

# Martin County JOURNAL

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Eight pages

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## Loogootee School to raise taxes to pay for renovations

BY COURTNEY HUGHETT  
Martin County Journal Publisher

The Loogootee School Board held a public hearing last Thursday, August 16 in the high school library to hear public comments on the proposed \$7.4 million renovations being planned for both the high school and elementary. The \$7.4 million bond will increase property taxes from 25 cents for every \$100 of assessed property to 39 cents, a 14-cent increase. The board unanimously approved resolutions moving forward with the projects.

According to the school's attorney, Dave Lett, the board voted last Thursday to move forward with the bond process. He noted that legal obligations were fulfilled by advertising via legal notice in the local print newspaper. The school has now begun advertising the project and getting appraisals done on the school buildings. As long as the appraisals go well, and the property appraises high enough to withstand the value of the bonds, the board will then vote in October or November to sell the bonds and schedule the renovation work, planned to start in March of next year with completion in August.

According to Lett, the amount being spent does not constitute the need to ask the public's permission for the tax

increase on the General Election ballot. He said they kept the amount just below the cutoff for that requirement. The bond issuance also doesn't have to be approved by the county council or commissioners due to the school having a capital projects line item in their budget. The only approval needed is from the school board.

The total bond amount is \$7,440,000 with interest for a 20-year period of \$4,450,000, for a total of \$11,890,000. The bonds would increase property taxes for anyone within the Loogootee School District. Property owners currently pay 25 cents per every \$100 of value their property is assessed, to the school. This is not the market value of a property, it is the assessed value per the assessor's office. The new bonds would increase that by 14 cents per \$100 of assessed valuation. For a property owner, owning a home worth \$100,000, and zero deductions on their property tax statement, this would increase their taxes by \$140 per year. According to the school's financial adviser, Mike Therber, with Therber Brock, in Indianapolis, most owner-occupied homes have property tax deductions including a homestead deduction of \$45,000 and a supplemental deduction of \$19,250 which would reduce the extra they have to pay. But each proper-

ty is different depending on farmland, commercial property, industrial property and rentals. Someone with property assessed at \$200,000 would pay an additional \$280 in property taxes annually, if no deductions exist on that property.

The school is currently paying back a \$2 million bond issued in 2015 to replace windows, the roofs of each building, and lighting and doors in some areas. That bond will be repaid in 2026. The school will pay smaller payments starting next year and those payments will increase in 2027, once the \$2 million bond is paid off. The first payment on the new bond will be in June of 2019 for \$162,000.

According to Superintendent Chip Mehaffey, the elementary school is nearing the age of 60 years old with the

high school being almost 50 years old. He said that the corporation is spending thousands of dollars a year to maintain equipment that is outdated. He said oftentimes they are taking a "band-aid approach" to extending the life of some equipment. He said they spent more than \$25,000 this year replacing pipes that were original to the building and without the repairs, the school would not have hot water. He added that very little, if any, renovations have been done to Loogootee Schools over the past 50 years. "Loogootee Schools are lagging severely behind our peers when it comes to our facilities," said Mehaffey.

Representatives with Myszak + Palmer Architects in Vincennes gave their presentation saying that while (See 'TAXES' on page 2)

## Martin County's jobless rate stood at 2.8 percent for July

BY COURTNEY HUGHETT  
Martin County Journal Publisher

Martin County's jobless rate dropped to 2.8 percent in July, down from 3.1 percent in June. The county had the eighth lowest jobless rate of the 92 Indiana counties for July, tied with eight other counties.

In July, the county had 5,415 residents in the workforce with 154 of them without jobs. In June, there were 5,350 residents able to work and 165 of them were unemployed. In July of 2017, Martin County's unemployment rate was 3 percent with 5,259 residents in the workforce and 157 of them without work.

Daviess County's unemployment rate also dropped from 3.1 percent in June to 2.8 percent in July. The county had the eighth lowest jobless rate in the state, tied with eight other counties.

In July, the county had 16,597 residents in the workforce with 473 of them unemployed. In June, there were 16,495 residents able to work and 504 of them were without jobs. In July of last year, Daviess County's unemployment rate was 2.9 percent with 15,963 residents in the workforce and 464 of them without jobs.

Dubois County's jobless rate went down slightly in July to 2.6 percent, from 2.7 percent the month before. The county had the lowest jobless rate in the state for July, tied with Bartholomew and Elkhart counties.

In July, the county had 24,319 residents in the workforce with 629 of them unemployed. In June, there were

24,109 residents able to work and 657 of them without jobs. In July of 2017, Dubois County's jobless rate was 2.7 percent with 23,707 residents in the workforce and 645 of them unemployed.

Greene County's unemployment rate went unchanged from June to July, standing at 4.7 percent. The county had the eighth highest jobless rate in the state, tied with Vigo County.

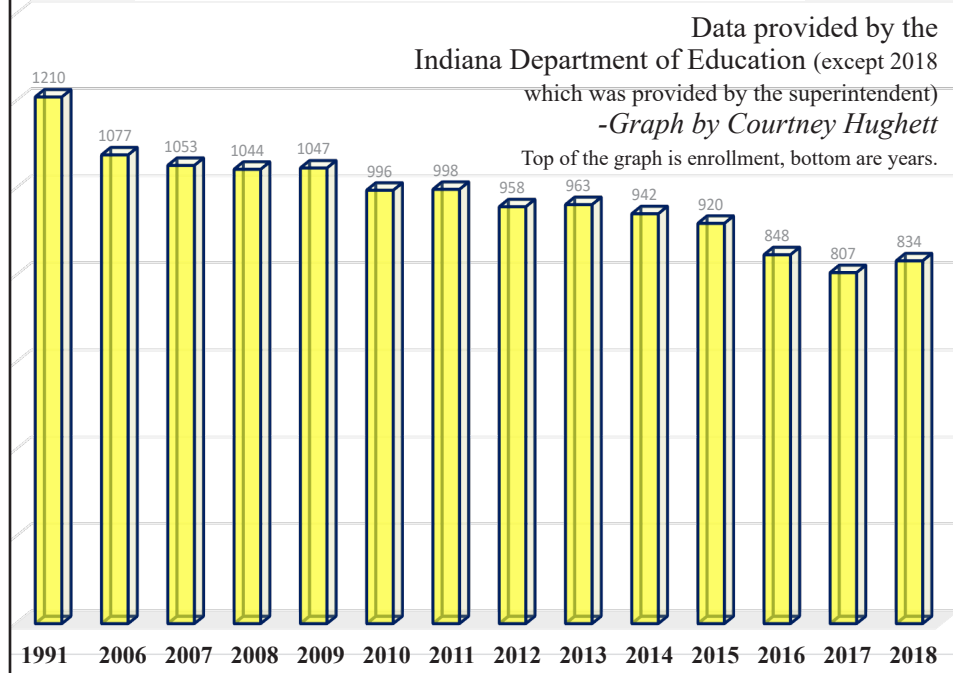
In July, the county had 13,263 residents in the workforce and 622 of them were unemployed. In June, there were 13,449 residents able to work and 636 of them without jobs. In July of last year, Greene County's unemployment rate was 4.9 percent with 13,337 residents in the workforce and 656 of them without jobs.

The top ten spots in the state with the highest jobless rate for July went to Vermillion County at 5.8 percent, Putnam County at 5.6 percent, Clay County at 5.3 percent, Owen County at 5.2 percent, Fayette and Lake counties at 4.9 percent, Sullivan County at 4.8 percent, Greene and Vigo counties at 4.7 percent, and Parke County at 4.4 percent.

The top ten spots in the state for the lowest jobless rate for July went to Elkhart, Dubois and Bartholomew counties at 2.6 percent; Wells, LaGrange, Clinton and Adams counties at 2.7 percent; and White, Tipton, Posey, Martin, Kosciusko, Hamilton, Gibson, Daviess and Boone counties at 2.8 percent.

Indiana's unemployment rate stands (See 'RATE' on page 2)

## Loogootee Schools Enrollment



## Per superintendent, Loogootee's enrollment up over last year

BY COURTNEY HUGHETT  
Martin County Journal Publisher

The Loogootee School Superintendent Chip Mehaffey reported to the board, at their meeting Thursday, August 16, that Loogootee Schools enrollment bumped up to 834 this school year, from 818 students last year. (Editor's note: Indiana Department of Education data says there were 807 students enrolled in Loogootee last year.) He is also expecting a new student from Germany and a family moving to the area with three more students this week. He expects the enrollment to increase to 838.

Mr. Mehaffey said the fourth grade class size is large enough where they want to add a part-time teacher. He said they have applicants and plan to hire someone this week.

The board gave permission for Superintendent Mehaffey to hire anyone, as needed, throughout the school year, without prior board approval.

The board also approved the following athletic personnel:

-Scott Arthur for varsity baseball head coach

-Mike Winger and Jarrod Rose as assistant baseball coaches

-Tim Sanders, Jackie Foddrill, and Andrea Nordhoff as cross country volunteers

-Brian Whitney as high school golf head coach

-Tyler Walton as middle school golf coach

-Greg Clark as high school softball head coach

-Travis Davis as high school assistant softball coach

-Brady Lingenfelter as softball assistant coach/JV coach

-Tony Graber, Stephanie Chambers, Bailey Davis, Meghan Miller, Alexis Lemon, Kerry Cooper, and Chris Bledsoe as softball volunteers

-Emily Marks and Jill Toy as middle school tennis coaches

-Mike Tippery and Jeff Bledsoe as tennis volunteers

-Mike Tippery as girls' high school tennis head coach

-Brittany Bateman as girls' high school assistant tennis coach

-Bill Riley as boys' and girls' track coach

(See 'ENROLLMENT' on page 2)

# TAXES

(Continued from page one)

there are many renovations needed in both schools, they chose the most critical needs in the infrastructure as well as what affects students' learning.

In the elementary school, the plans include building a new secure entrance, renovate the office areas, renovate the kitchen, renovate the hallway bathrooms and make them ADA compliant, replace all doors and hardware where the original, existing doors remain; install a new glass "storefront" entry to the cafeteria area, add an indoor slide in the cafeteria, new carpeting/tile and trim in all classrooms, office, and cafeteria; paint all classrooms, hallways and office; new ceiling tiles and grids in some classrooms, new lights in rooms with new ceilings, new whiteboards/tackboards in the classrooms, new classroom furniture, and new fire alarm panels and devices.

Also, alternate plans, if money allows, would include new classroom/cafeteria storage units/cubbies, new roof on the 1998 addition of the elementary, and a new HVAC unit in the cafeteria.

The cost of all renovations, including alternates, in the elementary, are \$1,830,000. Costs associated with building code requirements are \$227,000, costs for outside companies to consult on a card access system and security film on the glass on the new entryway are \$11,500, and overages or unforeseen costs are \$350,000. The costs for surveys, geo-studies, permits, architecture/engineering, insurances, a financial advisor, bond counsel, underwriting, reproduction/printing and advertisements are \$1,295,700. The grand total for the elementary school is \$3,714,200.

Changes to the high school include an updated media center (currently serving as the library) with an added computer science lab, IT repair/help desk area, career coach's office, and the e-learning director's office; updated chemistry/biology labs with new tables and hoods, new doors in all locations with improved classroom security, new luxury vinyl tile and wall base in all classrooms, painting in all classrooms and hallways, new ceiling tiles in all classrooms and hallways, new whiteboards/tackboards, new classroom furniture, new HVAC updates for all renovated areas, new fire alarm, new intercom system, electric panel upgrade and hot water upgrades.

Alternates, if money allows, includes new lockers, new folding partitions between classrooms numbered 441 and 451, updated restrooms at the main entry, and new electrical switchgear.

Costs for renovations to the high school are \$2,782,000. Building code requirements would be \$226,433 and unforeseen costs or overages would be \$300,000. The cost for surveys, geo-studies, architecture/engineering, permits, insurance, a financial advisor, bond counsel, underwriting, reproduction/printing and advertisements would be \$516,200. The total cost of the high school renovations would be \$3,724,633.

Total costs for both schools are \$7,440,000 with repayment over the next 20 years.

No renovations are planned for the middle school wing, the high school gymnasium, auditorium, or cafeteria.

At the public hearing portion of the meeting last Thursday, five members of the audience spoke out in favor of the project – Jason Loughmiller, Eric Ackerman, Dave Smith, Shelley Christmas, and John Drake. Loogootee Mayor Noel Harty also spoke out to agree with some of the speakers. Teacher Krista Truelove signed up to speak but said her question had been answered prior to the public hearing by her administrator. She just wanted to make sure teachers were going to be allowed to give input on renovations and was told they would be. No one spoke out in opposition of the project.

The public, according to Lett, can still speak to board members and attend a school board meeting to speak out for or against the project, prior to when the next vote will take place in October or November. The next school board meeting is scheduled for Thursday, September 20 at 5 p.m. (Editor's note: Times and dates of the Loogootee School Board meetings are subject to change, watch *The Journal* for more information.)

# RATE

(Continued from page one)

at 3.4 percent for July and remains lower than the national rate of 3.9 percent. With the exception of one month when it was equal (October 2014), Indiana's unemployment rate now has been below the U.S. rate for more than four years. The monthly unemployment rate is a U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) indicator that reflects the number of unemployed people seeking employment within the prior four weeks as a percentage of the labor force.

Indiana's labor force had a net increase of 15,564 over the previous month. This was a result of a 2,964 increase in unemployed residents and an increase of 12,600 employed residents. Indiana's total labor force, which includes both Hoosiers employed and

# ENROLLMENT

(Continued from page one)

-Megan Jones and Erin Bateman as boys' and girls' assistant track coaches

The superintendent reported that the school year has started off well and they have new ViewSonic boards in all the elementary classrooms, paid for by grant dollars. Mehaffey said the days of the chalkboard are slowly going away and they are installing more white boards in more classrooms. He also reported that they have installed new carpet in the auditorium. Mehaffey thanked everyone for a good start to the school year.

High School Principal Dara Chezem talked about Project Lead the Way and how it is preparing students for jobs in computer science, cybersecurity, biomedical fields, manufacturing and engineering. She talked about classes being taught by Shelley Christmas and Leslie VanHoy and each teacher provided information on those classes and the students' reaction to the courses.

The *Martin County Journal* reporter asked Mehaffey what the school plans to do with the additional money received for the school resource officer position. Several months ago, Mehaffey had asked the City of Loogootee for help paying for the resource officer position because the school had been denied a grant for school safety for the past few years and could not pay for the position without help. The Loogootee City Council had agreed to give \$15,000 this year to the school to help cover the costs. Since that time, the school received the \$30,000 school safety grant from the state. Mehaffey said last Thursday, during the meeting, that the costs associated with the school resource officer exceed the money given to them by the city and

he would be happy to discuss those costs outside of a public meeting.

Mehaffey went over budget changes that are happening next year. The state has changed the names of the funds. The previously called "general fund" is now called the education fund. The capital projects fund, bus replacement fund and transportation fund are all combined to form the operation fund. The debt service fund, pension debt fund, and rainy day funds will remain the same.

The general fund pays salaries, benefits of most employees, insurance, utilities, supplies and classroom materials. (Funding based on student enrollment)

The debt service fund pays back corporation debt, including bonds. (Funded by property taxes)

The capital projects fund pays for equipment, maintenance and repairs of buildings and equipment; a portion of insurance and utilities, technology and supplies. (Funded by property taxes)

The transportation fund pays for salaries of bus drivers, fuel, and repairs of buses and for transportation contracts. (Funded by property taxes)

The school, for the 2019 budget, will ask for \$4,950,000 for the newly-named education fund, \$1,090,560 for the debt service fund (see previous story for bond repayment), \$261,312 for the pension bond fund, and \$2,692,460 for the operations fund. The total requested for the 2019 budget is \$8,994,332. Mehaffey noted that they always advertise the funds high because the state will lower the amounts.

The board gave permission for the school to advertise the 2019 budget as presented.

those seeking employment, stands at 3.38 million, and the state's 64.8 percent labor force participation rate remains above the national rate of 62.9 percent. Indiana's labor force growth of 67,519 over the past six months represents the state's largest six-month increase since 1995 in the state.

In addition, Indiana's initial unemployment insurance claims continue to be at historical lows.

Learn more about how unemployment rates are calculated here: <http://www.hoosierdata.in.gov/infographics/employment-status.asp>.

Employment by Sector

Private sector employment has grown by more than 24,800 over the year, and has increased by 5,600 over the previous month, primarily due to gains in the Professional & Business Services (2,700) and the Construction (2,000) sectors. Gains were partially offset by losses in the Other (-1,000), which includes Mining and Logging, IT and Other Services, and the Financial Activities (-400) sectors. Total private employment stands at 2,703,800 and is 14,900 above the December 2017 peak.



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# Obituaries

MARTIN COUNTY JOURNAL

Wednesday, August 22, 2018

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## SIDNEY THRASH

Sidney Jack "Sid" Thrash passed away on August 15, 2018. A resident of Fairview, Texas, he was 71.

He was born in Rotan, Texas on January 5, 1947; son of Rufus and Kathleen Thrash.

Sid and his family relocated from Rotan, Texas, to Shoals, Indiana, in the summer of 1956. Sid graduated in 1965 from the Shoals High School. He was very active in school activities and athletics. He was a valued member of the 1963-64 Jug Rox basketball team that finished the season with a 22-2 record, still the best in school history. He graduated from the University of Evansville in 1969. He accepted a position with State Farm Insurance as an auto claims representative in Bloomington, Indiana, in June 1969. In 1989, he moved to Plano, Texas, to accept a position as a Claims Superintendent also with State Farm Insurance. His loving wife, Lori Lee Beck Thrash, and son, Kristopher Barr, soon joined him. In October 2004 Sid retired from State Farm Insurance as an Auto Claims Team Manager where he had worked for over 35 years. At that time, he and Lori had relocated to Heritage Ranch community in Fairview, Texas to enjoy retirement life. Sid was a longtime valued member of the North Texas Senior Golf Association.

Sid and his wife, Lori, loved to travel, dance and spread joy throughout their lives. He loved playing golf with friends. They all have stories they will gladly share of Sid and his antics on and off the golf course. He was a fun loving,

happy man. He always put his family and friends first and loved making people laugh.

He is survived by his wife, Lori Lee Thrash; sister, Catherine Thrash Hughes; son, Jason Thrash and wife, Julie; son, Kristopher Barr and wife, Maria; granddaughter, Victoria Thrash; grandsons, Beaudry Erickson Barr and Benjamin Jack Barr, and many additional loving family members including nieces, nephews and lifelong friends.

His father and mother, Rufus and Kathleen Thrash, preceded him in death.

A Celebration of Life will be held at Heritage Ranch Club House, 465 Scenic Ranch Circle, Fairview, Texas 75069 on Friday, August 31 at 11 a.m. There will be a reception immediately following the service. Sid's many friends are invited to attend and celebrate his 71 years of life.

In lieu of flowers, you may choose to donate to the veteran organization of your choice. Sid was proud to be an American and appreciated the service given by his fellow Americans.

## MARY KNEPP

Mary Knepp, formerly of Montgomery, passed away August 10, 2018 in Sarasota. A resident of Sarasota, Florida, she was 90.

She was born March 23, 1928 in Loogootee; daughter of the late John and Lavina (Graber) Wagler.

Mary moved to Sarasota in 1978 with her husband and they loved spending the winters there. She enjoyed cooking and sewing. She was a member of the

Pinecraft Amish Church.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Homer Knepp; grandson, Jason (Eileen) Knepp; great-grandchildren, Heidi, Andrew, Ivanna, Dalton, Andon and Mason Joseph; parents, John and Lavina (Graber) Wagler; siblings, John Henry, Joseph, Francis, Levi, Benjamin, Harry J., Arthur, Alva Enos Wagler, Martha Miller and Susie Knepp; son-in-law, William "Bill" Knepp.

She is survived by her children, Lovina Knepp of Myakka, Florida; David (Wanda) Knepp of Washington, Miriam (David) Graber of Sarasota, Florida; Steve (Darlene) Knepp of Sarasota, Florida and Philip (Marilyn) Knepp of Montgomery; 17 grandchildren, 46 great-grandchildren, one great-great-grandson; and sister-in-law, Fannie Mae Wagler of Milroy, Indiana.

Funeral services were conducted at Saturday, August 18 at Zion Amish Mennonite Church in Montgomery. Burial followed in the church cemetery.

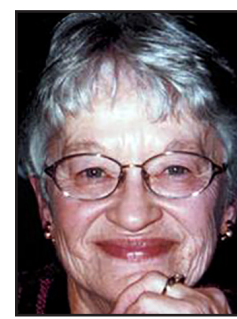
Condolences may be made online at [www.blakefuneralhomes.com](http://www.blakefuneralhomes.com). Arrangements were provided by Blake & Wagler Funeral Home in Montgomery.

## BRENDA BAKER

Brenda L. Baker passed away Thursday morning, August 16, 2018. A resident of Tiffin, Ohio, she was 77.

She was born November 10, 1940, in Loogootee; the only child of Horace and Ruth Piatt of Shoals.

Brenda graduated from Shoals High School in Indiana and attended Indiana University. She loved watching Indiana



**BRENDA BAKER**

University basketball and was proud to be called a Hoosier. She later graduated from Heidelberg College and loved her job working at Beeghly Library. She enjoyed opera, classical music, reading, English history and visual arts. Her family, adventures in travel coast to coast in the motor home, and world travels were the highlights of her life.

Survivors include her husband, Larry Baker, of Tiffin; daughter, Gayle (Scott) Lykowski of Walton, Kentucky; son, Jeffrey (Patricia Snyder) Baker of Bentonville, Arkansas; son, Nathan (Kristi) Baker of Hollywood, Maryland; daughter, Andrea (Chris) Clements of Lambertville, Michigan; and seven grandchildren, Lauren Fedyszyn, Justin Lykowski, Caleb Baker, Regina Baker, Sloan Walland, Ian Walland and Emma Baker.

Her memorial service was held Monday, August 20 at First Presbyterian Church with Rev. Katie Treadway officiating. There is no burial planned at this time.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to First Presbyterian Church or to Friends of the Library, Tiffin-Seneca Public Library, 77 Jefferson St., Tiffin, Ohio 44883.

Condolences may be sent and the guestbook signed at [www.hgmackfuneralhome.com](http://www.hgmackfuneralhome.com).

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## Martin County Sheriff's Department log

### MONDAY, AUGUST 13

12:23 a.m. - Received a noise complaint in Loogootee. Loogootee Sergeant Norris responded.

5:29 a.m. - Received a report of a car-deer accident near Shoals. Deputy Reed responded.

7:51 a.m. - Received a report of an accident on US 50, near Shoals. Shoals Fire, Martin County Ambulance, Sheriff Roush, Captain Dant, and ISP Nolan responded.

11:07 a.m. - Received a report of a suspicious person walking along US 50 near Loogootee. Loogootee Captain Hennette responded.

11:12 a.m. - Sergeant Keller performed a vehicle identification check in Loogootee.

12:53 p.m. - Captain Dant took four inmates to court.

2:06 p.m. - Captain Dant took three inmates to court.

2:23 p.m. - Received a report of a truck in the ditch on US 231, south of Loogootee. Sergeant Keller and Loogootee Captain Hennette responded.

7:57 p.m. - Deputy Seymour assisted a motorist in Loogootee with a vehicle unlock.

8:09 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Ambulance responded but did not transport.

9:09 p.m. - Received an alarm call near Loogootee. Deputy Seymour responded, and all was okay.

### TUESDAY, AUGUST 14

12:57 a.m. - Received a report of kids walking along US 231, south of Loogootee. ISP Nolan responded.

1:00 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance near Shoals. Shoals Fire and Martin County Ambulance responded. The subject was transported to Daviess Community Hospital.

6:26 a.m. - Received a report of an accident on SR 150, east of Shoals. Deputy Reed and Shoals Fire responded.

7:35 a.m. - Received a report of a kid refusing to go to school south of Loogootee. Captain Dant responded.

7:45 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Shoals. Shoals Fire and Martin County Ambulance responded. The subject was transported to Jasper Memorial hospital.

9:05 a.m. - Jailer Fox transported one inmate to Dubois County Jail.

9:31 a.m. - Received a call of a loose horse on SR 550. Sergeant Keller and Loogootee Chief Rayhill responded.

10:52 a.m. - Received a report of a suspicious person near Shoals. Sergeant Keller responded.

11:06 a.m. - Received a request for lift assistance near Shoals. Sheriff Roush, Captain Dant, and Lost River Fire responded.

11:31 a.m. - Received a report of a disturbance in Crane. Indiana State Police responded.

11:58 a.m. - Sergeant Keller assisted the department of child services in Loogootee.

12:53 p.m. - Captain Dant took three inmates to court.

2:15 p.m. - Captain Dant took two inmates to court.

4:21 p.m. - Received an alarm call near Loogootee. Deputy Seymour responded, and all was okay.

5:56 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Ambulance transported the subject to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

6:12 p.m. - Received a dog complaint in Loogootee. Animal Control Officer Hughett responded.

7:07 p.m. - Received a report of an accident in Loogootee. Loogootee Police Department responded.

7:27 p.m. - Received a request for lift assistance near Shoals. Shoals Fire responded.

8:53 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance near Shoals. Shoals Fire and Martin County Ambulance responded. The subject was transported to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

9:15 p.m. - Received a report of debris in the roadway on US 50, east of Shoals. Deputy Seymour responded.

8:44 p.m. - Received a report of a domestic dispute in Shoals. Town Marshal Eckert and Deputy Seymour responded.

### WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 15

6:53 a.m. - Received a report of a stolen vehicle in Crane. Deputy Reed responded. Captain Dant responded and assisted.

8:57 a.m. - Received a report of a tree down east of Shoals. Martin County Highway and ICO Fuhrman responded.

10:35 a.m. - Received a report of an incident at Shoals School. Sheriff Roush responded.

11:05 a.m. - Received a report of squatters in Shoals. Major Burkhardt responded.

12:06 p.m. - Received a report of a suspicious vehicle south of Loogootee. Major Burkhardt responded.

4:55 p.m. - Received a report of a battery in Loogootee. Loogootee Police Department was notified.

4:56 p.m. - Deputy Seymour performed a vehicle identification check near Shoals.

9:02 p.m. - Received a report of a child walking along US 231, north of Loogootee. Loogootee Officer Floyd responded.

### THURSDAY, AUGUST 16

12:17 a.m. - Received a report of a drive off without paying in Shoals. Deputy Shinn and Town Marshal Eckert responded.

5:07 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance near Shoals. Shoals Fire and Martin County Ambulance responded. The subject was transported to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

12:04 p.m. - Loogootee Captain Hennette performed a vehicle identification check in Loogootee.

12:43 p.m. - Major Burkhardt performed a vehicle identification check in Loogootee.

1:59 p.m. - Received a report of an accident in Loogootee. Loogootee Captain Hennette responded.

2:17 p.m. - Major Burkhardt performed a vehicle identification check east of Shoals.

2:40 p.m. - Received a call about a cat in Loogootee. Animal Control Officer Hughett was notified.

3:01 p.m. - Received a report of a domestic dispute in Crane. Major Burkhardt and Martin County Ambulance responded.

4:04 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Ambulance transported the subject to Daviess Community Hospital.

7:38 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Ambulance transported the subject to Daviess Community Hos-

pital.

### FRIDAY, AUGUST 17

6:36 a.m. - Received a report of an accident on US 50, east of Shoals. Deputy Wright, Shoals Fire, and Martin County Ambulance responded.

8:00 a.m. - Received a report of a tree down east of Shoals. Shoals Fire removed the tree.

8:10 a.m. - Received a cat complaint in Shoals. Animal Control Officer Hughett responded.

9:56 a.m. - Chief Deputy Greene took one inmate to court.

11:37 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance near Loogootee. Martin County Ambulance transported the subject to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

12:20 p.m. - Major Burkhardt performed a vehicle identification check north of Loogootee.

12:35 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance near Loogootee. Loogootee Fire and Martin County Ambulance responded. The subject was transported to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

2:05 p.m. - Received a report of a domestic dispute in Crane. Major Burkhardt and ISP Trooper Beaver responded.

3:08 p.m. - Received a report of a reckless driver in Shoals. ISP Trooper Lents responded.

3:15 p.m. - Received a report of a tree down near Shoals. Shoals Fire responded.

3:50 p.m. - Received a report of speeding vehicles in Loogootee. Loogootee Officer McBeth responded.

9:20 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Ambulance responded but did not transport.

11:06 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance north of Shoals. Martin County Ambulance responded and transported the subject to Daviess Community Hospital.

### SATURDAY, AUGUST 18

6:15 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Ambulance responded and transported the subject to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

10:21 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance north of Loogootee. Crane Fire and Martin County Ambulance responded. Crane transported the subject to the hospital.

11:20 a.m. - Received a dog complaint in Crane. Animal Control Officer Hughett responded.

1:14 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance east of Shoals. Shoals Fire and Martin County Ambulance responded. The subject was transported to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

3:26 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Shoals. Shoals Fire and Martin County Ambulance responded. The subject was transported to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

Unknown time - Received several reports of speeding vehicles in the county.

2:16 p.m. - Chief Deputy Greene responded to the numerous reports of speeding vehicles on SR 150. Vehicles were located and stopped in Orange County. They were participating in a road rally. Numerous drivers were cited.

5:32 p.m. - Received a report of a disabled semi in Loogootee. Deputy Shinn and Loogootee Officer McBeth

responded.

5:43 p.m. - Received a report of a truck fire in Shoals. Shoals Fire and Chief Deputy Greene responded.

9:42 p.m. - Received a report of a domestic dispute in Crane. Deputy Shinn and Deputy Wright responded.

11:31 p.m. - Received a report of a suspicious person in Loogootee. Loogootee Sergeant Norris responded.

### SUNDAY, AUGUST 19

12:07 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Ambulance responded and transported the subject to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

1:14 p.m. - Received a report of loud music in Loogootee. Loogootee Officer McBeth responded.

1:15 p.m. - Received a report of an accident in Loogootee. Loogootee Officer McBeth and ISP Trooper Beaver responded.

2:11 p.m. - Received a report of a disturbance near Shoals. Major Burkhardt responded.

2:33 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Ambulance responded but did not transport.

4:59 p.m. - Received a report of a car-turkey accident on US 50. Deputy Shinn responded.

7:27 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance near Shoals. Shoals Fire and Martin County Ambulance responded. The subject was transported to Daviess Community Hospital.

8:00 p.m. - Received a report of a battery near Loogootee. Deputy Shinn responded.

10:36 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Ambulance transported the subject to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

11:05 p.m. - Received a report of a stolen vehicle east of Shoals. Deputy Shinn, Deputy Reed, and ISP Trooper Nolan responded.

## ARRESTS

### FRIDAY, AUGUST 17

3:07 p.m. - Jessica Allen, 36, of Crane, was arrested by Major Burkhardt and charged with battery and is being held on a \$30,000 10% bond. Assisting with the arrest was ISP Trooper Beaver.

### SUNDAY, AUGUST 19

1:19 p.m. - Robert Roach, 32, of French Lick, was arrested by Major Burkhardt on a Martin County warrant and is being held without bond.

## Real estate transfers

**Sarha A. Jones**, Martin County, Indiana to **Charles C. Jones**, of Martin County, Indiana, a part of the north half of the northeast quarter of Section 3, Township 4 North, Range 3 West, Mitcheltree Township, Martin County, Indiana, containing 3.40 acres, more or less.

**Lydia Alice Braun, Jerry L. Braun, and Brenda L. Braun**, of Martin County, Indiana to **Joshua A. Miller and Hannah N. Miller**, of Pike County, Indiana. Tract I: A part of the southeast quarter of the northwest quarter of Section 31, Township 3 North, Range 3 West, containing two acres, more or less. Tract II: A part of the southeast quarter of the northwest quarter of Section 31, Township 3 North, Range 3 West, containing one-half acre, more or less.

# COURT NEWS

## CRIMINAL CONVICTIONS AND SENTENCING

July 30

Cody D. Fields, convicted of possession of methamphetamine, a Class 5 Felony. Sentenced to serve 547 days with 479 days suspended and credit for 34 actual days previously served plus 34 Class A credit days. Defendant received 14 months of probation.

## CRIMINAL CHARGES DISMISSED

July 30

Cody D. Fields, neglect of a dependent, a Class 5 Felony, dismissed; maintaining a common nuisance – controlled substances, a Class 6 Felony, dismissed; possession of marijuana, a Class B Misdemeanor, dismissed; possession of paraphernalia, a Class C Misdemeanor, dismissed.

August 2

Kristie E. Evans, public intoxication, a Class B Misdemeanor, dismissed.

## CIVIL COURT

### New Suits Filed

August 9

Robert Woodall vs. Julie Franklin-Woodall, petition for dissolution of marriage.

August 10

Tyler J. Braun vs. Belynda K. Braun, petition for dissolution of marriage.

August 13

Crane Credit Union vs. Rodney K. Helderman, civil collection.

Crane Credit Union vs. Sawyer M. Schutz and David A. Schutz, civil collection.

## CIVIL COURT JUDGEMENTS

August 16

Judgment in favor of the plaintiff Crane Credit Union and against the defendant Dana Brewer in the amount of \$8,247.29.

Judgment in favor of the plaintiff Crane Credit Union and against the defendant Stephan Gyetko in the amount of \$11,398.79.

Judgment in favor of the plaintiff Crane Credit Union and against the defendant William Hopkins in the amount of \$8,320.39.

Judgment in favor of the plaintiff Crane Credit Union and against the defendants Dennia McClure and Nada

McClure in the amount of \$7,285.69.

Judgment in favor of the plaintiff Arvest Central Mortgage Company and against the defendant James H. McGuire, for mortgage foreclosure in the amount of \$26,914.66.

Judgment in favor of the plaintiff Crane Credit Union and against the defendant Anthony Voorhies in the amount of \$13,984.68.

## SMALL CLAIMS COURT

### New Suits Filed

August 9

Crane Credit Union vs. Taylor A. Kavanaugh, complaint.

Crane Credit Union vs. Martha R. Weaver, complaint.

Crane Credit Union vs. Scott A. Smith, complaint.

Crane Credit Union vs. Jonathan P. Bright, complaint.

Hoosier Accounts Service vs. Larry Jones, complaint.

Hoosier Accounts Service vs. Christopher W. Davis, complaint.

August 10

Hoosier Accounts Service vs. William L. Hopkins, II, complaint.

Norberta Bullock vs. Deborah Haviland, complaint.

August 13

Lori B. Plano vs. Matthew A. True-love, complaint.

## SMALL CLAIMS JUDGMENTS

August 13

Judgment in favor of the plaintiff Family Dental Care and against the defendant Dustin Fox in the amount of \$633.11.

August 16

Judgment in favor of the plaintiff Crane Credit Union and against the defendant Heather King in the amount of \$841.63.

## MARRIAGE LICENSES

August 10

Daniel Scott Parfitt of Loogootee and Susana Lepiten Cooper of Loogootee.

August 15

Joshua T. Rush of Shoals and Robert A. Salmon of Shoals.

August 17

Gerald Duane Street of French Lick and Robert Allen Sullivan of French Lick.

# Loogootee Police log

## MONDAY, AUGUST 13

12:23 a.m. - Caller reported loud music in Shaded Estates.

11:06 a.m. - Caller reported a suspicious person walking on Hwy 50.

1:02 p.m. - Caller reported having problems from a male on Hwy 50.

5:28 p.m. - Male reported a possible theft.

9:48 p.m. - Male reported a speeding vehicle on US 231.

## TUESDAY, AUGUST 14

8:00 a.m. - Caller reported a loose dog complaint.

9:11 a.m. - Caller reported a child custody issue.

9:31 a.m. - Caller reported a loose horse on State Road 550.

6:02 p.m. - Caller reported trespasser on her property.

6:38 p.m. - Caller reported someone burning trash.

7:05 p.m. - Caller reported a property damage accident in the Ruler parking lot.

10:07 p.m. - Caller reported possible drug activity.

11:20 p.m. - Caller advised of a 911 hang-up.

## WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 15

9:20 a.m. - Male requested a vehicle identification check.

11:30 a.m. - Caller reported a reckless vehicle on US 231.

4:58 p.m. - Caller reported a domestic dispute on Church Street.

8:13 p.m. - Male requested a welfare check on a female.

9:09 p.m. - Caller reported a juvenile walking on US 231.

9:23 p.m. - Caller reported a civil complaint.

## THURSDAY, AUGUST 16

12:04 p.m. - Male requested a vehicle identification check.

1:59 p.m. - Caller reported a vehicle accident near Chuckles.

4:06 p.m. - Female requested an officer assist her with getting personal belongings back.

6:27 p.m. - Officer Floyd responded to a business alarm.

7:40 p.m. - First responders were

requested on Butcher Boulevard for a medical call.

8:51 p.m. - Caller requested a welfare check on a female.

## FRIDAY, AUGUST 17

10:15 a.m. - Officer McBeth assisted a female with getting personal belongings from a residence.

3:50 p.m. - Caller reported speeding vehicles on Walker Street.

5:34 p.m. - Caller reported a reckless vehicle on US 231.

9:35 p.m. - Officer Floyd responded to a business alarm.

## SATURDAY, AUGUST 18

9:10 a.m. - Caller reported a possible intoxicated driver.

12:07 p.m. - Caller reported speeding vehicles on US 231.

1:12 p.m. - Caller reported having problems with a male.

5:45 p.m. - Caller reported a property damage accident on US 50.

11:31 p.m. - Female reported a suspicious male on SW 3<sup>rd</sup> Street.

## SUNDAY, AUGUST 19

1:14 p.m. - Male reported a loud music complaint in Shaded Estates.

1:18 p.m. - Caller reported a property damage accident on Broadway Street.

5:15 p.m. - Male reported a child custody issue.

8:23 p.m. - Male reported speeding vehicles on Hwy 50.

## Martin County JOURNAL

A weekly online newspaper published every Wednesday

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josh@martincountyjournal.com

### CONTACT INFORMATION

PO Box 148, Loogootee, IN 47553

Phone: 812-259-4309

Fax: 1-888-380-2761

info@martincountyjournal.com

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~ WELCOME ~

# DONATIONS

Library

## LOOGOOTEER PUBLIC LIBRARY

# \$20,000 MATCHING DONATION

The library director Darla Wagler recently received a call from a generous donor wanting to donate \$20,000 in the form of a donation match. The family requested that only new donations qualify and a time limit of 60 days starting on Monday, August 13 was discussed. Anyone wishing to donate can drop off a donation at the library, send a contribution to the Loogootee Public Library, 106 N. Line St., Loogootee, IN 47553, or go to the library's website [loogootee.lib.in.us](http://loogootee.lib.in.us) and click on the Paypal button. The library has teamed up with Friends of Loogootee Library (FOLL), a 501 (c) 3 organization, for all fundraising making all donations tax deductible.

FOLL and the library fundraising committee have teamed up on these upcoming events: Marinated Chicken and Brat Cookout in front of the library on Friday, August 24 from 10:30-2:00, Book and Bake Sale at the library on Saturday, Sept. 8 from 8-12, and selling food at the West Bogg's Fall into Folk music event on Saturday, Sept. 22. In addition, the Pull Up a Chair dinner/auction fundraiser will be held on October 13 at St. John's Center from 6-8. All fundraiser money will go toward the new library building.

## More Neat Stuff



By Ann Ackerman



I had a nice, but short visit with the most energetic 92-year-old I have ever known. Viola Summers was on the exercise machine but took the time to talk to me about her family and friends. Thanks for making me appreciate your youth and energy. Love you, my friend.

I haven't used in puns for a while, so I hope you like these:

**PUNS:**

\*I got a new pair of gloves today, but they're both "lefts" which, on one hand is great, but on the other, it's just not right.

\*R.I.P. boiled water. You will be mist.

\*To the mathematicians who thought of the idea of zero, thanks for nothing.

\*I accidentally handed my wife a glue stick, instead of a Chapstick. She still isn't talking to me.

\*Oxygen is proven to be a toxic gas. Anyone who inhales oxygen will normally die within 80 years.

\*I ordered 2,000 lbs. of Chinese soup. It was won ton.

\*I can't believe I got fired from the calendar factory. All I did was take a day off.

\*I'm reading a book about anti-gravity. It's impossible to put down.

\*If a short psychic broke out of jail, then you'd have a small medium at large.

\*To write with a broken pencil is pointless.

\*Don't spell part backward. It's a trap.

During the wedding rehearsal, the groom approaches the pastor with an unusual offer. "Look, I'll give you \$100 if you'll change the wedding vows. When you get to the part where I'm supposed to promise to 'love, honor, and obey' and 'be faithful to her forever,' I'd appreciate it if you'd just leave that out."

He passes the minister a \$100 bill and walks away satisfied.

On the day of the wedding, when it comes time for the groom's vows, the pastor looks the young man in the eye and says, "Will you promise to prostrate yourself before her, obey her every command and wish, serve her breakfast in bed every morning of your life, and swear eternally before God, and your lovely wife, that you will not ever even look at another woman, as long as you both shall live?"

The groom gulps, looks around, and says in a tiny voice, "Yes," then leans toward the pastor and hisses, "I thought we had a deal."

The pastor puts a \$100 bill into the groom's hand and whispers, "She made me a better offer."

**THOUGHTS:**

1. The quickest way for a mother to get her children's attention is to sit down and look comfortable.

2. "Two things are infinite: the universe and human stupidity, and I'm not sure about the universe." -Albert Einstein

3. The same boiling water that softens the potato hardens the egg. It's

about what you're made of, not the circumstances.

4. In this heat, check your friends who have naturally curly hair. We are not OK. We are out there looking like alpacas.

5. No matter how long you've traveled in the wrong direction, you can always turn around.

6. Drama does not just walk in to your life. Either you create it, invite it, or associate with it.

My sister's dog had been deaf and blind for years. When she started to suffer painful tumors, it was time to put her down. As I explained this to my seven-year-old son, he asked if Jazzy would go to heaven.

I said I thought she would, and that in dog heaven, she would be healthy again and able to do her favorite thing - chase squirrels.

Jacob thought about this for a minute then said, "So dog heaven must be the same as squirrel hell."

Make someone smile today!



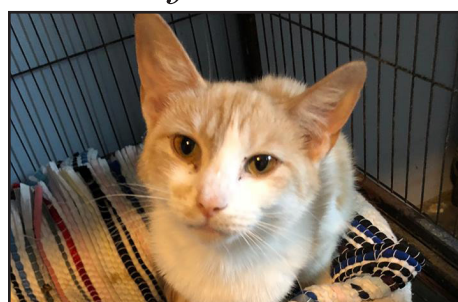
### Scholarship winner

-Photo provided

Jayden Wagoner, 2018 Loogootee High School graduate, is the recipient of this year's \$1,000 scholarship, sponsored by the Knights of Columbus Council 732 Ladies Auxiliary. Shown is the check being presented to Jayden by Jessica Bradley, Auxiliary Secretary. Jayden is attending Indiana University Kokomo.

### ANIMAL SHELTER

#### Pet of the Week



ZELDA is a female tan and white adult cat. Very sweet, loves affection, she is fine with other cats. She is spayed and up to date on shots. Adoption fee is \$40. The shelter is located at 507 N. Oak Street in Loogootee. Shelter hours are Monday and Wednesday 5-7 p.m. and Saturday 11 a.m.-2 p.m. To see all available animals, visit [www.humanesocietyofmartincounty.org](http://www.humanesocietyofmartincounty.org).

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### WIC Office closing

The Martin County WIC Office will be closed Tuesday, August 28 for staff to attend the WIC Education and Training Conference in Indianapolis.

### Reunion

The Strange-O'Maley-Jones Reunion will be held Sunday, September 2 at St. Joseph Annex, Bramble. Food will be served at 12:30 p.m. Iced tea and table service will be provided.

### 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.

### Free lunch for kids

New Beginnings Community Church will be offering a free lunch to all school-age children every Saturday from noon to 1 p.m. at the fellowship hall of the church, located at 200 West Main Street next to the post office. For more info, call 812-709-2525.

### 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!

### Tourism meetings

The MCCC Tourism Committee meets on the third Thursday of each month at 5:30 p.m. at Loughmiller Machine, 12851 E 150 N, Loogootee. The

public is invited to attend.

### Humane society meetings

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

### Solid waste board

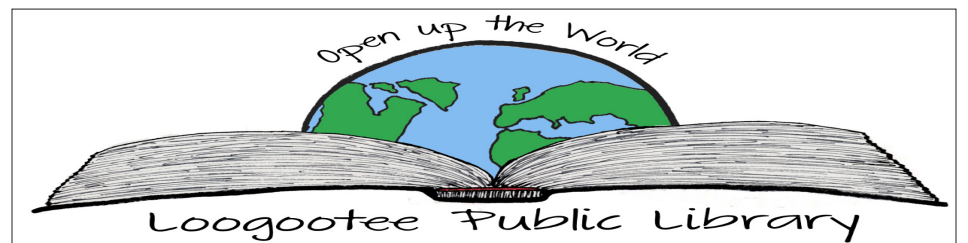
The Martin County Solid Waste Board holds their monthly meetings on the third Wednesday of each month at 6 p.m. at the recycling center located at 500 Industrial Park Drive in Loogootee. The meetings are open to the public and anyone is invited to attend.

### 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.

### Attention Senior Citizens

The Loogootee Senior Citizen Center, located in the annex building attached to JFK Gym on JFK Avenue in Loogootee provides activities for seniors every Monday and Thursday from 8 a.m. to noon. For \$5 a year, seniors can participate in Euchre tournaments, games, puzzles, etc., with other local seniors. Anyone interested is welcome to stop by, there are no age or residency requirements to participate. Seniors are also offered lunch at the Loogootee Senior Center every Monday and Thursday. A freewill donation is requested. Call 812-295-3130 to make a reservation.



BY DARLA WAGLER  
Librarian, Loogootee Public Library

I recently received a call from a generous donor wanting to donate \$20,000 in the form of a donation match. The family requested that only new donations qualify and a time limit of 60 days starting on Monday, August 13 was discussed. Anyone wishing to donate can drop off a donation at the library, send a contribution to the Loogootee Public Library, 106 N. Line Street, Loogootee, IN 47553, or go to the library's website [loogootee.lib.in.us](http://loogootee.lib.in.us) and click on the PayPal button. The library has teamed up with Friends of Loogootee Library (FOLL), a 501(c)3 organization, for all fundraising making all donations tax deductible.

FOLL and the library fundraising

committee have teamed up on these upcoming events: Marinated Chicken and Brat Cookout in front of the library on Friday, August 24 from 10:30-2:00, Book and Bake Sale at the library on Saturday, September 8 from 8-12, and selling food at the West Bogg's Fall into Folk music event on Saturday, September 22. In addition, the Pull Up a Chair dinner/auction fundraiser will be held on October 13 at St. John's Center from 6-8. All fundraiser money will go toward the new library building.

The library hours are Monday and Tuesday 10-7, Wednesday closed, Thursday and Friday 10-5 and Saturday 9-1. The phone number is 812-295-3713 or 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.

## St. John the Evangelist Parish The St. Martin's Men's Club

BBQ,  
POTATO SALAD,  
BAKED BEANS,  
DESSERT



\$7.00 Adult,  
\$4.00 Child

Carry-out  
available

SUNDAY, AUGUST 26

11:30 a.m.-1 p.m.

at St. Martin Center, Whitfield

## Purdue's latest land value survey shows farmland values are up in Indiana

BY EMMA AMBROSE  
Purdue University News Service

The June 2018 Purdue Land Value Survey published in the Purdue Agricultural Economics Report (PAER), by the Department of Agricultural Economics, was released earlier this month. The report lays out changes in farmland values and cash rents. This survey examines trends in farmland values, cash rents and also details market factors impacting these prices. Craig Dobbins, professor of agricultural economics and the survey's author, said both farmland values and cash rents experienced a small increase statewide this year.

"It's often difficult to find information about current farmland values or historic farmland values and cash rents," Dobbins said. "The purpose of our survey is to help people have some idea of what's happening in the farmland market by providing an up to date reference."

According to the survey, top quality, average quality and poor-quality farmland increased in value from last year by 1.6 percent, 2.1 percent and 2.4 percent, respectively. In Indiana, top quality farmland has an average value of \$8,668 per acre, average

quality farmland rings in at \$7,072, while poor-quality farmland averages \$5,407. Like farmland values, changes in cash rent were consistently positive. On the whole, cash rents for the state increased 2.4 percent to 3.2 percent. Top quality farmland runs \$261 an acre with average and poor-quality farmland priced at \$210 and \$168, respectively.

The report identified the amount of farmland on the market and rate of inflation as the two market factors positively influencing the cost of farmland. Nine factors, including crop and livestock prices, interest rates and agricultural policy, had negative influences. Since 2014, an increasing number of these 11 market factors have turned negative.

It's becoming more difficult to predict how certain agricultural economic factors are going to impact land values, Dobbins observed, especially with recent changes to trade and tariff policy in the U.S.

"Production agriculture is always risky, but it has gotten really risky given the current events taking place. Production agriculture is highly dependent on export markets. To get a change in policy to one that is erecting barriers rather than reducing barriers is really a shift," Dobbins said. Such a volatile trade environment makes it difficult to formulate predictions, however, Dobbins added, the uncertainties in trade policy seem likely to delay the hoped-for increase in corn and soybean prices. Flat or declining farmland values seem more likely than continued increases going forward.

To read the full PAER for 2018, visit <https://bit.ly/2Op9vGt>.

### Spring Mill SP invites you to Fiber Arts Weekend

Spring Mill State Park invites you to its Pioneer Village for Fiber Arts Weekend, September 1-3.

The fiber arts featured include felting, weaving, bobbin lace, tatting, spinning with drop spindles, spinning wheels, and more. Demonstrations and hands-on programs for both adults and children will be ongoing throughout the day, and the programs are free.

If you have ever wanted to learn any of the fiber arts, this is the event for you. Program supplies are limited, and are first-come, first-served. For information about this or other events at the park, call 812-849-3534 or email [springmillstatepark@dnr.IN.gov](mailto:springmillstatepark@dnr.IN.gov).

Park admission during the event is \$7 per vehicle for in-state residents and \$9 per vehicle for out-of-state residents.

Spring Mill State Park ([stateparks.IN.gov/2968.htm](http://stateparks.IN.gov/2968.htm)) is at 3333 State Road 60 East, Mitchell, 47446.

## August is time to check your trees

August is National Tree Check Month, the time to make sure your trees are healthy, strong and pest-free.

Trees serve as wind breaks and sun shields, they muffle noise and block unsightly views. They help conserve energy and water, prevent soil erosion, provide wildlife habitat and clean the air.

"For all trees do for us, this month we're asking you to take 10 minutes to check yours," said Megan Abraham, director of DNR Entomology & Plant Pathology.

The biggest tree threat in Indiana is the Asian longhorned beetle (ALB), an invasive pest that attacks over a dozen types of trees. ALB can devastate a community's trees, so the DNR urges landowners to examine trees now.

ALB's preferred host tree is maple, so check those first. Look for round exit holes, chew marks in bark, wood dust, dead branches, and tunneling in cut wood or fallen branches. Also

look for adult beetles. The beetle is about 1 inch to 1.5 inches long, with six legs and a shiny, jet-black body with white spots and two long black-and-white antennae.

Once a tree is infested, it must be removed. The U.S. Department of Agriculture and partners have cut down more than 184,000 infested trees in Massachusetts, Ohio and New York. Successful eradication programs were completed in Illinois in 2008 and New Jersey in 2013.

"Early detection is the key," Abraham said.

One person can make a big difference in the battle against ALB. In 2010 in Boston, a groundskeeper noticed an exit hole in a maple tree. Fortunately, only six trees were infested with ALB. Thanks to that one person's report, Boston is now ALB-free.

If you see something suspicious, report your findings by calling 1-866-702-9938, or report online at [AsianLonghornedBeetle.com](http://AsianLonghornedBeetle.com).

## Public Archaeology Symposium is August 25

The public can learn about archaeology in Indiana during an August 25 symposium in Bloomington that kicks off Indiana Archaeology Month.

The Indiana Public Archaeology Symposium takes place at the Glenn A. Black Laboratory of Archaeology, 423 N. Fess Ave., Bloomington. Presentations start at 9 a.m.

The event is sponsored by the DNR Division of Historic Preservation & Archaeology (DHPA), the Glenn A. Black lab, Indiana University and the Indiana Archaeology Council.

K. Anne Pyburn of IU will deliver the keynote presentation. Other speakers include State Archaeologist Amy Johnson and DHPA archaeologists Rachel Sharkey and Cathy Draeger-Williams.

Other presentations and posters will cover Indiana maritime heritage, IU campus and community archaeology, public outreach methods, and more. Exclusive tours of the Glenn A. Black lab will also be available.

## Wheelin' IN the Fish at Patoka Lake September 15

The 17<sup>th</sup> annual "Wheelin' IN the Fish" will be held at Osborn Boat Ramp, Patoka Lake on Saturday, September 15 from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. This free fishing event promotes the accessible features of Patoka Lake for participants with special needs and their families.

Whether confined to a wheelchair or any other circumstance that doesn't allow them to live alone, bring those folks out to join us for FREE fishing, FREE boat rides and FREE lunch. If you work for a nursing home, group home, or in home health service- (or have family members in one of these facilities) get your patrons outdoors and into the fun. Everything they need will be provided from fishing poles to

"The Indiana Public Archaeology Symposium provides a perfect way for Hoosiers to find out about archaeology in our state and how they can become involved in learning about the past," said Cameron Clark, DNR director and State Historic Preservation Officer.

The cost to attend the symposium is \$5 for non-students, \$3 for students with ID. There is no admission cost for Indiana Archaeology Council members.

Archaeology Month officially starts September 1.

It is an opportunity to celebrate and learn about Indiana archaeology. A schedule of events and additional information is at [dnr.IN.gov/historic](http://dnr.IN.gov/historic).

Commemorative Archaeology Month posters will be available at the symposium, as will various archaeology handouts, including "Early Peoples of Indiana." Additionally, membership information for the Indiana Archaeology Council will be available.

Osborn Boat Ramp is located off Highway 145 just 2 miles north of the State Rd. 164 intersection and 14 miles south of French Lick, Indiana. Watch for the signs. For more information call the Patoka Lake Naure Center at (812)685-2447.

Patoka Lake ([stateparks.IN.gov/2953.htm](http://stateparks.IN.gov/2953.htm)) is at 3084 N. Dillard Road, Birdseye, IN 47513.

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# CLASSIFIED ADS

## HELP WANTED

THE VFW POST 9395 in Loogootee is looking for a cook on Friday, Saturday and Sunday evenings. If interested, stop in to the VFW at 300 Vine Street, Loogootee, and fill out an application.

# Loogootee Varsity Boys' Tennis start season 3-0

The Loogootee High School Boys' Tennis teams competed against Southridge last night, Tuesday, August 21. The varsity Lions swept the Raiders, 5-0 while the junior varsity boys lost 1-2.

Head Coach Rick Graves said after the matches, "We played a good overall match tonight. We had a tough match last night and I thought everyone came out with good enthusiasm and focus. Max played very well against a good opponent. He tries to make things a little too difficult for himself at times so once he simplified his game plan he started playing like he is capable. Both of our doubles teams were aggressive and focused. Bailey and Sebastian lifted their level of play tonight and played a much more loose match. I'm really pleased with Jalen and Nathan and the play they're giving us at their spots. They are both moving the ball well and being aggressive when given the opportunity."

The varsity moves to 3-0 on the season while the junior varsity moves to 2-1. The boys will play again on Thursday, August 23 at 4:15 p.m. in Washington.

#### Varsity results

#1 Singles - Max Christmas (L) defeated Carson Mundy (S) 6-4, 6-3

#2 Singles - Jalen Wildman (L) defeated Owen Kinker (S) 6-1, 6-2

#3 Singles - Nathan Seals (L) defeated Austin Barkley (S) 6-2, 6-1

#1 Doubles - Sheldan Christmas & Jordan Wildman (L) defeated Garrett Altmeyer and Michael Kappner (S) 6-0, 6-0

#2 Doubles - Bailey Dearwester and Sebastian Toy (L) defeated Max Rasche and Breck Sternberg (S) 6-2, 6-0

#### Junior varsity results

#1 Doubles - Aaron Dant and Andrew Powell (L) defeated Levi Schaeffer and Konner Thyen (S) 8-6

#2 Doubles - Cory Abell and Jake Wibbeler (S) defeated Jacob Lengacher and Brady Taylor (L) 8-4

#3 Doubles - Roger Hunter and Wyatt

Sherer (S) defeated Matthew Poole and Wyatt Sheetz (L) 8-0

The Loogootee teams went up against Northeast Dubois on Monday, August 20. The varsity Lions won 4-1 and the junior varsity also took a victory, 3-0.

"This was a really good win for us tonight. Northeast Dubois has had a solid program for the last several years and we've not been able to get any wins off of them for probably five or six years. Our guys played with a lot of patience because Dubois' style of play is to try to keep the ball in play and try to outlast the other guy. Jalen did a great job at two singles. His opponent played a slower paced ball with a lot of drop shots and Jalen was able to counter that with enough points to get the win. Nathan has played very well at three singles. Last year or two years ago he wouldn't have had the patience to win the kind of matches he's winning now. Sheldan and Jordan were very strong tonight. They played well in all facets of the game: serves, groundstrokes, volleys, returns. I'm really pleased with how they're playing especially this early in the season. Bailey and Sebastian struggled in the first set. They were off on some volleys but once they cleaned that up and gained some confidence they put together two nice sets. It's always nice getting a win and a conference win but to get a win against a team the quality of Dubois makes it better," said Coach Graves.

#### Varsity results

#1 Singles - Reece Bauer (NED) defeated Max Christmas (L) 6-0, 6-2

#2 Singles - Jalen Wildman (L) defeated Ethan Ziegler (NED) 7-6(5), 6-4

#3 Singles - Nathan Seals (L) defeated Ross Mehringer (NED) 6-3, 6-4

#1 Doubles - Sheldan Christmas and Jordan Wildman (L) defeated Tanner Hurt and Logan Mehringer (NED) 6-0, 6-0

#2 Doubles - Bailey Dearwester and Sebastian Toy (L) defeated Lane Knies and Tucker Neukam (NED) 3-6, 6-3, 6-1

#### Junior varsity results

#1 Singles - Reece Tippery (L) defeat-

ed Nick Himmerlein (NED) 8-2

#1 Doubles - Bryant Eckerle and Jayden Leatherman (L) defeated Logan Lampert and Aden Thewes (NED) 8-1

#2 Doubles - Luke Nonte and Rory Tippery (L) defeated Ethan Atkins and Easton Ziegler (NED) 8-2

The boys first match of the season was against Evansville North. The varsity Lions won 4-1 and the junior varsity swept North, 8-0.

Coach Graves said after the matches, "After being rained out twice this week we were very anxious to get a match in today. I thought everyone had first match jitters in the first sets but once we settled down I thought we played pretty good tennis. Max's score is a bit deceiving because he played very well but Noah Peak is a very fine player with a good variety of shots. Jalen got a little impatient in his second set but was able to string enough points together when he needed them. Nathan played a very nice match. His first set was very close, but he showed good composure and control in the second. Sheldan and Jordan were a little shaky at first but then settled in nicely and played like we know they are capable. Bailey and Sebastian played very well at times. This is their first time playing together so it will take a little time for them to gel but they should provide us with good play at two doubles. We're just glad to get a win and glad to get the season going."

#### Varsity results

#1 Singles - Noah Peak (EN) defeated Max Christmas (L) 6-1, 6-2

#2 Singles - Jalen Wildman (L) defeated Chris Zimmerman (EN) 6-2, 6-3

#3 Singles - Nathan Seals (L) defeated Reagan Smith (EN) 7-5, 6-0

#1 Doubles - Sheldan Christmas and Jordan Wildman (L) defeated Ben Bitner and Kaleb Conklin (EN) 6-4, 6-0

#2 Doubles - Bailey Dearwester and Sebastian Toy (L) defeated Andrew Bitner and Seth Humphrey (EN) 6-3, 6-3

#### Junior varsity results

#1 Singles - Bryant Eckerle (L) defeated Zane Spinner (EN) 8-4 and Bry-

ant Eckerle (L) defeated Nathan Stippler (EN) 6-2

#2 Singles - Jayden Leatherman (L) defeated Trey Merrill (EN) 8-1 and Jayden Leatherman (L) defeated Kyle Francis (EN) 6-2

#3 Singles - Lawson McCloskey (L) defeated Alex Plump (EN) 8-4

#4 Singles - Andrew Powell (L) defeated Brock Landry (EN) 8-5

#1 Doubles - Luke Nonte and Rory Tippery (L) defeated Evan Louisgnont and Emory Washburn (EN) 8-1

#2 Doubles - Austin Brittain and Reece Tippery (L) defeated Dakota Dickery and Daniel Liegl (EN) 8-0

## Lady Lions Varsity Volleyball open season with win

The Loogootee Lady Lions Volleyball Team pulled out a win against Jasper to open their season last Monday, August 13. The girls won in three sets, 25-21, 25-21, 28-26.

"This team, from the second they walked onto the court, was confident, played mentally tough, and just flat out wanted it. More work and improvements are to come and we can't wait to get after it," said Coach Tracie McAtee.

Kylie VanHoy finished with 12 kills, 13 assists, three blocks, nine service points and three aces. Makenzie VanHoy had 18 assists, seven kills, two blocks and 11 service points. Olivia Winger finished with seven kills, Emily Wade had two blocks, Asia Crim had 10 digs and seven service points, and Jocelyn Strange had eight digs.

The junior varsity Lady Lions were defeated in two sets, 15-25 and 23-25.

Jaelyn Walker finished with three kills, three assists, and four digs. Grace Lingenfelter and Madison McAtee each had two kills and Lingenfelter also contributed five service points. Isabelle Waggner had three assists and six digs. Cassidy Esch contributed four service points and Haylie Mathies added three.

# RE-ELECT ROUSH FOR SHERIFF

For the Martin County Sheriff's Office, the area of budget funding for employees and material resources is typically gained through tax revenue. Reducing expenses is accomplished by implementing innovative and common-sense practices. The Sheriff's Office is one of the few local government entities that can generate revenue. Creating revenue for the benefit of the community is tremendously important for Martin County.

Finally, collaboration with the County Commissioners and County Council is essential. Without their support, we would not be able to meet our mission. The following points are a few concrete examples of how business has been executed during this administration.

## FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY

### Vehicle Use

One of the initial changes to better this administration's mission for fiscal responsibility was to end the long-standing practice of allowing police vehicles to be used out-of-county. The deputies are allowed to drive their vehicles in the county off-duty--and anywhere on-duty. Personal use outside the county (and especially out-of-state) was immediately terminated when this administration took office. Officers patrolling within the county makes sense, by having a physical presence on county roads and serving as a criminal deterrent with visible vehicles. With the vehicles being funded by Martin County taxpayer dollars, the vehicles need to benefit Martin County. When those same vehicles cross county lines, the benefit to Martin County taxpayers goes away. Of course, on or off duty, if a deputy observes a crime, he will take action. Being a good fiscal steward and closely watching how the tax dollars are spent matters to county leaders and taxpayers alike.

### Book-in Ordinance

This administration championed for a book-in ordinance, passing costs to offenders--not taxpayers. Before this ordinance was passed, the taxpayer was incurring ALL the costs of housing inmates. Admittedly, it's not an exorbitant fee (\$50.00) but nevertheless, the offenders should contribute something to their housing and meals. Of course, all are innocent until proven guilty and thus the fee is not imposed unless they are proven guilty. After consulting my counterparts and reviewing their policies, the ordinance was proposed to the County Commissioners and they passed it unanimously. Again, the objectives of this office have been accomplished with the support of the Commissioners and the Court, and they too deserve much of the credit for implementing this ordinance and lessening the taxpayers' burden.

### Adding Inmate Beds

This administration created a revenue opportunity for the county by figuring a way to add beds to the jail, which allows out-of-county inmates to be housed. This revenue stream adds to the county's General Fund, which in turn cuts the necessary costs to finance the Sheriff's Office. If cooperation continues, nearly a one million dollar (\$1,000,000) revenue should be realized by the end of 2022. This has, by far, had the biggest fiscal impact for the Sheriff's Office during this administration. Again, this was accomplished through a tremendous amount of collaboration and approval from the County Council and Commissioners. Currently, we are housing 19 out-of-county inmates. More inmates required another jailer. As predicted, the salary commitment was met within three months, with a substantial net gain realized to the county. The Sheriff's Office is one of the biggest budgets in the county. Reducing costs to the county is the utmost goal--while maintaining the safety of the inmates and jail staff. A tremendous amount of credit must go to the County Council. Any new venture takes vision and risk, and I applaud them for supporting the business model as presented to them. More importantly, the biggest credit must go to the jail staff, as they shoulder the lion's share of the risk and work the plan daily to benefit the county taxpayers.

In conclusion, though *Fiscal Responsibility* is not one of the first things that comes to mind for the duties of the Sheriff-- it is vital. Even the smallest thing can make a big difference in the long run. This administration believes in approaching the fiscal element of the Sheriff's Office with a private business sector mindset. For 3 1/2 years, I have faced each day with the goal of holding expenses to a minimum. My plan is to continue to look for ways to reduce expenses and increase revenue. The taxpayers of Martin County deserve no less. I am asking for your continued support and loyalty in the Fall to continue the practices put into place. -- Most respectfully, Travis Roush

# "SUSTAIN THE CHANGE"