

Martin County JOURNAL

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WEDNESDAY, JULY 10, 2024

Seven pages

Martin County 4-H Fair starts tomorrow night

BY COURTNEY HUGHETT
Martin County Journal Publisher

The Martin County 4-H Fair will start tomorrow night, Thursday, June 11. The Miss Martin County Queen Contest will take place on the stage at 6:30 p.m. Those attending are asked to bring law chairs.

Also, at 6:30 p.m., will be the 4-H Fashion Review and Mini Sewing Modeling.

The community building will open, along with the silent auction, at 5 p.m. and the rabbit show will start at 5:30 p.m.

On Friday, July 12, the cat show will be held in the emergency management agency building at 2 p.m. At 5 p.m., the community building and silent auction will open. From 6-8:30 p.m., it will be fire and police safety night, along with a pop-up market. The beef and dairy cattle show, followed by the Old Timers Showmanship, will take place at 6:30 p.m. Eighty-Sixt will take the stage at 7 p.m.

On Saturday, July 13, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. horse and pony check-in option two will take place. The community building and silent auction will open at 1 p.m. At 2 p.m., the poultry show will start and from 4:30-6 p.m., Craft Corner: Seed Paper and Magic Painting will begin. The sheep and goat show, followed by Old Timers Showmanship, will start at 5 p.m. At 6:30 p.m., a goat costume contest will be held. From 6 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., it will be health night at the fair and at 7 p.m., the Bar MC Rodeo will start. The cost is \$10 per person with children under five getting in for free.

On Sunday, July 14, the horse and pony

check in option 3 will be held from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. At 1 p.m. the community building, and silent auction will open and also at 1 p.m., the horse and pony show, day 1 of 2, will start. From 1:30-3 p.m., Craft Corner: Windchimes and Birdseed Ornaments will begin. At 2 p.m., Farm Bureau games will be offered and at 4

p.m. is the kiddie tractor pull. Read a book with the Loogootee Library will start at 5:30 p.m. followed by the baby show at 6 p.m. Jake Dodds will perform on the free stage starting at 7 p.m.

Monday, July 15 begins at 4 p.m. with an Oreo stacking and watermelon seed contest at 4 p.m. The community building and silent auction will open at 5 p.m. At 5:30 p.m. Clockwork Corps de Ballet will perform on the free stage. At 6 p.m. is the swine show, followed by Old Timers Showmanship, the horse and pony show day 2 of 2, and the ice cream making contest. At 6 p.m., Spring Blossom Bluegrass Band will perform on the stage followed by Legos with Shoals Robotics at 6:30 p.m.

The final day of the fair, Tuesday, July 16, will begin with the community building opening at 5 p.m. along with the silent auction which will close bidding at 5:30 p.m. Also, at 5 p.m., is the 4-H Supreme Showmanship and the pie baking contest. From 5:15-7:30 p.m., 4-H static projects will be released. At 6:45 p.m., silent auction winners can pick up their items. At 7 p.m. will be the 4-H ten-year and last-year member recognition in the livestock arena. The evening ends with the livestock auction at 7:15 p.m.



Make My Day grant

Martin County Cancer Patient Services (MCCPS) recently received a \$500 Make My Day grant from the Martin County Community Foundation (MCCF). As stated in their mission statement, the MCCPS is committed to assisting people impacted by cancer so that no one faces cancer alone. Visit the MCCPS website at www.mccpservices.org to learn more. Please contact them at 812-276-5857 if you need some help. Shown from left to right are MCCPS President Rhead-awn Street, MCCF Board Member Angie Risacher, and MCCPS Board Member Robin Hart. The MCCF likes to make someone's day!

-Photo provided

Developer working on low-income housing development in Loogootee

BY COURTNEY HUGHETT
Martin County Journal Publisher

The Loogootee City Council and Board of Works & Public Safety met Monday night, July 8.

The main topic of discussion was a potential low-income housing project being planned by Sullivan Development, on North Oak Street, in the city's industrial site, that is currently used for residents' to drop off yard debris and the city stores scrap material. Travis Vencel and Joe White, with Sullivan Development, based in Carmel, were present at the meeting to explain how they are planning to apply for state tax credits to build the development. The tax credits would come from the Indiana Housing & Neighborhood Development.

The five-acre plot would contain two and/or three-story buildings with 60 units total. The units would be one-, two- and three-bedroom and rents are based on income. The maximum household income would be \$45,000 with 16 units set aside for families making less than \$23,000 a year. Rent would range from \$437 per month to \$1,000 per month, based on income. Vencel said they do not plan to have elevators in the buildings, but the lower units would be handicap accessible.

Vencel said they are also planning to add a stand-alone childcare center to the development, which he said would help get more points to secure the tax credits. The center would be open to anyone and be handled by an outside non-profit organization.

Vencel explained they also plan to apply through the READI 2.0 program to help pay for the development. As far as the city contributing to the project, Vencel

said any request for a tax abatement or additional help for the development will be decided down the road, based on whether or not they receive tax breaks from the other programs they are applying to.

Don Greene, who was in the audience, said he thought the city was going to be building a park on the industrial site. Mayor Brian Ader said they had other sites in the city they were looking at for this development but those fell through. He said there may be property not used for the development that can still be used for a park. Vencel said they will need to get further along in the process, but they have a private park planned too.

Greene also asked about the traffic issue on Bloomfield Road. He said the traffic is already bad with people speeding so the development would amplify that issue. Mayor Ader said they can look at that.

In order to move forward with applying for the tax credits, Sullivan Development needs the property rezoned and a purchase agreement for the property. The application is due at the end of July. Vencel said 44 entities submitted their intent to apply for these credits this year and last year there were 13 or 14 projects awarded so it is competitive. The state will announce who will receive the tax credits in November. If the development moves forward, it will take 18 months to build.

The city land use zoning board will hold a special meeting on July 18 at 6 p.m. to discuss the rezoning of the property.

In other business, Fire Chief Eric Thomas requested the council consider allowing the fire department to purchase battery-operated extraction equipment to replace their current equipment that

(See 'DEVELOPMENT' on page 2)

Commissioners go with loan to pay for Shoals bank building

BY COURTNEY HUGHETT
Martin County Journal Publisher

The Martin County Commissioners met Tuesday night, July 9.

Commissioner Paul George presented quotes from German American Bank and Springs Valley Bank for a loan to pay for the former Old National Bank building in Shoals that the county recently decided to purchase. The county already spent \$35,000 from county funds for the down payment but are going to finance the \$350,000 balance. The quote from German American was at a 5.9 percent interest rate for 18 months and the Springs Valley Bank quote was at a 6 percent interest rate for 18 months. Commissioner Cody Roush said he didn't want any part of purchasing the building and was staying out of it. He said he thinks the county overpaid and they should have been required to get appraisals before it was purchased. "I wanna wash my hands of it," said Commissioner Roush. Commissioners Aaron Summers and George then voted to go with German American at 5.9 percent for 18 months. Commissioner Roush voted no.

Commissioner Roush questioned a charge by the surveyor to purchase hand tools from Napa Auto Parts in Shoals. He asked Commissioner Summers, who works at Napa, what the surveyor purchased and

for what reason. Summers replied that he wasn't sure but could pull the invoice and show Commissioner Roush. The commissioners approved the claims with the stipulation that Commissioner Roush would review the invoice for hand tools.

Highway Superintendent Scott Seals reported they have one mower with a pump that went out and they are still waiting to hear when it will be repaired. He said they have been doing patching, brush cutting, mowing and some ditch work.

Seals asked that residents keep their driveway culverts cleaned out and free of trash and debris to keep rainwater flowing.

Seals reported that they finished up roadwork from the 2023-2 Community Crossings grant and will be starting part of the 2024-1 road improvements at the end of this month.

Commissioner Paul George said they received five letters of interest from companies who would like to do the county's annual bridge inspection. Those companies were Kapur, Inc.; BF&S, RQAW, USI and HWC Engineering. The letters could not be opened at the meeting because County Attorney Dave Lett was not present. Commissioner George explained that in the past they have had a committee review the proposals and said they can have a three-member committee or a five-member

(See 'COMMISSIONERS' on page 2)

COMMISSIONERS

(Continued from page one)

committee. The commissioners decided to go with a five-member committee which will consist of the three commissioners, the highway superintendent and one citizen. Commissioner George said Andy Ringwald served on the committee last year and is willing to do it again. The commissioners agreed to have Ringwald serve.

Sheriff Josh Greene was not present for the meeting but provided a report stating there are currently 84 inmates in the jail with 35 of them from Vigo County.

The commissioners approved a 20 percent local match, \$23,000, required for DNR mitigation for bridge 58 on Brickyard Road to come from the ARPA (American Rescue Plan Act) funds.

Ambulance Director Jeramey Osborn provided his department's quarterly report. He told the commissioners that so far this year, they have recouped \$229,000 in payments for ambulance service. The amount was \$187,000 in the same time period last year. Osborn said they average 120 runs a month with 70 percent of those requiring ambulance transport.

Osborn also discussed with the commissioners the need to start looking for a fourth ambulance for the county. He said he talked to Spencer County who is looking into buying a new ambulance and the cost is \$320,000-\$395,000 with a 30-month wait on production. Osborn said they can buy multiple used ambulances for that price, and he is in the process of looking for a used model. He said he doesn't have the go-ahead from the county council to purchase one yet but finding a used ambulance can take months. Commissioner Roush said that they need to have some kind of replacement plan for the county's ambulances. Osborn agreed

saying that only having three ambulances sets the county up for an emergency situation if one of the ambulances breaks down or is involved in an accident. He said they are also limited on the number of hospital transfers that can be done to earn extra money, because two ambulances are required to service the county at all times. They have had one ambulance out getting repaired. Osborn said they could be doing transfers every day if they had the extra truck. Commissioner Roush said Osborn needs to put some numbers together to present to the county council showing how much money the county is missing out on by not being able to do transfers. Osborn said they would probably have to add extra staff if they did use a fourth ambulance to do frequent transfers.

Commissioner George said they don't want to get too many people on the staff because even doing transfers all day long wouldn't cover the extra employee costs. He said they probably need to stick to doing transfers on a part-time basis.

Auditor Norris said she sent an email to all county employees reminding them to not click on links or open attachments in emails. She said two counties were recently the victims of cyber attacks and she wants employees to remain on high alert.

Jason McCoy, who was in the audience, confronted Commissioner Summers about parking in handicap parking spots for the meeting. McCoy said it was disrespectful and Summers works for him and everyone in the room and he wouldn't allow employees at his companies to park in handicap spots. McCoy went on for several minutes scolding Commissioner Summers before Commissioner George stopped him and said Summers heard what he said, and they were done with it.

DEVELOPMENT

(Continued from page one)

is more than 10 years old. Thomas explained the current equipment is not only difficult to transport but it also will not cut through certain kinds of vehicles. The new equipment, that costs \$46,993, can be easily transported to a site and cut through any type of vehicle in a much faster timeframe. The council made no decision on purchasing the equipment, but the mayor said it will be taken into consideration. Thomas did note they are seeing if they qualify for any grants.

Thomas also talked to the council about replacing turnout gear. The department replaced 10 sets last year at a cost of \$36,000. He said the turnout gear only has a life of 10 years before it must be replaced, and it was never put on a schedule in the past. There are currently 28 firefighters in the department, and each has to have a non-expired set of gear.

Thomas said once they get all the sets replaced, they can put together a schedule so that it is done a little bit each year. Thomas also explained that they are working on classifying firefighters based on how often they show up for runs. He said he has some that always show up, some that sometimes show up and some that hardly ever show up.

Mayor Ader said they don't need to spend \$3,600 per firefighter for gear if they don't show up. Thomas said all firefighters are required to have gear, but he understands what the mayor is saying. He said they also have to factor in turnover and if they don't have gear to fit new firefighters, they have to purchase another set. No decision was made on the gear.

Jason Tinkle, who was in the audience, asked about any improvements that can be made to East Williams Street, due to

the increased traffic to the Dollar General Market. He said it would be even more traffic if the North Oak Street development goes through, because that would be the route people would take to get to the market. Mayor Ader said they are working on plans to improve that area.

The board of works opened bids for the Community Crossings road paving projects, which includes resurfacing 30 city streets. Midwestern Engineers had estimated all projects at \$1,910,841.

The bids received were as follows:
-Flynn and Sons Excavating for \$1,121,838.25
-Milestone Contractors for \$1,249,092.90
-Calcar Paving for \$1,245,788.05
-E&B Paving for \$1,174,386.85

Bids were also opened for the greenspace project at the corner of JFK Avenue and Church Street. The bids were restructured to include the pavilion installation.

The bids received were as follows:
-ISI (Infrastructure Systems Inc.) for \$660,000
-Striegel Design & Construction for \$1,541,814
-Love Excavating for \$689,500

Midwestern Engineers, who are the coordinators for both the Community Crossings grant and the pavilion project grant, will take all the bids under advisement and bring them back for the council with a recommendation.

At the end of the meeting, Council Member Dave Smith said the city needs to get the audio and video system fixed so the meetings can be livestreamed. He said it's been several months, and they still haven't been able to get the meetings online properly. He requested something be done prior to the next meeting.

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DONALD KERR

January 23, 1953 - July 7, 2024

Dr. Donald Edward Kerr passed away Sunday, July 7, 2024, at his home. A resident of Shoals, he was 71.



He was born January 23, 1953, in Baltimore, Maryland; son of Dr. Charles M. and Dortha (Dobbs) Kerr.

DONALD KERR

Dr. Kerr graduated from McDonogh School in Maryland in 1971, earned his Bachelor of Science from Indiana University in 1976, and his Doctorate from the University of Santo Tomas in Manila, Philippines in 1981.

He married Teri Denny on May 27, 1978, and she survives.

Dr. Kerr worked as a medical doctor in Shoals for over 30 years, retiring in 2016,

and served as the Martin County Coroner for several years.

He enjoyed farming, horseback riding, hiking, camping, and participating in the Catfish Festival, where he was the Grand Marshal in 2016. He was a founding member of the Cub Scout Pack 491 and the Boy Scout Troop 495, and a member of the Dover Hill Christian Union Church.

Surviving are his wife, Teri; four children, Sally (Shane) Petty, Tom (Ashley) Kerr, Kathy (Adam) Overton, and Dorothy (Ian) Perrotte; six grandchildren, Aaron and Akai Perrotte, Mason and Austin Kerr, and Caleb and Hannah Overton; brother, Charles I. (Kathy McDonald) Kerr; and several nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents and brother, Michael Kerr.

A memorial service will be held at 4 p.m. Friday, July 19 at the Dover Hill Christian Union Church.

Visitation will be from 2 p.m. until the

service hour at the church.

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

Memorial contributions may be made to the Dover Hill Christian Union Church.

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

JEFFREY WARNER

Norbert Jeffrey Warner, formerly of Shoals, passed away Sunday, July 7, 2024. A resident of Naples, Florida, he was 73.

He was born January 12, 1951; son of Norbert and June (Blackwell) Warner.

Jeff graduated from Shoals High School and Indiana State University with a bachelor's degree in education.

He worked as a teacher and basketball coach in Fort Lauderdale, Florida; was the principal and athletic director at Loo-gootee High School and retired as the assistant principal from Pike Central High



JEFF WARNER

Radcliffe, and Susan (Steve) Osborne; and many second cousins.

He was preceded in death by his parents and several aunts and uncles.

A funeral service will be at noon Friday, July 12 at the Queen-Lee Chapel of George Funeral Care. Burial will follow at Spring Hill Cemetery.

Visitation will be from 11 a.m. until the service hour on Friday at the Queen-Lee Chapel, Shoals.

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

School.

Jeff enjoyed playing pickleball, an avid golfer, and being with his family and friends.

Surviving are five cousins, Cathy Jones, Tucker Queen, Sally (John)

National unemployment rate at 4.1 percent for June

Total nonfarm payroll employment increased by 206,000 in June, and the unemployment rate changed little at 4.1 percent, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported last week. Job gains occurred in government, health care, social assistance, and construction.

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

Household Survey Data

Both the unemployment rate, at 4.1 percent, and the number of unemployed people, at 6.8 million, changed little in June. These measures are higher than a year earlier, when the jobless rate was 3.6 percent and the number of unemployed people was 6.0 million.

Among the major worker groups, the unemployment rates for adult women (3.7 percent) and Asians (4.1 percent) increased in June. The jobless rates for adult men (3.8 percent), teenagers (12.1 percent), Whites (3.5 percent), Blacks (6.3 percent), and Hispanics (4.9 percent) showed little or no change over the month.

The number of long-term unemployed (those jobless for 27 weeks or more) rose by 166,000 to 1.5 million in June. This measure is up from 1.1 million a year earlier. The long-term unemployed accounted for 22.2 percent of all unemployed people in June.

The labor force participation rate changed little at 62.6 percent in June, and the employment-population ratio held at 60.1 percent. These measures showed little or no change over the year.

The number of people employed part

time for economic reasons, at 4.2 million, changed little in June. These individuals, who would have preferred full-time employment, were working part-time because their hours had been reduced or they were unable to find full-time jobs.

The number of people not in the labor force who currently want a job declined by 483,000 to 5.2 million in June. These individuals were not counted as unemployed because they were not actively looking for work during the 4 weeks preceding the survey or were unavailable to take a job.

Among those not in the labor force who wanted a job, the number of people marginally attached to the labor force, at 1.5 million, was essentially unchanged in June. These individuals wanted and were available for work and had looked for a job sometime in the prior 12 months but had not looked for work in the 4 weeks preceding the survey. The number of discouraged workers, a subset of the marginally attached who believed that no jobs were available for them, edged down to 365,000 in June.

Establishment Survey Data

Total nonfarm payroll employment increased by 206,000 in June, similar to the average monthly gain of 220,000 over the prior 12 months. In June, job gains occurred in government, health care, social assistance, and construction.

Government employment rose by 70,000 in June, higher than the average monthly gain of 49,000 over the prior 12 months. Over the month, employment increased in local government, excluding education (+34,000) and in state government (+26,000).

Health care added 49,000 jobs in June, lower than the average monthly gain

of 64,000 over the prior 12 months. In June, employment rose in ambulatory health care services (+22,000) and hospitals (+22,000).

Employment in social assistance increased by 34,000 in June, primarily in individual and family services (+26,000). Over the prior 12 months, social assistance had added an average of 22,000 jobs per month.

Construction added 27,000 jobs in June, higher than the average monthly gain of 20,000 over the prior 12 months.

Retail trade employment changed little in June (-9,000), after trending up earlier in the year. Furniture, home furnishings, electronics, and appliance retailers lost 6,000 jobs over the month, while warehouse clubs, supercenters, and other general merchandise retailers gained 5,000 jobs.

Employment in professional and business services changed little in June (-17,000) and has shown little change over the year. Temporary help services employment declined by 49,000 over the month and is down by 515,000 since reaching a peak in March 2022. Employment in professional, scientific, and technical services continued to trend up in June (+24,000).

Employment showed little change over the month in other major industries, including mining, quarrying, and oil and gas extraction; manufacturing; whole-

sale trade; transportation and warehousing; information; financial activities; leisure and hospitality; and other services.

In June, average hourly earnings for all employees on private nonfarm payrolls increased by 10 cents, or 0.3 percent, to \$35.00. Over the past 12 months, average hourly earnings have increased by 3.9 percent. In June, average hourly earnings of private-sector production and nonsupervisory employees increased by 10 cents, or 0.3 percent, to \$30.05.

In June, the average workweek for all employees on private nonfarm payrolls was 34.3 hours for the third consecutive month. In manufacturing, the average workweek was unchanged at 40.2 hours, and overtime remained at 3.0 hours. The average workweek for production and nonsupervisory employees on private nonfarm payrolls edged down by 0.1 hour to 33.7 hours.

The change in total nonfarm payroll employment for April was revised down by 57,000, from +165,000 to +108,000, and the change for May was revised down by 54,000, from +272,000 to +218,000. With these revisions, employment in April and May combined is 111,000 lower than previously reported. (Monthly revisions result from additional reports received from businesses and government agencies since the last published estimates and from the recalculation of seasonal factors.)

KEY ASSOCIATES

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Martin County Sheriff's Department activity log

SATURDAY, JUNE 29

2:01 a.m. - Received a call requesting to speak to a deputy. Deputy Shields responded.

3:06 a.m. - Received a call requesting assistance from an officer in Loogootee. Officer Baumgart and Deputy Shields responded.

9:01 a.m. - Received a call requesting to speak to a deputy. Deputy Branham responded.

10:07 a.m. - Received a call requesting an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Medic 1 and Loogootee Fire responded. Medic 1 transported one patient to Daviess Community Hospital.

10:10 a.m. - Received a call reporting two reckless drivers west of Shoals. Deputy Branham responded.

11:17 a.m. - Received a call requesting to speak to a deputy. Deputy Branham responded.

4:19 p.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Medic 1 and Loogootee Fire Department responded. Medic 1 transported one patient to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

4:33 p.m. - Received a call reporting suspicious activity in Loogootee. Deputy Branham and ISP Master Trooper Lents responded.

6:29 p.m. - Received a call requesting extra patrol in Loogootee. Deputy Baumgart was advised.

6:47 p.m. - Received a 911 call in Shoals. Deputy Branham responded.

7:14 p.m. - Received a call requesting to speak to an officer in Loogootee. Loogootee Officer Baumgart responded.

8:06 p.m. - Received multiple 911 calls reporting a vehicle fire south of Shoals. Shoals Fire Department, Martin County Medic 1, and Big John's Towing responded.

10:30 p.m. - Received multiple calls reporting fireworks in Loogootee.

11:04 p.m. - Received a call reporting fireworks in Loogootee.

11:24 p.m. - Received a call reporting a possible breaking and entering in Loogootee. Loogootee Officer Baumgart responded, and Deputy Shields responded.

SUNDAY, JUNE 30

8:07 a.m. - Received a 911 call reporting a suspicious individual east of Shoals. Sergeant Wells responded.

8:10 a.m. - Received a call reporting a suspicious individual east of Shoals. Sergeant Wells responded.

9:46 a.m. - Received a call requesting an ambulance in Shoals. Martin County Medic 1 responded. Medic 1 transported one patient to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

11:11 a.m. - Received a call requesting to speak to a deputy. Sergeant Wells responded.

11:18 a.m. - Received a call requesting to speak to a deputy. Sergeant Wells responded.

12:05 p.m. - Received a call reporting a stranded motorist south of Loogootee. Sergeant Wells and ISP Master Trooper Lents responded.

2:47 p.m. - Received a call requesting to speak to a deputy in regard to animal laws. Sergeant Wells responded.

6:29 p.m. - Received a call requesting an ambulance north of Shoals. Martin County Medic 1 and Shoals Fire Department responded. Medic 1 transported one patient to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

6:49 p.m. - Received a call advising of a stranded motorist northeast of Shoals. Deputy Baumgart and Shoals Fire Department responded.

7:19 p.m. - Received a call regarding an animal complaint in Loogootee. Deputy Baumgart was advised.

10:35 p.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin

County Medic 1, Loogootee Fire Department, and Deputy Baumgart responded. Medic 1 transported one patient to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

MONDAY, JULY 1

12:01 a.m. - Received a call reporting an incident in Shoals. Deputy Baumgart responded.

9:58 a.m. - Received a call requesting to speak to the sheriff. Sheriff Greene responded.

4:50 p.m. - Received a report of a possible abandoned vehicle in Shoals. Captain Gibson was advised.

5:36 p.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance in Shoals. Shoals Fire Department responded, Captain Gibson responded, and Martin County Medic 1 responded, transported patient to IU Health Paoli.

6:09 p.m. - Received a call advising of a tree in the roadway south of Shoals. Shoals Fire Department responded.

7:02 p.m. - Received a call advising of a suspicious interaction in Shoals. Deputy Baumgart responded.

7:23 p.m. - Received a 911 call advising of an accident north of Loogootee. Deputy Baumgart responded.

TUESDAY, JULY 2

1:23 p.m. - Received a 911 call advising of a stranded motorist east of Loogootee. Deputy Branham responded.

4:45 p.m. - Received a call advising of an animal complaint south of Shoals. Deputy Branham responded.

5:18 p.m. - Received a call advising of vandalism in Shoals. Deputy Branham responded.

6:39 p.m. - Received a call advising of an abandoned vehicle southwest of Shoals. Deputy Branham responded.

7:20 p.m. - Received a call advising of a possible scam. Sergeant Wagoner responded, and Deputy Branham was advised.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 3

12:43 a.m. - Received a 911 call advising of fireworks being set off north of Loogootee. Deputy Baumgart was advised.

7:48 a.m. - Received a call reporting a stranded motorist in Shoals. Deputy Erwin responded.

8:30 a.m. - Received a call requesting extra patrol south of Shoals. Chief Deputy Keller advised.

8:46 a.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Medic 1, Loogootee Fire Department, Loogootee Chief Hunt, and Loogootee Captain Rayhill responded. Medic 1 transported one patient to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

9:26 a.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Medic 2, Loogootee Chief Hunt, Loogootee Captain Rayhill, and Loogootee Fire Department responded. Medic 2 did not transport.

11:20 a.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Medic 1 and Loogootee Fire Department responded. Medic 1 transported one patient to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

12:47 p.m. - Received two 911 calls reporting lines down in Loogootee. Loogootee Chief Hunt and Loogootee Captain Rayhill responded.

1:07 p.m. - Received a call reporting a tree down south of Shoals. Lost River Fire Department responded.

2:42 p.m. - Received multiple 911 calls reporting a stoplight malfunction north of Loogootee. INDOT was advised.

6:32 p.m. - Received a call reporting a domestic disturbance south of Shoals. Deputy Shields responded.

8:51 p.m. - Received a call reporting a missing juvenile in Loogootee. Loogootee Assistant Chief Long, Loogootee Fire Department, Deputy Doane, and Reserve

Commander Gammon responded.

10:08 p.m. - Received a call reporting a trash dump south of Shoals. Deputy Shields was advised.

10:08 p.m. - Received a call reporting an incident in Crane Village. Deputy Shields and Deputy Doane were advised.

10:18 p.m. - Received a call reporting a stranded motorist east of Loogootee. Loogootee Sergeant Wagoner and Loogootee Officer Garab responded.

10:30 p.m. - Received a 911 call reporting a reckless driver east of Shoals. Deputy Shields responded.

10:37 p.m. - Received a call requesting a lift assist in Loogootee. Martin County Medic 1 and Loogootee Fire Department responded. Medic 1 did not transport.

10:52 p.m. - Received a call requesting a vehicle unlock north of Loogootee. Deputy Doane responded.

THURSDAY, JULY 4

9:47 a.m. - Received a call requesting for a welfare check in Loogootee. Loogootee Captain Rayhill responded.

11:23 a.m. - Received a 911 call reporting an electrical fire south of Loogootee. Shoals Fire Department responded.

2:48 p.m. - Received a call reporting a stranded motorist east of Shoals. Sergeant Wells responded.

3:34 p.m. - Received a 911 call reporting a carbon monoxide detector going off in Loogootee. Loogootee Assistant Chief Long and Loogootee Fire Department responded.

6:55 p.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Medic 1 responded. Medic 1 transported one patient to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

8:08 p.m. - Received a call requesting a vehicle unlock in Shoals. Deputy Branham responded.

11:14 p.m. - Received a call requesting a tow truck north of Loogootee. Big John's Towing responded.

11:30 p.m. - Received a call reporting a lost dog in Loogootee. Loogootee Officer Garab responded.

11:37 p.m. - Received a call in regard to a fireworks complaint in Loogootee. Loogootee Officer Garab responded.

11:47 p.m. - Received a call reporting possible break-in in Shoals. Deputy Shields and Loogootee Officer Garab responded.

11:54 p.m. - Received a call reporting an assault in Loogootee. Loogootee Officer Garab and Deputy Shields responded.

FRIDAY, JULY 5

2:32 a.m. - Received a call requesting an ambulance south of Loogootee. Loogootee Officer Garab and Martin County Medic 1 responded. Medic 1 transported one patient to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

9:22 a.m. - Received a call requesting an ambulance east of Shoals. Martin County Medic 1 and Shoals Fire Department responded. Medic 1 transported one patient to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

9:26 a.m. - Received a call reporting a tree down north of Shoals. Deputy Erwin and Shoals Fire Department responded.

1:34 p.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance in Shoals. Martin County Medic 1 responded. Medic 1 did not transport.

2:03 p.m. - Received a 911 call reporting an accident in Loogootee. Loogootee Assistant Chief Long, Loogootee Officer Clark, Loogootee Captain Rayhill, and Martin County Medic 2 responded. Medic 2 did not transport.

2:06 p.m. - Received a call requesting an ambulance in Shoals. Deputy Branham, Shoals Fire Department, Martin County Medic 1, and Martin County Medic 2 responded. Medic 1 transported one patient to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

4:44 p.m. - Received a call reporting a reckless driver in Loogootee. Deputy Branham was advised.

5:39 p.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance in Shoals. Deputy Branham, Shoals Fire Department, and Martin County Medic 1 responded. Medic 1 transported one patient to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

8:16 p.m. - Received a call reporting paraphernalia found in Loogootee. Loogootee Officer Clark responded.

8:59 p.m. - Received a call reporting a dispute in Shoals. Deputy Branham and Deputy Shields responded.

9:23 p.m. - Received a call reporting a tree down south of Loogootee. Martin County Civil Defense responded.

SATURDAY, JULY 6

12:21 a.m. - Received a request for extra patrol south of Loogootee. Deputy Shields responded.

1:01 a.m. - Received a report of an accident northeast of Shoals. Martin County Medic 1 and Medic 2 responded, Indian Creek Fire Department, Conservation Officer Mann and Deputy Shields responded.

1:20 a.m. - Received a 911 call reporting an incident in Shoals. Deputy Shields responded.

1:41 a.m. - Received a 911 call reporting of an individual making threats. Deputy Shields responded.

11:40 a.m. - Received a call requesting an ambulance in Shoals. Martin County Medic 1 and Shoals Fire Department responded. Medic 1 transported one patient to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

3:18 p.m. - Received a call requesting an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Medic 1, Loogootee Fire Department, and Loogootee Officer Clark responded. Medic 1 did not transport.

5:36 p.m. - Received a call requesting a vehicle identification number check in Burns City. Deputy Branham responded.

6:05 p.m. - Received a call requesting to speak to an officer in Loogootee. Loogootee Officer Clark, Deputy Branham, and Deputy Shields responded.

6:18 p.m. - Received a call reporting a tree branch hanging in Burns City. Martin County Civil Defense and the county highway department responded.

9:23 p.m. - Received a call reporting a threatening male in Shoals. Chief Deputy Keller, Deputy Shields, and Deputy Branham responded.

10:55 p.m. - Received a 911 call reporting a suspicious vehicle in Loogootee. Deputy Shields responded.

SUNDAY, JULY 7

9:35 a.m. - Received a call reporting an accident in Shoals. Sergeant Wells responded.

10:32 a.m. - Received a call requesting a vehicle unlock in Loogootee. Sergeant Wagoner responded.

11:30 a.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance south of Shoals. Shoals Fire Department and Martin County Medic 1 responded. Medic 1 did not transport.

1:20 p.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance south of Loogootee. Martin County Medic 1 and Haysville Fire Department responded. Medic 1 transported one patient to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

5:23 p.m. - Received a call requesting to speak to a deputy. Sergeant Wells responded.

5:47 p.m. - Received a call reporting an animal complaint in Loogootee. Loogootee Officer Clark responded.

6:39 p.m. - Received a call requesting to speak to a deputy in regard to an incident. Sergeant Wells responded.

8:29 p.m. - Received a call requesting to speak to a deputy. Deputy Baumgart responded.

COURT NEWS

CRIMINAL CONVICTIONS & SENTENCINGS

June 26

Johnathan W. Dant, convicted of possession of methamphetamine, a Level 6 Felony and false informing, a Class A Misdemeanor. Sentenced on the first count to serve 540 days with 200 days suspended and credit for 121 actual days previously served plus 121 Class A credit days plus 49 actual days plus 49 Class A credit days. Defendant received 18 months of probation. Sentenced on the second count to serve 365 days with 25 days suspended and credit for 121 actual days previously served plus 121 Class A credit days plus 49 actual days plus 49 Class A credit days. Defendant received 18 months of probation.

Daniel L. Cornwell, convicted of possession of methamphetamine, a Level 6 Felony. Sentenced to serve 730 days with 716 days suspended and credit for 7 actual days previously served plus 7 Class A credit days. Defendant received 12 months of probation.

Joshua A. Phillips, convicted of resisting law enforcement, a Level 6 Felony. Sentenced to serve 730 days with 0 days suspended and credit for 6 actual days previously served plus 6 Class A credit days. Defendant shall serve 730 days on Martin County Community Corrections Home Detention Electronically Monitored Program, so long as defendant remains eligible.

June 28

Andrew A. Couchman, convicted of leaving the scene of an accident, a Class B Misdemeanor. Sentenced to community service.

Alyssa R. Matheis, convicted of possession of methamphetamine, a Level 6 Felony. Sentenced to serve 180 days with 0 days suspended and credit for 80 actual days previously served plus 80 Class A credit days.

Christy L. Stone, convicted of operating a vehicle while intoxicated endangering a person, a Class A Misdemeanor. Sentenced to serve 365 days with 357 days suspended and credit for 4 actual days previously served plus 4 Class A credit days. Defendant received 357 days of probation.

July 2

Larry Joseph Summers, Jr., convicted of unlawful possession or use of a legend drug, a Level 6 Felony and operating a vehicle with a schedule I or II controlled substance or its metabolite in the blood, a Class C Misdemeanor. Sentenced on the first count to serve 768 days through Martin County Community Corrections with 0 days suspended and credit for 384 actual days previously served plus 384 Class A credit days. Sentenced on the second count to serve 60 days through Martin County Community Corrections with 0 days suspended and credit for 30 actual days previously served plus 30 Class A credit days.

Jociah Earl, convicted of possession of methamphetamine, a Level 6 Felony and operating a vehicle while intoxicated endangering a person, a Class A Misdemeanor. Sentenced on first count to serve 365 days with 359 days suspended and credit for 3 actual days previously served plus 3 Class A credit days. Defendant received 359 days of probation. Sentenced on the second count to serve 365 days with 359 days suspended and credit for 3 actual days previously served plus 3 Class A credit days. Defendant received 359 days of probation.

Caleb Dale Kemp, convicted of possession of methamphetamine, a Level 6 Felony. Sentenced to serve 365 days with 297 days suspended and credit for 34 actual days previously served plus 34 Class A credit days. Defendant received 297 days of probation.

CRIMINAL CHARGES DISMISSED

June 26

Johnathan W. Dant, maintaining a common nuisance- controlled substances, a Level 6 Felony, dismissed; unlawful possession of a syringe, a Level 6 Felony, dismissed.

Daniel L. Cornwell, operating a vehicle while intoxicated endangering a person, a Class A Misdemeanor, dismissed; possession of paraphernalia, a Class C Misdemeanor, dismissed; refusal to submit to breath or chemical test, a Class C Infraction, dismissed.

June 28

Alyssa R. Matheis, maintaining a common nuisance- controlled substances, a Level 6 Felony, dismissed; possession of marijuana, a Class B Misdemeanor, dismissed; possession of paraphernalia, a Class C Misdemeanor, dismissed.

Tracy M. French, conversion, a Class A Misdemeanor, dismissed.

Christy L. Stone, resisting law enforcement, a Level 6 Felony, dismissed; operating a vehicle with an ACE of .15 or more, a Class A Misdemeanor, dismissed.

July 2

Larry Joseph Summers, Jr., felon carrying a handgun with prior conviction within the last 15 years, a Level 5 Felony, dismissed; possession of a controlled substance, a Class A Misdemeanor, dismissed.

Jociah Earl, refusal to submit to breath or chemical test, a Class C Infraction, dismissed.

Caleb Dale Kemp, visiting a common nuisance- controlled substances, a Class B Misdemeanor, dismissed.

Mitchell J. Pfau, driving while suspended, a Class A Misdemeanor, dismissed.

CIVIL COURT New Suits Filed

June 26

Midland Credit Management, Inc. vs. Levi Brown, civil collection.

June 27

Capital One vs. Christopher Douglas, civil collection.

July 2

Onemain Financial Group, LLC vs. Victoria Hatter, civil collection.

Women's Health vs. Jessica Courtright, civil collection.

CIVIL COURT JUDGMENTS

June 27

Judgment in favor of the plaintiff Liberty Federal Credit Union and against the defendants Amanda Miller and Thomas Miller in the amount of \$13,442.98.

Judgment in favor of the plaintiff Synchrony Bank and against the defendant Gary Lyons in the amount of \$2,194.85.

CIVIL COURT DISMISSED

July 1

Discover Bank vs. David Fewell, civil collection, dismissed.

July 2

Emily A. Baxley vs. Richard C. Baxley, petition for dissolution of marriage, dismissed.

MARRIAGE LICENSES

June 27

Breonda Mae Yarbber of Shoals and Phillip David Troutman of Shoals.

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Loogootee Police log

FRIDAY, JUNE 28

7:06 a.m. - Loogootee Fire Department and Chief Hunt responded to a medical call on JFK Avenue.

10:53 p.m. - Chief Long and Officer Clark responded to a call on US Highway 231.

5:15 p.m. - Assistant Chief Long and Officer Shaw responded to a call on Reinhart Road.

7:12 p.m. - Assistant Chief Long responded to a call at the Loogootee Police Department.

9:40 a.m. - Loogootee Fire Department and Assistant Chief Long responded to a call near West Boggs Park.

SATURDAY, JUNE 29

3:06 a.m. - Officer Baumgart responded to a call at the Loogootee Police Department.

10:07 a.m. - Loogootee Fire Department responded to a medical call on Poplar Street.

4:19 p.m. - Loogootee Fire Department responded to a medical call on US Highway 231.

7:14 p.m. - Officer Baumgart responded to a call on Bloomfield Road.

11:24 p.m. - Officer Baumgart responded to a call on Birnam Wood Street.

SUNDAY, JUNE 30

10:33 a.m. - Loogootee Fire Department responded to a medical call on Kentucky Avenue.

MONDAY, JULY 1

10:14 a.m. - Chief Hunt performed a funeral detail at Blake Funeral Home.

2:02 p.m. - Assistant Chief Long performed a vehicle unlock at Williams Bros. Pharmacy.

3:01 p.m. - Assistant Chief Long responded to a call at McDonald's.

TUESDAY, JULY 2

12:07 p.m. - Officer Rayhill responded to a call at McDonald's.

6:19 p.m. - Chief Hunt and Sergeant Wagoner responded to a call on Poplar Street.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 3

9:26 a.m. - Loogootee Fire Department, Chief Hunt and Officer Rayhill responded to a medical call on Vincennes Street.

11:23 a.m. - Loogootee Fire Department

ARRESTS

MONDAY, JULY 1

3:44 p.m. - Curtis Craft, 32, of West Baden Springs, was arrested by Captain Gibson on a Martin County Warrant. He is being held without bond. Transport Officer Norman assisted with the transport.

SATURDAY, JULY 6

1:14 a.m. - James Johnson, 61, of Tunnelton, was arrested by Deputy Shields and charged with possession of methamphetamine and possession of paraphernalia. He is being held with \$15,000 10% bond.

2:33 a.m. - Joshua Rush, 42, of Shoals, was arrested by Deputy Shields and charged with chemical test refusal and possession of marijuana. He is being held without bond.

6:15 a.m. - Jeffrey Williams, 51, of Mitchell, was arrested by Conservation Officer Mann and charged with operating while intoxicated causing serious bodily injury, operating while intoxicated with .15% or above, operating while intoxicated, and operating while intoxicated endangerment. He is being held at \$30,000 10% bond.

SUNDAY, JULY 7

7:28 p.m. - Ashley Harris, 39, of Shoals, was arrested by Deputy Baumgart and charged with domestic battery in the presence of a minor. She is being held with \$15,000 10% bond.

7:35 p.m. - Teresa Osborne, 66, of Mitchell, was arrested by Deputy Baumgart and charged with domestic battery in the presence of a minor. She is being held with \$15,000 10% bond.

ment responded to a medical call on Poplar Street.

12:45 p.m. - Chief Hunt and Officer Rayhill responded to a call near Los Amigos.

8:51 p.m. - Loogootee Fire Department, Assistant Chief Long and Sergeant Wagoner responded to a call on Mulberry Street.

10:18 p.m. - Sergeant Wagoner and Officer Garab responded to a call near Buffalo Bottoms.

10:37 p.m. - Loogootee Fire Department responded to a medical call on Church Street.

THURSDAY, JULY 4

9:56 a.m. - Officer Rayhill responded to a call at Bowling Trailer Court.

12:17 p.m. - Officer Rayhill responded to a call at Bowling Trailer Court.

3:35 p.m. - Loogootee Fire Department and Assistant Chief Long responded to a call on Second Street.

11:30 p.m. - Officer Garab responded to a call at the Loogootee Police Department.

11:47 p.m. - Officer Garab responded to a call near the courthouse in Shoals.

11:54 p.m. - Officer Garab responded to a call at the Marathon gas station.

FRIDAY, JULY 5

2:32 a.m. - Officer Garab responded to a call on 950 South.

2:03 p.m. - Assistant Chief Long, Officer Clark and Officer Rayhill responded to a call near US Highway 50.

8:16 p.m. - Officer Clark responded to a call on North Line Street.

8:19 p.m. - Officer Clark responded to a call at Larkin Apartments.

SATURDAY, JULY 6

3:18 p.m. - Loogootee Fire Department and Officer Clark responded to a medical call on Southgate Street.

6:05 p.m. - Officer Clark responded to a call on Broadway Street.

SUNDAY, JULY 7

10:32 a.m. - Sergeant Wagoner responded to a call at the Dollar General Market.

5:32 p.m. - Officer Clark responded to a call on Broadway Street.

5:47 p.m. - Officer Clark responded to a call on Cedar Street.

Real estate transfers

Shawn Emberton and Sherrie Emberton, of Martin County, Indiana to **Caleb B. Dant**, of Greene County, Indiana, Lot Number 4 of the Thompson Woods Subdivision, containing 5 acres, more or less.

John W. Denham, Jr. and Amy M. Ramsey Denham to James Bodenreider, the northwest quarter of the northwest quarter of Section 36, Township 5 North, Range 3 West, Martin County, Indiana, more commonly known as 22910 Kent Farm Road, Williams, IN 47470.

Lance Michael Baker, of Martin County, Indiana to **Haley Werner and Wesley Lengacher**, of Martin County, Indiana, Lots Numbered 5 and 6 in Ackerman's Addition to the City of Loogootee, Martin County, Indiana.

Leland Wilcoxon, of Martin County, Indiana to **Melissa K. Rice**, of Martin County, Indiana, Lots Numbered 166, 167, 168 and 189 in the Town of West Shoals, now Shoals, Indiana.

Richard L. Asbell and Margaret C. Asbell, and David L. Asbell and Joey Asbell to David L. Asbell, of Martin County, Indiana and **Joey Asbell**, of Dubois County, Indiana, a part of the northeast quarter of the southeast quarter of Section 14, Township 2 North, Range 3 West, Halbert Township, Martin County, Indiana, containing 10 acres, more or less, except a section containing 0.055 acre, more or less.

Richard L. Asbell and Margeret C. Asbell, of Martin County, Indiana to **David L. Asbell**, of Martin County, Indiana and **Joey Asbell**, of Dubois County, Indiana, a part of the southeast quarter of the northeast quarter of Section 14, Township 2 North, Range 3 West, Halbert Township, Martin County, Indiana, containing 4 acres, more or less, except a section containing 1 acre, more or less.

New filing on Independent ticket

All the winning candidates from the primary will go on to be on the 2024 General Election ballot on November 5. Independent candidates can file declaration of candidacy and certified petitions of nomination for their names to appear on the 2024 General Election ballot anytime between now and July 15 by noon. Independent candidates will need 67 valid signatures certified prior to filing deadline to qualify. All paperwork is available at the Martin County Clerk's Office at 129 Main Street, Shoals. Office hours are 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday.

New filings:

Martin County Commissioner, District 3
Jason B. McCoy, Independent

The following school board candidates will be on the General Election ballot:

Loogootee-at-Large (2 seats available):
Brooke Hawkins

Thomas "TJ" Joseph McAtee

Shoals has the following districts on the ballot:

Shoals District #2:

Ethan Jones

Shoals District #3:

Jerry Braun

Lorna Troutman

Shoals District #5:

Drexel Turpin

Mail-in absentee ballot applications will be accepted by the clerk now through October 24. Please request your application by October 18 to allow time for mail processing.

The 2024 General Election will be on November 5. All voter registration should be updated before Monday, October 7. Please remember that the address on your voter ID must match your voter registration.

If you are unsure of your registration, please contact the Martin County Clerk's office at 812-247-3651.

~LETTER TO THE EDITOR~

'Let's not be fooled by wolves in sheep's clothing'

To the editor of the *Martin County Journal*,

Independence Day has come and gone; but let's not forget why we celebrate. One of the many reasons is because our Founding Fathers wanted representation in the running of their (not the king's) country. They established a representative form of government. We elect "representatives" to act for what we want, not for what they "think" we should have. This is true for all levels, federal, state and local, of our government. Let's always remember this.

A few days ago, Mike Braun attended a Martin County Alliance meeting. He was there to explain his vision of the Mid-States Corridor and the future of the area. Some attendees came away with the feeling that Mr. Braun and Martin County are on the same page regarding the Corridor. Nothing could be further from the truth. Mr. Braun, and his cabal, want a new terrain highway from I-64 to I-69, they do not want to "simply upgrade 231" with passing lanes. There are no public statements, any place, from Hank Menke, Mark Schroeder, Mike Braun or any of their cronies indicating this. They have always wanted a four-lane, limited access, new terrain highway, and they still do.

Mr. Braun's comments about the Mid-

States Corridor not being high on IN-DOT's priority list, or its lack of current funding or even that it would be over 10 years before construction would start may be true. However, this could all change with the stroke of a pen when he becomes Governor Braun. These platitudes are nothing but an attempt to quell the increasing resistance to the Corridor project.

The Mid-States Corridor is not in the best interests of Martin, Dubois or Daviess counties; nor, is it in the best interests of any town or city in these counties. The fact that the Corridor does not come near one's property or the town you call home, does not make the Corridor any less intrusive. The Mid-States Corridor's purpose is twofold, first is to make an enormous amount of money for the cabal, led by Mr. Braun and Mr. Menke, and second is to bypass all the pesky little towns so their trucks can save 10 minutes on their runs to Indianapolis.

Let's not be fooled by wolves in sheep's clothing or "Germans" bearing gifts. The Mid-States Corridor is bad for our economies, bad for our environment and bad for our way of life. We can and will stop the Corridor by just continuing to say "No".

Jim Arvin
Rutherford Township
Martin County

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Tourism Board

The Martin County Tourism Board will meet Tuesday, July 16 at 5 p.m. in the Martin State Forest Tower Hill Shelterhouse. Anyone interested in learning more about tourism in Martin County is invited to attend.

Dog/Cat Wellness Clinic

The next scheduled dog and cat wellness clinic at the Martin County Humane Society Spay/Neuter Clinic will be Friday, July 19 from 5-6 p.m. The clinic offers low-cost vaccines, testing, microchips, nail trims, etc. No appointment is required, first come first serve.

Celebrate Recovery meetings

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

St. Vincent Food Pantry

The St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry, on Park Street in Loogootee, is open the fourth Thursday of the month except November and December when they are open the third Thursday. The hours are 9 a.m.-noon and 1-3:30 p.m.

Free lunch for kids

New Beginnings Community Church

will be offering a free lunch to all school age children every Saturday. Lunches can be picked up at the fellowship hall of the church, located at 105 Wood St, Loogootee no later than 10:30 a.m. Deliveries will begin between 10:30 and 11 a.m. Saturdays.

LUMC Food Pantry

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

Solid waste board

The Martin County Solid Waste Board holds their monthly meetings on the third Wednesday of each month at 8:30 a.m. at the recycling center located at 500 Industrial Park Drive in Loogootee. The meetings are open to the public and anyone is invited to attend.

Soil and Water meetings

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

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Rabies Vaccine (\$15) • Ear Cleaning (\$8) • Dental Evaluation (\$15)

A la carte Cats

FVRCP Vaccine (\$15) • FVRCP+Leukemia- cats 6 months or older only (\$25) • Microchip (\$20)
Ear Cleaning (\$8) • FIV/FelV Testing (\$30) • Dental Eval (\$15) • Nail Trim (\$10) • Rabies Vaccine (\$15)

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Long-time readers know that my vacations always include visiting gardens, and my recent trip to Chattanooga, Tennessee with two great-nephews and a great-niece was no exception. While the rental house in which we spent our week lacked any landscaping, we found several gardens to visit in the area.

One of the must-see venues in Chattanooga is the aquarium. That may not be a garden, but the aquarium actually has some interesting garden areas. The attraction is divided into two portions, one being a river theme and the other concentrating on oceans. While the river side has exhibits about the rivers of the world, a large portion deals with the ecosystem of the Tennessee River, which flows right by the aquarium. Ecosystems involve plant life along and, in the water, and the exhibits showcased many native plants.

Just down the street from the aquarium is the Discovery Center. While not as lavish as the Indianapolis Children's Museum, there was plenty to keep the children busy for several hours on a rainy day. Again, plants play an important part in some of the interactive exhibits. A section on pollinators included the plants that attract and feed pollinators, including both native plants and other flowers and herbs. There is also an exhibit promoting honeybees. Again, the plants that supply the nectar from which the bees make honey were an important part of that exhibit.

Also in the downtown river district is an area of several blocks known as the arts district. The district includes several galleries and stores selling the work of area artists, but surrounding the stores and along the river are some beautiful gardens. I was especially impressed with an area where American holly had been sculpted into tight hedges. Interesting sculptures, both modern and traditional, are surrounded by gardens featuring both native plants and non-natives. My

Striped and hybrid striped bass stocked in Indiana lakes

The Indiana Department of Natural Resources (DNR) East Fork State Fish Hatchery recently completed annual striped bass and hybrid striped bass stockings. More than 78,000 striped bass fingerlings and 146,000 hybrid striped bass fingerlings were added to 12 lakes around the state. The stocked fish averaged 1-2 inches in length.

The breakdown of stockings of striped and hybrid striped bass by lake, with the respective counties listed in parentheses, was as follows:

- Worster Lake (St. Joseph) – 3,270 hybrids
- Cedar Lake (Lake) – 7,810 hybrids
- Lake Shafer (White) – 12,910 hybrids
- Nyona Lake (Fulton) – 1,040 hybrids
- Lake Freeman (Carroll and White) – 15,470 hybrids
- Clare Lake (Huntington) – 420 hybrids

personal favorite garden in the arts district was a vertical herb garden. It was made by affixing a six-foot section of a hog panel between up-right four-by-fours. Several troughs were fastened to the fence wires, and herbs had been planted in each trough. It is something I would like to replicate here at Sandhill Gardens.

Chattanooga and the towns in the suburbs have many parks, and there are several state parks nearby. The parks afford opportunities to get out into nature, both on land and water. It seems my car also automatically pulled into the lots of nurseries and garden centers, and I found an herb plant for which I have been searching.

The area does have a noteworthy botanical garden. That garden is found just over the Georgia border in Rock City. The gardens included a lot of native shade plants, including oak-leaf hydrangeas, azaleas and laurels. They also have made good use of some of my favorite shade plants, such as hostas and hellebores. However, the star of the garden is the mountain itself, on which native stones have been used to construct amazing venues. We crossed a swinging bridge to reach the famous look-out, from which portions of seven states may be seen. Even a youngster who "does not like looking at plants" found this garden to be a fun place to visit. The gift shop included many items to bring a memory home to the garden. I chose a rain-chain windchime, but I regret that I did not purchase a birdhouse that looks like the barns where Rock City has been advertised for more than 80 years.

Even the trip home brought a chance to view gardens. I stopped in Nashville and took a couple of hours to visit the conservatories that make up the Opryland Hotel. Although I have visited there many times, I never tire of experiencing the beauty of the gardens and man-made landscapes.

- Shadyside Park Lake (Madison) – 1,000 hybrids
- Cecil M. Harden Lake (Parke) – 20,600 striped bass
- Brookville Lake (Union and Franklin) – 46,667 striped bass
- Monroe Lake (Monroe and Brown) – 53,750 hybrids
- Hardy Lake (Scott) – 1,000 striped bass and 7,000 hybrids
- Patoka Lake (Dubois, Crawford, and Orange) – 10,000 striped bass and 44,000 hybrids

Indiana anglers can look forward to continued quality striped and hybrid striped bass fishing opportunities in the coming years as a result of these stockings. To learn more about striped and hybrid striped bass fishing, visit bit.ly/striped-hybrid-bass-fishing.

Learn about purchasing a fishing license at on.IN.gov/fishinglicense.

OISC Clean Sweep Pesticide Disposal Program to legally dispose of unwanted pesticide products at little or no cost

The 2024 Clean Sweep Pesticide Disposal Program, sponsored by the Office of the Indiana State Chemist (OISC), offers statewide pesticide collection sites in Porter, Steuben, Tipton, Daviess, Decatur, and Hendricks counties in August. This is a way for farmers, public and private schools, ag dealers, nurseries, golf courses, cities, towns, municipalities, county units of government and any others receiving this notice to dispose of suspended, canceled, banned, unusable, opened, unopened or just unwanted pesticides (weed killers, insecticides, rodenticides, fungicides, miticides, etc.) for free (up to 250 pounds per participant), pesticides only.

Visit the Office of the Indiana State Chemist (OISC) website to download the participant form at oisc.purdue.edu or contact Nathan Davis at cleansweep@groups.purdue.edu or 765-494-7108 to have a participant form emailed. Those

Indiana's inventory of lost farmland 2010-2022

Last week, the Indiana State Department of Agriculture (ISDA) submitted an inventory of lost farmland report to the Legislative Council. In 2023, the Indiana General Assembly passed House Enrolled Act 1557, which tasked ISDA to complete an inventory of lost farmland in Indiana from 2010-2022.

ISDA determined through the inventory of lost farmland that there has been an overall reduction of farmland acres of approximately 1.5-2 percent from 2010-2022.

This represents a loss of approximately 350,000 acres. The results show that agricultural land was most likely to be lost in areas around the edges of cities and suburban areas. The primary cause of reduction in farmland was due to residential use.

"Agriculture is, and always has been, the lifeblood of the Hoosier state," said Lt. Gov. Suzanne Crouch, Secretary of Agriculture and Rural Development. "Data is critical for all levels of government when making decisions that may affect our rural communities and food security."

ISDA used two sources of data – (1) parcel data from the Indiana Department of Local Government Finance (DLGF) and (2) the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) Crop Data Layer (CDL). Both datasets have

wanting to participate are required to complete and submit the participant form by mail, e-mail, or fax by August 9, 2024. Then bring your labeled, leak free and safe to transport containers to the collection site. DO NOT mix materials.

The drop off time is 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. (local time) and the dates and locations are:

- August 13, 2024: Keystone Cooperative, Valparaiso
 - August 14, 2024: NISWMD, Ashley
 - August 15, 2024: Becks Seed Facility, Sharpsville
 - August 20, 2024: Premier Ag, Loogootee
 - August 21, 2024: Kova Fertilizer, Decatur
 - August 22, 2024: Hendricks County Fairgrounds, Danville
- Questions can be directed to Nathan Davis at cleansweep@groups.purdue.edu or call (765) 494-7108.

different qualities that make them desirable for attempting to discern both the quantity of land use change and the causes of land use change.

"The inventory of lost farmland was an opportunity for ISDA and legislators to gain access to reliable data, where up until now, we could only make assumptions," said Don Lamb, director of the Indiana State Department of Agriculture. "This information is important to have for policy development as we work to balance economic growth, food security and the preservation of agricultural land, because we know when agriculture is strong, Indiana is too."

Despite the loss in acreage, yield data from USDA NASS shows that Indiana's production of its cash crops has increased. In 2012, Indiana produced over 597 million bushels of corn for grain, and in 2022 yielded over 1 billion bushels. Indiana produced nearly 219 million bushels of soybeans in 2012 and saw that number increase to over 326 million in 2022.

ISDA outlined several recommendations within the report to the Legislative Council, including that legislation be passed directing ISDA to update the inventory of lost farmland every five years, starting in 2029 for a report to be published in 2030.

To view the full 2010 to 2022 report or narrative, click here or visit isda.in.gov.



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