

Martin County JOURNAL

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WEDNESDAY, MAY 6, 2020

Nine pages

ELECTION 2020

Leadership group thinks wheel tax is right move for county

BY COURTNEY HUGHETT
Martin County Journal Publisher

Members of the Martin County Leadership Program talked to the Martin County Council at their meeting Monday night, May 4 about the possibility of implementing a wheel tax. Jameson Hibbs, a member of the leadership program, said the group has been discussing ways to help the county improve. In that discussion, they felt that improving the roadways would ultimately attract new residents. In order to increase the amount of funding for roads, Hibbs said implementing a wheel tax and excise surtax would bring in an estimated \$699,000 per year. The wheel tax is for vehicles greater than 11,000 pounds and the excise surtax is for vehicles less than 11,000 pounds. The wheel tax can be \$5 to \$40 and the excise surtax can be a flat rate or a percentage. Hibbs said, in their research, they have found most counties opt for the flat rate. 54 Indiana counties have some form of wheel tax.

The issue of a wheel tax has been brought before the county council multiple times in the past decade, always getting voted down. The commissioners, who are in favor of implementing the tax, along with the highway department, have made presentations to the county council, the most recent one in 2015. The coun-

County government offices to tentatively reopen May 18

BY COURTNEY HUGHETT
Martin County Journal Publisher

The Martin County Commissioners decided at their meeting Tuesday night, May 5, that next week county office employees need to report back to work. Commissioner Paul George said that after next week, when everyone gets back into a routine, the plan is to open the courthouse to the public on Monday, May 18. This may be delayed if the sneeze guards being ordered arrive and are installed. Auditor Bobbie Abel gave the commissioners a quote for the sneeze guards from Amazon. There are five needed at a cost of \$789.15. Abel said they may not arrive until Wednesday, May 20. The commissioners approved the purchase.

The commissioners said they don't see the need to do temperature checks for patrons entering the courthouse. They will also not have an officer at the door to screen patrons unless there is an issue with too many people entering each day. The sheriff said he will have his officers check in often.

Commissioner George said the treasurer's office will still not accept property tax payments in person, even after the courthouse opens, they have to still be mailed in.

In other business, Highway Superintendent Leo Padgett requested permission to move to four 10-hour days starting Monday, instead of five 8-hour days. The commissioners approved.

Padgett said they were planning to start mowing rights-of-way first thing Monday morning. He said ditching has been caught up for the Community Crossings

cil had voted against the wheel tax, 2-5. The majority of the county council were strongly opposed.

On Monday night, Council Member Rich Summers said that more research needed to be done on the tax and public input needed to be received. Council Member Randy Winger said he appreciated the effort of the leadership group however he would not vote in favor of any new tax without having a public hearing first. He added that throwing money at a problem doesn't fix it when there are underlying issues involved, but he didn't elaborate. "Money is not always the answer," he said.

Hibbs asked what needed to be done to move forward with a wheel tax and suggested having a public meeting after July, if the state opens back up from the COVID pandemic. He asked if the council would be in favor of that. He added that he understands that the county received close to the maximum of \$1 million this year from the Community Crossings grant funds however with the state being shut down due to COVID, he predicts a drop in gas tax and therefore a decrease in funds for counties.

Council Member Sherri Bowling said the issue needs to be discussed but she has had many approach her already, expressing their opposition to the tax. She added that before any new funds are

brought in, the council needs to know where the money is going now for the roads.

Hibbs said that while there may be people opposed to the tax, there are also people in favor of it, if it means getting the roads in better shape. He added that without the county having a wheel tax, there are things the county misses out on, such as zero-interest loans. He said that Daviess County has a wheel tax and recently received a \$600,000 loan with no interest. Only counties that have a wheel tax can take advantage of these programs. Hibbs said that the county has to show they are trying to help themselves and a wheel tax would show the county is trying to improve.

Kristi Ausbrooks, also a member of the leadership group, said she thinks a lot of people would be in favor of improving the roads. She asked Council Member Bowling how to find out how the road money is currently being spent, if she questions it.

Council Member Buck Stiles replied that they've been down this road before, and he was in favor of a wheel tax but wanted to know specifically what the money would be used for. He said he didn't get that information. He added that Martin County cannot be compared to counties like Daviess because with so

(See 'WHEEL TAX' on page nine)

You can request an application to vote by mail at any time by calling the clerk's office at 812-247-3651 or you can get application online at www.indianavoters.com. The last day to send out an absentee ballot by mail is Thursday, May 21.

The clerk's office will be looking for poll workers. These are paid positions. Anyone interested in being a poll worker can contact the Martin County Clerk's Office 812-247-3651.

Due to safety of voters and election workers, the Martin County Election Board has decided to move the precincts of Lost River, South Center and Southeast Halbert to the Shoals American Le-

(See 'ELECTION' on page two)

State starting to reopen from COVID-19 outbreak

BY COURTNEY HUGHETT
Martin County Journal Publisher

Indiana Governor Eric Holcomb laid out a plan last Friday to get Indiana back open from COVID-19, in phases. Starting this past Monday, all counties except Lake, Marion and Cass, some services and businesses were allowed to reopen, including license branches, libraries, government offices, hair salons, tattoo parlors, nail salons, and retail establishments. Also, restaurants are allowed to re-open at 50 percent capacity, which also applies to retail establishments, like malls. Bars and nightclubs are still closed along with sports venues, zoos, museums, movie theaters, bowling alleys, casinos, theme parks, etc. Also, playgrounds, camp sites, basketball courts, public swimming pools, gyms, and community centers will remain closed. Nursing homes will still be off limits for visitors. Churches are allowed to resume services and gatherings of up to 25 people are permitted.

Beginning on May 24, retail stores and malls are allowed to move to 75 percent capacity but community areas, such as food courts, will be still limited to 50 percent capacity. Gyms, playgrounds, basketball courts, public pools, and campgrounds will be allowed to open, still

(See 'COVID-19' on page two)

roads and the only one they haven't done yet is Mt. Pleasant Road because they are waiting to get locates. They are now working on Rama Dye Road. He asked the commissioners if they have any roads

in mind for the next round of the grant cycle so he can get working on them. The commissioners said they would let him know.

(See 'COUNTY' on page two)



-Photo provided

Shown above are Deputy Gibson and his partner, K9 Spike. Spike will receive a free bullet and stab protective vest from Vested Interest in K9s, Inc.

K9 Spike to get donation of body armor

Martin County Sheriff's Office K9 Spike will receive a bullet and stab protective vest thanks to a charitable donation from non-profit organization Vested Interest in K9s, Inc. K9 Spike's vest is sponsored by Don and Misty Fike of Galesburg, Illinois, and will be embroidered with the sentiment "Honoring those who served and sacrificed". Delivery is expected within eight to ten weeks.

Vested Interest in K9s, Inc. is a 501c

(3) charity located in East Taunton, Massachusetts whose mission is to provide bullet and stab protective vests and other assistance to dogs of law enforcement and related agencies throughout the United States. The non-profit was established in 2009 to assist law enforcement agencies with this potentially lifesaving body armor for their four-legged K9 officers. Since its inception, Vested Interest in

(See 'SPIKE' on page two)

COVID-19

(Continued from page one)
 practicing social distancing guidelines. Movie theaters can also re-open at 50 percent capacity. Bars, nightclubs, sports venues, and all school facilities will remain closed. Also, nursing homes will remain closed to visitors and groups up to 100 people are allowed to gather.

On June 14, state government building access restrictions will be lifted, professional office buildings can resume work at full capacity, retail stores and malls can open at full capacity, restaurant dining rooms can move to 75 percent capacity and bars may open at 50 percent capacity. Also, cultural, entertainment and tourism

SPIKE

(Continued from page one)
 K9s, Inc. provided over 3,830 U.S. made, custom fitted, NIJ certified protective vests, in 50 states, through private and corporate donations, at a value of \$6.9 million dollars. The program is open to dogs actively employed in the U.S. with law enforcement or related agencies who are certified and at least 20 months of age. New K9 graduates, as well as K9s with expired vests, are eligible to participate.

The donation to provide one protective vest for a law enforcement K9 is \$960. Each vest has a value between \$1,744-\$2,283 and a five-year warranty, and an average weight of 4-5 lbs. There is an estimated 30,000 law enforcement K9s throughout the United States. For more information or to learn about volunteer opportunities, please call 508-824-6978.

Town of Shoals clean-up day

The Town of Shoals will have a clean-up day for all town residents from Friday, May 15 through Sunday, May 17. The dumpster will be located at the town hall at 221 Low Street in Shoals.

Residents are allowed to place unwanted items inside the dumpster until it is full. Do not place items outside the dumpster, on the ground. The following items cannot be disposed: tires, construction waste, paint, batteries, or any other chemical, hazardous or harmful material.

Residents are encouraged to follow all safe social distancing guidelines while cleaning up areas and dropping off items.

businesses can open at 50 percent capacity, along with amusement parks. Large events, such as conventions, sporting events, fairs, festivals and parades will remain closed. Nursing homes will still not be allowed to have visitors and will continue to be evaluated.

After July 4, social gatherings with more than 250 people can resume, nursing homes will be evaluated to potentially open back up to visitors, and school operations will be evaluated. All businesses may operate at full capacity.

The timeline on the state's reopen plan is contingent on COVID-19 outbreaks and is subject to change. High-risk residents, such as those over 65 years of age or those with underlying health conditions are encouraged to avoid social contact as much as possible throughout the re-open plan.

Indiana State Department of Health announced last week a partnership with OptumServe Health Services to expand COVID-19 testing in Indiana. The National Guard Armory in Jasper is a local testing site and they began testing today. You can register for a COVID-19 test, by appointment only, at <https://lhi.care/covidtesting> or by calling 888-634-1123.

Individuals **MUST** be symptomatic, be a close contact of a positive case, or a symptomatic resident of congregate living settings to be eligible for testing. You will go to the portal and self-report your symptoms using the online screening tool. If you qualify, an option will appear to register for an appointment date and time.

There is **NO** charge for testing, however, if you do have private health care insurance, you are asked to bring that to the testing site.

People can expect to get the results within 48 hours. Optum will send a text or email to the patient if the test is negative. A phone call will be given if there is a positive test result. The health departments in each county will continue to be notified if a resident tests positive and they will continue to work with the ISDH and local officials to ensure that contacts of the patients are identified and monitored.

Visit the ISDH website at <https://coronavirus.IN.gov> for the most up-to-date information on COVID-19 in Indiana.

Schools ranked by US News and World Report; LHS 45th in Indiana

US News and World Report has recently ranked Indiana schools based on multiple factors including: College Readiness, College Curriculum Breadth Index, Math and Reading Proficiency, Math and Reading Performance, and Graduation Rate, as part of their "Best High Schools".

Loogootee High School was ranked 45th in Indiana and 2,915th in the nation. Loogootee has 272 students in grades 9-12.

Shoals High School was ranked 318-387th in the state and #13,345-17,792 at the national level. Shoals has 179 students in grades 9-12.

Barr-Reeve High School was ranked 111th in the state and #5,239 in the nation. The school has 206 students in

grades 6-12. North Daviess was ranked 314th in the state of Indiana and #13,101 nationally. The school has 316 students in grades 7-12.

All Indiana High School rankings can be viewed here:

<https://www.usnews.com/education/best-high-schools/search?state-url-name=indiana&ranked=true>

Loogootee Principal Chris Walker stated, "Loogootee High School teachers and students have made tremendous efforts to increase participation in advanced placement classes, improve state assessment scores, and significantly increase our attendance and graduation rates. Our dedication and hard work is paying off with significant improvement in each area."

There are 1,921 K-12 public schools in Indiana with 1,049,547 students enrolled.

The highest ranked school in Indiana was Signature School in Evansville with a 9th-12th grade enrollment of 366 students.

Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology, in Alexandria, Virginia ranked number one in the nation. The school has 1,786 students in grades 9-12.

COUNTY

(Continued from page one)

Padgett reported that Milestone will be paving Bellbrook and County Road 400 South this Thursday and Friday. He will notify EMS and the sheriff's department so they know the road work will be happening.

The sheriff reported there are 67 inmates currently in the jail which includes 17 from Vigo County.

Public Health Nurse Julia Albright and the commissioners spent some time discussing the state's guidance to open back up government offices and whether masks would be required for those entering the courthouse. Albright said it was recommended but not required. Judge Lynne Ellis said that no one will be entering the circuit court area without a mask. Kathy Collins said she ordered sneeze guards for her offices and was able to get a discount. Albright offered advice on signage to be placed at the entrance of the courthouse.

Teresa Harder, with Martin County Soil and Water, said they may lose grants they were allocated due to the drop in gas tax. "That's not good," said Commissioner Paul George. Auditor Bobbie Abel said it is estimated that gas tax has been decreased by 35-40 percent. Harder said she just wanted the commissioners to be aware.

ELECTION

(Continued from page one)

gion family room. All other precincts will remain the same.

The following are the polling locations: Perry 1, 2, 3, 5 and 6: St. John Center, 408 Church Street, Loogootee IN 47553

Perry 5 and Rutherford: St. Martin's Church Hall, 524 Whitfield Road, Loogootee IN 47553

Perry 7 and Crane: Bramble Conservation Center, 1024 Bramble Road, Loogootee IN 47553

North Center and Mitcheltree: Dover Hill Church of Christ, 15581 North State Road 450, Shoals IN 47581

North Halbert, South Halbert, East Memphis and West Memphis: St. Mary's Church Hall, 128 High Street, Shoals IN 47581

Southeast Halbert, South Center and Lost River: Shoals American Legion, 224 High Street, Shoals IN 47581

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OBITUARIES

MARY QUIGLEY

Mary Susan (Melton) Quigley passed away at 1:04 p.m. Sunday, May 3, 2020 at Union Hospital in Terre Haute. A resident of Farmersburg, he was 74.

She was born April 12, 1946 in Loogootee; son of the late Paul and Mary Alma (Mattingly) Melton.

Mary loved crafting, especially needlepoint and crochet projects. She enjoyed watching television, reading and playing the piano. Mary adored her family and cherished the time they spent together. She retired from RCA in Bloomington after 33 years of employment.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Donald Quigley, who passed away September 29, 2015; parents, Paul and Mary Alma (Mattingly) Melton; and brother, Ralph Melton.

She is survived by her children, Kenny Quigley of Farmersburg, Larry Quigley of Montgomery and Becky Quigley of Farmersburg; grandson, James Quigley; great-granddaughter, HayzLee; sisters, Helen Gibson of Loogootee and Jeanette Melton of Loogootee; sister-in-law, Mary Craft of Shoals; many aunts and uncles; honorary granddaughter, Catherine Ziegler and Georgia Bryson; and honorary great-grandchildren, Kyra and Jesse.

Private services will be held on Wednesday, May 6 at Blake & Wagler Funeral Home in Montgomery.

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

Arrangements were provided by Blake & Wagler Funeral Home in Montgomery.

JOHN GEE

John Paul Gee passed away at 9:46 p.m. Wednesday, April 29, 2020, at Lutheran Hospital. A resident of Kokomo, he was 51.



JOHN GEE

He was born to Paul "Joe" Gee and Mary "Lynn" (Essex) Gee on June 4, 1968 in Loogootee. John married Kathleen (Black) Gee on April 29, 1995 in

Burlington, Indiana.

John graduated from Loogootee High School in 1986 and earned a degree in Mortuary Science at Vincennes University in 1989. He earned his Indiana Funeral Director's License in 1990. Since 2001, John has served the families of Howard County as a funeral director at Ellers Mortuary, Kokomo. He was a board member of Crown Point Cemetery and past member of the Indiana Funeral Directors Association. John enjoyed spending time with his family, watching the Indianapolis Colts play every Sun-

day, grilling, and traveling. His family meant the world to him.

He is survived by his loving wife of 25 years, Kathleen; daughter, Kelsie Gee; two sons, Spencer and Garrett Gee; mother, Mary "Lynn" Gee; sister, Gianna Armstrong; brother, William "Bill" (Bethany) Gee; mother-in-law, Judy Black; sisters-in-law, Laurie (Mark) Behrs, Amy (Russell) Stier, Johanna Black; brothers-in-law, Dave (Mandy) Black and Doug (Amy) Black; many nieces and nephews including, Brandon Armstrong, Taiya Armstrong, Emma Gee, Grayson Gee, Griffin Gee; and many aunts and uncles.

He is preceded in death by his father, Paul "Joe" Gee; special uncle, John Paul Essex, John's namesake; aunts, Delorma Essex and Patty Bowling; brother-in-law, Wayne Armstrong; paternal grandparents, Lloyd and Wilma Gee; and maternal grandparents, Willard and Holeene Essex.

There will be a private visitation and funeral service for John on Wednesday, May 6, 2020, with Pastor Terry Russell officiating. Burial will follow at Albright Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be made in John's memory to Down Syndrome Indiana, Project: The Lucky Mama Project. You may donate directly to <https://dsindiana.org/lucky-mama-project/>. Condolences may be left at www.ellersmortuarywebster.com.

JACK WHITE

Jack L White died peacefully after his immediate family was able to communicate their love to him on April 27, 2020. A resident of Loogootee, he was 78.



JACK WHITE

He was born October 21, 1941. Jack met his one true love, Diane Sims, at the young age of 13.

He spent every day since eagerly winning her heart. Jack and Diane's marriage of 58 years is a testament that true faithful love exists.

Spending time with Jack not only changed one's outlook but also their future as he would plant seeds of hope and humor. Jack had many wonderful traits but would quickly attest they come from the love of his Lord Jesus Christ.

As with most superheroes, Jack ensured his acts of kindness were without notoriety. With a lifestyle of serving, Jack enlisted in the military and served in Korea. Returning from overseas, he quickly married Diane and became a fireman and part-time painter. Jack and Diane built a loving family based on hard work, love, and diligence.

Jack is survived by his wife, Diane, and his sons and daughter, Mike (Cindy), Greg (Joelle), Jeff (Shanda), and Julie (Matt). Jack adored little children and now holds on tightly to his and Diane's first child, Barbara Jeanne, who preceded them through heaven's gates.

Even after retirement from the Indianapolis Fire Department, Lieutenant Jack L White helped lead the annual Clothe a Child which provides for children in need of assistance during the Christmas season with a warm coat, clothes for school and new shoes. As one might expect, Jack always added a layer of enthusiasm and support for the kids involved. Jack also held a lead role in the Fellowship of Christian Firefighters. Helping organize an annual conference in North Carolina, these events were full of laughter and fun with a focus on Christ.

His friends and family will mourn for the man they have known and loved, but

this is not "Goodbye", just "See ya later." They know one day they will walk with Jack on those streets of gold.

Jack is preceded in death by his father, Warren; mother, Grace; sister, Rosie; brother, Warren; sister, Dianna; and daughter, Barbara, who died as an infant.

Jack is also survived by those listed and his grandchildren. Caleb, Isaac, Bryan, Brianna, Ashley, Michael, Marisa, Kylin, Zayden, Kendra, MacKenzie, Zachary (Haley), Kyleigh, Nathan, and great-grandchildren. Arya, Elaysia, Ze'mya, Aaliyah, James, and Eli.

Following the end of the covid19 pandemic, a "Celebration of Life" will be held which all friends and family will be able to attend. The funeral service will be for immediate family only.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests a donation be made for funeral expenses. If you would like to donate, please visit Jack L. White Tribute Fund link at <https://bit.ly/JackLWhite>.

ISABELLE GATES

Isabelle Victoria Gates passed away peacefully in her sleep and with family by her side on April 28, 2020 at her home. A resident of Vincennes, she was 95.



ISABELLE GATES

She was born December 21, 1924 in Loogootee into a family of 12 children; daughter of

Granville and Florence (Doyle) Matthews. Residing nearly her entire life in Loogootee, she was a life-long member of St. John the Evangelist Church. After moving to Vincennes to be closer to her daughters, she became a parishioner of St. Francis Xavier, the Old Cathedral.

Isabelle was shaped by her upbringing and had a long, full life, giving great devotion to her Catholic faith. She always thought of others giving mass offerings and donations to missions. Throughout her life she was known for her gentle kindness, patience, generosity and steadfast loyalty to her loved ones. Isabelle was a wonderful cook and pastry chef. In the home she shared with her husband, William Dwight Gates, she hosted many

family holidays and gatherings. As an accomplished seamstress, she held great joy in sewing clothing for her seven daughters and on occasion, a Maryknoll habit for her niece. Isabelle was also well-known for her beautiful flower gardens.

Surviving are her children, Rebecca (Allen) Logan of Mooresville, North Carolina; Victoria (Steven) Olson of Cincinnati, Ohio; Mary Susan (Jeffrey) Zinkan of Palm Harbor, Florida; and Loretta (Kevin) Day of Vincennes; her grandchildren, Kelley Zinkan, Geoffrey Zinkan, Greta Weller, Zachary Logan, Jon Davis, Kara Maramonte, Krista Olson, Kyle Olson, Stephen Day and eleven great-grandchildren. Isabelle is survived by her sister, Sarah Matthews.

She was preceded in death by her husband, William Dwight Gates; daughters, Rachel Byrd, Jane Gates, Sheila Maramonte and infant son, William Joseph Gates and one great granddaughter. Also preceding her in death was her second husband, Paul Bradley.

Funeral services will be held at St. John the Evangelist Church, Loogootee by the Very Reverend Kenneth J. Walker and announced at a later date. Condolences may be expressed through Goodwin-Sievers Funeral Home, <https://goodwinfamilyfh.com>.

BRENDA FIELDS

Brenda Kay Fields passed away at 7:42 a.m. Wednesday, April 29, 2020 in Odon. A resident of Loogootee, she was 63.

She was born October 7, 1956 in Morehead, Kentucky; daughter of the late Perry and Lillian (Sherrow) Stegall.

Brenda was a member of New Beginnings Church.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Johnny Fields and her parents, Perry and Lillian Stegall.

Brenda is survived by her son, Wayne (Bobbi) Fields of Loogootee; granddaughter, Mykala and Keyera Fields; and siblings, Paul Stegall and Perry Junior Stegall.

To honor Brenda's wishes, cremation was chosen.

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

Blake Funeral Home in Loogootee is honored to serve the family of Brenda Kay Fields.

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Martin County Sheriff's Department log

MONDAY, APRIL 27

8:00 a.m. - Received a report of a fire alarm at Shoals School. Shoals Fire and Dr. Roush responded.

10:33 a.m. - Received a report of a one-vehicle accident north/east of Shoals. Major Keller, Deputy Wells and Storks Towing responded.

11:24 a.m. - Received a report of debris in the roadway south of Shoals.

12:07 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County EMS and Loogootee Fire responded. Subject transported to Jasper Memorial.

1:57 p.m. - Received a report of a structure fire east of Shoals. Shoals Fire, Martin County EMS, and Deputy Wells responded.

2:30 p.m. - Received a report of a burglary alarm in Shoals. Major Keller responded.

7:00 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County EMS Loogootee Fire, and Loogootee Officer Cummings responded. Subject transported to Daviess Community Hospital.

7:39 p.m. - Received a request for an officer in Loogootee for a property exchange. Advised Loogootee Dispatch.

7:51 p.m. - Received a request to locate a subject for Dubois County Sheriff's Office. Deputy Wells responded.

8:02 p.m. - Received a report of people loitering in Loogootee. Advised Loogootee Dispatch.

8:18 p.m. - Received a request for speak to an officer about a protective order. Deputy Wells responded.

8:40 p.m. - Received a report of a gunshot south of Loogootee. Deputy Lents and Deputy Wells responded.

11:35 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Shoals. Martin County EMS responded.

11:38 p.m. - Received a report of people loitering and in Loogootee. Loogootee Officer Cummings and Loogootee Sergeant McBeth responded.

TUESDAY, APRIL 28

1:38 p.m. - Received a report of a prowler south of Loogootee. Sergeant Reed and Loogootee Officer Cummings responded.

5:16 p.m. - Received a report of a dead deer south of Loogootee. Sergeant Reed responded.

6:21 p.m. - Received a report a people disturbing the peace in Loogootee. Loogootee Officer Cummings responded.

8:13 a.m. - Received a report of a burglary alarm in Loogootee. Loogootee Captain Hennette responded.

8:24 p.m. - Received a report a disabled vehicle west of Shoals. Major Keller, ICO Doane and G&M responded.

9:40 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance. Martin County EMS, Major Keller, and Loogootee Captain Hennette responded.

10:51 a.m. - Received a report of a stolen vehicle in Shoals. Major Keller responded.

11:31 a.m. - Received a request for a lock out in Loogootee. Loogootee Chief Rayhill responded.

12:00 p.m. - Received a report of identity theft. Chief Deputy Greene responded.

12:38 p.m. - Received a report of a reckless driver east of Loogootee. Deputy Wells responded.

2:17 p.m. - Received a report of a power line problem in Loogootee. Loogootee Chief Rayhill and Duke Energy responded.

6:30 p.m. - Received a report of a one-vehicle accident south of Loogootee. Deputy Gibson, Deputy Lents, and ICO

Mann responded.

7:30 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance south of Shoals. Deputy Gibson, Martin County EMS, and Lost River Fire responded.

10:32 p.m. - Received a report of trespasser north of Loogootee. Deputy Lents responded.

9:12 p.m. - Received a report of a domestic dispute south of Shoals. Deputy Lents responded.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 29

12:49 a.m. - Received a request to assist a motorist south of Shoals. Deputy Lents responded.

4:31 a.m. - Received a report of a prowler in Shoals Sergeant Reed responded.

8:00 a.m. - Received a request for a vin check south of Shoals. Major Keller responded.

11:05 a.m. - Received a report of a fire alarm south of Loogootee. Loogootee Fire responded.

2:20 p.m. - Received a request for an officer for a property exchange. Deputy Lents responded.

2:35 p.m. - Received a report of a break in south of Loogootee. Sheriff Roush, Chief Deputy Greene, Deputy Lents and ISP Trooper Beaver responded.

5:03 p.m. - Received a report of an erratic driver south of Loogootee. Deputy Lents responded.

9:58 p.m. - Received a report of a tree leaning over the road north of Loogootee. Advised the county highway department.

10:17 p.m. - Received a report of cows out south of Shoals. Deputy Seymour responded.

10:25 p.m. - Received a noise complaint east of Shoals. Shoals Town Marshal Eckert responded.

11:58 pm. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County EMS responded.

THURSDAY, APRIL 30

7:24 a.m. - Received an animal complaint in Shoals. Advised Animal Control Officer Hughett.

10:43 a.m. - Received a complaint about tree service north of Loogootee. Loogootee Chief Rayhill responded.

11:51 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County EMS, Loogootee Fire, Loogootee Chief Rayhill, and Deputy Barnett responded.

12:47 p.m. - Received a report of illegal dumping south of Shoals. Deputy Barnett responded.

1:10 p.m. - Received a report of a one-vehicle accident east of Shoals. Martin County EMS, ISP, Chief Deputy Greene, Major Keller, and Deputy Barnett responded.

4:16 p.m. - Received a report of cows out in Loogootee. Loogootee Sergeant Floyd responded.

4:40 p.m. - Deputy Barnett preformed a vin check south of Shoals.

8:18 p.m. - Received a report of a dispute in Loogootee. Loogootee Sergeant Floyd and Deputy Gibson responded.

11:55 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County EMS responded.

FRIDAY, MAY 1

2:09 a.m. - Received a report of a dispute in Loogootee. Deputy Gibson and Loogootee Officer Allan responded.

6:52 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County EMS responded.

1:25 p.m. - Received a report of a scam. Deputy Barnett responded.

2:45 p.m. - Received a report of property damage in Shoals. Deputy Barnett responded.

3:41 p.m. - Received a noise complaint

in Shoals. Shoals Town Marshal Eckert responded.

7:08 p.m. - Received a report of a vehicle with no plates on it south of Loogootee. Loogootee Sergeant Floyd responded.

11:04 p.m. - Received a complaint about reckless driver in Lost River. Deputy Seymour responded.

SATURDAY, MAY 2

4:26 a.m. - Received a report of a lost person east of Shoals. Deputy Seymour and Loogootee Officer Allan responded.

8:53 a.m. - Received an animal complaint in Loogootee. Advised Animal Control Officer Hughett.

11:15 a.m. - Received a request to speak to an officer in Loogootee. Loogootee Sergeant Floyd responded.

1:05 pm. - Received a noise complaint south of Shoals. Deputy Barnett responded.

2:26 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance north of Loogootee. Martin County EMS Loogootee Fire, Deputy Wells, and Loogootee Sergeant Floyd responded. Subject transported to Jasper Memorial.

3:57 p.m. - Received a request for extra patrol in the Shoals area. All Martin County units were advised.

4:31 p.m. - Received an animal complaint in Shoals. Advised Animal Control Officer Hughett.

4:34 pm. - Received a report of an accident in Loogootee. Deputy Barnett, Deputy Wells, Martin County EMS, Loogootee Fire, and Air Evac responded.

6:00 p.m. - Received a report of a tree hazard north of Loogootee. Advised the county highway department.

8:01 p.m. - Received a report of a stolen vehicle in Loogootee. Deputy Wells and Loogootee Officer Allan responded.

8:41 p.m. - Received a report of unsafe shooting east of Shoals. Shoals Marshal Eckert and Deputy Wells responded.

11:00 p.m. - Received a report of a domestic dispute in Loogootee. Deputy Seymour, Deputy Wells and Loogootee Officer Allan responded.

SUNDAY, MAY 3

2:03 a.m. - Received a noise complaint in Crane. Deputy Seymour and Loogootee Officer Allan respond.

5:29 a.m. - Received a request to assist a vehicle south of Shoals. Deputy Seymour and Orange County Sheriff's Office

Crash claims the life of Martin County woman

Troopers are investigating a fatal crash involving two vehicles that occurred on US 231 at Deerfield Drive, near Odon. Emergency personnel were notified at 8:12 a.m. last Wednesday morning of the crash involving a semi-tractor trailer and a passenger car. Deputies with the Daviess County Sheriff's Office, and Indiana State Police responded to the scene. The driver of the passenger car was unresponsive upon arrival and pronounced dead by the Daviess County Coroner.

The driver of the passenger car was identified as Brenda Fields, 64, of Loogootee. Fields' family has been notified.

The driver of the Freightliner semi was identified as Hector Fajardo, 45, of Indianapolis. Fajardo was uninjured.

It is believed that the vehicle driven by Fields struck the Freightliner and proceeded to go off the roadway, flip over and land on its roof.

The roadway was closed for a short period of time. Troopers were assisted by Daviess County Sheriff's Office, fire departments, Indiana State Highway, the Daviess County Coroner's office and EMS.

responded.

8:30 a.m. - Received a report of a stolen license plate. Deputy Barnett responded.

11:05 a.m. - Received a report of a dispute east of Loogootee. Deputy Barnett and Loogootee Officer Cummings responded.

3:40 p.m. - Animal Control Officer Hughett advised he picked up a lost dog in Loogootee.

3:51 p.m. - Received a report of a vehicle blocking the city street in Loogootee. Loogootee Officer Allan responded.

5:10 p.m. - Received a report of someone dumping trash north of Shoals. Deputy Wells responded.

5:37 p.m. - Received a report of someone dumping trash south of Loogootee. Deputy Wells responded.

6:12 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County EMS responded. One subject was transported to Jasper.

9:55 p.m. - Received a report of a one-vehicle accident north of Shoals. Sergeant Reed, Deputy Wells, civil defense, and Martin County EMS responded.

9:56 p.m. - Received a report of someone being harassed in Loogootee. Loogootee Sergeant McBeth responded.

10:42 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County EMS responded.

11:32 p.m. - Received a request of lost firearms north of Shoals. Sergeant Reed responded

ARRESTS

MONDAY, APRIL 27

10:22 p.m. - Danny Arthur, 55, of Loogootee, arrested by Loogootee Sergeant McBeth for operating a vehicle while intoxicated endangerment and operating a vehicle while intoxicated. He is being held on a \$25,000 10% bond.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 29

6:40 p.m. - Candace Hawkins, 53, of Shoals, was arrested by ISP Trooper Beaver and charged with operating a vehicle while intoxicated endangerment, resisting law Enforcement with a vehicle and resisting law enforcement. She is being held on a no bond until initial.

THURSDAY, APRIL 30

2:46 a.m. - Amanda Dandridge, 42, of Florida, was arrested by Deputy Gibson for possession of methamphetamine, possession of paraphernalia, and possession of marijuana. She is being held on a no bond. Deputy Seymour assisted with the arrest.

3:01 a.m. - John Pfahler, 50, of Florida, was arrested by Deputy Gibson and charged with for possession of methamphetamine, possession of paraphernalia, and possession of marijuana. He is being held on a no bond.

FRIDAY, MAY 1

5:02 a.m. - Kerry Lewis, 39, of Mitchell, was arrested by Deputy Seymour and charged with possession of methamphetamine, possession of paraphernalia, and operating a vehicle while intoxicated-controlled substance. She is being held on a \$25,000 10% bond.

SATURDAY, MAY 2

1:19 a.m. - Brian Walls, 38, of Porter Ridge, was arrested by Loogootee Officer Allan and charged with operating a vehicle while intoxicated and operating a vehicle while intoxicated endangerment. He is being held on a \$10,000 10%.

11:00 a.m. - Thomas Moffit, 43, of Shoals, was arrested by Deputy Barnett on a Martin County warrant. He is being held with no bond.

COURT NEWS

Persons listed on criminal charges are innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

CRIMINAL COURT New Charges Filed

March 31

Jace Brynne Ross, resisting law enforcement.

Michael David Stoll, criminal recklessness.

Brandon S. Pendley, resisting law enforcement, reckless driving.

April 2

Daniel I Todd, kidnapping, strangulation, criminal confinement, interference with the reporting of a crime, criminal mischief, domestic battery.

April 3

Alias Rian Keasling, operating a vehicle with an ACE of .15 or more, operating a vehicle while intoxicated endangering a person.

April 6

Shawn M. Brown, domestic battery, resisting law enforcement, disorderly conduct.

April 8

Cory A. Nugent, domestic battery, neglect of a dependent, possession of marijuana.

April 13

Howard N. Phillips, residential entry, domestic battery.

April 14

Jessica N. Carter, possession of marijuana.

Delbert L. Salmon, Jr., battery resulting in bodily injury to a public safety official, two counts of resisting law enforcement.

Lee Michael Secrest, operating a vehicle while intoxicated, operating a vehicle with an ACE of .15 or more.

April 15

Lester R. Erb III, invasion of privacy.
Dayson S. Wright, possession of marijuana, possession of paraphernalia.

Dustin A. Joy, driving while suspended.

Kelley M. Richardson, possession of marijuana, possession of paraphernalia.

Tristan L. Fitch, causing serious bodily injury when operating a vehicle while intoxicated.

Claudette S. Gilley, neglect of a dependent, dealing in marijuana.

April 20

Alan C. Fellers, operating a vehicle while intoxicated.

Kenyon Bryce Sorrells, minor in possession of alcohol.

Jason Ryan King, minor in possession

of alcohol.

Gary B. Byrns, two counts of rape, incest.

April 23

Damien L. Payne, obstruction of justice, resisting law enforcement, driving while suspended, criminal mischief, operating a motor vehicle without ever receiving a license.

April 28

Logan C. Kelsey, operating a vehicle while intoxicated endangering a person.

Danny M. Arthur, operating a vehicle with an ACE of .15 or more with a passenger less than 18 years of age, operating a vehicle while intoxicated endangering a person.

CRIMINAL CONVICTIONS & SENTENCINGS

April 9

Damon D. Colvin, convicted of possession of methamphetamine, a Level 6 Felony. Sentenced to serve 730 days with 666 days suspended and credit for 32 actual days previously served plus 32 Class A credit days. Defendant received 22 months of probation.

April 21

Bradley E. Short, convicted of possession of methamphetamine, a Level 6 Felony and possession of paraphernalia, a Class A Misdemeanor. Sentenced on the first count to serve 730 days with 656 days suspended and credit for 37 actual days previously served plus 37 Class A credit days. Defendant received 21 months of probation. Sentenced on the second count to serve 60 days with 0 days suspended and credit for 30 actual days previously served plus 30 Class A credit days.

CRIMINAL CHARGES DISMISSED

April 21

Bradley E. Short, possession of a controlled substance, dismissed; possession of marijuana, dismissed.

CIVIL COURT New Suits Filed

April 23

April Schult vs. Nicholus Schult, petition for dissolution of marriage.

CIVIL COURT DISMISSED

Nurtien Ag Solutions, Inc. vs. Chris Goller, civil collection, dismissed.

SMALL CLAIMS COURT New Suits Filed

April 17

James Bruce Hawkins vs. Darrel Smith, complaint.

SMALL CLAIMS DISMISSED

Hoosier Accounts Service vs. Gary Clark, Jr., complaint, dismissed.

INDOT reminds Hoosiers to keep campaign signs out of rights-of-way

The Indiana Department of Transportation would like to remind Hoosiers to keep campaign signs out of the state highway rights-of-way. Campaign signs in state highway right-of-way are prohibited by Indiana Code 9-21-4-6. Campaign signs are not permitted in state rights-of-way any time of the year, whether it is a primary or general election cycle. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the primary election date in Indiana has moved to June 2, 2020.

Areas that should remain sign-free include intersections, interchanges, and rights-of-way that run parallel to highways, including medians, shoulders and roadside areas.

Where the right of way is not clearly marked, boundaries may be estimated as the fence line, the back of the ditch or behind utility poles.

INDOT personnel will remove campaign signs and other illegal signs from right-of-way—pursuant to code—as they are encountered in normal highway maintenance activities. Crews may also

remove a specific sign if it presents an immediate safety risk, such as being too close to the roadway or creating a sight obstruction. Campaign signs placed off the right-of-way will not be removed.

Removed signs will be taken to the nearest INDOT facility. They may be claimed by the owner between 7:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, except for holidays.

To report signs placed in the right-of-way, contact INDOT customer service at www.indot4u.com or 1-855-463-6848.

**Advertise in the
Martin County
Journal**

Email
[courtney@
martincountyjournal.com](mailto:courtney@martincountyjournal.com)
for more information.

Loogootee Police log

MONDAY, APRIL 27

8:45 a.m. - Male requested a vehicle identification check.

12:07 p.m. - First responders were requested on Cooper Street for a medical call.

6:48 p.m. - First responders were requested on Kentucky Avenue for a medical call.

7:39 p.m. - Male requested assistance in getting personal belongings from a residence.

8:02 p.m. - Caller reported suspicious persons on North Line Street.

8:36 p.m. - Caller reported a possible intoxicated person on SE 3rd Street.

10:05 p.m. - Received a call of persons trying to find a place to stay at Larkin Apartments.

TUESDAY, APRIL 28

1:02 a.m. - Officer Cummings assisted the county with a suspicious person.

6:21 a.m. - Caller reported a suspicious male near JFK Avenue.

8:13 a.m. Captain Hennette responded to a business alarm.

9:40 a.m. - First responders were requested in the Bramble area for a medical call.

11:31 a.m. - Caller reported an infant locked a vehicle at Dollar General.

2:17 p.m. - Report of a utility line down on Bloomfield Road.

9:48 p.m. - Caller reported a traffic complaint on Wood Street.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 29

9:30 a.m. - Chief Rayhill assisted Daviess County with a traffic accident.

2:35 p.m. - Sgt. Floyd assisted the county with a possible break-in.

3:15 p.m. - Sgt. Floyd and Officer Allen assisted ISP with an arrest.

5:03 p.m. - Report of a reckless driver on Hwy 50.

9:12 p.m. - Caller reported a possible intoxicated driver on US 231.

THURSDAY, APRIL 30

10:43 a.m. - Caller reported a traffic hazard on Bloomfield Road.

11:51 a.m. - First responders were requested on East Broadway for a medical call.

4:10 p.m. - Sgt. Floyd assisted a motorist.

8:20 p.m. - Female reported a violation of a protective order.

9:03 p.m. - Report of a suspicious male near the IGA.

FRIDAY, MAY 1

9:00 a.m. - Male reported a civil complaint.

1:25 p.m. - Male reported a phone scam.

4:10 p.m. - Caller reported a complaint on SW 3rd Street.

5:12 p.m. - Caller reported a speeding vehicle on Hwy 50.

7:08 p.m. - Male reported a vehicle without a license plate.

9:49 p.m. - Caller reported a suspicious person on Cedar Street.

11:04 p.m. - Officer Allen assisted the county with a possible intoxicated driver.

SATURDAY, MAY 2

4:26 a.m. - Officer Allen assisted on a lost person call.

8:50 a.m. - Female reported having problems with a male.

11:15 a.m. - Male requested to speak with an officer regarding a juvenile.

2:26 p.m. - First responders were requested at West Boggs for a medical call.

4:39 p.m. - First responders were requested on Glen Lane for a medical call.

8:00 p.m. - Male reported a civil complaint.

10:50 p.m. - Caller reported a noise complaint at Country Place Apartments.

10:58 p.m. - Male reported a verbal dispute on North Line Street.

11:22 p.m. - Caller reported a theft.

SUNDAY, MAY 3

2:03 a.m. - Officer Allen assisted the county with a noise complaint.

11:05 a.m. - Officer Cummings assisted the county with a possible theft.

5:18 p.m. - Caller reported a suspicious vehicle on Sheridan Street.

9:23 p.m. - Caller reported having problems with his neighbors.

11:09 a.m. - Caller reported a traffic complaint.

Real estate transfers

Randall Yoder and Wanda Yoder, of Martin County, Indiana to **Michelle A. Nail**, of Martin County, Indiana, Lot Number 12 in Block "E" in the Loogootee Land Company's Addition to the City of Loogootee, Indiana. Also, Lot Number 11 in Block "E" of the Loogootee Land Company's Addition to the City of Loogootee, Indiana, except therefrom the south one-third of said lot.

Jack L. Holt and Rebecca J. Holt, of Martin County, Indiana to **David E. Franklin and Etta L. Franklin**, of Martin County, Indiana, a part of the southeast quarter of the northwest quarter of Section 20, Township 3 North, Range 3 West, Martin County, Indiana, containing 0.3176 acre, more or less.

CLASSIFIED ADS

HELP WANTED

HELP WANTED

Director of Solid Waste District

The Solid Waste Management District Board of Directors of Martin County are currently seeking a full-time District Director with solid waste or other management experience.

The Director is responsible for all aspects of the operation of the District including managing the Recycling Center and all of the employees and special waste disposal and education for Martin County.

The Director reports directly to the county Solid Waste Board.

Salary and benefits are commensurate with experience

Excellent Driving record required.

Include level of education, job history, and dates in your resume.

A copy of the job description can be found on the Martin County Recycling Facebook page.

Only resumes received by mail to the address listed below will be accepted.

The last date to accept resumes is May 22, 2020

Mail Resume to:

**Martin County Solid Waste District, c/o Director
PO Box 343, Loogootee, IN 47553**

More Neat Stuff



By Ann Ackerman



10 WAYS TO SPOT OLD PEOPLE

1. Old People are easy to spot at sporting events: during the National Anthem, Old People remove their caps and stand at attention and sing without embarrassment. They know the words and believe in them.
2. Old People remember WWII, Pearl Harbor, Guadalcanal, Normandy, and Hitler.
3. They remember the Atomic Age, the Korean War, The Cold War, the Jet Age, and the Moon Landing. They remember the 50 Peace-keeping missions from 1945 to 2005, not to mention Viet Nam.
4. If you bump into an Old Person on the sidewalk he will apologize. If you pass an Old Person on the street, he will nod or tip his cap to a lady. Old People trust strangers and are courtly to women.
5. Old People hold the door for the next person and always, when walking, make certain the lady is on the inside for protection.
6. Old People get embarrassed if someone curses in front of women and children and they don't like any filth or dirty language on TV or in movies.
7. Old People have moral courage and personal integrity. They seldom brag unless it's about their children or grandchildren.
8. It's Old People who remove their hats while eating in a restaurant in respect for the ladies and guests.
9. It's the Old People who know our great country is protected, not by politicians, but by the young men and woman in the military serving their country.
10. This country needs Old People with their work ethic, sense of responsibility, pride in their country and decent values.

THOUGHTS

*When swimsuit season hits, I just want y'all to remember the gyms were closed during Reese's Peanut Butter Eggs season.

*500 shopping carts in the store and I keep picking the one with the weird front

wheel that sounds like a dying pig.

*You don't really realize how old you are until you sit your butt on the floor and then try to get back up.

My wife yelled from upstairs and asked, "Do you ever get a shooting pain across your body like someone's got a voodoo doll of you and they're stabbing it?"

Sounding concerned, I replied, "No..." She responded, "How about now?"

SERIOUSISM

*If nothing else, some people just teach you how not to be.

Make someone smile today

You're invited to Be Well Indiana

Now, more than ever, our fellow Hoosiers are facing unique challenges that affect overall mental health and well-being. To support Hoosiers in this unprecedented time of need, and beyond, the Indiana Family and Social Services Administration and the Indiana Division of Mental Health and Addiction are proud to introduce BeWellIndiana.org.

"It is imperative that we recognize how our mental health is affected by this pandemic," Governor Eric J. Holcomb said. "I am proud of the public/private collaboration and expertise from so many of our partners captured in this single resource. BeWellIndiana.org is a reflection of the care and concern our fellow Hoosiers have for one another."

The Be Well Indiana initiative is currently focused primarily on resources to help Hoosiers manage their mental health throughout the COVID-19 crisis. As the pandemic situation changes, Be Well Indiana will adapt and shift focus to address the most compelling mental health issues at the time. You will also find videos featuring medical experts and other practicing Indiana clinicians addressing specific mental health topics.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Food pantry hours

The Loogootee United Methodist Food Pantry will be open the first, second, third and fifth Thursdays of the month from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. and also the first Monday of the month from 5-6:30 p.m.

Mental Health Task Force

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

Celebrate Recovery meetings

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

Local recovery meetings

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

Free lunch for kids

New Beginnings Community Church will be offering a free lunch to all school age children every Saturday. Lunches can be picked up at the fellowship hall of the

church, located at 105 Wood St, Loogootee no later than 10:30 a.m. Deliveries will begin between 10:30 and 11 a.m. Saturdays.

SOAR Tutoring

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

Humane society meetings

The Martin County Humane Society meets quarterly, on the third Monday of the month at 5:30 p.m. at the animal shelter at 507 N Oak Street in Loogootee.

Solid waste board

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

Soil and Water meetings

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



Making A Difference



-- YOUR STORY --

I've talked about this before, but what's your story? What things, people, or events have shaped your life? Sometimes they're wrapped around hardships, sometimes they're full of joy. But those moments are what have helped to define who you are today. And today is your building block for tomorrow. A stronger today sets the stage for a more steady and firm future for your tomorrow.

-- YOUR LEGACY --

Hopefully you will leave a story that your family will enjoy telling their kids and then for them to tell their own kids. Yes, your family will remember you, but after a few generations it gets to be just faint memories and stories that get shorter and shorter. Sure, it sounds sad to say that, but rarely is your story and your legacy passed on such that it maintains the original intent and meaning beyond those first few generations.

-- MORE THAN THAT --

Do you want to be remembered longer than just a generation or two? What about your defining moments and those life changing events that had a big impact on you? Those are building blocks that you could leave for others to lay as part of their own life's foundation. Your story and your legacy can be more than just a story.

-- DO IT WITH A WILL --

Your legacy can be more than the memories and stories told on the holidays. With a will, you can pass on some of your possessions that might give a glimpse of what was important to you. You can pass on money or other assets to your family to take care of them or make their life easier for a bit. But do those gifts pass on your legacy for following generations? What else can you also do to reach even further?

-- AND AN ENDOWMENT--

I'm sure you can look at your life and find your building blocks, your defining moments, your life changing events. But

then what? With the Martin County Community Foundation, we can help you set in motion a way that your legacy, that which defines who you are, will be passed forever to your family and others past those first few generations after you are gone. You can pass on some of your building blocks, those important events, with a MCCF endowment fund.

With your will, you can specify some part of your assets be donated to a MCCF fund that you've set up or to an already existing fund. Or you can create that legacy now. Either way, you will then forever support those things that made a difference in your life. Your legacy will continue to make a difference in other peoples' lives. Not just for a few generations, but forever. Your today, and your legacy, will become someone else's building block for tomorrow. And the tomorrow after that, and the tomorrow after that, and...

-- WITH MORE NOW --

If you do want to create that legacy now, the MCCF has a matching grant opportunity called GIFT VII. This is the seventh phase of Lilly Endowment's Giving Indiana Funds for Tomorrow initiative. With this grant, the MCCF can match \$2 for every \$1 donated to an unrestricted fund and 50¢ for each \$1 donated to another fund type. The matching grant is available through December 2020, but on a first-come, first-served basis while the grant funds are available.

-- MORE INFORMATION --

For more information about the MCCF and how we can help you pass on your legacy to future generations, please contact Curt Johnson, MCCF Director, at 812-295-1022 or mccf@cfpartner.org.

You are also welcome to visit our website at www.cfpartner.org/mccf.htm, follow us on Twitter at www.twitter.com/MartinCountyCF, and "like" the MCCF Facebook page at www.facebook.com/mcccommunityfoundation.



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The Carboxyl Group Is Veteran-Owned
By Loogootee Native Keith Johnson
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Boutique Quality CBD Products, Formulated, Produced And Bottled In Indiana!

As always, our products are 100% THC-Free, third party tested and trial-proven!

500 mg CBD Lotion (loaded with Hemp Terpenes!) - \$36.95

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Mint
Coffee
...and more!



www.TheCBDCrafters.com

LOOGOOTEE HIGH SCHOOL 2020 Senior SPOTLIGHTS



2020 Seniors SHOALS HIGH SCHOOL



EMILY CRANE

Emily A. Crane is the daughter of Christina Fegan. After graduation, Emily plans to attend Indiana State University to study criminal justice. While in high school, Emily participated in Band (9-11), Intern (12), Beta Club (11), and SADD (9-12).



JARRETT ARVIN

Jarrett S. Arvin is the son of Scott Arvin and the late Kara Arvin. After graduation, Jarrett plans to attend Vincennes University to study agri-bussiness. While in high school, Jarrett participated in Baseball (9) and Basketball (9).



ADRIAN COLE

Adrian Renea Cole was born on May 6, 2000 to Heather Hill and Ben Hill. While in high school, Adrian participated in Beta club, Film club, and Dance. Her favorite memory of high school was telling Urban Legends with the lights out in Mr. Dahlen's room. After graduation, Adrian plans to attend college for Psychology.



CURTIS BROWN

Curtis Jerome Brown was born on February 11, 2000 to Brian & Tessa Brown. His favorite memory of high school was when Mr. Fischer brought in the K-9 dog and its handler in to his Criminal Justice class. After graduation, Curtis plans to work with his dad doing drywall and eventually join the Army.



EMILY WADE

Emily Nicole Wade is the daughter of Chad Wade and Nicole Bays. After graduation, Emily plans to attend Indiana University to further her studies. While in high school, Emily participated in FCA (11-12), Intern (12), Spanish Club (9-12), Beta Club (9-12), Recycling (9), SADD (9-12), Student Council (9-12), Volleyball (9-12), and Tennis (9-12).



TREVOR GUY

Trevor Steven Guy is the son of Trevor and Leslie Guy. After graduation, Trevor plans to enter the workforce. While in high school, Trevor participated in Band (9-10), Beta Club (9-10), Cadet Teaching (11), French Club (9-10), Cross Country (9-12), and Track (9-11).



TREVER WESTHAFER

Trever Lee Westhafer was born on September 26, 2001 to Jason & Mary Lents. While in high school, he enjoyed playing basketball. After graduation, Trever plans to travel the world.



ALEXAS HUTCHINSON

Alexas Breann Hutchinson was born on May 13, 2002 and is the granddaughter of Kathy & Gary Telford. During high school, Alexas was involved in softball (9) and volleyball (9-10). Her favorite memory is also her most embarrassing moment, but one that she will never forget. It was when she got hit in the face with a softball. After graduation, Alexas plans to attend Vincennes University and major in the medical field, either as a nurse or an OBGYN.



ESSIE CRAIG

Essie Hope Craig is the daughter of Jerid Craig and Brandy Salmon. After graduation, Essie plans to attend Vincennes University to study nursing and cosmetology. While in high school, Essie participated in Chorus (9-12), Yearbook (10), Intern (12), Musical (11), and Show Choir (9-11).



LOGAN KELLER

William Logan Keller is the son of Clint Keller and Angel Riggle. After graduation, Logan plans to attend a place of higher education. While in high school, Logan participated in intern (12), Spanish Club (9-10), Beta Club (9-11), and job shadow (11).



BRAYDEN SOUERDIKEY

Brayden Allen Dwight Souerdikey was born on September 18, 2001 to Travis Souerdikey & Priscilla King. While in high school, Brayden participated in soccer and basketball. After graduation, he plans on attending Vincennes University and major in Computer Science.

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Ag Barometer index drops below 100 as coronavirus disrupts agriculture

Coronavirus concerns, commodity price declines and supply-chain disruptions sink producer sentiment to a three-year low, according to the April Purdue University/CME Group Ag Economy Barometer. The barometer recorded a reading of 96, marking the first time the barometer has fallen below 100 since October 2016 and registering 72 points below its record high just two months prior. The Ag Economy Barometer is based on responses from 400 U.S. agricultural producers and this month's survey was conducted from April 19-24, 2020.

Producers' expectations for current and future agricultural economic conditions also declined sharply. The Index of Current Conditions suffered its largest one-month drop, down 39 points in April to a reading of 72, and the Index of Future Expectations fell 18 points to a reading of 108. April's decline pushed the Current Conditions Index 53 percent below its all-time high set back in February, while the Future Expectations Index fell 39 percent over the same two-month time period.

"Over the past two months, producers have felt the first shock waves being created by the coronavirus," said James Mintert, the barometer's principal investigator and director of Purdue University's Center for Commercial Agriculture. "Disruptions in the supply chain are causing many to look at ways they can mitigate risk in this uncertain environment and sharp declines in commodity prices have added significant financial pressure on many U.S. farming operations."

In the April survey, two-thirds of respondents indicated they were "very worried" (39 percent) or "fairly worried" (28 percent) about the impact of coronavirus on their farm's profitability and over half (54 percent) said they anticipate applying for one of the federal government's COVID-19 related financial assistance programs. When asked their number one concern regarding their farm and COVID-19, 42 percent of respondents said they were worried about their farm's access to markets, 37 percent said financial, while just 13 percent said health and safety. However, 35 percent of this month's respondents said they have already implemented changes in their farm's operations in response to COVID-19 concerns.

Underpinning the rise in pessimism among farmers was a swift decline in principal commodity prices over the last couple of months. Commodity futures prices declined sharply from early March through late April. Over the course of less than two months, July corn futures declined 15 percent and July soybean futures prices fell by 8 percent while June live cattle and June lean hog futures prices declined 21 percent and 33 percent, respectively. The sharp drop in commodity prices added to an already strained financial situation for many farmers. When asked to compare their farms' expected financial performance in 2020 to 2019, 55 percent

of respondents in the April survey said they expect a worse financial performance in 2020 than in 2019.

That pessimism also trickled down to producers' near-term farmland price expectations. When asked to look 12 months ahead, 35 percent of respondents said they expect farmland values to decline, up from only 13 percent expecting a decline on both the January and February of 2020 surveys. However, producers' longer-term farmland price expectations were more optimistic. When asked to look ahead five years, 44 percent of producers expect higher farmland values, up from 41 percent who said they expect higher values in the March survey.

"The divergence between producers 12-month and 5-year ahead expectations for farmland values suggests they view the current disruption in agriculture and food markets to be temporary and are looking for markets to rebound down the road," said Mintert.

Read the full Ag Economy Barometer report at <https://purdue.ag/agbarometer>. The site also offers additional resources – such as past reports, charts and survey methodology – and a form to sign up for monthly barometer email updates and webinars. Each month, the Purdue Center for Commercial Agriculture provides a short video analysis of the barometer results, available at <https://purdue.ag/barometer-video>.

Indiana has three more free fishing days this year

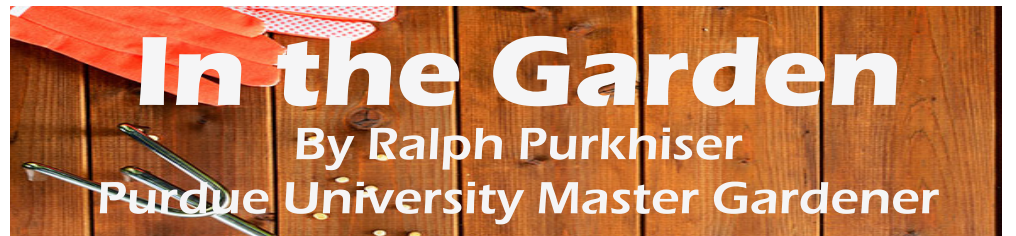
June 6-7 and September 26 are Indiana's last free fishing days for 2020. On Free Fishing Days, Indiana residents can fish the state's public waters without a fishing license or trout/salmon stamp.

Fishing is an excellent way to get outside and connect as a family. It is also a great opportunity to relax and connect with the outdoors while practicing social distancing. If fishing is a new activity for your family, keep things simple – this often makes fishing more fun and safe. The best thing to do is get out there and wet a line.

Visit a local park, state forest, fish & wildlife area or state recreation area for fishing opportunities. For public places to fish, see the Where to Fish map at on.IN.gov/where2fish. You can also find nearby urban water with catchable-size channel catfish or rainbow trout at wildlife.IN.gov/7508.htm.

To learn more about Free Fishing Days, see dnr.IN.gov/fishfree.

When fishing or doing any other activity, Hoosiers should follow posted restrictions and practice social distancing. Your fishing rod is a measure of appropriate social distance. For the most up-to-date information regarding DNR and COVID-19, visit on.IN.gov/dnrcovid19.



Gardens are always changing. Last week, a century-old oak tree at Sandhill Gardens fell. An area that has been shady all of my life is now much sunnier. I have planted many shade-loving plants in that area. In the coming weeks, I will have to pay attention to see if the shade from other trees in the area will be sufficient to ensure the survival of those plants or if they will have to be moved to other areas. The next challenge will be to find plants to fill in the gap left by the old oak tree. Such is the way of gardens.

The garden has experienced other changes this week. The last of the daffodils have now faded away, but there are still blooms a-plenty in the garden. Literally thousands of native columbine blooms have provided a feast for the returning hummingbirds. Just as the old-fashioned lilacs faded, the Korean lilacs burst into bloom and continued the scent of lilac in the air. The French lilacs have also just begun and more varieties will follow for several weeks.

Bearded irises have just started to bloom, with Dutch, Siberian and Japanese irises to come over the next several weeks. The first of the tree peonies has dropped its petals in the week's wind and rain, but there are more to follow, each with a different color to anticipate. There will be a brief period when the last tree peonies overlap bloom time with the intersectional and herbaceous peonies. With varieties my grandmother planted nearly a century ago and new hybrids just planted earlier in the spring, I will have to take daily walks just to make sure I do not miss some blooms. One interesting new addition to the peony collection is actually one of the oldest peonies known. I planted a wild peony from Japan, which is the plant from which most of the hy-

brids enjoyed today were bred. Today's huge blooms are the result of many crosses and selections made by thousands of breeders over the centuries, but I find a special enjoyment of the fragrant parent plant.

That wonderfully-scented Korean spice viburnum about which I wrote several weeks ago has now become just another green shrub, but Grandma's snowball viburnum is covered with blooms and an arrow-wood viburnum is starting to produce umbrellas that remind me of the doilies that used to be on the arms of the furniture in Grandma's living room. The leather leaf viburnum is in bud and the blueberry muffin viburnums will follow.

Even without a Dogwood Festival this year, the dogwood trees have put on a beautiful show. I just noticed the first blooms on the koussa dogwoods recently and the red and yellow twig dogwoods are also beginning to bloom. The pagoda dogwoods I planted this week will not likely have blooms this year, but I look forward to their addition in the future.

The garden is always changing. Progression planting keeps the interest coming. By using different species and cultivars of favorite plants, you can keep the show going for months. By using a variety of different plants, you can have something providing interest all of the time. Just as there is a melancholy in losing the old oak tree, there is a degree of sadness as flowers fade. It is the anticipation of the beauty I know will follow that takes me into the garden each morning. There is always something new coming on and each bloom brings a smile to my lips. I will certainly miss the old oak tree, but now I get to design and install a new garden bed. Gardens are always changing.

1st Annual Town of Shoals



and Main Street Market

When: Friday, May 15th & Saturday, May 16th, 2020 (Rain or Shine at seller's discretion)

Where: Town Wide

Sellers: Please contact the Shoals Town Hall by May 8th to be included in any advertisement/lists that will be provided for the event. Locations will be listed in the order that they are received. Main Street Market will be any Main Street businesses who choose to have a sidewalk sale on this date.

We encourage everyone to be proactive with following all safe social distancing guidelines while participating

Questions: Shoals Town Hall (812) 247-2110

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Jasonville (812) 665-3969	Bicknell (812) 735-3545	Bloomfield (812) 384-4453	



Grazing Bites

By Victor Shelton

NRCS State Agronomist/Grazing Specialist

It's the first of May and it's another unusual spring. I suppose that each year is always somewhat unique, but I could really settle for just average for once.

This is starting to remind me a bit of 2018 where we had really late frosts and even some freezes. Forage took off growing in early April only to be set back fairly hard after a week of really cold temperatures and several inches of snow in the north. The cooler than normal temperatures, especially at night, and a few too many cloudy days have really slowed growth. I'm ready for some warm, sunny days and so are the forages.

When you have super-fast tender plant growth and then suddenly several hard freezes, the plant goes into a dormant like condition. The real damage occurs when the water in the plant cells freezes. Under severe enough conditions, the ice can puncture the cell wall and after thawing out, the plant will appear wilted and often darker in color.

When conditions are moist, it may reduce the impact of a slight frost since temperatures change more slowly in wetter soil conditions than in dryer soils. The water outside of the plant can reduce freeze injury because the water will freeze before the water inside plant cells freezes. This is one reason why spraying water on garden plants to "wash off" frost can sometimes help save plants.

Warming up slowly after freezing conditions can reduce the effects of the freeze/frost. Abrupt, rapid warming, especially under dry conditions, aggravates frost injury and the chance of plant recovery is reduced.

I've not seen any damage to forages yet, just stunting. Forages are certainly not growing like they were, especially south of I-70, but should rebound with warm weather and sunny skies.

Prior to the stunting cold spell, forage growth was at least ten days ahead of normal, except for northern areas which has stayed slightly colder and even had some late snows. A friend of mine stated that he really ought to mow his yard, but he'll have to shovel the snow off first. Everyone is eager to start grazing, especially grass-based dairies.

Depending on the extent of stunting caused by heavy frosts or freezing, grass plants will feel some stress from this and may move slightly quicker towards reproductive stages. This will be intensified if pastures are also overgrazed. If you maintain adequate residual or stop grazing heights and have good healthy soil, you probably won't see much impact.

I've seen several pastures this spring that have already been grazed way too tight. I'm not sure that I have ever mowed my yard that short! I will try to refrain from stepping up on a soapbox, at least not a tall one. Close grazing, especially early in the season before root reserves are refreshed, will reduce total production for the field for the year. You want to maintain potential production or increase it. In a lot of cases, lack of sufficient nutrients and/or management reduces yield and those fields have potential to produce two or three times what they are presently. Isn't doubling production more feasible by management than doubling acreage?

The other troubling thought that comes from close grazing early in the season is what you are actually doing

to the plant itself. For the most part, the adage of "short grass, short roots" is very accurate. Not only are you potentially reducing production, but you have also reduced the plants ability to seek out nutrients deeper in the soil profile and moisture and, most importantly, decreased its resilience.

Reduced root mass and reduced resilience equates to a lot more susceptibility to drought conditions. There may be, or seem to be, plenty of moisture at the moment, but we are never more than just a few weeks away from a drought. Resilience to droughty conditions needs to be started way before such an event. Overgrazing also can remove or reduce valuable ground cover that helps maintain soil moisture.

Going back now to the topic of slightly stunted forage due to colder weather, it is probably a wise decision to make sure that you are feeding a mineral mix with sufficient magnesium. Normal rates for mineral mixes contain about 2% magnesium. When we have cooler temperatures and lush forage in front of the cows, a high-magnesium mineral supplement should be used. High-magnesium mineral mixes usually have about 16.5% magnesium. You should probably continue with this supplement until we get past the early flush of new grass. Fields that have been supplemented with extra nitrogen and potassium tend to have more issues because more magnesium can be tied up. It's a balancing of cations. Keeping sufficient salt and other minerals that are needed available all the time is always a good place to start and lowers concerns. Check with your local veterinarian or extension agent for more information.

Food or forage for thought; adding extra nitrogen to stunted forages to help push growth will potentially increase the risk of grass tetany. Keeping some hay available to grazing livestock for a while can help reduce risk slightly, if they will eat it. It will also provide some stable fiber to help balance out new forage that is lush and often higher in water content. Generally, if they need it, they will eat it. Ruminant livestock have never failed to support that theory.

One last word of advice: beware of poison hemlock. It is becoming more and more common along roads and some pasture and hay fields. All parts of this plant are poisonous when ingested by livestock. It is a biennial, producing only a rosette the first year and then flowers and seed the second year. It is very prolific. It looks a little like a wild parsnip but will have purplish blotches on the stem. Do not handle these plants with bare hands; there is risk of adverse reactions. Do not let plants go to seed. Consult your local extension office for control methods.

It's not about maximizing a grazing event, it's about maximizing the grazing season. Stay well and keep on grazing!

Reminders & Opportunities

Due to COVID 19, several scheduled events are now postponed or pending. Several events are hosted or cohosted by the Indiana Forage Council. For more information about their upcoming events, go to <http://indianaforage.org> and while you are there, consider becoming a member.

More pasture information and past issues of Grazing Bites are available at <https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/in/technical/landuse/pasture/>

WHEEL TAX

(Continued from page one)

much federal land in Martin County, the tax base is much lower, with Crane not paying any taxes on the land they consume. He said that due to COVID-19, he believes the state is going to cut what they are giving to the county. He also stated that having a wheel tax would hurt residents who drive semi-trucks because they would be paying even more money at the license branch.

Carol Richer, leadership group member, said she was confused because she thought the roads were not getting repaired because of lack of funding. She said the leadership group were looking at alternative ways to find funding. Now, tonight, she is being told there are other issues and it concerns her that those issues have not been worked out between the council, commissioners and highway department.

Commissioner Paul George spoke up saying that a large chunk of the money they have in the highway budget for roads goes toward the matching money required to get the Community Crossings grant. He said the county received \$1 million and had to have \$330,000 in matching funds on hand. He said they can't spend the matching money until they know each year if they will receive the grant.

Council Member Summers thanked the leadership group for speaking and moved on to another agenda item without further discussion.

Sheriff Travis Roush asked that the council approve a 50-cent hourly increase for his part-time jail officers. Roush spoke to the commissioners about the increase at their last meeting and they approved contingent on the council's approval. Roush said he is not asking for any additional money, he would use what is already in his budget. Roush said he is having a hard time getting jail officers due to not only COVID-19, but also a misconception of what the jail officer job entails. He said once he gets new hires, they are happy with the job. He said the current part-time hourly rate ranges from \$8.50-\$12.

Council Member Stiles said he thought the council had approved paying the jail part-time staff \$12.50 across the board, at budget hearings last year. Roush replied that he discussed bumping up part-time rates from \$11.50 to \$12 last year, hoping that would attract workers but it did not. Roush said he didn't recall the \$12.50 discussion.

Auditor Bobbie Abel said the part-time rate was not changed for this year, it stayed the same as 2019 and \$10-12 per hour is the current maximum for part-time employees.

Council Member Stiles said it must have been an oversight however he felt giving anyone a raise right now was a mistake because they should be thankful to even have a job.

Council Member Barb McFeaters said that if the sheriff has the money in his budget and he believes increasing the wage would help get workers, she was in favor of it. "We need to have adequate staff for the sheriff," she said.

Sheriff Roush said they have not had a COVID-19 outbreak in the jail because they are going above and beyond to prevent it. "We are saving you guys a ton of money and a ton of problems," he said. He added that he is retaining 17-18 Vigo County inmates to help the county by bringing in that extra money.

Council Member Warren Albright said he doesn't have a problem with the increase if the sheriff is staying within his budget. Council Member McFeaters agreed saying again that it's very important that the jail is staffed properly.

The council approved the increase 6-0. Council Member Keith Gibson was not present for the meeting.

Council Member Stiles also expressed

his disappointment that the council didn't meet in person this month and instead met online with Zoom. He said meeting via Zoom "sucks" and a regular meeting should have been held because not everyone was invited from the public.

Community Corrections Director Kathy Collins told Council Member Stiles that Zoom meetings do make life difficult, but she is thankful that at least business can still be done. She said she would also prefer to meet face to face.

Collins told the council that her office is restructuring their staff and changing a few of the salaries. She said her advisory board approved the changes however she needs the council's approval as well. She said that she is not requesting any additional funds and is staying within her approved budget.

Council Member Stiles questioned whether changing the community corrections' staff salaries would "open a can of worms" with other county employees. He also questioned why they didn't receive a copy of the changes on salaries before being asked to approve them. Auditor Abel apologized that she didn't get copies to the council members prior to the meeting and said she could send them tomorrow.

Auditor Abel also explained that the community corrections advisory board makes the decisions pertaining to community corrections as their budget is separate from the rest of the county.

Collins added that the wage issue has been going on for 10 years within the county, but the advisory board, along with the state, is in charge of making the decisions in her department. She said that community corrections has always been different and the only thing the county contributes money to is the road crew.

After more discussion, the council approved the salary changes.

The council approved an additional appropriation from the general fund to the commissioners' budget for \$3,000 for COVID-19 supplies and \$10,000 for COVID-19 equipment. Auditor Abel said they haven't spent all this money yet but have purchased thermometers for multiple locations at a cost of just under \$1,000. They also purchased PPE (personal protective equipment) for EMS and the fire departments, supplies for the sheriff's department, and increased supplies at the courthouse. She said this is just the beginning of purchases. It was noted that many offices also purchased subscriptions to Zoom for meeting purposes. Kathy Collins noted that they are looking into purchasing shields or "sneeze guards" to put on desks, at a little over \$100 each, once the offices are opened back up to the public.

It was noted that the state may be reimbursing counties for expenses incurred due to the pandemic so they are keeping all receipts for that purpose.

Council Member Stiles asked when the courthouse would be opened back up to the public. Auditor Abel replied that the commissioners are speaking to other counties to see what they are planning to do. She said it will most likely be discussed at Tuesday night's commissioners' meeting.

Dena Held, Purdue Extension Educator, and Jill Ziegler, with the 4-H Council, told the council that since they have not been able to rent out the community building at the fairgrounds due to COVID-19, they have lost an estimated \$4,000 so far. She asked for the council's help with funding to pay their bills.

Council Member Summers requested that the 4-H board come up with the amount needed and it will be discussed at next month's council meeting.

At the end of the meeting, the council offered their thoughts and prayers to former Council Member Lynn Gee who recently lost her son to COVID-19.