

# Martin County JOURNAL

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Eight pages

## 151 farm families, one from Martin County, presented with Hoosier Homestead Awards

Over 150 Hoosier farm families have been awarded the Hoosier Homestead Award in recognition of their commitment to Indiana agriculture by Lt. Governor Suzanne Crouch and Indiana State Department of Agriculture Director Bruce Kettler. The Daniel Hoffman Farm, in Martin County, received the Centennial Award for 100 years, in operation since 1892.

To be named a Hoosier Homestead, the farm must be kept in the same family for at least 100 consecutive years and consist of more than 20 acres or produce more than \$1,000 in agricultural products per year.

"Heritage and endurance are two words that come to mind when reflecting on our great state," Crouch said. "This award captures the essence of Indiana and the

many individuals that help ensure Indiana agriculture perseveres."

Since the program was established in 1976, more than 5,800 families have received the award.

Families were eligible for three different award distinctions. Based on the age of their farm, they received the Centennial Award for 100 years, Sesquicentennial Award for 150 years or Bicentennial Award for 200 years of ownership.

This year, two families are being recognized with the Bicentennial Award; the Paul E. Henry farm from Fayette County was established in 1819 and the Ferguson farm from Lawrence County was established in 1820.

"To keep a family farm working and in the same family for over 100 years is a tremendous feat," Kettler said. "Ag-

riculture has always been at the core of Indiana and of these individuals. Recognizing our longstanding Hoosier farming families is always an honor."

Due to the current ongoing pandemic, Lt. Governor Crouch and ISDA Director Kettler were unable to host a traditional Hoosier Homestead Award Ceremony. Individual family ceremonies were held at the Statehouse today and more families are set to be recognized on August 7, all following Governor Holcomb's ordinances, Indianapolis Mayor Joe Hogsett's orders and the CDC guidelines.

To find the Hoosier Homestead Award recipients for each county, visit [www.in.gov/isda/3848.htm](http://www.in.gov/isda/3848.htm)

Visit [www.isda.in.gov](http://www.isda.in.gov) to learn more about the Hoosier Homestead Award.



## Census Bureau wants rural areas to be counted

Every 10 years, the Census Bureau counts everyone who lives in the United States and five of its territories. However, reaching people who live in rural and remote areas is a challenge for the U.S. Census Bureau.

As of August 2, the Indiana census self-response rate is 67.2 percent. The nationwide rate is 62.9 percent. Martin County's response rate stood at 62.6 percent as of August 2, with 22.2 percent of those through the internet. Martin County ranks 75<sup>th</sup> worst of the 92 Indiana counties for response rate, tied with Grant County. Dubois County holds the highest ranking in the state for residents responding, at 79.1 percent. Crawford County is the worst ranked at 52.9 percent.

Census Bureau employees take extraordinary measures to reach homes that can be difficult to access in rural and remote areas, whether they are located at the top of a mountain or at the end of a mile-long gravel driveway. And in the final weeks before census takers begin knocking on doors nationwide to count people that have not yet responded on their own, the agency is continuing to conduct a massive national and regional advertising, media, and partnership campaign to encourage response.

Often, rural households do not have typical mailing addresses but use post office boxes in nearby towns. The Census Bureau typically does not mail to P.O. boxes. However, in light of COVID-19's overall impact on the communications landscape, the Census Bureau sent postcards between June 24 and July 3 to an estimated 1.3 million post office boxes in communities where P.O. boxes are the only mailing address available. The postcards alerted households that a census taker may drop off invitations and a questionnaire, or that they would visit later in the summer to count people in person. The postcards also provide information on how to respond to the 2020 Census online or by phone.

For a small percentage of addresses (those in very remote areas), census takers have been counting people in person since the beginning of the year. This avoids the cost of having a census taker visit those households beginning in mid-August.

The 2020 Census marks the first time everyone has been invited to respond online. While millions of people around the country are responding to the census, the lack of internet connectivity poses challenges for much of rural America.

Only 65 percent of counties where 100 percent of the population is in a rural area have a subscription to broadband internet, according to Census Bureau statistics. Areas less likely to respond online, approximately 21.8 percent of households, received a paper questionnaire (See 'CENSUS' on page two)

## COVID-19 still lingers in region as local events resume

As of today, Wednesday, August 5, Martin County has had 42 positive cases of COVID-19 and zero deaths. 34 of the positive cases have recovered and are no longer in quarantine. As of today, 753 Martin County residents have been tested. Of the positive cases, 28.6 percent have been between the ages of 30 and 49, 16.7 percent have been 20-29, 9.5 percent have been 0-19 and 60-69, 5.7 percent have been 50-59 years of age and 2.4 percent have been 80-plus. No one aged 70-79 have tested positive to date. 59.5 percent of positives have been female and 40.5 have been male.

Dubois County has had 665 positive cases and 12 deaths and had 5,173 residents tested. Daviess County has had 251 positive cases, 19 deaths and 2,894 residents tested. Lawrence County has had 332 positive cases, 27 deaths and 4,513 residents tested. Greene County has had 240 positive cases, 34 deaths and 3,394 residents tested. Orange County has had 164 positive cases, 24 deaths and 1,859 residents tested.

COVID-19 testing sites locally include at Ruxer Golf Course in Jasper, Memori-

### Public hearing for rate increases to be held Monday

The Loogootee City Council will hold a public hearing Monday, August 10 at 5:30 p.m. to allow for comments for or against the proposed water and sewer rate increases discussed at last month's meeting. This will affect any Loogootee Water customer along with former West Boggs Sewer District customers and residents of Daviess County who receive water from Loogootee.

The water rates will increase by 20 percent next year, 17 percent in 2022 and 6 percent in 2023 for a total of a 43 percent rate hike after the three-year period. The sewer rates will increase 15 percent next year, 15 percent in 2022 and 5 percent in 2023 for a total of a 35 percent increase after the three years.

The rate increase is also the same for customers in Daviess County receiving Loogootee Water and for customers of the former West Boggs Sewer District, purchased by the city a few years ago.

The city council is expected to vote on the rate increases immediately following the public hearing.

al Hospital in Huntingburg, Valley Health in West Baden, and the Walmart parking lot in Paoli. For a complete list of testing sites and to schedule an appointment, visit [www.coronavirus.in.gov/2524.htm](http://www.coronavirus.in.gov/2524.htm) or call 888-634-1116.

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

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

The Martin County Health Department is working closely with the Indiana State Department of Health Contact Tracing Team to ensure that contacts of positive patients are identified and monitored and that infection control protocols are being followed.

### Final survey in series released by eSolve, IU

Martin County, in partnership with eSolve Solutions and Indiana University Bloomington, has developed four community surveys. The goal of this anonymous survey series is to provide valuable information to Martin County agencies and organizations. Collected data will assist the county with policy-making and future grant opportunities, as well as creating partnerships with service providers.

Part I of the series focused on transportation and was released on Monday, July 13. Part II of the survey series, Mental Health and Well Being, was released Monday, July 20, and focused on how events in the past have affected the mental health of Martin County residents. Part III of the series was released last week and focused on access to care within the county.

If you have not completed these surveys, we encourage you to visit the Ready Martin County Facebook Page to participate.

The final survey of this series, Physical Health, is being released now; they need

The best way to protect yourself from any respiratory illness is to:

-Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.

-Wear a mask that covers your nose and mouth any time you are in public. Masks are required to enter some locations.

-Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.

-Avoid close contact (within 6 feet) with people who are sick.

-Stay home when you are sick. If you have symptoms consistent with Covid-19 self-isolate for at least 10 days away from other members of your household. A sick individual should continue to isolate until symptoms have resolved for at least 72 hours. For some that may mean isolation lasts longer than 10 days.

-Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.

-Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.

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

your help. Please use the URL below to access this survey. Paper copies are also available at St. John Catholic Parish and Redemption Christian Church in Loogootee as well as The River Church in Shoals.

Residents who complete surveys will be entered into a drawing for the chance to receive one of 200 gift cards valued at \$20 each. Every time you complete an anonymous survey, you will be entered into the drawing again.

[www.surveymonkey.com/r/MC-PHYSHEALTH](http://www.surveymonkey.com/r/MC-PHYSHEALTH)

### School board candidacy

Anyone who would like to run for school board in Martin County have until August 21, 2020 at noon to file their petition for candidacy. Documents for filing can be picked up at the clerk's office.

In Loogootee, there are two at-large positions and in Shoals, districts 2, 3, and 5 will be on the ballot.

For more information, contact the Martin County Clerk's office at 812-247-3651.



# Making A Difference



By Curt Johnson  
MCCF Executive Director

-- PPE FOR MARTIN COUNTY --  
I've spent some recent columns talking about the Martin County Community Foundation's (MCCF) Emergency Relief Fund (ERF) and how the United Way of South Central Indiana (UWSC) and the MCCF have used this fund to help with COVID-19 relief efforts in Martin County.

Our nonprofit partners serving Martin County have an understanding of the ramifications of the healthcare crisis and the impact upon people in our community. The ERF is to help these organizations meet their increasing and unplanned needs. We have a "Rapid Response" application and process on our webpage to facilitate, review and approve applications as quickly as we can.

-- FOR FOOD PANTRIES AND SAMARITAN CENTER --

A part of these grant funds went to provide Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) to some of our organizations in

need. We've already distributed PPE to our volunteer fire departments and some recovery groups in the county. This week I'm glad to share that we've also been able to distribute face masks to the Samaritan Center and some food pantries.

Pictured receiving the face masks are the St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry, Loogootee United Methodist Church Food Pantry, the Greater Works Food Pantry, and the Samaritan Center.

-- MORE INFORMATION --

For more information about the MCCF and how we can help you give back to your community, please contact the MCCF Director, Curt Johnson, at 812-295-1022 or [mccf@cfpartner.org](mailto:mccf@cfpartner.org).

You are also welcome to visit our webpage at [www.cfpartner.org](http://www.cfpartner.org), follow us on Twitter at [www.twitter.com/MartinCountyCF](https://www.twitter.com/MartinCountyCF), and "like" the MCCF Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/mccommunityfoundation](https://www.facebook.com/mccommunityfoundation).



Pictured holding the face masks are Joe Williams and Keith Greenwell (St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry) with Curt Johnson (MCCF Director).



Pictured is Curt Johnson (MCCF Director) with Brandi Sturgeon (Greater Works Food Pantry) as she receives some face masks.



Pictured is Martha Greene (Loogootee United Methodist Church Food Pantry) receiving a box of face masks from Curt Johnson (MCCF Director).



Pictured are Suellyn Fitzpatrick and Maggi Poirier (Samaritan Center) with face masks provided by the Martin County Community Foundation.

## CENSUS

(Continued from page one)

when they received their initial invitation to respond to the 2020 Census.

Many federal programs and resources support rural communities, and funding for those programs is often determined by census statistics.

There are several programs specifically geared toward rural growth, according to the Census Bureau working paper, "Uses of Census Bureau Data in Federal Funds." There are also many general programs that focus on rural communities, like Rural Education and the Department of Justice's Rural Domestic Violence Assistance programs.

Other important programs informed by census statistics include Water and Waste Disposal Systems for Rural Communities, Rural Business Development Grants, and Rural Housing Preservation

Grants.

When people aren't counted, communities can lose out on federal funding for critical public services like schools and education programs, hospitals and health insurance, transportation funding for public transportation and roads and bridges, and emergency response. Responses to the 2020 Census also determine how many seats a state may gain or lose in the U.S. House of Representatives

Responses to the 2020 Census are confidential and never shared with law enforcement or immigration agencies.

It's not too late to respond to the census online at [2020census.gov](http://2020census.gov), by phone, or by mail. When people respond on their own, it's less likely that a census taker will need to visit to help ensure they are counted.

Learn more and respond today at [2020census.gov](http://2020census.gov).

# CLASSIFIED ADS

FOR SALE

2003 ROAD TREK 200-Popular. Fully loaded Class B Motorhome. Well maintained, 62,500 miles. 8317 Windom Road, Shoals. 812-247-2416.

Advertise in the Martin County Journal

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

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Corner of Hwy 231 North and 204 Vincennes Avenue Completely remodeled, 4 bedroom, 2 bath Separate garage \$850 per month \$850 damage deposit **Phone 812-296-2716 or cell 812-486-8324**

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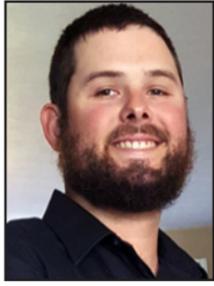
EOE/M/F/Veterans/Disabilities/Drug-Free Workplace



# OBITUARIES

## ZACHARY FLICK

Zachary "Hootie" Michael Flick entered into eternal rest on Sunday, August 2, 2020 at Deaconess Midtown Hospital, in Evansville. A resident of Nicholson Valley, he was 32.



ZACHARY FLICK

He was born in Jasper on August 6, 1987; the son of Ronald "Hootie" Flick and Cindy "Hinkle" Kendall.

Zach married Darian Powell on August 10, 2013 and she survives.

He was preceded in death by his paternal grandfather, Robert "Hootie" Flick and maternal great-grandmother, Mary Bledsoe.

Zach was a 2006 graduate of Springs Valley High School, a member of Springs Valley Christian Church and was employed by HPDI in French Lick.

Zach loved the outdoors – hunting, fishing, mushroom hunting, playing cornhole; drinking his Busch Latte's and spending time with family and friends.

He is survived by his wife, Darian Flick of Nicholson Valley; mother, Cindy Kendall (Larry) of Paoli; father, Ronald "Hootie" Flick (Darla) of Shoals; two sons, Zane Robert Flick and Tucker Michael Flick, both of French Lick and one baby on the way; one sister, Trista Hinkle of Panama City, Florida; maternal grandparents, Jack, Sr. and Ruby Hinkle of French Lick; paternal grandmother, Virginia Flick of Nicholson Valley; two step-sisters, Keshia Nicholson of Paoli and Jacie Moffatt of Loogootee; two step-brothers, Brady Shipman of Shoals and Travis Kendall of Bedford; two sisters-in-law, Michael'an Cook (Evan) of French Lick and Kyla Basham of Memphis, Indiana; two brothers-in-law, Chandler Parks (Darcie) of French Lick, Indiana and Brayden Powell of Henryville; in-laws, Michael Powell and Jeremy and

Valerie Parks, all of French Lick; and three nieces, Lillian and Raleigh Parks and Sequoia Hinkle.

A graveside ceremony will be conducted by Rev. Darrel Land on Friday, August 7 at 11 a.m. at Cuzco Cemetery, in Cuzco. Friends may call from 3-8 p.m., Thursday, August 6 at Brosmer-Kemple Funeral Home, French Lick.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests memorial donations be made to the Zach Flick Benefit, German American Bank, P.O. Box 145, 4541 N. 4th Street, Dubois, IN 47527.

Attendees are asked to please comply to social distancing guidelines and wear a face covering while paying your respects to the family.

Arrangements are in the care of Brosmer-Kemple Funeral Home 9640 W. State Rd. 56 French Lick, In. 47432. Condolences may be made on their Facebook page at Brosmer-Kemple Funeral Home or at their website, [www.brosmer-kemplefuneralhome.com](http://www.brosmer-kemplefuneralhome.com).

## ROBERT NORMAN

Robert E. Norman, formerly of Shoals, passed away August 1, 2020 at the Loogootee Nursing Center. A resident of Loogootee, he was 94.

He was born July 24, 1926 in Martin County; the son of Eley and Mildred (Bough) Norman. He married Mary Jean Cox and she preceded him in death. Robert retired as a truck driver at NWSC Crane, was a WWII Veteran of the United States Army, was a member of the Shoals Christian Church, Shoals American Legion, The Shoals V.F.W. and the Shoals Eagles Lodge.

He is survived by one son, Billy Joe and Anita Noman of Shoals; five grandchildren, Lucas Norman, Leah Rose, Lexi Murray, Brandy Rosebaum and Liam Melvin; several great grandchildren, two sisters, Betty Dobson of Loogootee and Alice Mae Hamilton of Loogootee; and one brother, Jimmy Norman of Trinity Springs.

He is preceded in death by his wife and parents and one son, Bob Norman.

Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. today, Wednesday, August 5 at the Shoals Christian Church with Pastor Matthew Sullivan officiating. Burial will be in the Spring Hill Cemetery with Military Graveside Rites provided by the Shoals American Legion. Visitation will from noon Wednesday until the time of service at the church.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Shoals Christian Church.

The Queen-Lee Chapel of the Thorne-George Family Funeral Homes is in charge of the arrangements.

## DEROY TRAYLER

Deroy Trayler passed away July 19, 2020 at his home. A resident of Petersburg, he was 64.

He was born May 17, 1956 in Washington; the son of Kenneth and Edith (Hedrick) Trayler. He graduated from Washington High School in 1974. He had worked at Columbus Container. Deroy loved to collect Hot Wheel Cars and M&M memorabilia.

Deroy is survived by two brothers, Mike Trayler and Brent Trayler, both of Washington; three sisters, Cathy Bezy of Otwell, Judy Wolven of Washington and Denise (Pat) Strange of Loogootee and several nieces and nephews.

He is preceded in death by his parents; Shauna Trayler; two brothers, Darrell Hedrick and Dale Trayler and sister, Georgia Catt.

There will be no services at this time. Condolences can be sent to the family online at [www.edleemortuary.com](http://www.edleemortuary.com). All arrangements were entrusted to Ed Lee Mortuary.

## BRENDA BEARDEN

Brenda Sue Bearden passed away Monday, July 27, 2020 at her home. A resident of Shoals, she was 62.

She was born March 13, 1958 in Chicago, Illinois; daughter of J.M. and Minne Ellen (Short) Sexton. She mar-

ried Van Bearden in 1978 and he survives.

Brenda graduated Calhoun High School in Georgia and was an employee of Jones Oil Company.

She is survived by her mother, Minnie Ellen Baker of Shoals; two sons, Chris (Ashley) Bearden of Shoals and Heath Bearden of Rome, Georgia; five grandchildren, Keagan, Kaylee, Kenna, Aubree and Ayden Bearden; two brothers, Gary (Nancy) Sexton of Shoals and Jeff (Nina) Sexton of Loogootee; and one sister, Lisa Baker of Shoals.

She was preceded in death by her father, grandparents Josephine and Wade Short, Lucille and Lundy Sexton and one brother in law, Steve Baker.

No services are planned. The Queen-Lee Chapel of the Thorne-George Family Funeral Homes has been entrusted with the arrangements.

## BJ BINGHAM

William Joseph "B.J." Bingham passed away Monday, July 13, 2020 at his home after battling cancer since January. A resident of North Vernon, he was 61.

He was born January 25, 1959 in Washington; the son of William A. and Margaret M. (Williams) Bingham. B.J. graduated from Washington High School in 1977. He moved to Texas for 20 years and came back to Indiana and married Karen Jo (Cox) Bingham.

He enjoyed playing Bingo and Skip Bo with his family and playing the lottery. But his favorite thing to do was ride around in his golf cart enjoying nature and decorating his yard.

B.J. is survived by two daughters, Karla (James) Collins of Indianapolis and Nicole "Nicki" (Luke) Cox of Vincennes; brother, Richard Bingham of North Vernon; three sisters, Darlene (Richard) Bingham Brown of Burns City, Leota (Christopher) Bingham Havens of Ogdensburg, New York and Paula Bingham Coryell of North Vernon; and six grandchildren.

He is preceded in death by his wife, Karen Jo Bingham, who died September 17, 2011; his parents; brother, David Bingham; two sisters, Carol Bingham and Maryanne Bingham; brother-in-law, Douglas Coryell and two nephews, RJ Brown and Grady Eugene Brown.

Visitation will be Thursday, July 16 at Ed Lee Mortuary North Chapel from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. Funeral services will be Friday, July 17 at Ed Lee Mortuary North Chapel at 1 p.m. with Father Paul Ferguson officiating. Burial will follow at St. John Cemetery.

All condolences can be sent to the family at [www.edleemortuary.com](http://www.edleemortuary.com). All arrangements were entrusted to Ed Lee Mortuary.



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Thorne-George Family Funeral Homes, Inc.

## Martin County Sheriff's Department log

### MONDAY, JULY 27

8:10 a.m. - Received a report of suspicious activity. Deputy Seymour responded.

8:40 a.m. - Jail Commander Brulla transported two inmates to Indiana Department of Corrections.

10:35 a.m. - Received a report of a truck leaking fuel near Shoals. Major Keller responded.

11:30 a.m. - Received a request for animal control. Advised Animal Control Officer Hughett.

11:45 a.m. - Received a request for a vehicle unlock. Deputy Wells responded.

2:40 p.m. - Received a report of a stolen vehicle. Advised all Martin County law enforcement.

2:51 p.m. - Received a report of a dispute. Deputy Wells and Sheriff Roush responded.

3:15 p.m. - Received a request to speak to a deputy. Deputy Wells responded.

3:50 p.m. - Received request for a welfare check. Loogootee Captain Hennessee responded.

5:08 p.m. - Received a report of a large object in the roadway south of Loogootee. Martin County Civil Defense and INDOT responded.

5:10 p.m. - Received a report of a missing person. Loogootee Police were advised.

5:34 p.m. - Received a report of a tree down near Shoals. Shoals Fire Department responded.

6:30 p.m. - Received a request for a welfare check. Deputy Wells responded.

7:45 p.m. - Received a report of a domestic dispute in Loogootee. Loogootee Police were advised and Deputy Wells responded.

11:50 p.m. - Received a report of a suspicious person in Loogootee. Loogootee Sergeant Floyd responded.

11:59 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County EMS and Loogootee Sergeant Floyd responded.

### TUESDAY, JULY 28

8:49 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance south of Loogootee. Major Keller, Martin County EMS, and Haysville Fire responded.

8:54 p.m. - Received a report of vandalism in Loogootee. Loogootee Chief Rayhill responded.

11:28 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance north of Loogootee. Martin County EMS responded.

1:42 p.m. - Received a report of a vehicle accident east of Shoals. Shoals Fire, Martin County EMS, and Deputy Wells, Major Keller, and Deputy Flanagan responded.

2:43 p.m. - Received a report of a dispute in Loogootee. Loogootee Captain Hennessee responded.

4:19 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County EMS responded.

4:24 p.m. - Received a report of a reckless driver. Advised All Martin County law enforcement.

4:52 p.m. - Received a request for a welfare check. Deputy Wells responded.

5:25 p.m. - Received a request for an officer in Loogootee. Advised Loogootee Police.

5:38 p.m. - Received a report of a fire alarm near Loogootee. Advised Loogootee Police.

5:50 p.m. - Received a report of a dispute south of Loogootee. Deputy Wells, Loogootee Police, and ISP responded.

6:29 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance south of Loogootee. Martin

County EMS, Deputy Wells, and Loogootee Officer Floyd responded.

6:44 p.m. - Received a report of tree down. Shoals Fire responded.

6:54 p.m. - Received a report of disturbance south of Loogootee. Loogootee Sergeant Floyd and ISP responded.

### WEDNESDAY, JULY 29

8:30 a.m. - Major Keller out with a disabled vehicle south of Loogootee.

11:30 a.m. - Received a report of a domestic dispute in Crane. Major Keller and ISP responded.

1:40 p.m. - Received a request for a welfare check in Loogootee. Loogootee Chief Rayhill responded.

2:00 p.m. - Received a report of a vehicle accident. Major Keller responded.

4:04 p.m. - Received a request to speak to a deputy. Deputy Gibson responded.

4:28 p.m. - Received a report of a burglary alarm. Deputy Gibson responded.

6:47 p.m. - Received a request for a vehicle identification check. Deputy Barnett responded.

7:00 p.m. - Received a request to speak to animal control. Advised Animal Control Officer Hughett.

7:06 p.m. - Received a report of dispute in Loogootee. Advised Loogootee Police.

7:25 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County EMS responded. No one was transported.

9:45 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance. Shoals Fire and Martin County EMS responded. One patient was transported to Daviess Community Hospital.

### THURSDAY, JULY 30

6:50 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance. Martin County EMS and Shoals Fire responded. No one was transported.

7:00 a.m. - Received a report of a disturbance in Loogootee. Loogootee Chief Rayhill responded.

11:00 a.m. - Received a request for a vehicle unlock. Deputy Keller responded.

11:30 a.m. - Received a request for a vehicle unlock. Chief Deputy Greene responded.

2:20 p.m. - Received a report of a welfare check. Deputy Seymour responded.

2:27 p.m. - Received a report of a vehicle accident. Martin County EMS, Shoals Fire Department, and Deputy Barnett responded.

2:37 p.m. - Received a report of debris in the roadway in Loogootee. Loogootee Sgt Floyd responded.

3:40 p.m. - Received a report of flooding on State Road 450. INDOT was advised.

4:20 p.m. - Received a report of a tree down near Loogootee. Loogootee Police were advised.

5:34 p.m. - Received a report of a tree down. Deputy Gibson and Deputy Barnett responded.

5:38 p.m. - Received a report of a washed-out culvert. Martin County Highway Department was advised.

5:52 p.m. - Received a request for animal control. Advised Animal Control Officer Hughett.

6:00 p.m. - Received a request for a vehicle identification check. Deputy Gibson responded.

6:40 p.m. - Received a report of a tree down. Shoals Fire Department responded.

6:45 p.m. - Received a request for animal control. Advised Animal Control Officer Hughett.

7:09 p.m. - Received a report of mul-

multiple trees down in Crane. Martin County Highway Department was advised.

8:51 p.m. - Received a report of a disabled vehicle. Deputy Gibson and Deputy Barnett responded.

### FRIDAY, JULY 31

1:15 a.m. - Received a report of a runaway maybe in Martin County. Advised all Martin County law enforcement.

5:01 a.m. - Received a report of a stolen vehicle. Deputy Lents responded.

6:33 a.m. - Deputy Lents located stolen vehicle.

8:25 a.m. - Received a report of a runaway. Advised Chief Deputy Greene and Loogootee Sergeant Floyd.

10:40 a.m. - Received a report of a deer that had been hit east of Shoals and is still alive. Deputy Barnett responded.

11:00 a.m. - Received a report of a tree down. Shoals Fire Department responded.

11:05 a.m. - Received a report of a tree down. Deputy Barnett and Shoals Fire Department responded.

11:40 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Shoals. Martin County EMS and Shoals Fire Department responded.

12:30 p.m. - Received a request for a vehicle identification check. Deputy Barnett responded.

12:52 p.m. - Received a request for a vehicle identification check. Deputy Barnett responded.

1:42 p.m. - Received a request for a vehicle identification check. Deputy Barnett responded.

1:50 p.m. - Received a request for a Loogootee officer. Loogootee Sergeant Floyd responded.

2:48 p.m. - Received a report of illegal dumping. Deputy Barnett responded.

3:17 p.m. - Received a report of a dispute in Loogootee. Loogootee Sergeant Floyd responded.

3:20 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Shoals. Martin County EMS and Shoals Fire Department responded.

3:20 p.m. - Received a report of reckless driver west of Shoals. Deputy Barnett responded.

3:31 p.m. - Received a report of road damage. Advised Martin County Highway Department.

9:50 p.m. - Received a report of a disabled vehicle east of Shoals. Chief Deputy Greene responded.

10:10 p.m. - Received a report of a vehicle in between flood water and a downed tree. Shoals Fire Department, Chief Deputy Greene, Deputy Gibson, REMC, and Deputy Lents responded.

10:38 a.m. - Received a report of a manhole cover out in Loogootee. Loogootee Officer Means responded.

11:13 p.m. - Received a report of a tree down east of Loogootee. Shoals Marshal Eckert, Martin County Civil Defense, and Loogootee Fire responded.

11:33 p.m. - Received a report of a vehicle stuck in flood water in Daviess County. Advised Daviess County. Loogootee Officer Means and Loogootee responded.

11:44 p.m. - Received a report of flooding in Loogootee. Loogootee Police were advised.

### SATURDAY, AUGUST 1

1:15 a.m. - Received a report of a tree on a power line west of Shoals. Shoals Fire and REMC responded.

3:10 a.m. - Received a report of a tree down on a livestock fence. The property owner responded.

4:58 a.m. - Received a report of a tree down. Shoals Fire responded.

6:48 a.m. - Received a report of a bur-

glary alarm. Deputy Lents and Loogootee Sergeant Floyd responded.

7:40 a.m. - Received a report of a culvert damaged. Deputy Barnett and the county highway department were advised.

9:07 a.m. - Received a report of a reckless driver. Deputy Barnett responded.

9:10 a.m. - Received a request to speak to a deputy. Deputy Barnett responded.

9:15 a.m. - Received a report of several trees down north of Shoals. Shoals Fire Department responded.

9:45 a.m. - Received a report of major road damage north of Shoals. Advised county highway and Shoals Fire.

11:00 a.m. - Received a report of road damage on East River Road. Martin County Highway was advised.

12:10 p.m. - Received a report of a tree down. Martin County Civil Defense responded.

1:20 p.m. - Received a report of a tree down. Shoals Fire and Deputy Barnett responded.

1:55 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County EMS responded.

3:51 p.m. - Received a report of a tree down. Shoals Fire responded.

5:37 p.m. - Received a report of a tree down. Shoals Fire responded.

5:50 p.m. - Received a report a road damage. Advised Martin County Highway Department.

7:02 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County EMS responded. One patient was transported to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

7:10 p.m. - Received a report of a reckless driver. Advised all Martin County Law Enforcement Officers.

7:50 p.m. - Received a request to speak to a deputy. Deputy Wells responded.

10:22 p.m. - Received a report of a tree down, Martin County Civil Defense responded.

### SUNDAY, AUGUST 2

2:00 a.m. - Received a report of a break-in, in Crane. Deputy Gibson responded.

3:09 a.m. - Received a report of debris in the roadway.

3:43 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Crane. Deputy Gibson, Deputy Dorsey, Martin County EMS, and Crane EMS responded.

4:28 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance. Martin County EMS and Shoals Fire responded.

7:28 a.m. - Received an animal complaint. Advised Animal Control Officer Hughett.

7:48 a.m. - Received a report of an accident. Deputy Barnett responded.

9:30 p.m. - Received a report of a tree down. Martin County Highway, and civil defense responded.

11:35 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Shoals. Deputy Barnett, ISP Trooper Beaver, Loogootee Captain Hennessee, and Martin County EMS responded.

12:05 p.m. - Received a report of a domestic dispute. ISP Trooper Beaver and Deputy Barnett responded.

1:54 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Shoals. Martin County EMS and Shoals Fire responded.

7:09 p.m. - Received a request for a vehicle unlock. Deputy Wells responded.

11:11 p.m. - Received a report of a domestic dispute in Shoals. Shoals Marshal Eckert, Deputy Wells, and Loogootee Officer Means responded.

# COURT NEWS

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

## New Charges Filed June 24

Kathleen J. Croddy, possession of marijuana, a Class A Misdemeanor; driving while suspended, a Class A Misdemeanor; possession of paraphernalia, a Class C Misdemeanor.

Ryan J. Sipes, failure to return to lawful detention, a Level 6 Felony.

Robert J. Hawkins, failure to return to lawful detention, a Level 6 Felony.

## June 29

Brandon S. Stone, possession of methamphetamine, a Level 6 Felony; criminal recklessness, a Class B Misdemeanor; leaving the scene of an accident, a Class B Misdemeanor.

## June 30

Ethan William Dean Davis, possession of marijuana, a Class B Misdemeanor.

Oswaldo Mondragon Alanis, driving while suspended, a Class A Misdemeanor.

Russell E. Cook III, operating a vehicle while intoxicated, a Level 6 Felony; operating a vehicle while intoxicated endangering a person, a Level 6 Felony.

## July 1

Jordan G. Davis, possession of methamphetamine, a Level 6 Felony; operating a vehicle while intoxicated, a Level 6 Fel-

## Recognizing Annual Child Support Awareness Month could benefit more than 250,000 Hoosier Children

Indiana's Child Support Program will spread the word about its support of Hoosier families this August in recognition of Child Support Awareness Month.

The month-long celebration gives program coordinators an opportunity to provide information about services and connect with the community.

The child support program is administered by the Child Support Bureau of the Indiana Department of Child Services. Custodial parties or non-custodial parents may enroll at no cost at their county prosecutor's office.

The Child Support Program provides a number of services to assist in getting child support dollars to families, including:

- Locating non-custodial parents
- Establishing paternity
- Establishing and modifying child support and medical support orders
- Enforcing payment of child support

"The Child Support Program is an important function of how DCS serves Hoosier families and children," said DCS Director Terry Stigdon. "We see this month as our chance to educate the public on all the ways we can offer support."

Approximately 250,000 families participate in Indiana's Child Support Program, but experts estimate that's only half the number of families that could benefit.

For more information about the Child Support Program, visit [www.childsupport.in.gov](http://www.childsupport.in.gov) or call the Kidslines, Indiana's child support customer service center, at 800-840-8757.

ony.

## July 6

Jonathan Michael Moffitt, operating a motor vehicle after forfeiture of license for life, a Level 5 Felony; operating a vehicle with an ACE of .08 or more, a Class C Misdemeanor.

Veronica E. Abrams, possession of methamphetamine, a Level 6 Felony; driving while suspended, a Class A Misdemeanor.

## July 7

Amanda Paige Krodell, burglary, a Level 5 Felony; theft, a Level 6 Felony; possession of marijuana, a Class A Misdemeanor; possession of paraphernalia, a Class C Misdemeanor.

David L. Hert, burglary, a Level 5 Felony; theft, a Level 6 Felony.

Mackenna N. Gromer, possession of methamphetamine, a Level 6 Felony; operating a vehicle while intoxicated, a Level 6 Felony; driving while suspended, a Class A Misdemeanor; possession of a controlled substance, a Class A Misdemeanor; operating a vehicle while intoxicated endangering a person, a Class A Misdemeanor; possession of marijuana, a Class B Misdemeanor.

## July 8

Isabella E. Goodpaster, possession of methamphetamine, a Level 6 Felony; possession of marijuana, a Class B Misdemeanor.

## July 13

Brian Ray Asbell, domestic battery, a Class A Misdemeanor.

Joshua M. Jones, operating a vehicle with an ACE of .08 or more, a Level 6 Felony; driving while suspended, a Class A Misdemeanor.

## July 14

Gregory D. Bough, invasion of privacy, a Class A Misdemeanor.

Frank J. Kane, domestic battery resulting in serious bodily injury, a Level 5 Felony.

Walter K. Nelson, Jr., two counts of battery resulting in bodily injury to a public safety official, Level 5 Felonies; resisting law enforcement, a Level 6 Felony; intimidation, a Level 6 Felony; domestic battery, a Level 6 Felony; battery resulting in moderate bodily injury, a Level 6 Felony.

## July 16

Michael L. Kane, theft, a Level 6 Felony.

## July 17

Rodney L. Tinkle, child molesting, a Level 1 Felony.

## July 20

Christopher R. Earley, theft, a Level 6 Felony; criminal trespass, a Class A Misdemeanor.

## July 23

Alias Rian Keasling, battery resulting in bodily injury, a Class A Misdemeanor; domestic battery, a Class A Misdemeanor.

## July 24

Catherine Christine Salmon, operating a motor vehicle without ever receiving a license, a Class C Misdemeanor.

## July 27

Kassy-Anne Marie Hillier, possession of marijuana, a Class B Misdemeanor.

Tracy L. Beasley, false informing, a Class A Misdemeanor.

Robert Lee Beasley, operating a vehicle while intoxicated endangering a person, a Class A Misdemeanor.

## CRIMINAL CONVICTIONS AND SENTENCINGS

### June 24

Johnathan W. Dant, convicted of domestic battery resulting in moderate bodily injury, a Level 6 Felony. Sentenced to serve 342 days with 0 days suspended and credit for 171 actual days previously served plus 171 Class A credit days.

### June 30

Gregory M. Tolbert, convicted of possession of methamphetamine, a Level 6 Felony. Sentenced to serve 730 days with 0 days suspended and credit for 16 actual days previously served plus 16 Class A credit days plus 114 actual days served on the Martin County Community Corrections Pretrial Release program plus 29 Class P credit days. Defendant to serve 555 days on Martin County Community Corrections home detention program.

### July 14

Seth E. Nimal-Hill, convicted of disorderly conduct, a Class B Misdemeanor. Sentenced to serve 180 days with 176 days suspended and credit for 2 actual days previously served plus 2 Class A credit days. Defendant received 5 months of probation.

### July 21

Erika C. Harl, convicted of operating a

## Martin County real estate transfers

**Rick Hurt**, of Martin County, Indiana to **JAP Enterprises, LLC**, of Martin County, Indiana, Lot Number 29 in Rischer's Addition to the Town, now City of Loogootee, Indiana.

**Alan Dale Allbright and Ruth Ann Allbright; Steven R. Turpen and Violet Lynn Turpen; and Raymond D. Boyd and Vicki D. Boyd**, of Martin County, Indiana to **Raymond D. Boyd and Vicki D. Boyd**, of Martin County, Indiana, a part of the west half of the southwest quarter of Section 6, Township 2 North, Range 3 West, containing 0.65 acre, more or less.

**Solomon Robert Miller**, of Randolph County, Indiana to **Anna Jane Thompson**, of Madison County, Indiana; **Salome Rebecca Lewis**, of Madison County, Indiana; **Sara Lou Pedigo**, of Allen County, Indiana and **Solomon Robert Miller**, of Delaware County, Indiana, a plot of land in the southeast quarter of the southwest quarter of Section 31, Township 3 North, Range 3 West, Martin County, Indiana, containing 5 acres, more or less.

**Alan Dale Allbright and Ruth Ann Allbright; Steven R. Turpen and Violet Lynn Turpen; and Raymond D. Boyd and Vicki D. Boyd**, of Martin County, Indiana to **Alan Dale Allbright and Ruth Ann Allbright**, of Martin County, Indiana, a part of the west half of the southwest quarter of Section 6, Township 2 North, Range 3 West, containing 0.41 acre, more or less.

**Michael A. Sutton and Trudy R. Sutton**, of Martin County, Indiana to **Rodney L. Jones, Cassidy A. Dages and Trudy R. Sutton**, of Martin County, Indiana, a part of the east half of the northwest quarter of Section 20, Township 2 North, Range 4 West, Rutherford Town-

ship, Martin County, Indiana, containing 12.850 acres, more or less.

**Kevin Baesel**, of Martin County, Indiana to **Kevin Baesel and Trena G. Truelove**, of Martin County, Indiana, Lot #22 in Doe Run Subdivision to Halbert Township, Martin County, Indiana.

vehicle while intoxicated, a Class C Misdemeanor. Sentenced to serve 60 days with 58 days suspended and credit for 1 actual day previously served plus 1 Class A credit day. Defendant received 6 months of probation.

**CRIMINAL CHARGES DISMISSED  
June 30**

Gregory M. Tolbert, possession of marijuana, a Class B Misdemeanor, dismissed; visiting a common nuisance – controlled substances, a Class B Misdemeanor, dismissed.

## CIVIL COURT

### New Suits Filed

#### July 22

Professional & Business Collections vs. Adnan Dahir, civil collection.

#### July 23

Bradley A. Jones vs. Julie A. Jones, petition for dissolution of marriage.

## MARRIAGE LICENSES

### July 28

Mackenzie Danae Briles of Loogootee and Trey Logan Smith of Loogootee.

### July 29

Justin Tyler Jones of Loogootee and Leah Shea Bennett of Loogootee.

### August 3

Matthew I. Rice of Shoals and Melissa K. Wence of Shoals.

Steven R. Sargent of Shoals and Bambi S. Mason of Shoals.

Thomas J. Miller of Shoals and Tiffany N. Riker of Shoals.

ship, Martin County, Indiana, containing 12.850 acres, more or less.

**Kevin Baesel**, of Martin County, Indiana to **Kevin Baesel and Trena G. Truelove**, of Martin County, Indiana, Lot #22 in Doe Run Subdivision to Halbert Township, Martin County, Indiana.

## ARRESTS

### TUESDAY, JULY 28

5:33 p.m. - Ryan Mattingly, 34, was arrested by Deputy Wells on a Martin County warrant. He is being held without bond.

7:13 p.m. - Matt Truelove, 32, of Shoals, was arrested by Deputy Wells and charged with resisting, operating a vehicle while intoxicated and battery He is being held \$10,000 10% bond.

### WEDNESDAY, JULY 29

9:32 p.m. - Nathan Jones, 35, of Shoals, was arrested by Deputy Gibson and charged with resisting law enforcement with a vehicle and possession of marijuana. He is being held on a \$15,000 10% bond.

### SATURDAY, AUGUST 1

12:33 a.m. - Jobe Sergent, 20, of Bloomington, was arrested by Deputy Dorsey and charged with operating a vehicle while intoxicated, operating a vehicle while intoxicated-endangerment, and possession of marijuana. He is being held \$10,000 10% bond.

### SUNDAY, AUGUST 2

8:39 a.m. - Travis Beasley, 39, of Elwood, was arrested by Loogootee Captain Hennette and charged with theft, resisting law enforcement, public intoxication, and disorderly conduct. He is being held without bond. Deputy Barnett assisted with the arrest.



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



## More Neat Stuff

By Ann Ackerman



I saw this on a post from my friend, Dennis Overall. I thought it was appropriate for what is going on in the world today:

Charlie Chaplin lived 88 years. He left us four statements:

1. Nothing is forever in this world, even our problems.
2. I love to walk in the rain because no one can see my tears.
3. The most lost day in life is the day we don't laugh.
4. Six of the best doctors in the world: sun, rest, exercise, diet, self-respect, and friends.

Keep them in all stages of your life and enjoy a healthy life.

If you see the moon, you will see the beauty of God.

If you see a mirror, you will see God's best creation, so believe it.

We are all tourists, God is our travel agent who has already defined our routes, bookings, and directions. Trust him and enjoy life.

Life is a journey so live today! Tomorrow may not be.

### SERIOUSISMS

\*To make a difference in someone's life, you don't have to be brilliant, rich, beautiful, or perfect. You just have to care.

\*If you change nothing, nothing will change.

\*Don't argue with people on social media. Every classroom had a kid who ate paste. That's probably who you're arguing with.

\*The only way to win with a toxic per-

son is not to play.

### THOUGHTS

\*I have to give up almonds, marshmallows, and chocolate ice cream...it's gonna be a rocky road.

\*Every box of raisins is a tragic tale of grapes that could have been wine.

\*An entire generation of kids will only know Billy Ray Cyrus for "Old Town Road,"...and that breaks my heart, my achy breaky heart.

\*My friend says he doesn't know what cloning is. That makes two of us.

\*Whatever you must do today, do it with the confidence of a four-year old in a Batman cape.

\*Things I need to stay away from: refrigerator, Mexican food, debit cards, and Amazon.

\*I tried to come up with a carpentry pun that woodwork. I think I nailed it, but nobody saw it.

\*Caninetrovert: An individual who prefers to be surrounded by dogs all the time and people, not so much.

\*If Satan ever lost his hair, there would be hell toupee.

\*A thing I never realized about adulthood is that you will always be cleaning your kitchen. No matter if you get take-out, not matter if you're gone all day, you will be cleaning the kitchen.

\*Why can't the house clean itself? It seems to get dirty by itself.

\*Stepped up on my scale this morning and it said, "Please use social distancing, one person at a time."

Make someone smile today!

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### Free community dinner

The Loogootee Christian Church (206 Sherman Street) is having their monthly free meal for the community. They would like to extend an invitation to the entire community for a free dinner to be held Thursday, August 6 from 6-8 p.m. in the church parking lot. If raining, please check the church sign for details.

### Immunization hours

The Martin County Health Department will be doing additional immunization clinic hours on Thursday, August 6. Please call 812-247-3303 to schedule an appointment.

### Golf scramble

The Loogootee Girls' Basketball Program is hosting a golf scramble on Saturday, August 22 at Lakeview Golf Course. It will be a 9 a.m. start with ABCD format. Entry fee is \$45. For more information, contact Lonnie Hawkins at 812-947-8413.

### Food pantry hours

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

### Mental Health Task Force

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

### Celebrate Recovery meetings

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

### Local recovery meetings

Wednesdays-Alcoholic Anonymous,

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

### Free lunch for kids

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

### Humane society meetings

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

### SOAR Tutoring

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

### Solid waste board

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

### Soil and Water meetings

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

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## Main Street in Odon

### THEME: 12 DAYS OF CHRISTMAS

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## In the Garden

By Ralph Purkhiser, Purdue University  
Master Gardener

I have lamented greatly the loss of flower shows and trips to botanical gardens caused by the Covid 19 pandemic. Last week, hungering for a garden to visit, I took two great-nephews and headed to Brown County and the T.C. Steele State Historic Site. T.C. Steele was one of Indiana's most famous artists. He gained fame and fortune as perhaps the foremost portrait painter of the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries. While portraits paid for his living, that income also allowed him to indulge his passion for painting landscapes. It is those landscapes for which we most remember him today.

Steele and his wife, Selma, herself a graphic artist and teacher, came to the hills of Brown County in 1907. Steele found a lot of scenic views that inspired hundreds of paintings. They purchased property and built a summer home there. Eventually, that home became their abode year around, but they still maintained a home in Indianapolis, to which he was often summoned for portrait work.

Selma Steele was an avid gardener, and had wonderful hardscape installed, which she surrounded by a variety of plants. In a sunny, flat area, she established a formal garden with stone slabs for pathways surrounding planting beds. Selma's gardens became subjects for her husband's landscape paintings. In fact, one of his most popular paintings is of Selma in the garden. That painting was not in the formal garden, but in a smaller garden spot near the house.

Steele died in 1926, but Selma lived until 1945 and continued to garden at the Brown County home. Her will left the property to the State of Indiana, and it eventually was passed to the Indiana State Museum, which continues to operate the property today.

For most of the years since, the museum concentrated on the many works from T.C. Steele in the estate and also maintaining the buildings, including the home and some buildings used as studios. Selma's gardens were virtually ignored, and, as gardens will do, became overgrown and nearly disappeared. It was the approach of the Indiana bicentennial that spurred interest in recreating the gardens. There were some plants still there, including long-living peonies and some yews that had served as a hedge around the formal garden. However, many of the plants had died out and much of the hardscape was missing. The staff had some notes on the garden Selma had left and photographs

## Hunter Education course to be held

An Indiana Hunter Education Course will be held Friday, August 14 from 6-9 p.m. and Saturday, August 15 from 8 a.m.-4 p.m. at the Redemption Christian Church in Loogootee.

Participants will learn about wildlife conservation, hunter ethics, firearms safety, among other topics. All instruction will be done by Indiana Conservation Officers and certified Indiana volunteer hunter education instructors.

Hunter education is required to purchase an Indiana hunting license.

To register, go to [www.passitonindiana.com](http://www.passitonindiana.com).

that had been taken in the gardens. Of course, many parts of the landscape were recorded in the paintings of T.C. Steele, so restorers were able to get a pretty good idea of the plants that had been used. However, some of the plant cultivars had become extinct. Restorers were determined to use only cultivars that were available prior to Selma's death in 1945, to make the gardens as authentic as possible.

Artists and gardens are great companions. In Giverny, France, the gardens of Monet have been restored after years of neglect and two World Wars. That was inspiration for the restoration of the Steele gardens. While the gardens at the T.C. Steele site are not as extensive as those in Giverny, they are beautiful. A fence now surrounds the formal garden to protect it from deer, but, otherwise, it is as close the original garden as possible. Any garden or art lover will appreciate a visit to the T.C. Steele Historic Site. The entry fees are reasonable. However, as with many restored properties, the site is not exactly accessible for persons with disabilities.

The site is located just off State Road 46 between Bloomington and Nashville. In addition to the buildings and gardens, there are hiking paths, many of which follow paths Steele took on his daily jaunts around the 211-acre property and passing many vistas which he painted. It is not Giverny, but it is close and affordable, and I recommend it for a day trip to satisfy the desire to see beauty.

I was rocked last week by the death of my dear cousin, Norma Jean Purkhiser. I have purchased an orchid mountain azalea to plant in the Rhododendron Path in her memory. Norma enjoyed the gardens and her memory will live on there.

## Ag Economy Barometer stable, but farmers less optimistic about future

BY TORRIE SHERIDAN  
Purdue University News Service

Farmer sentiment was virtually unchanged in July in comparison to a month earlier, according to the Purdue University/CME Group Ag Economy Barometer. The index rose just one point from June to a reading of 118, still 30 percent lower than in February before the pandemic began. The Ag Economy Barometer is based on responses from 400 U.S. agricultural producers. This month's survey was conducted July 20-24.

Although there was little change in the July barometer, producers' perspective on current versus future conditions shifted. The Index of Current Conditions rose 12 points from June to a reading of 111, and the Index of Future Expectations fell five points to a reading of 121. Unchanged from June but nine points lower than in May, 56 percent of producers reported they plan to reduce their farm machinery purchases compared with a year ago. Thirty-eight percent of producers reported they plan to keep machinery purchases about the same as last year, which also was unchanged from June but seven points higher than in May. The Farm Capital Investment Index also was unchanged from June, standing at a reading of 60, but noticeably stronger than May's index reading of 50.

"Although overall farmer sentiment in July did not change much compared

## Unsolicited seeds could wreak havoc on agriculture, environment, state officials warn

BY BRIAN WALLHEIMER  
Purdue University News Service

People across the country are receiving unsolicited packages of unidentified seeds in the mail that seem to be coming from China. The Office of Indiana State Chemist, located at Purdue University, is urging Hoosiers not to plant or dispose of the seeds since they could be spreading noxious weeds, plant diseases or invasive species.

Anyone in Indiana who receives a package is told not to open the seed packet and to mail it and any packaging materials to the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) Indiana office (full instructions below). State and federal authorities will work together to identify and properly dispose of all seeds and plant materials.

"It might be tempting to put this into some soil to see what happens, but there's a lot of damage that can cause," said Don Robison, seed administrator for the Office of Indiana State Chemist. "We don't know what these seeds are, and there is potential for doing serious harm to everything from your backyard garden to the commodity and specialty crops that are such an important part of the agricultural economy. The last thing we want is to spread a weed, invasive species or disease, and that's a real risk if people plant these or throw them in the garbage."

Weed seeds, invasive species and disease pathogens can spread rapidly, costing millions of dollars annually for just a single plant or disease, and cause billions of dollars of impact overall each year.

It's possible that the seeds are part of a "brushing" campaign in which online retailers send out unsolicited packages and use the fake sales to improve the seller's ratings in the marketplace. But state agricultural and environmental leaders don't want to take any chances.

"Once a new disease or invasive spe-

cial is out there, it's a very costly problem," Robison said. "It's like trying to put a genie back in the bottle."

Anyone who receives unsolicited seeds should:

- Keep the seeds and packaging, including the mailing label, but do not open the seed packet;
- Place all contents in a zip-top bag, then place the bag in an envelope or small box and mail it to:

USDA APHIS PPQ State Plant Health Director Nick Johnson, 3059 N. Morton Street, Franklin, IN 46131.

If you cannot mail the items, do not dispose of them. Keep the seeds, packaging and mailing label and contact the Indiana Department of Natural Resources Division of Entomology & Plant Pathology at 866-663-9684 or [DEPP@dnr.IN.gov](mailto:DEPP@dnr.IN.gov).

Anyone who has already planted seeds should not dispose of the plants or soil. Contact the Indiana DNR Division of Entomology & Plant Pathology at the phone number and email address above.

Never plant seeds of unknown origin.



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over the next 12 months compared with 10 percent back in June. However, when asked about farmland values in five years, farmers were somewhat less optimistic than they were in June, with 48 percent saying they expect values to rise over the next five years compared with 55 percent in the previous survey.

Read the full Ag Economy Barometer report at <https://purdue.ag/agbarometer>. This month's report includes insight into how farmers are conducting business as a result of COVID-19 and producers' use of marketing advisors to manage risk. The site also offers additional resources – such as past reports, charts and survey methodology – and a form to sign up for monthly barometer email updates and webinars. Each month, the Purdue Center for Commercial Agriculture provides a short video analysis of the barometer results, available at <https://purdue.ag/barometervideo>, and for even more information, check out the Purdue Commercial AgCast podcast. It includes a detailed breakdown of each month's barometer, in addition to a discussion of recent agricultural news that impacts farmers. It is available now at <https://purdue.ag/agcast>.

The Ag Economy Barometer, Index of Current Conditions and Index of Future Expectations are available on the Bloomberg Terminal under the following ticker symbols: AGEGBARO, AGECCURC and AGECCFTEX.



According to the calendar and the weather, it's August but it seems odd with no state fair. I won't dwell here but will state a familiar cliché that I look forward to being true; "this too shall pass."

The last issue was a special edition and I want to thank all that emailed me afterwards. Your comments were greatly appreciated, and I have enjoyed them as they continue to trickle in.

Distribution of rain never seems fair, especially when you are on extreme ends of it. I greatly appreciate the rain that I've received and am pleased with good regrowth.

It certainly has been a good year for red clover and timothy. I thought I had a tremendous take where I had frost-seeded back in February, but fields not seeded were almost as good. The clover has rebounded after grazing events better than the grasses under the drier conditions. With even just spotty rains, forages, including the grasses, are slowly rebounding after grazing events, especially where cover and good residual live vegetation has been maintained. Having some warm season grasses to fall back on certainly has helped.

When it is dry like it is, you want to capture as much rain as you can during each precipitation event. You might think that since the field is covered with forages there is no erosion, but that is quite often not the case. You want water to infiltrate into the soil and soil profile. This water is then stored in the soil with some of it slowly moving downward to below ground aquifers to replenish our wells. What are a few of the factors that impact water infiltration? First of all, it needs something to slow the water down once the raindrop hits the surface. That could be a leaf, a stem, or residue on the soil surface; ideally that impact is not on bare soil. The more live plant cover and residue pres-

ent, the less the impact of the raindrop. The average raindrop is about 3/16 inches in diameter and travels up to 20 miles per hour. That is good amount of impact when it hits the earth's surface and if it hits bare soil, it will dislodge particles and move them.

Once the raindrop momentum has slowed for a moment, it should move downward into the soil. Residue on the soil surface helps to slow it down, then depending on the soil type, the water will start moving downward unless there is a non-permeable layer. A roof or road certainly is non-permeable and most or all the water will run off that surface. A soil that is compacted will also have increased water runoff. Organic matter content in the soil and the natural structure, or lack of, also influences infiltration. Percolation rates of soils can be measured. A good healthy soil should be able to take in at least two inches or more of rain per hour.

When the rainwater drop's impact isn't slowed by vegetation or residue and infiltration is poor, runoff is inevitable and it builds momentum as it travels down slopes, especially steep ones. As it travels it has more opportunity to pick up and move more soil particles. Where the runoff concentrates, ephemeral gullies start to form and if not improved, they will eventually form gullies. Not only did we lose precious water that is needed for forage growth, we have also lost soil and perhaps also an inconvenience to work around.

That was a long rabbit trail, but it certainly needed to be ran. The short of the long is this: we want more water to soak into the soil and less runoff to more efficiently use rainwater and reduce erosion. Easy, maintain good retardance with good live cover with deep growing roots and reduce any operations that might increase compaction.

The livestock have been very content

with the forage consumed this season. I've noted before that forage quality, especially energy, is often better under good or slightly dry conditions rather than wet, especially extended wet conditions. Usually, higher sugar levels will exist under droughty conditions. Samples may also show higher neutral detergent fiber digestibility (NDFD). Higher sugars and NDFD will contribute to net energy for gain or lactation.

On the other side of that, where higher amounts of nitrogen have been added, nitrates can also be higher in some drought-stressed forages. They may also be higher in prussic acid, especially sorghum Sudan's, Sudangrass, and Johnsongrass. If in doubt or concerned, test before grazing. If it is wilted, it is probably safer to wait. Rains have been timely enough in most areas for this to not occur, but it is best to keep a watch on it.

Droughty conditions also usually tend to include higher temperatures and when you get a little shower, the humidity raises quickly. That certainly makes me want to sit under a tree in the shade with a nice cold drink. Shade becomes important once the heat index reaches 85 degrees or higher for most livestock.

The next important factor is daytime to nighttime temperature differences. If temperatures are close to 20-degrees cooler at night, this allows for a good cooling off period. When this doesn't happen and there is no break from the heat, heat stress starts showing up quickly. You will begin to notice increased water consumption, increased chance of wallowing, and reduced intake of forages. There are some who say that cattle will eventually adapt; I don't buy that. I think shade should be available in at least a third or half of the paddocks.

I've actually moved cattle to areas with no shade at night and then moved

them back to areas with shade late morning. It takes a bit more work, but the cattle sure appreciate it. Good soil coverage also helps cool cattle. Heavy forage cover cools the soil; the cooler the soil, the more you will see cattle laying down in the middle of the field, even on hot days. It's not a bad idea to add some shade like portable structures or longer-term trees into the system. But plan ahead as they take some extra management because they become hot spots of nutrients quickly.

In short, shade is important, and so is the availability of close, cool water. The type of cattle and the amount of hair they have also makes a difference. Grazing endophyte infected tall fescue can add fuel to the fire because it can raise body temperature on its own. Think about where the livestock will be during hot weather and plan ahead. The best shade will always be obtained on the north or east side of a tree line or woods.

Okay, it's time to be thinking about some fall planted annuals. Oats, turnips, and cereal rye still remains my favorite combination. Fall oats are higher in water-soluble sugars and have a higher level of total digestible nutrients than spring grown oats and produce a lot of quality forage in a short time frame with sufficient moisture. The cereal rye can then take off and provide good cover and forage for early spring grazing. Being able to get off pastures for a while in the late summer or early fall allows for those pastures to rest and grow more forage for use later; a perfect situation for some stockpiling.

Remember, it's not about maximizing a grazing event, but maximizing a grazing season! Keep on grazing!

Reminders & Opportunities More pasture information and past issues of Grazing Bites are available at [www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/in/technical/landuse/pasture/](http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/in/technical/landuse/pasture/)

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