinks this is where all the problems started. Lett said it's a process they can go ahead and get started on but wouldn't be able to happen until 2024. This will remove the asset fee and put a set levy back on all properties in the county.

### Head Start accepting applications for 2023-24

Hoosier Uplands Head Start is currently accepting applications for the 2023-24 school year for the Bedford, Loogootee, Mitchell, Paoli and Salem centers.

To be eligible for Head Start, the applying child must be born between the dates of August 2, 2018 and August 1, 2020. The family must also meet established federal income guidelines; or be receiving TANF, SSI Disability or SNAP. Foster children are categorically eligible for Head Start. Head Start's comprehensive school readiness program offers nutritious meals, various educational opportunities, assistance with securing medical, dental and vision services, as well as family coaching and goal setting. Head Start is a comprehensive program designed to support and help the entire family. All Head Start services are provided at no cost. The number of enrollment vacancies for August 2023 is limited so; please call the center in your area to explore the possibility of your child enrolling in Head Start.



2023

#### **EMMA JUSTUS**

Emma Rose Justus is the daughter of Kristyna and Jack Justus. Her siblings include Dakota, Angel, Hailey, and Jaylynn. While in high school, Emma participated in IMPACCT Club, Pep Club, was a teachers aid, and played basketball freshman year. Her favorite high school memory was helping Mrs. Heidi with all the little kids in her gym classes. After graduation, Emma plans to continue her schooling and attend college for early education.



#### NICHOLAS MCCRACKEN Nicholas Bryce McCracken, born October 7, 2004, is the son of Nicholas R. Mc-Cracken. His sibling is Noah McCracken. While in high school, Nicholas participated in Chess Club and robotics. His favorite high school memory was the robotics trip to Houston Texas. After graduation, Nicholas plans to study computer engineering at IUPUI.





LYDIA COOK

Lydia Carlene Cook is the daughter of Edward and Angela Cook. Her siblings include Alan and Hannah Cook. While in high school, Lydia participated in Robotics, SADD, Beta, IMPACCT, Academic Bowl, Spell Bowl, Student Council, and Spanish Club. Her favorite school memory is spending time with the awesome people she has met at school. After graduation, Lydia plans to attend college and obtain a bachelor's degree in education, and she plans to come back to Shoals and teach.



#### **SKYLAR SMITH**

Skylar Ray Smith is the son of Sarah and Jeremy Smith. His siblings include Bentley, Riley, Oliver, Jayce, and Jensen. While in high school, Skylar participated in Chess Club, robotics, and Beta Club. His favorite high school memory was senior skip day. After graduation, Skylar plans to study computer engineering at Purdue University and hopes to work at Crane. education, and he plans to come back to Shoals and teach.



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surer and fix that. Nolley said she thinks they should just stick with the cash flow issue and come up with a business plan.

The recycling building in Shoals was discussed and what the plan for it may be. It was noted that it does not bring in enough revenue. Roush said that at least it serves the other side of the county as opposed to picking up cardboard outside the county. "You're serving Dubois County and you are going to drop Shoals who are taxpayers?" asked Roush.

Also previously discussed to help bring in more revenue was to charge out-of-county businesses \$140 a month for the center to pick up their cardboard. That has now been reduced to \$40 a month. Board Member Roush asked Haulk if the \$40 a month is enough to cover fuel for the trips to Daviess and Dubois counties. He said it was. Bookkeeper Eckerle said they have collected \$4,060 in those fees over the past three months with around \$800 still outstanding.

"Nothing's changed," said Roush. He said they have only brought in enough

- -Bedford (812) 275-0052
- -Loogootee (812) 295-4700
- -Mitchell (812) 849-4448
- -Paoli (812) 723-3687
- -Salem (812) 883-5368

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#### **RUBY HARDER**

Ruby Marie Harder, born September 11, 2004, is the daughter of Bradley (BJ) and Amber Harder. Her siblings include Jocelyn, Travin, and Garrett Harder. While in high school, Ruby participated in Beta, Spell Bowl, SADD, Student Council, and Academic Bowl. Her favorite memory was getting to spend high school with her best friend, Hope Fultz and her favorite cousin, Cade Brett. After graduation, Ruby plans to travel the country.

**CHASE CROWDER** 

Chase Royden Crowder, born June 30, 2005, is the son of Valerie McCarthy and Brandon Crowder. His siblings include Blayze Crowder, Vera Hawkins, Elsa Crowder, Ava Hawkins, Evalyn Mullins, and Zailey Mullins. While in high school, Chase participated in Autobody at the NLCC. His favorite school memory is Hanging out with friends, riding 4 wheelers, and going swimming. After graduation, Chase plans to go to a technical school for Auto Mechanics and work on vehicles.