

# Martin County JOURNAL

Year 15, Issue 30

WEDNESDAY, JULY 24, 2024

Eight pages

## Commissioners accept bridge inspection proposals, discuss courthouse repair issues

BY COURTNEY HUGHETT  
Martin County Journal Publisher

The Martin County Commissioners met Tuesday, July 23.

Highway Superintendent Scott Seals returned the bridge inspection proposals from Kapur, Inc.; BF&S, RQAW, USI and HWC Engineering, that were reviewed by the county attorney. Attorney Dave Lett said they all met the requirements. Commissioner Paul George said the state mandates how much is paid to the bridge inspector so there was no monetary value attached to the proposals. The commissioners voted to accept all the proposals which will now be reviewed by the committee formed which consists of the commissioners, the highway superintendent and EMA Director Monty Wolf. A committee meeting will be held next Tuesday morning at 8:30 a.m. at the highway department to go over the proposals and choose one.

Seals also reported he has a mower and truck in need of repairs. The truck is going for repairs this week and they are waiting on parts for the mower. He said they are still doing patching work and people are not slowing down to watch for highway crews. A driver on a cell phone almost hit a highway worker this week. Seals said drivers need to be more aware.

## Solid waste board meeting cancelled due lack of a quorum

BY COURTNEY HUGHETT  
Martin County Journal Publisher

The Martin County Solid Waste Board was supposed to meet last Wednesday, July 17 however only two of the seven members showed up – Brian Ader and Jim Hamby. Without a quorum, Ader and Hamby discussed a few issues with Director Janell Freeman, but couldn't make any decisions.

Freeman reported that Duke Energy replaced a few lights in the building but nothing in the warehouse. When she asked the technician when the warehouse lights would be replaced, he told her that was not part of the contract. Freeman

## Mid-States Corridor Tier 2 Study to begin

The Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) has given the Mid-States Corridor Project Team notice to proceed with the first Tier 2 Study. Work will begin in the Dubois County area to determine the alignment and access plan for the new highway. The Tier 2 Study will evaluate more site-specific impacts to determine the specific preferred location and right-of-way needs of a 200-to-500-foot-wide facility.

The Tier 1 Final Environmental Impact Statement identified the location of the 2,000-foot-wide corridor which travels east of Huntingburg and Jasper. Section of Independent Utility (SIU) 2 extends from Interstate 64, around Huntingburg and Jasper, to S.R. 56 at Haysville. This study of SIU 2 is anticipated to take approximately three years to complete.

Emergency Management Agency Director Wolf reported that starting July 31 through August 12, the U.S. Army aviation assets will be conducting routine flight operations in the vicinity of Burns City Gate while supporting a DoD training exercise. There may be periods of time during this training that military personnel may be utilizing blank ammunition and pyrotechnics. This training is separate from other NSA Crane scheduled operations during this timeframe. He wanted the public to be aware this will be happening.

Attorney Lett told the commissioners that the closing on the purchase of the former Old National Bank building in Shoals will happen at the end of this week or the first part of next week.

Auditor Michelle Norris asked the commissioners if they would like to give a recommendation to the county council regarding employee raises for 2025, as they have done in the past. Commissioner George said he believes they have recommended a 5 percent raise in past years. Commissioner Cody Roush said he believes they tried for an 8 percent increase last year but said the council will probably shoot for 3-5 percent. After discussion, the commissioners agreed to recommend a 7 percent raise for county employees.

Auditor Norris also discussed the council (See 'COMMISSIONERS' on page 3)

disagreed as did Board Member Ader. Ader said they wouldn't be paying Duke Energy until all the work laid out in the contract was completed.

Freeman said she needs to know how the board plans to proceed with extending the \$65,000 loan with German American. She said she would like to see it extended two years instead of just one. Ader and Hamby discussed the need to hold a special meeting with the board as soon as possible to get that worked out.

The board also discussed the need to give Freeman a raise as they said one was promised to her when she took the position. Freeman also noted Bookkeeper (See 'SOLID WASTE' on page 2)

Early activity will include survey work and data analysis. Office hours will resume at the project office beginning Thursday, July 25. The office is located on the Jasper campus of Vincennes University at 850 College Ave., Jasper, IN 47546. Office hours are every Tuesday and Thursday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The Mid-States Corridor Project examines an improved highway connection in southern Indiana. The Mid-States Corridor generally follows US 231 from Interstate 64, passing east of Huntingburg and the Jasper area, and extends north to connect to Interstate 69. Additional Tier 2 Studies of the remaining SIUs have not been scheduled. Maps and other information regarding the project study area can be found at Mid-States Corridor - Improving Regional Transportation ([midstatescorridor.com](http://midstatescorridor.com))



-Photos provided

## Scholarships

Krista Truelove recently received one of two “non-traditional” scholarships, through the Martin County Community Foundation, which are for students who have been out of high school at least one or two years. Krista received the St. Vincent de Paul Non-Traditional Scholarship for \$1,196. She is using this scholarship to obtain a master's degree in literacy. Shown above are MCCF Director Curt Johnson and Krista Truelove. The MCCF's Second Door Scholarship is named after the saying, “When one door closes, another one opens” and is awarded to a student who has been out of school for at least two years. The year's awardee is Brandi Seals. This \$1,031 scholarship will help finance her degree in business. Shown below from left to right, are MCCF Director Curt Johnson, Brandi Seals, and Vernita Williams. Vernita and her late husband, Joe, founded this scholarship.



## Martin County jobless rate at 3.5 percent for June

BY COURTNEY HUGHETT  
Martin County Journal Publisher

Martin County's unemployment rate edged up to 3.5 percent in June, from 3.1 percent the month before. The county had the third lowest jobless rate in the state for June, tied with six other counties.

In June, the county had 5,486 residents in the workforce and 194 of them were unemployed. In May, there were 5,302 residents able to work and 166 of them were without work.

In June of 2023, Martin County's unemployment rate was 3 percent with 5,404 residents in the workforce and 161 of them without jobs.

Daviess County's jobless rate also bumped up slightly in June to 3.4 percent, from 3.1 percent in May. The county had the lowest jobless rate in the state for June, tied with Gibson County.

In June, the county had 17,480 residents in the workforce and 602 of them were unemployed. In May, there were 16,973 residents able to work and 527 of them were without jobs. In June of last year, Daviess County's jobless rate was 2.4 percent with 17,172 residents in

the workforce and 418 of them without work.

Dubois County's jobless rate moved from 3.2 percent in May to 3.5 percent in June. The county had the third spot in the state for lowest jobless rate, tied with six other counties.

In June, the county had 22,473 residents in the workforce and 778 of them were without work. In May, there were 21,810 residents able to work and 695 of them were unemployed.

In June of 2023, Dubois County's jobless rate was 2.6 percent with 22,475 residents in the workforce and 586 of them without jobs.

Greene County's unemployment rate moved from 4.6 percent in May to 5.1 percent in June. The county had the eighth highest jobless rate in the state for June.

In June, the county had 13,543 residents in the workforce and 695 of them were unemployed. In May, there were 13,476 residents able to work and 616 of them were without jobs. In June of last year, Greene County's unemployment rate was 4.1 percent with 13,468 residents able to work and 550 of them without jobs. (See 'RATE' on page 2)



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## JOHN MCATEE

John McAtee passed away at 6:40 a.m. Wednesday, July 17, 2024, at Memorial Hospital and Healthcare Center. A resident of Loogootee, he was 93.

He was born December 29, 1930, in Loogootee; son of the late Harry J. and Delphia (Doyle) McAtee.

**JOHN MCATEE** John was a United States Army veteran and served during the Korean War. He was a member of the Veterans of Foreign War – Post 9395 and the Knights of Columbus – Council 732. John was a lifelong member of the St. Martin Catholic Church.

In John's younger years, he was a union masonry brick layer. John went on to become the Martin County Treasurer and the Martin County Recorder, both for two terms. He later was the Perry Township Trustee. His true passion was real estate and was a licensed real estate broker for nearly 50 years. In John's free time, you could find him working outside and on his tractor.

John was preceded in death by his parents, Harry and Delphia McAtee; siblings, Bill McAtee, Bob (Helen) McAtee, and Catherine Miller; and sisters-in-law, Rita McAtee and Connie McAtee.

He is survived by his wife, Lucy Ann McAtee of Loogootee; children, Mark McAtee, Steve (Becky) McAtee, Joe (Audra) McAtee, and Marcia Wagoner, all of Loogootee; grandchildren, Sarah (Michael) Johnston, Carrie Papke, Bryant (Stephanie) McAtee, Scott (Nicole) McAtee, Savannah (Wyatt) Wade, Madison McAtee, Whitney Wagoner (fiancé, Rick Lyon), Wylliam (Sarah) Wagoner, Wynter Wagoner, Waylee Wagoner (fiancé, Rece Buckmaster), and Wayden Wagoner; six great-grandchildren; siblings, Joe McAtee of Plainfield and Glenn McAtee of Loogootee; and sister-in-law, Rozella McAtee of Loogootee.

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated by Very Rev. J. Kenneth Walker on Saturday, July 20 at St. Martin Catholic Church in Whitfield. Burial followed in the church cemetery.

Condolences may be made online at [www.blakefuneralhomes.com](http://www.blakefuneralhomes.com).

Blake Funeral Home in Loogootee, Indiana is honored to serve the family of John McAtee.

## CHARLES BOONSHOT

Charles Henry Boonshot passed away at 11:47 a.m. Thursday, July 18, 2024, at Poplar Care Strategies. A resident of Loogootee, he was 101.

He was born on a farm in Rutherford Township on December 13, 1922; son of Charles and Anna Marie (Schmidt) Boonshot.

Charles attended two, one-room schools, the Inman School and Truelove School. He graduated from Loogootee High School in 1940. Following graduation,



**CHARLES BOONSHOT**

tion, he worked on the farm for nine years. Thereafter he was employed in Jasper for 16 years before becoming employed at Crane as an ordinance worker.

He worked there for several years, and an apprentice program became available in various trades. Charles signed up for this as an apprentice machinist. After finishing this program, he worked as a machinist in several shops on base, being promoted to toolmaker for the last several years. Charles was employed at Crane for approximately 22 years.

Charles was a member of the Loogootee Methodist Church and the Sons of the American Legion. He always enjoyed singing and sang in the church choir for 60-plus years. He also sang with a group from Loogootee and Shoals, called the Marco Singers. This group sang Christmas cantatas for several years under the name of Joyful Hearts.

Charles was preceded in death by his parents, Charles and Anna Marie Boonshot and his sister, Margaret Russell.

He is survived by his nieces, Kathleen Martin and Donna Evans; his nephew, Richard Martin; great-nephew, Dustin Martin, Chris Martin, Robin Martin, Julie Bartlett, Brian Evans, and Jeff Evans.

Funeral services were held Monday, July 22 at the Loogootee Methodist Church. Burial followed in Goodwill Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Loogootee Methodist Church in memory of Charles.

Blake Funeral Home in Loogootee, Indiana is honored to serve the family of Charles Henry Boonshot.

## BENTON BURRIS

Benton Burris passed away Wednesday, July 17, 2024, at his home. A resident of Loogootee, he was 73.

He was born July 18, 1950, in Muncie; son of Wesley and Elizabeth (Whited) Burris.

He married Lucy (Carroll) Burris on April 3, 1971. Lucy was the love of his life, he was always her driver, chauffeur-ing her around town or running whatever errands she asked of him. He was a jack of all trades, you could always find Benton tinkering or working on something. Benton was always there for his family, making midnight snacks and making sure everyone was fed and taken care of. He was often called Mr. MacGyver, known to be able to fix anything. Benton liked to go to the casino, hunt, and fish, but most of all he liked to spend time with his family and grandchildren, playing guitar and singing for them. He was a wonderful man to his family and left his mark on them with his love. He will be deeply missed by all that know him.

Benton was preceded in death by his



**BENTON BURRIS**

parents, his wife, Lucy who passed on June 13, 2024; his brothers, Hershel Burris and Randy Burris, and his sister, Debbie Burris.

He is survived by his children, Benny Lynn (Craig) Cain, Jerry Eli "Jeb" (Dawn) Burris, Honi Michele Overton, and Bryan (Tiffany) Burris; his grandchildren, Chantele, Justin, Chana, Lucas, Chastin, Josh, Tylan, Lydia, Jaite, Jaithan, Lexis, Phillip, Jerryco, Tajjai, Melanie, Carmen, Bryan, Kyra, Aurora, Drea, Kendra, Travis, Trevor, Jer-rad, and Emily; his great-grandchildren, Ezny, Havilynn, Myah, Isabelle, Callie, Chance, Isaiah, Elayah, Kizer, Alyxzan-drean, Catalina, Gabby, Wrenlee, and Reina; his siblings, David Burris, Clifford Burris, Stacey (Jimmy) Bradshaw, Pam "PJ" Walker, Robbie Burris, Betty Jo Whited, Jimmy Burris, Steve Burris, and Eddie Burris; and several nieces and nephews, and friends.

A funeral service was conducted Tuesday July 23 at Blake Funeral Home in Loogootee.

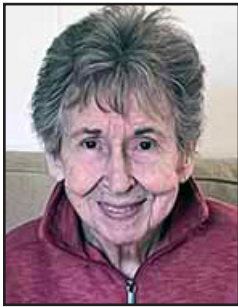
Online condolences can be made at [www.blakefuneralhomes.com](http://www.blakefuneralhomes.com).

Arrangements provided by Blake Funeral Home in Loogootee.

## DORA BARDWELL

Dora Jane (Fawcett) Bardwell passed away peacefully at her Huntingburg, IN, home on Saturday, July 20, 2024, at 7:44 p.m. Her sons, Brett and Cam, were at her side. A resident of Huntingburg, she was 88.

Dora was born September 6, 1935, in Shoals. She attended Shoals Community Schools and graduated a proud Jug Rock in 1953. After high school, she went to work at Crane Naval Surface Warfare Center. While at Crane she met a young sailor by the name of Jimmie Gerald Bardwell. The two married and, after brief stints in Washington, Petersburg, and Dale, Indiana, they settled in Huntingburg. Dora gave up her career at Crane to raise their two boys.



**DORA BARDWELL**

# COMMISSIONERS

(Continued from page one)

ty phone system. She said the current five-year contract ends in October. She said they have one quote for the system and wanted to know if the commissioners would like her to get others. Commissioner Roush asked how much the courthouse is paying for the phone service now and Auditor Norris said it is \$2,600 a month. The commissioners suggested that Auditor Norris reach out to other companies to see what other prices are available.

Auditor Norris also told the commissioners that the managed IT services for the county would be up for renewal at the end of January. Commissioner George said they definitely need to look into other companies. "We need to look into that one pretty hard," he said. Auditor Norris said she will try to come up with at least three quotes.

Auditor Norris also discussed the issue they are having with the interior entrance doors at the courthouse not opening properly. She said a few companies have looked at the doors to see if they could be fixed however one company said they can't do it and the other said they are too busy. She said she did receive a quote

Dora's entire world centered around her family. Through every high and low, win and loss, achievement and disappointment, Dora celebrated, encouraged, and sympathized with them in person and in spirit. This included her nieces and nephews, Greg (Madelyn) Souerdikey, Margaret Demby, Roberta Demby, Kiply Drew, Leslie Shobe, Michol Jones, and Stephanie Greenwell. Dora loved them like her own children.

Dora was a faithful Christian and member of First Baptist Church of Huntingburg. She loved her church family, taught Vacation Bible School, and served in several administrative roles. Dora loved and spoiled her German Shepherds, Siamese cats, and Jimmie's hunting dogs. She was an avid reader, enjoyed old movies, plays and musicals, and Indiana University and University of Arkansas sports. Later in life Dora was blessed with four grandchildren. She pampered them and loved every moment they spent at her home. Granny, as they called her, and the grandchildren spent hours baking cookies, giving gifts, and actively playing whatever the grandkids wanted.

Dora's passing was preceded by her parents John, and Opal Fawcett; husband, Jimmie Gerald Bardwell; sisters, Maxine Greenwell, and Faye Shobe; and brother and sister-in-law, Hugh, and Donna Demby.

Dora leaves behind her sons, their wives, and children, Brett, Sarah, Ellie (17) and Laney (15) of Huntingburg; and Cam, Amy, Cade (22) and Maria (18) of Newburgh. Also surviving is her brother-in-law, Bill (Judy) Shobe.

The family would like to thank Heart to Heart Hospice and nurse Sara Vaal for their unwavering support and care during Dora's final days. They would also like to thank the administration, nurses, staff and residents at Willowdale Village Senior Care and Nursing Home. The kindness, love, attention, and gentle care given to Dora and the family will never be forgotten.

Funeral services will be held at 10 a.m., on Friday, July 26, at the Nass & Son Funeral Home in Huntingburg with burial to follow at Shoals Cemetery in Shoals.

Friends may call for visitation at the Nass & Son Funeral Home from 4-8 p.m., on Thursday, July 25.

In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to First Baptist Church of Huntingburg, 326 N Geiger Street, Huntingburg, IN 47542. Condolences may be shared online at [www.nassandson.com](http://www.nassandson.com).



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# Martin County Sheriff's Department activity log

## MONDAY, JULY 15

12:46 a.m. - Received a call from ADT advising of a residential burglar alarm northeast of Shoals. Major Reed and Deputy Baumgart responded.

2:36 a.m. - Received a request for a lift assist in Shoals. Martin County Medic 1 responded.

3:42 a.m. - Received a report of a reckless driver on US 231 North, traveling south. Loogootee Officer Clark responded.

7:02 a.m. - Received a 911 call reporting a reckless driver on US 231 South, traveling north. Loogootee Sergeant Wagoner responded.

9:38 a.m. - Received a call requesting assistance northeast of Shoals. Martin County Medic 1 and Captain Gibson responded. Medic 1 transported one patient to IU Bedford.

10:17 a.m. - Received a call requesting a vehicle identification number check east of Shoals. Corporal Hawkins responded.

12:05 p.m. - Received a call reporting a line down in Shoals. Captain Gibson responded. Frontier was notified.

1:00 p.m. - Received a call requesting an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Medic 2 and Loogootee Sergeant Wagoner responded. No one was transported.

1:04 p.m. - Received a 911 call with no one on the line northeast of Shoals. Corporal Hawkins responded.

3:22 p.m. - Received a call requesting a lift assist south of Shoals. Lost River Fire Department responded.

3:44 p.m. - Received a report of possible harassment in Loogootee. Loogootee Sergeant Wagoner responded.

3:45 p.m. - Received a 911 call reporting a reckless driver on US 231 South, traveling north. Loogootee Sergeant Wagoner responded.

5:33 p.m. - Received a call requesting a lift assist in Shoals. Martin County Medic 1 and Shoals Fire Department responded.

6:04 p.m. - Received a report of a suspicious person south of Shoals. Corporal Hawkins responded.

10:44 p.m. - Received a report of a stranded motorist west of Loogootee. Indiana State Police responded.

10:51 p.m. - Received a call advising of a controlled burn south of Loogootee.

## TUESDAY, JULY 16

2:59 a.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Medic 1, Loogootee Officer Garab and Deputy Baumgart responded. Medic 1 transported one patient to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

5:34 a.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Medic 1, Loogootee Fire Department, Loogootee Sergeant Wagoner, Loogootee Officer Garab and Deputy Baumgart responded. Medic 1 transported one patient to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

11:47 a.m. - Received a 911 call reporting a carbon monoxide alarm going off at residence in Loogootee. Loogootee Fire Department responded.

12:08 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.

3:38 p.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.

3:53 p.m. - Received a call reporting an ATV off the road south of Loogootee. Captain Gibson responded.

4:25 p.m. - Received a call requesting an officer in Loogootee. Loogootee Sergeant Wagoner responded.

4:26 p.m. - Received a call requesting a

vehicle unlock south of Loogootee. Captain Gibson responded.

4:41 p.m. - Received a call requesting extra patrol north of Loogootee. Advised all units.

5:45 p.m. - Received a 911 call reporting an accident with no injuries in Loogootee. Loogootee Sergeant Wagoner and Loogootee Officer Garab responded.

7:05 p.m. - Received a call requesting an officer in Loogootee. Loogootee Officer Garab responded.

7:14 p.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance in Shoals. Martin County Medic 1 and Shoals Fire Department responded. Medic 1 transported one patient to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

8:56 p.m. - Received a call requesting an officer in Loogootee. Loogootee Officer Garab responded.

9:22 p.m. - Received a report of a disabled vehicle west of Shoals. Deputy Baumgart responded.

## WEDNESDAY, JULY 17

3:00 a.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance south of Loogootee. Martin County Medic 1 responded and transported one patient to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

7:31 a.m. - Received a 911 call with no one on the line north of Shoals. Captain Gibson responded.

10:11 a.m. - Received a call requesting to speak with a deputy. Captain Gibson responded.

10:20 a.m. - Received a call requesting to speak with a deputy. Deputy Baumgart responded.

10:37 a.m. - Received a call requesting to speak with an officer. Loogootee Chief Hunt responded.

11:16 p.m. - Received a 911 call with no one on the line east of Shoals. Captain Gibson, Corporal Hawkins and Deputy Erwin responded.

11:47 a.m. - Received a report of a disabled vehicle north of Loogootee. Corporal Hawkins responded.

11:51 a.m. - Received a call requesting to speak with an officer. Loogootee Chief Hunt responded.

12:31 p.m. - Received a 911 call requesting Orange County. Transferred call to Orange County 911.

1:06 p.m. - Received an animal complaint east of Shoals. Corporal Hawkins responded.

1:20 p.m. - Received a call requesting to speak with an officer. Loogootee Chief Hunt responded.

1:44 p.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance north of Loogootee. Martin County Medic 1, Loogootee Fire Department and Crane EMS responded. Crane transported one patient.

1:44 p.m. - Received a call reporting a goat in the roadway southeast of Shoals. Captain Gibson responded.

2:48 p.m. - Received a call reporting a theft in Loogootee. Loogootee Chief Hunt responded.

3:03 p.m. - Received a 911 call reporting a reckless driver on US 231 South, traveling south near the county line. Advised Dubois County.

3:35 p.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Medic 1 responded and transported one patient to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

3:36 p.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance and officers in Loogootee. Martin County Medic 2, Loogootee Chief Hunt, Captain Gibson, Corporal Hawkins and Martin County Assistant Coroner Abel responded.

4:08 p.m. - Received a 911 call reporting an accident south of Loogootee. Captain Gibson, Corporal Hawkins, Loogootee Fire Department, Big John's Towing and

Daviess County EMS responded.

4:09 p.m. - Received a 911 call reporting the same accident. Advised caller units were enroute.

4:54 p.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Medic 1 responded and transported one patient to Daviess Community Hospital.

6:06 p.m. - Received a call reporting a possible theft in Loogootee. Loogootee Chief Hunt responded.

8:13 p.m. - Received a 911 call reporting a traffic hazard west of Shoals. Corporal Hawkins responded.

8:26 p.m. - Received an animal complaint in Loogootee. Loogootee Officer Clark and Loogootee Officer Garab responded.

8:35 p.m. - Received a call reporting a possible theft in Loogootee. Loogootee Officer Clark and Loogootee Officer Garab responded.

9:21 p.m. - Received a 911 call reporting a reckless driver in Loogootee. Loogootee Officer Clark and Loogootee Officer Garab responded.

9:35 p.m. - Received a 911 call reporting a traffic hazard in Shoals. Shoals Fire Department and INDOT responded.

10:28 p.m. - Received a call requesting a vehicle unlock in Shoals. Deputy Shields responded.

10:55 p.m. - Received a report of a vehicle repossession east of Shoals.

## THURSDAY, JULY 18

10:02 a.m. - Received an animal complaint in Loogootee. Loogootee Assistant Chief Long responded.

10:33 a.m. - Received a call requesting an inspection on a trailer. Captain Gibson responded.

11:22 a.m. - Received a call from Frontier advising of a wire down northeast of Loogootee that they will be working on. Advised Loogootee Police.

12:03 p.m. - Received a call requesting an ambulance in Shoals. Martin County Medic 1, Chief Deputy Keller and Deputy Erwin responded. No one was transported.

1:50 p.m. - Deputy Erwin transported three inmates to court.

2:06 p.m. - Received a report of a reckless driver northeast of Shoals. Sergeant Wells responded.

3:20 p.m. - Received a call requesting to speak with a deputy. Deputy Branham responded.

3:41 p.m. - Received a call from Duke Energy advising of several poles and a street sign down east of Loogootee. Deputy Branham responded. INDOT was also notified.

3:50 p.m. - Received a call requesting to speak with an officer. Loogootee Assistant Chief Long responded.

6:34 p.m. - Received a call requesting to speak with a deputy. Sergeant Wells responded.

8:14 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Shoals. Martin County Medic 1 responded but did not transport.

8:45 p.m. - Received a call from Evansville Traffic Control advising that a drone was flying near one of their planes in our county.

10:16 p.m. - Received a report of a suspicious male east of Loogootee. Loogootee Officer Clark responded.

11:10 p.m. - Received multiple 911 calls advising of an accident west of Shoals. Martin County Medic 1, Shoals Fire Department, Deputy Shields, Loogootee Officer Clark and Big John's Towing responded. No one was transported.

## FRIDAY, JULY 19

1:19 a.m. - Received a call requesting a welfare check in Loogootee. Loogootee Officer Clark and Deputy Shields responded.

8:47 a.m. - Received a call advising of a controlled burn north of Shoals.

10:45 a.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance north of Loogootee. Martin County Medic 1 and Loogootee Fire Department responded. Medic 1 transported one patient to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

10:55 a.m. - Received a call requesting to speak to a deputy. Deputy Baumgart responded.

11:47 a.m. - Received a call advising that Jackson and Indiana streets in Loogootee will be closed for a short time today.

12:36 p.m. - Received a call from Life Alert requesting a welfare check in Shoals. Shoals Fire Department responded.

2:21 p.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance north of Loogootee. Martin County Medic 1, Loogootee Sergeant Wagoner, and Loogootee Fire Department responded. Medic 1 transported one patient to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

2:31 p.m. - Received a request for a vehicle identification number check north of Loogootee. Deputy Branham responded.

5:36 p.m. - Received a call reporting a traffic hazard north of Loogootee. Deputy Branham responded. INDOT was advised.

9:17 p.m. - Received a 911 call requesting a welfare check in Shoals. Deputy Shields responded.

9:27 p.m. - Received a 911 call reporting a traffic hazard east of Shoals. Deputy Shields responded.

9:30 p.m. - Received a call requesting to speak to an officer in Loogootee. Loogootee Officer Garab responded.

## SATURDAY, JULY 20

3:55 a.m. - Received a call reporting harassment in Shoals. Deputy Shields responded.

5:49 a.m. - Received a report of suspicious activity north of Loogootee. Deputy Shields responded.

6:47 a.m. - Received a 911 call requesting a welfare check in Loogootee. Loogootee Assistant Chief Long responded.

8:34 a.m. - Received a 911 call reporting an accident with no injuries south of Loogootee. Deputy Branham responded.

9:49 a.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance North of Loogootee. Martin County Medic 1, Loogootee Assistant Chief Long, and Loogootee Fire Department responded. Medic 1 transported one patient to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

10:14 a.m. - Received a 911 call reporting a disabled motorcycle east of Shoals. Deputy Branham, Shoals Fire Department, and Big John's Towing responded.

1:30 p.m. - Received a call from Urgent Response requesting an ambulance northwest of Shoals. Martin County Medic 1, Shoals Fire Department, and Deputy Branham responded. No one was transported.

1:31 p.m. - Received a call requesting a vehicle unlock in Shoals. Deputy Branham responded.

2:17 p.m. - Received a 911 call reporting a domestic dispute east of Shoals. Deputy Branham, Loogootee Sergeant Wagoner, and Martin County Medic 1 responded. No one was transported.

4:12 p.m. - Received a call requesting to speak to a deputy. Deputy Branham responded.

9:44 p.m. - Received a 911 call reporting a car-deer accident south of Shoals. Deputy Shields and Big John's Towing responded.

## SUNDAY, JULY 21

4:57 a.m. - Received a report of a domestic dispute in Loogootee. Loogootee Officer Garab responded.

7:47 a.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Medic 1 and Loogootee Sergeant Wagoner responded. Medic 1 transported one patient to Jasper Memorial Hospital.



# COURT NEWS

## CRIMINAL CONVICTIONS AND SENTENCINGS July 12

Bridget Welborn, convicted of dealing in methamphetamine, a Level 4 Felony. Sentenced to serve 1,460 days with the Indiana Department of Corrections with 0 days suspended and credit for 51 actual days previously served plus 17 Class A credit days. Reminder of the sentence 1,392 days, to be served on Martin County Community Corrections Home Detention Electronically Monitored Program which includes 96 hours of community service, as long as defendant remains eligible.

Hannah Rae Flynn, convicted of operating a vehicle with an ACE of .15 or more, a Level 6 Felony. Sentenced to serve 548 days with 0 days suspended and credit for 274 actual days previously served plus 274 Class A credit days.

Charles T. E. Bish, convicted of failure to register as a sex or violent offender, a Level 6 Felony. Sentenced to serve 270 days with 0 days suspended and credit for 138 actual days previously served plus 138 Class A credit days.

Jeremiah L. Zimmerman, convicted of fraud, a Level 6 Felony. Sentenced to serve 365 days with 223 days suspended and credit for 71 actual days previously served plus 71 Class A credit days. Defendant received 12 months of probation.

Giovanni A. Greaves, convicted of operating a vehicle with an ACE of .08 or more, a Class C Misdemeanor. Sentenced to serve 60 days with 56 days suspended and credit for 2 actual days previously served plus 2 Class A credit days.

Waylon S. Wining, convicted of failure to register as a sex or violent offender, a Level 6 Felony. Sentenced to serve 547 days with 363 days suspended and credit for 92 actual days previously served plus 92 Class A credit days. Defendant received 363 days of probation.

## CRIMINAL CHARGES DISMISSED July 12

Hannah Rae Flynn, operating a vehicle while intoxicated endangering a person, a Class A Misdemeanor, dismissed.

William T. M. Brown, reckless driving, a Class C Misdemeanor, dismissed.

## CIVIL COURT New Suits Filed July 11

JP Morgan Chase Bank vs. Audrey Hopkins, civil collection.

## July 16

Midland Credit Management, Inc. vs.

Darchelle Dickey, civil collection.

## SMALL CLAIMS COURT New Suits Filed July 12

Jason and Bethany Tinkle vs. Bruce Smith, complaint.

## SMALL CLAIMS JUDGMENTS July 11

Judgment in favor of the plaintiff Hoosier Accounts Service and against the defendant Jeremy R. Knight in the amount of \$2,118.53.

## SMALL CLAIMS DISMISSED July 12

Hoosier Accounts Service vs. Denise K. Lannan, complaint, dismissed.

## MARRIAGE LICENSES

Keelan Ash Hayden of Loogootee and Ryleigh Kay Cheyenne Wessel of Loogootee.

Jacob Blackwell of Loogootee and Aubrey Main of Loogootee.

# ARRESTS

## TUESDAY, JULY 16

3:53 p.m. - Joshua Holtsclaw, 33, of Solsberry, was arrested by Loogootee Sergeant Wagoner on a Martin County warrant. He is being held without bond.

## WEDNESDAY, JULY 17

4:36 p.m. - Sean Wining, 25, of Shoals, was arrested by ISP Master Trooper Lents and charged with possession of marijuana, possession of paraphernalia and on a Lawrence County warrant. He is being held without bond.

4:36 p.m. - Roger Livingston, 34, of Mitchell, was arrested by ISP Master Trooper and charged with possession of marijuana and possession of paraphernalia. He is being held on \$10,000 10% bond.

## THURSDAY, JULY 18

5:04 a.m. - Cameron Ackerman, 57, of Loogootee, was arrested by Deputy Baumgart and charged with possession of methamphetamine. He is being held on \$15,000 10% bond.

## FRIDAY, JULY 19

10:23 a.m. - Brian Cox, 52, of Loogootee, was arrested by Deputy Branham on a Daviess County warrant.

## SATURDAY, JULY 20

3:21 p.m. - Hayden Burton, 21, of Shoals, was arrested by Deputy Branham and charged with battery resulting in injury. He is being held on a \$10,000 10% bond.

# Loogootee Police log

## MONDAY, JULY 15

3:42 a.m. - Officer Clark responded to a call on US Highway 231.

7:02 a.m. - Sergeant Wagoner responded to a call on US Highway 231.

1:00 p.m. - Sergeant Wagoner responded to a call at Family Dental Care.

3:44 p.m. - Sergeant Wagoner responded to a call at Smokers Host.

3:45 p.m. - Sergeant Wagoner responded to a call on US Highway 231.

## TUESDAY, JULY 16

1:16 a.m. - Officer Clark and Officer Baumgart responded to a call at DC Metal.

2:59 a.m. - Officer Garab responded to a call on Truelove Drive.

5:34 a.m. - Loogootee Fire Department, Sergeant Wagoner and Officer Garab responded to a medical call on Byron Street.

9:13 a.m. - Sergeant Wagoner responded to a call on Sherman Street.

11:08 a.m. - Sergeant Wagoner responded to a call on Washington Street.

11:47 a.m. - Loogootee Fire Department responded to a call on North Line Street.

4:25 p.m. - Sergeant Wagoner responded to a call at the Eldorado Motel.

5:45 p.m. - Loogootee Fire Department, Sergeant Wagoner and Officer Garab responded to a call on Broadway Street.

7:05 p.m. - Officer Garab responded to a call on First Street.

## WEDNESDAY, JULY 17

1:44 p.m. - Loogootee Fire Department responded to a medical call on Third Street.

2:48 p.m. - Chief Hunt responded to a

call at the Dollar General.

3:36 p.m. - Chief Hunt responded to a call on Park Street.

6:06 p.m. - Officer Clark responded to a call at the Dollar General Market.

8:35 p.m. - Officer Clark and Officer Garab responded to a call at the Dollar General.

9:21 p.m. - Officer Clark and Officer Garab responded to a call at On The Fly.

## THURSDAY, JULY 18

10:16 p.m. - Officer Clark responded to a call on Brickyard Road.

## FRIDAY, JULY 19

2:21 p.m. - Sergeant Wagoner responded to a medical call on Kentucky Avenue.

## SATURDAY, JULY 20

6:47 a.m. - Assistant Chief Long responded to a call on Third Street.

9:52 a.m. - Loogootee Fire Department and Assistant Chief Long responded to a medical call on Fairview Street.

2:18 p.m. - Sergeant Wagoner responded to a call near Ironton Road in Shoals.

8:33 p.m. - Officer Garab and Officer Baumgart responded to a call at McDonald's.

## SUNDAY, JULY 21

4:57 a.m. - Officer Garab responded to a call on Broadway Street.

7:47 a.m. - Sergeant Wagoner responded to a medical call on Kentucky Avenue.

3:47 p.m. - Sergeant Wagoner responded to a call on Mt. Calvary Road.

4:40 p.m. - Loogootee Fire Department and Sergeant Wagoner responded to a medical call on Church Street.

9:10 p.m. - Officer Garab responded to a call near the 4-H Fairgrounds.

10:56 p.m. - Officer Garab responded to a call on Broadway Street.

# Martin County real estate transfers

**Jason Warren**, of Martin County, Indiana to **Gillman Thomas Andrew Warren**, of Martin County, Indiana, part of the northwest quarter of the southeast quarter of Section 20, Township 3 North, Range 3 West, containing 0.74 acre, more or less.

**Colton W. Lengacher and Daryn B. Lengacher**, of Martin County, Indiana to **Leona Stowe**, of Martin County, Indiana, one lot in the Town of Kecksville, in Section 32, Township 5 North, Range 4 West.

**Jonathan Wagler and Marie Wagler**, of Daviess County, Indiana to **Walter E. Graber**, of Daviess County, Indiana, a part of the southwest quarter of the northwest quarter of Section 25, Township 3 North, Range 5 West, containing 0.42 acre, more or less.

**Pamela B. Dack**, of Martin County, Indiana to **Aram W. Wright and Dana Wright**, of Lawrence County, Indiana, Lots Numbered 13, 14, 15 and 16 in Martin's Addition to the Town of Cale, Indiana.

**Brenda E. Pennington**, of Martin County, Indiana to **Brenda E. Pennington and Deidre Brooke Pennington**, of Martin County, Indiana. Tract I: A portion of the west half of Section 11, Township 2 North, Range 4 West, in Center Township, Martin County, Indiana, containing 25.64 acres.

**Connie L. Norris**, of Martin County, Indiana to **Abigail Marie Stoner**, of Camden County, Georgia, Lot Number 10 in J.W. O'Brian's Addition to the

town, now City of Loogootee, Indiana. Also, Lot Number 11 in J.W. O'Brian's Addition to the town, now City of Loogootee, Indiana, except a strip of even width in the northwest corner of Lot 11.

**Marty Truelove**, of Martin County, Indiana to **Sara J. Steward**, of Martin County, Indiana, the south half of the southeast quarter of the southeast quarter of Section 34, Township 4 North, Range 4 West, containing 0.45 acre, more or less.

**Melvin Leroy Spears, Jr.**, of Martin County, Indiana to **Jay T. Martin**, of Martin County, Indiana, 0.18 acre in Section 12, Township 2 North, Range 5 West.

**Boondocks Logging, LLC**, of Martin County, Indiana to **Phillip Leon Stoll and Martha Rose Stoll**, of Daviess County, Indiana, a part of the north half of Section 3, Township 3 North, Range 4 West, and part of the south half of Section 34, Township 4 North, Range 4 West, Center Township, Martin County, Indiana, containing 93.23 acres, more or less.

**Colten W. Lengacher and Daryn B. Lengacher**, of Martin County, Indiana to **Leona Stowe**, of Martin County, Indiana. Tract I: A portion of the west half of the southwest quarter of Section 32, Township 5 North, Range 4 West, Martin County, Indiana, containing 3.383 acres, more or less. Tract II: A portion of the west half of the southwest quarter of Section 32, Township 5 North, Range 4 West, Martin County, Indiana, containing 2.19 acres, more or less.

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As a writer, I consider myself an observer of the human condition casting about to find the humor in my observations. But let me tell you, there is not a lot of humor floating about the world these days. “It used to be easy,” I said to a friend of mine. “Some stories would practically write themselves but not anymore.”

“Well then, write about something else, maybe something that annoys you,” he said. Annoyances, eh? It seems like the older I get, the more things tend to annoy me. Maybe not a bad idea to write something; get it off my chest, as it were.

So dear readers, here I am, feverishly creating a list of things that annoy me. I already have several; roadside trash, TV lawyers, fast food drive-thrus, our cat, people trying to buy my house, disappearing crackers, that guy with the Emu and the use of the words ‘greivous’ and ‘irregardless’.

All of these are worthy subjects that I may get to in time but for now, I want to talk about the item at the top of my list; the telephone, now known as just ‘the phone’. I have no idea what happened to the ‘tele’ part.

Thanks to technology, the telephone that used to be my friend has now become my enemy. The introduction of the menu driven automatic answering phone system has become a nightmare. It used to be that when I needed someone or something, I would pick up the phone, a real human being would answer and together, we would quickly accomplish whatever it was I needed to do.

No more. Now I get some anonymous voice telling me to ‘please listen carefully as our menu options have changed.’ These companies are flattering themselves if they think I have memorized their menu options. Why are they changing these menu options in the first place? Is it just to keep us on our toes?

Then when you have finally chosen one of the options, we’re informed that ‘We are experiencing heavier than normal call volume.’ (1) followed by the supreme insult to my intelligence: “but your call is very important to us”. Oh really? I don’t believe it is. If my call was that important, someone would be answering the phone.

I know it’s only old folks like me that are annoyed by this; younger people aren’t bothered; they have no idea that it wasn’t always this way. In the middle of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, telephones were our friends and were used to talk to other people. We had telephone books with names, addresses and phone numbers. And not everyone had the luxury of a telephone, there was lots of running to the neighbor’s home for those folks

I don’t remember when our family got ours, but the first telephone that I remember in our home on Dewey St. in Loogootee would have been around 1950. I can still see that phone in my mind: it was a brown box hanging on the wall in our kitchen, a receiver was attached to the left side and on the right side was a crank handle that you turned to get the operator’s attention.

Our phone required the assistance of a

telephone operator to get anything done. When you turned the crank, one of the dozen or so operators -one of whom was my mom – would say ‘number please’. If you needed information on a phone number or wanted to make a collect call, they would also help you with that.

Interestingly enough, my wife Susie, who’s only 2 years younger than me, grew up in the big city with a dial telephone. Why didn’t my town? I don’t know but I’m glad they didn’t. My mom would have been out of a job.

I left Loogootee headed for the big city in 1963 and the operators were still busy saying ‘number please’ to the town’s citizens. 10 months later, Susie and I were married, and we had our own telephone and telephone number. As the years went on, our family was growing and even though one phone was enough, the Bell Telephone Company convinced us we needed not just one phone, we needed one in every room with different models in different colors and they were more than happy to rent them to us. (2)

It wasn’t all peaches and cream with this phone arrangement. Don’t tell anyone but we never managed to keep up with the Jones’s when it came to phones. Much to my shame, we never had a model 701B ‘Princess’ phone.

My telephone story went full circle when, in the late 1970’s, we had a phone installed on the wall in our kitchen. It wasn’t a brown box with a crank on the side; this one was green, had a lighted dial mounted on the front and had a 10-foot cord attached to the receiver so you could walk around the room. (3) It wasn’t a Princess phone, but it was the next best thing.

And with that folks, as Paul Harvey would say “Now you know the rest of the story”.

G2 notes:

- 1: Heavier call volumes, my eye. It’s much cheaper to put us on hold than it is to hire someone to answer the phone.
- 2: And thus, the age of consumerism was born.
- 3: I thought that 10-foot cord was great but little did I know that I would end up spending innumerable hours trying to untangle the damn thing.

## CLASSIFIED ADS

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## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### Loogootee School Board executive meeting

The Loogootee School Board will meet in executive session Wednesday, July 24 at 6 p.m. in the superintendent’s conference room. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss a job performance evaluation of individual employees. The meeting is closed to the public in accordance with I.C. 5-14-1.5-6.1(b).

### Jones Family Reunion

The 51st Annual Jones Family Reunion for descendants of James and Rachel (Gallagher) Jones will be Saturday, August 10 from 11:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. (Eastern time) at Stoll’s Lakeview Restaurant, 15519 US Highway 231, Loogootee, IN 47553 (located approximately three miles north of Loogootee on Hwy. 231). A Dutch-treat lunch from the restaurant’s buffet/menu will be at noon. Since this is the first year at a restaurant, an RSVP to Trudy Sutton, 812-709-0376 (text or call) by Friday, August 2 is requested. An approximate count is needed to provide to the restaurant so enough seating and food is available.

### Free community meal

The Loogootee Christian Church, at 206 Sherman Street, is having their monthly free meal for the community on Thursday, August 1 from 6-8 p.m. This month they will be serving sandwiches, hot and cold sides, desserts and drinks. All members of the community are 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.



Originally published September 20, 2009

“He doesn’t sit well.” This was the comment that I heard mentioned about a gentleman named Charlie on a recent trip to Missouri. I thought about it for a while and asked the person that said it what he meant. He said “Charlie has to be moving and accomplishing something all the time. He is one of our best production managers, but if a meeting is dragging on it isn’t unusual for him to just get up and leave.” I thought about this for a while and realized that I don’t sit well either. Later on, meeting Charlie, I rode with him in his truck out to visit a farm we were looking at. Charlie was a big guy, had played football at a college in Arkansas and seemed like the kind of guy you didn’t want to mess with. He laughed when I said I had heard “he didn’t sit well.” He said he had realized early in life that he had a menacing appearance (think of one of those fake pro wrestlers and that sums up Charlie’s appearance) and he might as well use it to his advantage even though he turned out to have a very gentle nature about him and was far more likely to help someone up than knock them down.

There are some kids (especially little boys) that don’t “sit well” either. I know I didn’t when I was little. Most of us learn to control it because our society or workplace demands us to “sit well.” None of our little grandkids sit particularly well. I am kind of glad they don’t, even though it drives others crazy. It just isn’t a realistic expectation for little kids to be quiet all

the time. Most of the time when we want that type of behavior, they have no idea what is going on, yet we expect them to pay attention and “sit well.”

Last weekend we visited our son, daughter-in-law, and granddaughter at their home north of Lafayette. By the time we left we had completely painted the exterior of their house, mowed the yard, pruned some landscaping and enjoyed every minute of it. On the way home we agreed that we were “good tired”, meaning we had used the time to help accomplish things that they needed done, played around while doing it, and in doing so hadn’t felt like we were doing anything we didn’t want to be doing.

Most volunteer work can make us feel “good tired.” Martin County has many individuals that volunteer their time and talent in a way they deem worthy. It bothers me some that regardless of the organization and its mission, there are always some who expect it to be done better or for the volunteers to do even more. As we work through a recession and budget changes the volunteers become even more valuable than ever. They often work at thankless tasks and then sometimes find themselves defending their efforts. That doesn’t seem right to me.

Charlie showed us around the farm we were visiting and ended by saying that “If we were finished, he had other more pressing things to do.” I was glad to have met him and witness someone else who “doesn’t sit well.”

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I just saw my first goldenrod blooms for the year, and right on time, my eyes are sticky, and watering and my nose is running. However, the two events are not really related. It seems that I repeat this explanation annually, but I still hear people saying that the goldenrod gives them hay fever.

To understand the situation, we must discuss the different ways plants are pollinated. Some plants release their pollen into the air and depend on the wind to carry it and complete the pollination process. In other plants, the pollen is carried from one plant to another by pollinators, including insects, birds and other animals. It is those plants that release pollen into the air that cause hay fever symptoms in people.

If a restaurant wants to attract people, the owners put up a sign. Flashing neon signs get the attention of would-be diners. Flowers play the same role in the realm of plants. The flowers advertise the presence of nectar, and as pollinators stop in to eat, they get pollen on them, which they carry to the next flower they visit. Such pollens are generally larger than those released into the air, and usually are a little sticky. Since they are heavy and sticky, they are not released into the air and are not the cause of allergy symptoms. In general, flowering plants do not cause hay fever!

That being said, some people develop specific allergies that may be triggered by the scent of flowers, but such symptoms are specific sensitivities and not true hay fever allergies. Some people also have tactile allergies to the sap of plants, usually resulting in skin rashes instead of hay fever symptoms.

So why does the sighting of the bright yellow flowers of goldenrod signal the start of allergy season? Is it all in our minds? Not at all. It is simply that goldenrod happens to bloom at the same time that ragweed blooms. Ragweed flowers are tiny and green, so they are not showy and advertising for pollinators. They release their pollens into the air and are the major cause of hay fever in the Midwest. Another plant that is air-pollinated is corn. When you see the tassels on the corn, you may find yourself having allergy symptoms. Grasses and many weeds also release pollens into the air, and the beautiful goldenrod gets the blame, because it is more noticeable.

The oft-maligned goldenrod is actually a beneficial plant for the eco-system. In Indiana, there are more than twenty species in the genus *Solidago*, with one for just about every site. Some tolerate

dry soil, while others thrive in wet conditions. Some are only about two feet tall, while others top out over six feet tall. The flowers have many forms, but all have that beautiful bright yellow color to attract the pollinators. The goldenrods are essential for late summer and fall pollinators, providing the energy needed for some to migrate and supplying the food that others need to get them through the winter months.

As noted, the latex sap of *Solidago* may cause rashes for some people, but that latex has been investigated as a replacement for rubber, and research continues into other possible uses.

Meanwhile, the flying pollen of common and giant ragweed continues to cause watery eyes, runny noses, scratchy throats and sneezing. I encourage efforts to cut or pull those plants before they get to bloom stage. It is not likely that we can get them all, but reducing the numbers will help keep the air clean.

## DNR asks for feedback on accessibility at properties statewide

The Indiana Department of Natural Resources invites Hoosiers to share their experiences with accessibility at DNR properties across the state.

An online, five-question survey is now available at [on.IN.gov/2024-guest-survey](https://on.IN.gov/2024-guest-survey). It can be completed in about five minutes.

Creating a welcoming environment for all guests while retaining natural experiences is a key priority for DNR. The department's new accessibility webpage at [on.IN.gov/dnr-accessibility](https://on.IN.gov/dnr-accessibility) provides information on accessible activities like visiting beaches and pools, fishing, hunting, wildlife viewing, exploring trails, and more.

"Exploring Indiana's great outdoors is a pastime that must be available to everyone," said Dan Bortner, DNR director. "It's exciting to see people find new experiences to enjoy through the accessibility webpage we launched this year. Through feedback we receive on this survey, we will continue working to improve accessibility and help overcome barriers that may prevent people from experiencing Indiana's incredible natural and cultural wonders."

As DNR adds and refines accessible activities based on feedback from this survey, the webpage will continue to be updated with new activities and places to explore.

## Hoosier farmers, landowners break conservation record for third year

In a remarkable achievement for sustainable agriculture, the latest results from the Conservation Tillage Transect survey reveal that 1.7 million acres of farmland are now under living cover across all crops in Indiana. This significant milestone underscores the increasing adoption of cover crops by farmers, driven by their multiple benefits for soil health, water management and overall farm productivity.

"Protecting soil, our most vital natural resource, is top of mind for our Indiana farmers and year after year our farmers are breaking their own conservation records" said Lt. Gov. Suzanne Crouch, Indiana's Secretary of Agriculture and Rural Development. "Through the implementation of cover crops and other conservation efforts, farmers are ensuring our land and water resources remain healthy and productive for years to come."

Overwintering living covers (i.e. - cover crops and small grains, like wheat) are known for their environmental benefits. Cover crops and small grains help increase organic matter in the soil and improve overall soil health by adding living roots to the soil more months of the year. Cover crops also improve water infiltration into the soil, while other covers, like legumes serve as natural fertilizers.

Although the conservation transect does not differentiate between cover crops and small grains, Indiana farmers typically plant fewer than 300,000 acres of small grains annually, so cover crops vastly dominate the 1.7 million estimated acres. Apart from corn and soybeans, cover crops are planted on more acres than any other commodity crop in Indiana. Cover crops are typically planted in the fall after harvest and designed to protect the soil and keep roots in the ground throughout the winter, which improves soil health and helps filter water runoff.

"These results are very encouraging," said Damarys Mortenson, state conservationist for USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service in Indiana. "The adoption of cover crops on such a large scale indicates that farmers are recognizing the long-term benefits of these practices for both their land and the en-

vironment."

Farmers like Todd Armstrong, who operates a 1,100-acre farm in Washington County, have seen firsthand the advantages of cover crops.

"The water holding capacity and tilth of the ground has just improved so much and my neighbors have even seen that," said Armstrong. "Neighbors that worked ground every year have stopped and started incorporating cover crops because they've seen how good it has worked for us."

As a result of the cover crops and other overwintering covers planted last year, it is estimated that 1.8 million tons of sediment was prevented from entering Indiana's waterways, which would fill about 18.4 thousand train freight cars.

The conservation survey also showed that about 69 percent of row crop acres were not tilled and about 17 percent had employed reduced tillage over winter, after the 2023 harvest. This early spring survey is not intended to quantify pre-planting tillage.

Despite the clear benefits, there are challenges to the widespread adoption of cover crops, including the initial cost of seeds and the need for additional management skills. However, various federal and state programs offer financial incentives and technical assistance to help farmers incorporate cover crops into their operations. One such initiative that helped contribute to the successful year for cover crops in 2023 was the Cover Crop Premium Discount Program (CCPDP). It is a program that provides a discount on crop insurance for planting cover crops. CCPDP assisted landowners in planting about 19 thousand acres of cover crops in 2023.

The conservation transect is a visual survey of cropland in the state. It was conducted between March and May 2024 by members of the Indiana Conservation Partnership, including the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service, the Indiana State Department of Agriculture, Indiana's Soil and Water Conservation Districts and Purdue Extension, as well as Earth Team volunteers, to show a more complete story of the state's conservation efforts.

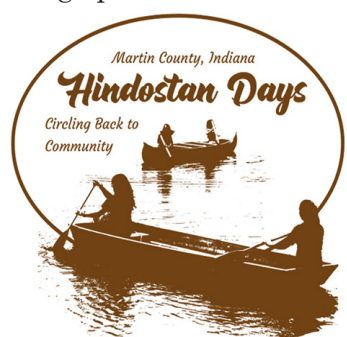
To see the full conservation transect report, click [here](#).

## 4th Annual Hindostan Days Vendor Applications Open!

Hindostan Days vendor applications are now available and being accepted until September 1. Vendor applications can be picked up at the Martin County Historical Museum during open hours.

**The 4th Annual Hindostan Days event will be held Saturday, 28th from 10 am-6 pm.**

- Vendor spaces will be \$25 each.
- Vendor spaces will be 12x12.
- Vendor must provide own shade canopy (not required), tables, chairs, etc.
- Vendor spaces will be located in grassy areas.
- Vendors may purchase up to two (2) additional spaces.
- Vendor spaces will be assigned prior to the event date.



All guidelines are outlined in the vendor application form.  
*The Hindostan Days Committee reserves the right to refuse any submitted vendor application form.*



**Last Saturday Of Every Month!**

**at the Loogootee VFW Post 9395**

**300 W. Vine Street, Loogootee IN 47553**

**We start serving at 5 p.m.**

**Grilled Ribeye \$25 or Grilled Chicken Breast \$18  
Served with: Salad Bar, Baked Potato, Green Beans & Dinner Roll**

**Call to reserve your steak 812-296-4188  
PUBLIC WELCOME!**





**Pickleball courts ribbon cutting** -Photos provided

Loogootee Mayor Brian Ader cut the ribbon on Monday to the new pickleball courts installed by the city pool. The Loogootee Pickleball Committee have done fundraisers for the last few years to raise money for the courts. The Martin County Community Foundation also contributed funds to complete the courts.



**Franklin P. and Arthur W. Perdue Foundation Awards \$10,000 to Youth First for Daviess and Martin County youth**

The Franklin P. and Arthur W. Perdue Foundation continues to invest in the health and well-being of Daviess and Martin County youth and families. A grant award of \$10,000 was recently presented to Youth First, Inc. to provide mental health support and substance misuse prevention through their school-based student assistance program.

The Franklin P. and Arthur W. Perdue Foundation, the charitable giving partner of Perdue Farms, awards grants to 501(c)(3) organizations that benefit communities where large numbers of their associates live and work and focuses on strengthening communities in the following areas: agriculture and the environment, education, fighting hunger and poverty, health and social services, and public safety.

The grant is part of Perdue Farms Delivering Hope To Our Neighbors® outreach focused on improving quality of life and building strong communities.

“At Perdue, we are committed to enhancing the communities where our associates live and work,” said Sara Norfolk, complex human resource manager for Perdue Farms in Washington. “We are proud to continue to invest in Youth First’s program to make sure no child falls through the cracks when it comes to mental health care.”

The grant to Youth First will allow for continued mental health support for approximately 4,350 students in 11 Daviess and Martin County schools. Youth First partners with 125 schools across 14 Indiana counties to embed prevention programs and over 90 skilled mental health professionals (primarily master’s level social workers), bilingual support personnel, and parent engagement coordinators in school buildings, where they provide extra mental health support for students and prevention coaching for parents and teachers.

Youth First Founder Dr. Bill Wooten was present at the check presentation and shared why he started the organization: “It was important to me that all children receive this type of support, so they remain healthy, hopeful and focused on school.”

Youth First Mental Health Professionals build caring relationships, foster readiness for positive change, and boost resiliency along with other valuable life skills. Research shows these protective factors are the keys to effective prevention of negative outcomes for young people. The organization’s positive work and strategies are driving growth, with more schools seeking Youth First’s help to address the growing need for mental health support for students.

**Back-to-school shots**

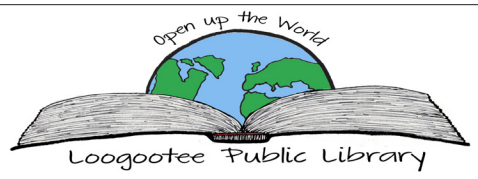
The start of a new school year is almost here. Students in kindergarten, grade 6, grade 12 and college students may need immunizations before they can begin classes in August.

The Martin County Health Department will have immunization clinics by appointment only on the following dates:

- Tuesday, July 30 from 8:30 a.m.-noon and 12:30-4 p.m.
- Wednesday, July 31 from 8:30 a.m.-noon and 12:30-6 p.m.
- Thursday, August 1 from 8:30 a.m.-noon and 12:30-4 p.m.
- Wednesday, August 7 from 8:30 a.m.-noon and 12:30-6 p.m.

The health department office is located at 127 Water Street, Shoals. 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.

Please bring a copy of your child’s immunization record with you. If you have questions about immunizations, you can contact your child’s doctor or call the health department at 812-247-3303.



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

Thursday, July 25 from 5-7 p.m., Fiber Arts & Crafts will meet.

Friends of Loogootee Library (FOLL) rescheduled the Book, Bake and Yard Sale to Saturday, September 21 from 8 a.m.-noon.

Monday, July 29 at 3:30 p.m. is Sensory Hour. This is an optional story time and craft, plus Lego and Playdoh socialization play.

New Books:

- Mystery: “Confessions of the Dead” by James Patterson.
- Fiction: “The Cliffs” by J. Courtney Sullivan, “Sandwich” by Catherine Newman, and “The Keeper of the Stars” by Buck Turner.
- Inspirational Fiction: “The Forge” by Chris Fabry.

Library hours: Monday 10-6, Tuesday 10-5, Closed on Wednesday, Thursday 10-6, Friday 10-5, and Saturday 9-1. The library phone number is 812-295-3713 and check out the website [www.loogootee.lib.in.us](http://www.loogootee.lib.in.us) or like us on Facebook. The library has free Wi-Fi service available for patrons.

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