

# Martin County JOURNAL

Year 11, Issue 22

WEDNESDAY, MAY 27, 2020

Seven pages



## Memorial Day 2020

-Photo by Josh Hughett

On Memorial Day, Monday, May 25, the American Legion Post 120 and Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 9395 paid homage to the veterans of all wars with a visit to nine Martin County cemeteries. This was the 64th year for the Legion to conduct these services. Shown above is the visit to Truelove Church Cemetery. During each ceremony, there was a roll call for all veterans in each cemetery, followed by a 21 gun salute and playing of taps.

## COVID-19 information update

BY COURTNEY HUGHETT  
Martin County Journal Publisher

As of today, Wednesday, May 27, Martin County has had nine positive cases of COVID-19 and zero deaths. As of today, 165 Martin County residents have been tested. Dubois County has had 185 positive cases and two deaths and had 1,303 residents tested. Daviess County has had 84 positive cases, 16 deaths and 737 residents tested. Lawrence County has had 146 positive cases, 23 deaths and 1,231 residents tested. Greene County has had 168 positive cases, 24 deaths and 893 residents tested. Orange County has had 124 positive cases, 22 deaths and 633

residents tested.

Indiana Governor Eric Holcomb laid out a plan to get Indiana back open from COVID-19, in phases. This past Sunday, retail stores and malls were allowed to move to 75 percent capacity but community areas, such as food courts, are still limited to 50 percent capacity.

Gyms, playgrounds, basketball courts, public pools, and campgrounds were allowed to open, still practicing social distancing guidelines. Movie theaters also re-opened 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 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 to COVID-19 outbreaks and is subject to change. High-risk residents, such as those over 65 years of age  
(See 'COVID' on page two)



The Martin County 2020 Primary Election will be held next Tuesday, June 2.

You can call the Martin County Clerk's office at 812-247-3651 or go to [www.Indianavoters.com](http://www.Indianavoters.com) to check status of your registration.

In-office absentee voting started Monday, May 26. There will be absentee voting in the clerk's office from 9 a.m. until 6 p.m. until Friday, May 29 and then on Saturday, May 30 from 8 a.m. until 4 p.m. The last chance to vote absentee in the clerk's office will be Monday, June 1 from 8 a.m. until noon. You must have a photo ID to match your registration address in order to vote in person.

To help with overcrowding, the Mar-  
(See 'ELECTION' on page two)

## Census takers began dropping off packets at front doors last week

BY COURTNEY HUGHETT  
Martin County Journal Publisher

The U.S. Census Bureau, in coordination with federal, state and local health officials, began dropping off 2020 Census questionnaire packets at front doors of 39,205 households in Indiana last week, including those in Martin County. This is done in areas where the majority of households do not receive mail at their physical address.

As of May 24, 60.4 percent of Martin County households had returned their 2020 Census questionnaire. This is four percent less than the state response rate.

Martin County ranks 71 of the 92 Indiana counties in response rate. Dubois County has the highest response rate in the state at 77.6 percent. Crawford County has the lowest response rate in the state at 51.2 percent.

Updates on the operations resuming by location at [2020census.gov](http://2020census.gov). This webpage will be updated weekly as 2020 Census operations resume across the United States.

The health and safety of Census Bureau staff and the public is of the utmost importance. All returning staff will receive safety training to observe social distancing protocols in the COVID-19 environment. For their safety and the safety of the public, the Census Bureau has ordered Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) for all field staff, including those that work in a field office. These materials will be secured and provided to staff prior to restarting operations.

As part of the phased restart of operations, the Census Bureau will resume dropping off 2020 Census invitation packets at front doors of households in areas where the majority of households do not receive mail at their home. This

## Radius Indiana facilitates Duke Energy grants for small business relief

Radius Indiana received \$20,000 in Duke Energy Foundation grants last week, which are designated for small business assistance in four of the economic development group's eight counties. The award is part of \$200,000 in Duke Energy Foundation grants given to Indiana economic development organizations across the state offering crisis relief to small businesses.

Recipients include Crawford, Greene, Martin and Orange, which will each receive \$5,000. Each county's local economic development organization will then determine which local small businesses will receive assistance through an application process and needs assessment.

"We are grateful for companies like Duke Energy that are helping small businesses during this very uncertain time," said Radius Indiana President and CEO Jeff Quyle. "Part of our mission here at Radius is to support businesses in our region; and right now we are especially concerned about the wellbeing of our es-



operation is also known as Update Leave. About 5 percent of households are counted in the Update Leave operation, where census workers will confirm or update a household's physical location address and then leave a census questionnaire packet.

The Census Bureau began delivering census materials to these households on March 15; however, this operation was suspended on March 18 because of the COVID-19 pandemic. The Update Leave operation does not require interaction between households and a Census Bureau employee and follows the most current federal health and safety guidelines. In states where we have resumed the Update Leave operation, we are also resuming fingerprinting for new hires to keep applicants moving through the hiring process. ACO staff will begin returning to the office as necessary to support the Update Leave operation, as well.

Households that receive the 2020 Census invitation packets are strongly encouraged to respond promptly to the 2020 Census using the census ID included in the questionnaire packet. People can respond online, by phone or by completing and returning the paper form by mail. Responding with the census ID or by completing and returning the paper questionnaire helps ensure the best count of their community.

For more information, please visit [www.2020census.gov](http://www.2020census.gov).

established, small businesses, and we will continue to look for ways to help ensure that they can sustain operations."

Two additional Radius counties, Lawrence and Washington, have also been selected as direct recipients of Duke Energy grants. The local economic development organizations in those counties were also awarded \$5,000 and will identify Duke Energy business customers in need of the funds.

"These are challenging times, and the COVID-19 crisis has been particularly difficult for small companies," said Duke Energy Indiana President Stan Pinegar. "These grants will support those businesses that are the backbone of the Hoosier communities we serve statewide."

In April, Radius worked with Crawford and Greene counties to set up local, Rapid Relief Funds to aid small businesses. The dollar-for-dollar match program provided small, low-interest loans ranging from \$2,500 to \$5,000 to help businesses address immediate needs and help offset  
(See 'GRANTS' on page two)

# COVID

(Continued from page one)

or those with underlying health conditions are encouraged to avoid social contact as much as possible throughout the re-open plan.

Anyone with symptoms of COVID-19 can register for a 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 county 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.

Managing stress during an infectious outbreak is difficult, but you are not alone.

If you need support, please know there is help by contacting one of the 24/7 help lines:

Memorial Hospital Mental Health Help Line 812-827-6222

LifeSpring Health System Crisis Line 812-482-4020

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

# ELECTION

(Continued from page one)

tin County Election Board has moved the precincts of Lost River, South Center and Southeast Halbert from St. Mary's Church to the Shoals American Legion. All other precincts remain the same. Only a limited number of voters will be allowed in each polling site at one time.

On election night, the courthouse will allow one representative of each candidate and one representative for each media source in building for on-site reporting.

The clerk's office will be posting results on the facebook page Martin County 2020 Elections.

Any questions or concerns you can contact the clerk's office at 812-247-3651.

Candidates on the Martin County ballots:

- U.S. President
- Joseph R. Biden (D)
- Michael R. Bloomberg (D)
- Pete Buttigieg (D)
- Tulsi Gabbard (D)
- Amy Klobucher (D)
- Bernie Sanders (D)
- Tom Steyer (D)
- Elizabeth Warren (D)
- Andrew Yang (D)
- Donald J. Trump (R)
- Bill Weld (R)
- Indiana Governor
- Woodrow "Woody" Myers (D)
- Eric Halcomb (R)
- District 8 U.S. Representative
- Ron Drake (D)
- E. Thomasina Marsili (D)
- Mike Webster (D)
- Larry D. Bucshon (R)
- State Representative District 62
- Alyssa Bailey (D)
- Jeff Ellington (R)

- Greg Knott (R)
- State Representative District 63
- Teresa Kendall (D)
- Shane M. Lindauer (R)
- Martin County Auditor
- Bobbie Abel (D)
- Martin County Coroner
- Tina M. Franklin (D)
- Martin County Recorder
- Rhonda Sanders (R)
- Martin County Surveyor
- Nathan D. Hoffman (R)
- Martin County Treasurer
- Lori Carrico (R)
- Martin County Commissioner District

- 1 Kevin R. Boyd (R)
- Cody Roush (R)
- Martin County Commissioners District

- 3 Michael D. "Mike" Dant (D)
- Jon Richer (R)
- Aaron "Moose" Summers (R)
- Martin County Council At-Large (choose 3)

- Richard Summers (D)
- Jim Woody (D)
- Warren D. Albright (R)
- Keith Gibson (R)
- Adam Greene (R)

# GRANTS

(Continued from page one)

losses caused by COVID-19.

Small businesses in the region in need of assistance should contact their local economic development office. Businesses can also visit [www.radiusindiana.com/resources/#covid-19](http://www.radiusindiana.com/resources/#covid-19) for information on additional assistance programs and COVID-19 information.

For more information about Duke Energy grants visit [news.duke-energy.com/releases](http://news.duke-energy.com/releases).

# USI Spring 2020 Dean's List

In recognition of outstanding academic achievement, the University of Southern Indiana Dean's List has been released for the Spring 2020 semester. Dr. Mohammed Khayum, USI Provost, announced that a total of 2,311 undergraduates were named to the Dean's List.

Semester honors are not awarded to master's degree students or doctoral students.

Undergraduate students must achieve a 3.5 or better grade point average (on a 4.0 system) to be named to the list. Students earning no IN (incomplete) or Z (missing) grades for the term, and earning letter grades of computable point value (Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory and Pass/No Pass graded courses do not apply) in 12 or more semester hours, with a semester grade point average between 3.5 and 4.0 are named to the list.

During the Spring 2020 COVID-19 pandemic, students had the option to choose Pass/No Pass grading instead of letter grades. Students electing Pass/No Pass grading must have completed at least 12 credit hours of coursework with a computable point value (A through F letter grades) to be eligible for the dean's list.

The following are the Dean's List students from Martin County:

- Loogootee
- Julianne E. Bell, Mallory A. Berry, Sarah R. Bussinger, Chloe M. Carrico, Annie E. Graber, Bailey N. Graber, Robin P. Hamby, Heather N. Harshaw, Cora M. Hedrick, Taylin P. Sisco, Tyler D. Swartzentruber, Clayton R. Thomas, Madisyn Wade, Ethan M. Wagler, and Lacey J. Walton
- Shoals
- Erica J. Bratton, Kenady A. Bratton, Sarah C. French, Aaron J. Martin, Gabrielle N. McCarty, Keylee A. Tow, and Calli Winger

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<p style="text-align: center; background-color: #006633; color: white; padding: 2px;"><b>AUTO REPAIR</b></p> <div style="text-align: center;"> <p><b>Greene's</b> BODY SHOP</p> <p><i>Complete Collision Repair</i></p> <p>106 Wood St., Loogootee Adam Greene 812-295-9840</p> </div>	<p style="text-align: center; background-color: #006633; color: white; padding: 2px;"><b>FUNERAL SERVICES</b></p> <div style="text-align: center;"> <p><b>BLAKE</b> FUNERAL HOME</p> <p>300 Church Street, Loogootee IN 47553 • 812-295-2100</p> </div>	<p style="text-align: center; background-color: #006633; color: white; padding: 2px;"><b>HEATING &amp; AIR</b></p> <div style="text-align: center;"> <p><b>M&amp;M ELECTRIC</b> HEATING • COOLING • PLUMBING • Geo-Thermal •</p> <p>LOCALLY OWNED AND OPERATED MARK &amp; MARY FIELDS</p> <p>107 West Main St. Office (812) 295-4699 Loogootee, IN 47553 Fax (812) 295-2487</p> </div>	<p style="text-align: center; background-color: #006633; color: white; padding: 2px;"><b>AVAILABLE SPACE</b></p> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; font-size: 1.2em;">Advertise here for just \$25 a month!</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Email <a href="mailto:courtney@martincountyjournal.com">courtney@martincountyjournal.com</a></p>
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<p style="text-align: center; background-color: #006633; color: white; padding: 2px;"><b>LODGING</b></p> <div style="text-align: center;"> <p><b>The Eldorado Motel</b> 812-295-3637 Loogootee, IN</p> </div>	<p style="text-align: center; background-color: #006633; color: white; padding: 2px;"><b>AVAILABLE SPACE</b></p> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; font-size: 1.2em;">Advertise here for just \$25 a month!</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Email <a href="mailto:courtney@martincountyjournal.com">courtney@martincountyjournal.com</a></p>		<p style="text-align: center; background-color: #006633; color: white; padding: 2px;"><b>PHYSICIAN</b></p> <div style="text-align: center;"> <p><b>Daviness-Martin Medical Clinic</b></p> <p>David Nibel, MD Daniell Summers, FNP</p> <p>Lab &amp; X-ray Monday - Friday 8am - 5pm Daviness Community Hospital Call us today for an appointment! 812-295-5095</p> </div>
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<p style="text-align: center; background-color: #006633; color: white; padding: 2px;"><b>TRASH PICK-UP</b></p> <div style="text-align: center;"> <p><b>KRB Disposal</b></p> <p>Pickup household trash weekly NOW serving Martin &amp; Daviness counties</p> <p>812-247-3115 or 812-247-3604</p> </div>		<p style="text-align: center; background-color: #006633; color: white; padding: 2px;"><b>TRASH PICK-UP</b></p>	

# OBITUARIES

**WILMA HAAG**

Wilma Haag passed away at 8:55 p.m. Tuesday, May 19, 2020 at Brookside Village in Jasper. A resident of Loogootee, she was 87.



She was born December 13, 1932 in Daviess County; daughter of the late William and Cora (Mattingly) Fitzmaurice.

**WILMA HAAG** Wilma enjoyed playing bingo and euchre, but most of all she loved her family. She was a member of St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church.

She was preceded in death by her parents, William and Cora (Mattingly) Fitzmaurice; daughter, Charlotte Schutz; siblings, Wayne Fitzmaurice and Rita Losey.

Wilma is survived by her children, Donna (Stephen) Kinnaird, Larry (Jan-

et Lannan) Haag, Joan (Dennis) Schutz, Steve (Amy) Haag; nine grandchildren and six great-grandchildren; brother, Glenn (Martha Bullock) Fitzmaurice; and many wonderful nieces and nephews.

A private graveside service was held Friday, May 22 at St. John Catholic Cemetery. A rip-roaring celebration of life will be held at a later date.

The family is grateful and humbled by the care and affection given to our mother by the staff of Brookside Village.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions can be made to Kindred Hospice, 3745 North Newton Street, Jasper, Indiana 47546.

Condolences may be made online at [www.blakefuneralhomes.com](http://www.blakefuneralhomes.com). Arrangements were provided by Blake Funeral Home in Loogootee.

**MERLIN QUINN**

Merlin Dale "Bob" Quinn passed away May 25, 2020 in Bedford. A resident of

Shoals, he was 92.

He was born February 17, 1928 in Martin County; the son of Cordia Quinn. He married Madeline Jones on January 1, 1957 at Peoples Tabernacle in West Baden.

He attended Powell Valley School, was previously employed by Taylor Hardware in West Baden, as a school bus driver for Springs Valley School Corporation, Russell Trucking in Shoals and retired from the maintenance department of Kimball International Piano in West Baden. He was a veteran of the United States Army, serving during the Korean War, was a member of the American Legion West Baden Post and was of the Christian faith.

Survivors include his wife Madeline; two daughters, Dinah (Roy) Bergman of

Shoals, Jeanine (John) Cole of Alfordsville; two sons, Craig (Karen) Quinn of French Lick, Kevin (Becky) Quinn of Shoals; ten grandchildren, Carrie Roach, Michael Quinn, Chris Quinn, Larry Quinn, Joni Todd, Ryan Bergman, Matthew Quinn, Josh Bergman; 20 great-grandchildren and three step great-grandchildren.

Services will be held at 1 p.m. Thursday, May 28 at the Queen-Lee Chapel in Shoals with burial in the Emmons Ridge Cemetery. Brother Kevin Quinn will officiate. Visitation will be from 11 a.m. Thursday until the time of service.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Emmons Ridge Cemetery.

The Queen-Lee Chapel of the Thorne-George Family Funeral Homes has been entrusted with the arrangements.

## CLASSIFIED ADS

### YARD SALES

**BURNS CITY TOWNWIDE** Yard Sales. June 13, 8 a.m.-?

**MULTI-FAMILY GARAGE SALE** 1030 Lower Circle Drive Saturday May 30th, 8-2. Home Interior, Thirty One, clothing girls 2T, boys 12-24 months, adult incl name brand junior/womens. kitchenware, baby items including boy nursery decor, lots of misc.

### ITEMS WANTED

**WANTED:** DVD collections, DVD player with VCR and VCR rewinder. Also, wanted photos of my missing brother Raymond Arvin and Tim Nonte books and St. John's yearbooks 1965, 66 and 68. 812-675-9250 afternoons and evenings.

### HELP WANTED

## HELP WANTED

**Parkview Village Christian Care, in Odon, is taking applications for Evening Cook**

Please apply online at [www.parkview-village.org](http://www.parkview-village.org) or contact us for an application at 812-636-3000.

**Parkview Village** Christian Care, Inc. If you are a honest, dependable, good work ethic, and love the elderly, you will enjoy working at Parkview.

**NEW LISTING!**



Beautiful Cedar and Stone Tri-level home with 23 acres! Partially wooded! This property features 4 bedrooms, 2 full baths, 1 half bath, 1 car attached garage, 2 large Pole Barns, an in-ground pool w/gazebo, a creek & pond, a fenced in pasture, Timber, Timber, and even more Timber! There is over \$70k worth of timber located on the property and is sold with the home! \$449,000

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Comfortable,  
Assisted Living*



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Christian Care, Inc.

*Independent/Assisted Living Not-for-Profit/Board Owned Senior Community*  
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[WWW.PARKVIEW-VILLAGE.ORG](http://WWW.PARKVIEW-VILLAGE.ORG)

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We have expanded our operations at our Loogootee Manufacturing facility and are in search of additional sewing machine operators!

Sewing Machine Operator positions are full-time, work Monday through Friday, first shift hours (ending at 3:30 p.m. most days), with occasional overtime and flex schedules required. Operators work as a team creating multiple final products including garments, totes, belts and more that meet Made in the USA specified standards. **NO EXPERIENCE REQUIRED** and on-the-job training is provided.

We are also proud to announce a new starting rate of \$10 per hour and the ability to earn bonuses that increase your hourly rate!

These are full time positions which offer a healthy benefit package including medical, dental and vision insurance as well as short and long term disability, life, accident and critical illness insurance plans. KCARC has an excellent retirement plan and an Employee Assistance Program. Employees have access to the Wellness Clinic including medications and labs at NO CHARGE if they participate in the health insurance plan. We also offer generous paid time off (almost 3 weeks after the first year), employee referral bonuses, longevity pay and more. A High School Diploma or equivalent preferred, but not required.

Apply today at [www.knoxcountync.com/careers](http://www.knoxcountync.com/careers)

## Martin County Sheriff's Department log

### MONDAY, MAY 18

12:50 a.m. - Received a report of debris in the roadway south of Shoals. Sergeant Reed responded.

3:25 a.m. - Received a report of a tree down southwest of Shoals. Shoals Fire Department responded.

6:55 a.m. - Received a report of a vehicle accident south of Shoals. Sergeant Reed, Martin County EMS, Shoals Fire, and Major Keller responded.

8:18 a.m. - Received a report of a low hanging tree south of Shoals. The county highway department responded.

10:08 a.m. - Received a report of an abandoned vehicle in Loogootee. Loogootee Chief Rayhill responded.

11:38 a.m. - Received a request to speak to an officer in Loogootee. Loogootee Chief Rayhill responded.

1:00 p.m. - Received a report of property damage in Loogootee. Loogootee Chief Rayhill responded.

1:15 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Shoals. Martin County EMS and Shoals Fire Department responded.

1:24 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Shoals. Martin County EMS and Shoals Fire Department responded.

6:05 p.m. - Received a report of a reckless driver north of Loogootee. Deputy Lents responded.

6:55 p.m. - Deputy Wells performed a vin check east of Loogootee.

7:50 p.m. - Received a request to speak to a deputy about a protective order. Deputy Lents responded.

### TUESDAY, MAY 19

3:10 a.m. - Sergeant Reed located a disabled vehicle south of Shoals.

9:00 a.m. - Received a request for a vin check north of Shoals. Deputy Barnett responded.

12:20 p.m. - Martin County Sheriff's Office received a report of a missing boat. ICO Doane and ICO Mann responded to this call.

1:02 p.m. - Received a report of a property damage accident in Loogootee. Major Keller responded.

2:41 p.m. - Received a report of an animal that had been hit. Animal Control Officer Hughett responded.

2:53 p.m. - Received a report of a reckless driver south of Loogootee. All Martin County Law Enforcement were advised.

3:37 p.m. - Received a request for a vin check. Deputy Wells responded.

5:18 p.m. - Received a report of a possible disabled semi in Shoals. Shoals Town Marshal Eckert responded.

5:20 p.m. - Received a report of an animal that had been hit south of Loogootee. Animal Control Officer Hughett responded.

6:19 p.m. - Received a request for a welfare check south of Loogootee. Deputy Lents responded.

7:15 p.m. - Received a 911 hang-up in Shoals. Shoals Town Marshal Eckert responded.

7:25 p.m. - Received reports of a low flying object near Shoals. Deputy Lents responded.

7:54 p.m. - Received a report of a two-vehicle accident in Shoals. Deputy Lents, Shoals Town Marshall Eckert, Shoals Fire, and Martin County EMS responded.

9:06 p.m. - Received a report of a fire alarm at the Shoals School. Shoals Fire Department responded.

9:40 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County EMS responded.

### WEDNESDAY, MAY 20

6:25 a.m. - Received a report of a car-deer accident south of Loogootee. Chief Deputy Greene and Sergeant Reed responded.

8:17 a.m. - Received a request to speak to a deputy. Chief Deputy Greene took this call.

8:28 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County EMS and Loogootee Chief Rayhill responded.

9:44 a.m. - Received a request for a vin check south of Shoals. Major Keller responded.

10:04 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County EMS and Loogootee Chief Rayhill responded.

11:23 a.m. - Received a report of a reckless driver north of Loogootee. All Martin County Law Enforcement advised.

11:52 a.m. - Received a request for a welfare check. Major Keller and Deputy Lents responded.

12:02 p.m. - Received an animal complaint in Shoals. Advised Animal Control Officer Hughett.

1:50 p.m. - Received a report of a theft in Shoals. Major Keller responded.

2:00 p.m. - Received a request to speak to an officer in Loogootee about a protective order. Sgt. Floyd responded.

2:53 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County EMS and Major Keller responded.

3:06 p.m. - Received a request for a vin check in Crane. Major Keller responded.

3:33 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County EMS responded.

3:53 p.m. - Received a request for a vin check north of Loogootee. Major Keller responded.

6:55 p.m. - Received a report of a structure fire south of Loogootee. Haysville Fire, Major Keller, Martin County EMS, and Civil Defense responded.

8:03 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Shoals. Shoals Fire and Martin County EMS responded.

### THURSDAY, MAY 21

12:43 a.m. - Received a report of livestock out north of Shoals. Sergeant Reed responded.

8:36 a.m. - Received a report of a dispute in Loogootee. Loogootee Chief Rayhill responded.

9:22 a.m. - Received an animal complaint north of Shoals. Deputy Barnett responded. Advised Animal Control Officer Hughett.

9:34 a.m. - Received a request for a vin check north of Shoals. Deputy Barnett responded.

11:39 a.m. - Received a request to speak with Loogootee Police about a golf cart. Loogootee Chief Rayhill responded.

4:30 p.m. - Received a request to speak to a deputy about harassment. Deputy Gibson responded.

4:32 p.m. - Received a request to speak to a deputy about harassment. Deputy Gibson responded.

4:48 p.m. - Received a report of suspicious activity in Loogootee. Loogootee Sergeant Floyd was advised.

6:02 p.m. - Received an animal complaint in Loogootee. Advised Animal Control Officer Hughett.

7:06 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County EMS and Loogootee Fire Department responded.

7:22 p.m. - Received a report of racing east of Shoals. Advised Loogootee Sergeant Floyd.

8:52 p.m. - Received a report of a suspicious person north of Shoals. Deputy

Seymour and Deputy Gibson responded.

10:50 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County EMS responded.

### FRIDAY, MAY 22

1:57 a.m. - Received a report of a domestic dispute in Shoals. Deputy Seymour and Deputy Gibson responded.

6:43 a.m. - Received a report of a vehicle possibly on fire south of Loogootee. Deputy Seymour, Haysville Fire Department and Major Keller responded.

7:33 a.m. - Major Keller performed a vehicle unlock in Shoals.

7:53 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County EMS responded.

11:40 a.m. - Received a report of a baby fox in the roadway in Shoals. Deputy Barnett and Reserve Deputy Harmon responded.

12:23 p.m. - Received a report of a vehicle accident south of Shoals. Deputy Barrett and Reserve Deputy Harmon responded.

12:38 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County EMS responded.

1:20 p.m. - Received an animal complaint in Loogootee. Animal Control Officer Hughett was advised.

2:02 p.m. - Received a request to speak to a Loogootee officer. Loogootee Chief Rayhill was advised.

3:05 p.m. - Received a report of a property damage accident near Shoals. Sheriff Roush responded.

4:12 p.m. - Received a report of a disabled vehicle south of Loogootee. Deputy Gibson responded.

4:31 p.m. - Received a report of a reckless driver. All Martin County Law Enforcement were advised.

4:37 p.m. - Received a theft report. Deputy Barnett responded.

11:05 p.m. - Received a report of dumped trash in Loogootee. Loogootee Officer Allan responded.

### SATURDAY, MAY 23

1:22 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County EMS responded.

8:09 a.m. - Received a request to speak with Animal Control Officer Hughett. Animal Control Officer Hughett was advised.

9:47 a.m. - Received a report of a disabled vehicle east of Shoals. Deputy Barnett and ICO Doane responded.

10:04 a.m. - Received an animal complaint near Shoals. Animal Control Officer Hughett was advised.

10:15 a.m. - Received a request to speak to Loogootee Police. Loogootee Officer Floyd was advised.

10:36 a.m. - Received a report of a fire alarm north of Shoals. Shoals Fire Department and Martin County EMS responded.

4:55 p.m. - Received a request for a vehicle unlock near Loogootee. Deputy Lents responded.

5:53 p.m. - Received a report of a reckless driver near Loogootee. All Martin County Law Enforcement were advised.

8:32 p.m. - Received a report of a tree down near Loogootee. Martin County Civil Defense and Martin County Highway Department responded.

10:06 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance near Loogootee. Martin County EMS responded.

11:13 p.m. - Received a report of a fight east of Shoals. Deputy Gibson, Reserve Deputy Ochs, and Reserve Deputy Dorsey responded with Shoals Fire Department and Martin County EMS.

11:42 p.m. - Received a report of a reckless driver near Shoals. Deputy Gib-

son was advised.

11:44 p.m. - Received a noise complaint in Lost River. Deputy Gibson was advised.

### SUNDAY, MAY 24

5:38 a.m. - Received a report of tree down south of Shoals. Shoals Fire Department and REMC responded.

10:59 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County EMS responded.

12:29 p.m. - Received a request to speak to a Loogootee officer. Advised Loogootee Officer Cummings.

12:58 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance south of Loogootee. Martin County EMS and Haysville Fire Department responded.

3:42 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. Loogootee Officer Cummings and Martin County EMS responded.

4:45 p.m. - Received a report of a single-vehicle accident near Shoals. Deputy Lents responded.

6:02 p.m. - Received a request for extra patrol south of Shoals. Advised Sergeant Reed.

7:40 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance near Loogootee. Martin County EMS, Sergeant Reed, Deputy Lents, and Loogootee Fire Department responded.

9:50 p.m. - Received a report of a domestic dispute in Loogootee as well as a welfare check for the residence. Loogootee Sergeant McBeth responded.

## ARRESTS

### TUESDAY, MAY 19

11:31 p.m. - Kyndra Schimke, 45, of Loogootee, was arrested by Loogootee Sergeant McBeth and charged with operating a vehicle while intoxicated. She is being held without bond.

### WEDNESDAY, MAY 20

6:19 p.m. - Harold Sunderman, 54, of Dale, was arrested by Loogootee Sergeant Floyd and charged with forgery, possession of meth, possession of marijuana, possession of a controlled substance, and possession of paraphernalia. He is being held \$30,000 10% bond.

### FRIDAY, MAY 22

2:39 a.m. - Ashton Pottoroff, 23, of Shoals, was arrested by Deputy Seymour and charged with domestic battery and strangulation. He is being held on a \$10,000 10% bond.

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Fax: 1-888-380-2761  
info@martincountyjournal.com  
www.martincountyjournal.com

## Martin County real estate transfers

**Teresa J. King and Nina F. Woody**, of Martin County, Indiana to **Ronald T. Terrell and Tressa D. Terrell**, of Martin County, Indiana, a part of the southeast quarter of the northeast quarter of Section 11, Township 3 North, Range 3 West.

**Garry Allen Farmer**, of Greene County, Indiana to **James V. Matthews and Waylon J. Matthews**, of Martin County, Indiana, 10 acres of even width off of the east side of the northeast quarter of the northwest quarter of Section 30, Township 4 North, Range 3 West and 25 acres of even width off of the west side of the northwest quarter of the northeast quarter of Section 30, Township 4 North, Range 3 West.

**Sherilyn Ward**, of Iroquois County, Illinois; **Denise Freidhof**, of Champaign County, Illinois; **Carl Arvin**, of Marion County, Indiana; and **Rex Arvin**, of Martin County, Indiana to **Kenneth F. Arvin**, of Martin County, Indiana. Tract I: A portion of the southeast quarter of Section 12, Township 2 North, Range 5 West, lying in Perry Township, Martin County, Indiana, and containing 8.404 acres, more or less. Tract II: A portion of the southeast quarter of Section 12, Township 2 North, Range 5 West, lying in Perry Township, Martin County, Indiana, containing 7.020 acres, more or less. Tract III: 4.5 acres in Section 12, Township 2 North, Range 5 West.

**Paul J. Knepp and Leanna Knepp**, of Daviess County, Indiana to **Daniel Gingerich and Venita J. Gingerich**, of Daviess County, Indiana, a part of Sections 23 and 24, Township 2 North,

Range 3 West, Lost River Township, Martin County, Indiana, containing 38.322 acres, more or less.

**Ryan H. Kramer**, of Martin County, Indiana to **Zachary J. Greene and Stephanie L. Chambers**, of Martin County, Indiana, a part of the southwest quarter of the southwest quarter of Section 34, Township 2 North, Range 4 West, Rutherford Township, Martin County, Indiana, containing 2.12 acres, more or less.

**Sherilyn Ward**, of Iroquois County, Illinois; **Denise Freidhof**, of Champaign County, Illinois; **Carl Arvin**, of Marion County, Indiana; and **Rex Arvin and Kenneth Arvin**, of Martin County, Indiana to **Carl J. Arvin and Susan M. Arvin**, of Marion County, Indiana. Tract I: A portion of the southeast quarter of Section 12, Township 2 North, Range 5 West, lying in Perry Township, Martin County, Indiana, containing 33.249 acres, more or less. Tract II: A portion of the southeast quarter of Section 12, Township 2 North, Range 5 West, lying in Perry Township, Martin County, Indiana, containing 35.217 acres, more or less.

**Tyler Kent Smith**, of Escambia County, Florida; **Kyle Jacob Smith**, of Martin County, Indiana; and **Justin Cole Smith**, of Martin County, Indiana to **Chris Jones**, of Martin County, Indiana, a part of the northwest quarter of Section 21, Township 3 North, Range 4 West, Perry Township, Martin County, Indiana, containing 4.862 acres, more or less.

## Arrests made in theft case

On Tuesday, May 26, at approximately 12:58 p.m., the Indiana State Police received a report of a theft that had occurred in Jasper at the Home Depot store. The suspects' vehicle left the store with three male occupants, northbound on U.S. 231.

Martin County Sheriff's Major Keith Keller observed the vehicle a short time later on U.S. 50 near Rama Dye Road in Martin County. Major Keller conducted a traffic stop, as Trooper Ross Johnson and Deputy Jonathan Wells arrived. All three male occupants were detained and identified. Upon further investigation by Trooper Johnson it was discovered that two generators, stolen from the Jasper Home Depot were inside the vehicle.

The three men were identified as Ramone Stroud, 50, of Louisville, Kentucky; Jordan D. Armstrong, 18; and Howard S. Stiltz, 37, of Winamac, Indiana. All three men were arrested and lodged at the Martin County Sheriff's

Office. Stroud was found to be operating the vehicle without a driver's license and Armstrong was found to be in possession of an illegal substance.

Trooper Johnson is currently investigating the theft, discovering the generators have a value of nearly \$1,200.

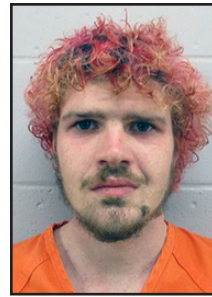
The Indiana State Police was assisted by the Martin County Sheriff's Office, Loogootee Police Department and Martin County EMS.

Stiltz was charged with theft, a Level 6 Felony. Armstrong was charged with theft, a Level 6 Felony and possession of cannabinoid, a Class B Misdemeanor. Stroud was charged with theft, a Level 6 Felony and operating a motor vehicle without ever receiving a license, a Class C Misdemeanor.

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



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**MARTIN COUNTY COMMISSIONER**

**Making Change Matter**

-Paid for by Roush for Commissioner

# Loogootee Police log

### MONDAY, MAY 18

7:30 a.m. - Female reported a battery complaint.

10:08 a.m. - Chief Rayhill tagged an abandoned vehicle on East Broadway Street.

11:38 a.m. - Female reported a civil complaint.

1:00 p.m. - Caller reported property damage.

1:30 p.m. - Caller reported a suspicious vehicle on US 231.

8:15 p.m. - Female reported a harassment complaint.

### TUESDAY, MAY 19

1:02 p.m. - Caller reported a property damage accident in the Dairy Master parking lot.

2:53 p.m. - Caller reported a reckless vehicle on US 231.

9:45 p.m. - Caller requested a welfare check on a female.

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

### WEDNESDAY, MAY 20

8:28 a.m. - Chief Rayhill assisted the ambulance service.

8:51 a.m. - Chief Rayhill and Captain Hennessee assisted the ambulance service.

10:04 a.m. - Chief Rayhill assisted the ambulance service.

4:38 p.m. - Female reported a property damage accident on High Street.

5:40 p.m. - Caller reported a reckless driver on US 231.

7:56 p.m. - Female reported property damage.

### THURSDAY, MAY 21

8:36 a.m. - Female reported a civil dispute.

11:39 a.m. - Female requested a welfare check on a male.

4:48 p.m. - Caller reported possible drug activity.

7:24 p.m. - Caller reported two reckless vehicles coming into town.

8:14 p.m. - Caller reported a 911 hang-up on Walnut Street.

9:17 p.m. - Caller reported a suspicious vehicle on SR 550.

### FRIDAY, MAY 22

10:12 a.m. - Male requested a vehicle identification check.

2:15 p.m. - Caller reported a speeding vehicle on Hwy 50.

4:53 p.m. - Caller reported kids riding in the bed of a pick-up truck on North Line Street.

4:55 p.m. - Caller reported a possible intoxicated driver on Broadway Street.

6:30 p.m. - Male reported a child custody matter.

11:05 p.m. - Caller reported a truck dumping trash on JFK Avenue.

### SATURDAY, MAY 23

2:37 a.m. - Officer Allen assisted the county with a call of suspicious persons.

10:11 a.m. - Sgt. Floyd responded to a business alarm.

2:10 p.m. - Caller reported a reckless vehicle on US 231.

9:30 p.m. - Female reported a civil complaint.

10:10 p.m. - First responders were requested on Crane Road for a medical call.

10:40 p.m. - Caller reported a vehicle running stop signs.

11:13 p.m. - Officer Allen assisted the county with a fight.

### SUNDAY, MAY 24

10:59 a.m. - Loogootee Fire was paged out to Sycamore Street for an A/C unit on fire.

12:29 p.m. - Male came on station with a child custody matter.

3:42 p.m. - Officer Cummings assisted the ambulance service.

7:43 p.m. - First responders were requested on Reinhart Road for a medical call.

9:53 p.m. - Caller requested a welfare check on a female.

## Summer immunization clinic hours

Summer break is here but school will be back in session before we know it. Now is the time to think about the shots your student may need before they go back to school in the fall. Kindergarten, 6<sup>th</sup> grade students, high school seniors and college students need immunizations before they can begin classes this fall. Students in grades 9-11 need to get the Hepatitis A vaccine if they have not already received it.

The Martin County Health Department Summer immunization clinic will be by appointment only due to Coronavirus precautions.

Please call 812-247-3303 to schedule an appointment. Clinic hours are June 3, 10, 17 and 24 and July 1, 8, 15, 22 and 29 from 8:30 a.m. to noon and from 12:30 p.m. to 6 p.m.

Please note that Wednesday is the only day a nurse is available for immunizations.

The Martin County Health Department is contracted with VaxCare and can bill most insurance companies that pay for vaccines. The patient must bring their insurance card, or no vaccines can be given on that day.

The health department can vaccinate children on Medicaid, the uninsured and those who have insurance that does not pay for vaccines through the Vaccines for Children (VFC) program. They also provide Tetanus vaccine and Hepatitis A and B vaccine to those ages 19 and older without insurance for a fee.

Adults with insurance that will pay for vaccines may be able to receive certain vaccines and have VaxCare bill their insurance.

TB testing is \$20 and cannot be billed to insurance.

Kindergarten students: 5 doses of

DTaP, 4 doses Polio, 2 doses of MMR, 2 doses of Hepatitis A, 3 doses of hepatitis B vaccine, and 2 doses of Varicella (Chicken Pox) or record of disease. (Physician documentation of disease history, including month and year, is needed for proof of immunity)

Sixth grade students: in addition to the kindergarten required vaccines, they must receive a Tdap (Tetanus, Diphtheria & Pertussis) vaccine, a Meningococcal vaccine and 2 doses of Hepatitis A (for anyone who has not already received it). HPV (Human Papillomavirus) vaccine is also recommended.

9th-11th grade students: 2 doses of Hepatitis A vaccine (for anyone who has not already received it).

12th Grade students: a Meningitis booster and 2 doses of Hepatitis A (for anyone who has not already received it). Meningitis B vaccines and HPV (Human Papillomavirus) vaccines are recommended.

College students should receive information from their school concerning the required vaccines for incoming students. Some require a TB test within 6 months of the start of classes, Meningitis B vaccine and a Tetanus booster (if the child has not received within the last 10 years). Also, proof of childhood vaccines for MMR, Varicella and polio are often needed. The Hepatitis B series is recommended for students in health care fields or similar studies.

The Martin County Health Department office is located at 127 Water Street, Shoals (next to the Shoals Fire Station).

If you have questions about immunizations, you can contact your child's doctor or call the health department at 812-247-3303.

## More Neat Stuff



By Ann Ackerman



The following is dedicated to my late friend, Betty Mills. She was in charge of the absence excuses at the high school where I worked. Although these are not from our school, I'm sure she would get a laugh out of them. These are REAL notes from a school in another state.

\*My son is under a doctor's care and should not take PE today. Please execute him.

\*Dear School: Please excuse John being absent on Jan. 28, 29, 30, 31, 32 and also 33.

\*Please excuse Roland from PE for a few days. Yesterday he fell out of a tree and misplaced his hip.

\*Please excuse Lisa for being absent she was sick and I had her shot.

\*Please excuse Gloria from Jim today, she is administrating.

\*Megan could not come to school today because she has been bothered by very close veins.

\*Chris will not be in school cus he has an acre in his side.

\*Please excuse Ray Friday from school He has very loose vowels.

\*Please excuse Tommy for being absent yesterday. He had diarrhea, and his boots leak.

\*My daughter was absent yesterday because she was tired. She spent a weekend with the Marines.

\*Please excuse Jennifer for missing school yesterday. We forgot to get the Sunday paper off the porch, and when we found it Monday, we thought it was Sunday.

### THOUGHTS

\*My wife and I had words, but I didn't get to use mine.

\*God made man before woman so as to give him time to think of an answer for her first question.

\*You know you're really stressed when you start getting on your own nerves.

\*I want to be the reason you look down at your phone and smile, and then walk into a pole.

\*No matter how little money or how few possessions you own, having a dog

## Norris graduates veterinarian school



Bridget Lee Norris, daughter of Terry and Donna (Kelley) Norris, of Loogootee, graduated from the Texas A&M College of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences with a Doctorate of Veterinary Medicine on Wednesday May, 6 in College Station Texas. The graduation was held virtually because of the Covid19 pandemic. Bridget is the granddaughter of John (Jack - deceased), Ruth Ann and Patricia (maternal grandmother - deceased) Norris and John B. Kelley (deceased) and Margaret (Wagoner -deceased) from Loogootee. Bridget has accepted a position as an Emergency Care Veterinarian with the Wellborn Road Veterinary Medical Center in College Station, Texas.

(Editor's note: This is a rerun to include additional family members.)

makes you rich.

\*Friends are like boobs: You've got big ones, small ones, real ones, and fake ones.

\*Dammit I'm mad is the same spelled backwards.

\*I could be a morning person if mornings happened around noon.

\*I hate brushing my teeth at night because that signifies that you can't have any more food...and I'm just not ready for that kind of commitment.

### POSITIVISMS

\*Blessed are those who can give without remembering and take without forgetting.

\*The best portion of your life will be the small, nameless moments you spend smiling with someone who matters to you.

\*Be selective with your battles. Sometimes peace is better than being right.

\*When you can honestly say that you believe you have worked harder than anyone in the country...that is when you deserve to win...until then the only thing you deserve is the opportunity to work harder.

Make someone smile today!

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### 5K Life Walk

The Pregnancy Care Center of Washington will be having a 5K Life Walk on Saturday, June 27. The walk begins at 9 a.m. with registration opening at 8:15 a.m. The walk starts and ends at the East-side Park Kiwanis Cabin in Washington. Cost to benefit the center is \$20 per adult and \$10 for children 12 and under. Registration forms are available online and at the Pregnancy Care Center, 705 Troy Road, Washington. Call 812-257-1041 if you have any questions. If you are unable to walk you can sponsor someone else who would like to walk. Walkers are encouraged to seek out sponsors. Sponsors can donate any amount they desire to help the center. Forms are available to list sponsors and their donation amount.

### 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!

### 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](http://www.martinswcd.com) or call at 295-3149.



## LOOGOOTEE HIGH SCHOOL 2020 Senior SPOTLIGHTS



**DUSTIN ALEXANDER**

Dustin Michael Alexander is the son of Sue and the late Daniel Alexander. After graduation, Dustin plans to enter the workforce. During high school, Dustin participated in the Recycling Club (10-11).

**ASHLEY EPPERSON**

Ashley Nichole Dawn Epperson is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Fuhrman. After graduation, she plans to attend Ivy Tech to study early childhood education. While in high school, Ashley participated in Cadet Teaching (11-12), Chorus (9), French Club (10), Job Shadow (10), Recycling (10), Student Council (11-12), and Show Choir (10).

**BLAKE WRIGHT**

Blake James Wright is the son of Tray and Katie Hilton. After graduation, Blake plans to attend the Air Force. While in high school, Blake participated in Job shadow (12) and Track (9-12).



**MICHAEL ARFORD**

Michael T. Arford is the son of Brandi Arford. After graduation, Michael plans to enter the workforce. While in school, Michael participated in Musical (9-11), Chorus (9-11), Yearbook (9), and Show Choir (9-10).

**JAMIE CRONIN**

Jamie Neil Cronin is the son of Curt and Tara Cronin. After graduation, Jamie plans to attend the Southeast Lineman Training Center to become a lineman. While in high school, Jamie participated in FFA (9-12) and was the FFA president his senior year.

**JOHNATHAN HOLLIS**

Johnathan Thomas Hollis is the son of Christina Ballard. After graduation, Johnathan plans to enter the workforce. While in high school, Johnathan participated in Recycling (10-11)



**MELAINA TIPPERY**

Melaina A'Lynn Tippery is the daughter of Mike and Brandy Tippery. After graduation, Melaina plans to attend Hanover College to study Kinesiology and Integrative Physiology. While in high school, Melaina participated in Band (9-12), Spanish Club (9-12), Beta Club (9-12), Recycling Club (9), SADD (11-12), Spell Bowl (10), Job Shadow (10), Student Council (10-11), and Tennis (9-12). Melaina was Class President (9, 11-12), Beta Club Historian (11), and Beta Club President (12).

**Loogootee.com  
COVID-19**

## Watch for nesting turtles on roadways

It's nesting season for Indiana's native turtles, which means Hoosiers may find them crossing roads this time of year.

All native turtles are regulated in Indiana. Endangered species and Eastern box turtles are protected and cannot be collected from the wild or kept as pets. If you encounter a turtle, it's best to simply observe and enjoy the shelled reptile in its natural habitat. Wild turtles do not make good pets – they live a long time (some species are able to outlive their owners), can be messy, and have special husbandry needs.

Indiana's turtles face a number of conservation challenges. Habitat loss and illegal collection for the pet trade remain imminent threats, and the destruction of turtle nests by predators continues to impact populations. Seven of the state's 16 turtle species are listed as state endangered or special concern.

Turtles found crossing roads may be moved off the roadway as long as conditions are safe to do so and the turtle is moved in the direction it was traveling. The turtle should not be moved to a new area, which would displace it from its home range and remove it from the population. Relocating turtles to new areas can leave turtles disoriented and spread new diseases to that area. Some species, like Eastern box turtle, have a strong homing instinct and if moved,



may spend most of the rest of its life trying to find its original home.

Turtle nests in backyards should be left undisturbed. A mesh cage may be placed over the nest to protect the eggs from predators, as long as it is checked daily for hatchling turtles.

Common snapping turtles and soft-shell turtles may be harvested with a valid Indiana hunting or fishing license, but bag limits, season dates and other regulations apply, see [eregulations.com/indiana/fishing/reptiles-amphibians/](http://eregulations.com/indiana/fishing/reptiles-amphibians/). The hunting season for these species is closed during the April-June nesting season.

Learn more about Indiana's amphibian and reptile regulations at [wildlife.IN.gov/3328.htm](http://wildlife.IN.gov/3328.htm).

## NRC creates new nature preserve

The Natural Resources Commission (NRC), during its bi-monthly meeting last Tuesday, approved creation of Dilcher-Turner Canyon Forest Nature Preserve in Greene County.

The new nature preserve protects 68 acres that contain 1.6 miles of moderate trails, as well as upland forests, scenic ravines with large sandstone outcrops, intermittent creeks, and several waterfalls.

In action regarding the Division of Fish & Wildlife, the NRC approved the DNR's response to a citizen petition to allow the 28-gauge and .410 shotguns for hunting wild turkeys, as well as No. 9 tungsten super shot.

The DNR will now move forward with creating rule language that will be brought to the NRC at a future date for consideration for preliminary adoption.

The NRC approved a request from another citizen petition to amend the rule governing muzzleloaders that can be used for deer hunting by removing the sentence that limits the definition of a muzzleloading gun to one capable of being loaded only from the muzzle, including the powder and the bullet.

The DNR will now move forward with creating rule language that will be brought to the NRC at a future date for consideration for preliminary adoption.

Also, regarding hunting with muzzleloaders, the NRC did not approve a citizen petition request to add a primitive muzzleloader deer hunting season.

In other action, the NRC:

Approved two nonrule policy documents that respectively refine in-lieu fee mitigation and amend habitat mitigation guidelines, as recommended by the Division of Fish & Wildlife.

Granted preliminary adoption to restrictions on boat operations on Lake Manitou in Fulton County and the establishment of a special boating zone on Simonton Lake in Elkhart County, as recommended by the Division of Fish & Wildlife.

Granted preliminary adoption to amendments to boating restrictions on Prairie Creek Reservoir, as recommended by the DNR Division of Law Enforcement.

Regarding the Division of Hearings, readopted rules governing standards and operating procedures for the commission, public hearings, the management of ground water and surface water within the Great Lakes in Indiana, the withdrawal or release of water supply storage from reservoirs, and cemetery preservation.

Granting preliminary adoption starts a long and deliberative process, including a public comment period that includes the ability to participate in public hearings conducted by the NRC's Division of Hearings.

The NRC also approved July 21, September 15 and November 17 as the dates for the rest of the meetings this year. All meetings are tentatively set for The Garrison at Fort Harrison State Park in Indianapolis.

More details on all actions taken by the NRC and supporting documents can be found at [nrc.IN.gov/2354.htm](http://nrc.IN.gov/2354.htm).

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

NRC members include the DNR director, heads of three other state agencies (Indiana Department of Environmental Management, Indiana Office of Tourism Development, and the Indiana Department of Transportation), six citizens appointed by the governor on a bipartisan basis, the chair of the DNR's advisory council, and the president of the Indiana Academy of Science.

The Academy of Science president and the agency heads, other than the DNR director, may appoint proxies to serve the commission in their absences.



While many consider Memorial Day the beginning of summer, the calendar says we still have a little spring left. However, temperatures have warmed to summer-like levels and humidity levels have definitely been on the rise. Just a couple of weeks ago, we were covering plants to protect them from a late frost. We are definitely in the growing season now.

With plenty of rain, we are seeing lush growth on plants. A bare spot in the garden one day is covered with a two-foot high plant the next. Grass grows at a very fast rate and by the time one finishes mowing the lawn, the place where one started mowing needs to be mowed again.

Grass is not the only thing that needs to be cut. Many perennial plants have grown very tall and need to be cut back. Mums need to be cut back to about 4 inches tall. This will make the plant grow thicker stems and will keep the plant from splaying. This does delay the bloom time, but that is also desirable for mums. Another pinch back around the first of July will also help keep mums from growing too tall. At this early time, all of the material you cut from the mums can be used to increase your plant numbers. Simply stick those cuttings into a tray of moist peat moss and most, if not all, will take root and become new plants. While it will take several cuttings to look like a full plant this year, by fall, a group of these cuttings will fill the space of mum you would have purchased.

Other plants will also benefit from cutting back at this time. Tall sedums and tall phlox will also make new plants from cuttings. Be aware that patented plants should not be asexually reproduced.

Other tall plants can also benefit from a cut this time of the year. It will delay the bloom time, but selective cutting may actually give you blooms over a longer period. I sometimes will cut back some of the black-eyed Susans, coneflowers and ironweed. The ones that are not cut will

bloom earlier and the cut ones will bloom a few weeks later. The result is flowers over several weeks, and by deadheading at bloom time, the flowers will keep coming until frost. Sometimes it pays to trick Mother Nature.

I want to thank everyone who came out to the Sandhill Gardens plant exchange last Saturday. Many people left their plants, so if anyone wishes to stop by, there are still plenty of plants for trading. I thoroughly enjoyed the day. People came at different times, so I had the opportunity to give each person a tour of the gardens. I even had time to record a church service from the gardens for my congregations at Pilot Knob and Crawford Consolidated United Methodist Churches. (Thanks to Brad Reed for coming to the gardens to record that program.) I managed to get some plants re-potted and some other plants planted in the garden. I took some cuttings from spring-blooming shrubs and put them into a propagation bed.

I also tried something completely new for me last weekend. I was working on some bonsai specimens and decided to try another Japanese horticultural art—kokedama. This is the art of growing a plant in a ball covered in moss. I dug up a lady fern that was encroaching on a walkway. I dug some clay from under a compost pile and I cut a section of moss from a spot in the woods. I molded the clay around the roots of the fern, forming a ball. I lay the moss on a tray, upside down, and placed the ball with the plant in the middle of the tray. I enlisted some help to do the next step, which involves pulling the moss up to cover the ball and taking string to wrap around the moss to hold it in place. I put the whole thing in a shallow pan of water to soak up the roots. The final result was far from perfect, but I was pleased with the effort. My hope is that the moss will continue to grow around the clay ball and that the plant will survive. There is always something new to try in the garden.

## Campsites, inns reopen at DNR properties

Beginning May 22, most DNR campgrounds, property-operated cabins and camper cabins, inns and restaurants reopened. These changes are part of Stage 3 of Gov. Holcomb's Back on Track plan.

Camping reservations that were previously canceled, regardless of the cancellation date, unfortunately cannot be reinstated.

Campgrounds at Glendale and Willow Slough fish & wildlife areas are also open, and available first-come, first-served. The campground at J.E. Roush Lake Fish & Wildlife Area is currently flooded. Those wishing to camp this weekend at J.E. Roush Lake FWA should call 260-468-2165 for updates.

The Garrison Restaurant at Fort Harrison State Park, located in Marion Coun-

ty, will remain closed to inside dining until June 1, but began menu-only patio seating on Sunday, May 24.

Swimming beaches opened last Saturday.

Camp stores, saddle barns, boat rentals and other operations that campers enjoy will be open, but some may have limited hours during the weekend.

Park offices remain closed but lake permits, horse tags and off-road cycling permits can be purchased at entrance gates or online at [ShopINStateParks.com](http://ShopINStateParks.com).

Youth, rally and group camps remain closed. Playgrounds, shelters, recreation buildings, and fire towers remain closed as well.

The Indiana Department of Natural Resources is committed to ensuring that our guests and staff continue to have safe and memorable outdoor experiences at our state parks, state forests, fish and wildlife areas, nature preserves and state recreation areas in light of the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19.) All facilities will be following COVID-19 social distancing and cleaning requirements. They ask that their guests work with them to do the same.

For a complete listing of openings, and information on DNR's response to COVID-19, visit on [IN.gov/dnrcovid19](http://IN.gov/dnrcovid19).

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