

# Martin County JOURNAL

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Eight pages

## Martin County farm recognized with Hoosier Homestead Award

The Keller & Hewitt Farm in Martin County recently received a Hoosier Homestead Centennial Award for being in operation since 1881, according to State Rep. Shane Lindauer (R-Jasper) and State Sen. Eric Bassler (R-Washington).

"It's important we don't take for granted the work our farmers, past and present, have put into Hoosier land," Bassler said. "I admire these families and their willingness to continue the tradition of those who came before them."

The Keller & Hewitt Farm was among more than 100 awardees recently recognized at the Indiana State Fair for their commitment to Indiana agriculture.

Farms owned and maintained by the same family for 100 years or more can qualify for centennial, sesquicentennial or bicentennial Hoosier Homestead awards.

"These longtime farm families contribute greatly to our area's economy and culture," Lindauer said. "Thriving for more than 100 years is no small feat and these Hoosiers deserve recognition."

Each year, two awards ceremonies are held in the spring and summer commemorating the achievements of farm families across the state. Since its inception in 1976, more than 5,800 farms received the designation as Hoosier Homesteads.

For more information on the Hoosier Homestead Award Program, visit [in.gov/isda](http://in.gov/isda).

## Shoals Council goes over water systems, road work updates

The Shoals Town Council met August 8. Those in attendance were Council Members Clint Hoffman and Cecil Ragsdale, Town Attorney Dave Lett, Clerk-Treasurer Sierra Rutledge, Shoals Volunteer Fire Department Chief Jim Hamby, Shoals Town Marshal Todd Eckert, Shoals General Laborer Caitlin Sanders. Council Member Cary Albright attended by telephone.

Council Member Cary Albright stated he was requesting a motion to name Bo Wilson as temporary responsible person in charge/operator in charge for the water and wastewater systems. Councilman Ragsdale made a motion to accept with Councilman Hoffman making the second and all were in favor.

Albright had Attorney Lett present Ordinance 2022-05 an "Ordinance Regulating Manufactured Homes Within the Town Limits of Shoals Indiana" that he had prepared for the council. Town Marshal Eckert stated some suggestions he had concerning the ordinance. After discussion, Councilman Ragsdale made a motion to pass the ordinance with Councilman Hoffman making the second and the motion passed.

Albright stated he wanted to give an update on the water systems and that the electronic read meters were being worked on for the switch over. Albright also said the repairs at the water booster station on Lynwood Street are still planned and in the works. Albright also provided an update on the wastewater system and said a pre-construction/bid meeting had been (See 'SHOALS' on page 2)



-Photo provided

Shown above, from left to right, are Curt Johnson, Martin County Community Foundation Development Director; Sara Stoll (with Banner Stoll), Town of Shoals Park Board Vice President; Sierra Rutledge, Town of Shoals Clerk-Treasurer; Cary D. Albright, Town of Shoals Council President; Cecil Ragsdale, Town of Shoals Council Member; Hope Flores, Community Foundation Partnership CEO; Angie Risacher, Martin County Community Foundation Board Member; Paula Ringwald, Martin County Community Foundation Board President, Alan Lagree (with Kate Lagree), Martin County Community Foundation Board Member; Lisa Starr, Community Foundation Partnership Finance/Grants Officer; Jenell Hoffman, Martin County Community Foundation Board Member. Town of Shoals Park Board Members not pictured were Zack Brown, President; Audrey Gibson, Secretary; Kaylee Diamond and Chad Damon.

## MCCF gives Shoals \$130,000 for park improvements

The Martin County Community Foundation, a partner in the Community Foundation Partnership, Inc., prioritized health, wellness and recreation in early 2020 after working with E-Solve Solutions and the READY Martin County Coalition.

Needs assessments, surveys and community meetings led the Community Foundation Board to look for opportunities to improve recreation areas for residents. Toward that end, the Community Foundation approved a grant in

the amount of \$130,000 to the Town of Shoals for park improvements.

The plan includes a new preschool playground (including adaptive swings) that will be located behind the main bleachers, a total replacement of the existing walkway lights, safety netting for the existing playground area, and new fencing for the front area of the main ballfield. The project and grant have a total cost of approximately \$140,000, including the cost of the consultant's work and expenses.

The ballpark is a highly visible community asset that was in desperate need of improvements. These improvements allow families of all ages to more safely enjoy outdoor activities, whether they live in Martin County or are visiting from surrounding counties.

This collaborative grant was made possible with support from Lilly Endowment Inc. through its \$100,000 leadership grant from Lilly Endowment's Giving Indiana Funds for Tomorrow (GIFT) VII initiative.

## Joint meeting held to discuss ambulance service salaries

BY COURTNEY HUGHETT  
Martin County Journal Publisher

The Martin County Council and Commissioners held a special joint meeting Thursday, August 18 to discuss salaries for the newly formed ambulance service staff. The county has been forced to start its own ambulance service as the current provider has lost their medical director as of this past Monday. No area hospitals were interested in providing service to the county due to the costs involved and lack of staff.

Jeramey Osborn, ambulance director, said they are in the process of starting to hire employees. He presented salary recommendations totaling \$633,000. This would include hourly pay of \$25-\$35 per hour for full-time paramedics. Osborn said he would be the director and a full-time paramedic.

Council Member Warren Albright said he believes Osborn doing both jobs would be too much. Commissioner Paul George said if it does get overwhelming for Osborn, they can revisit it. Albright replied he doesn't believe it would be sustainable and he thinks Osborn needs to be a part-time paramedic with the rest of the time doing administrative tasks. Albright said Osborn will get burnt out in six months which will cause an issue with the staff. He suggested adding another part-time position to the salary recommendations presented so they can plan for that now instead of waiting until the budget for

2023 has already been established.

Osborn said the way he has it set up, each paramedic will work two 24-hour shifts per week. Albright questioned the overtime that would come along with that. Osborn said it works out to where the staff would actually not work any overtime unless they took on an extra shift. He said the structuring of three days off before each 24-hour shift results in the paramedic having one week where they only work one 24-hour shift. He said he has planned for eight full-time and part-time EMTs, with part-time to fill in to

## School board candidate filing ends this Friday

The filing period to submit a completed petition for school board, for Loogootee or Shoals, ends this Friday, August 26, 2022, at noon. In Loogootee, the districts on the ballot will be 1, 2 and 3. In Shoals, districts 1 and 4 will be on the ballot.

If you are interested in becoming a candidate for school board, contact the Martin County Clerk's Office at 812-247-3651.

Loogootee School Board District 1 - Nick Toy

Loogootee School Board District 2 - No filings to date

Loogootee School Board District 3 - Brent Courter

Shoals School Board District 1 - Annette Taylor

Shoals School Board District 4 - Eva George

cover vacations, call ins, etc. Two paramedics would be on standby and would be paid a nominal fee for being back-up.

Council Member Albright said the \$633,000 is not the total cost for salaries. He said this does not include \$70,000 to \$100,000 for insurance or \$50,000 for payroll taxes.

Osborn said they will be bringing in some money from insurance reimbursement and self-pay from patients. He said he doesn't see the ambulance service ever making a profit, but the reimbursements will help. He noted that insurance companies can take up to 90 days to pay claims however so it would be a while before they saw any of those reimbursements. Osborn said he has looked into a third party to do the billing and handle all filing that needs to be done with the state. This comes with a seven percent fee of whatever is collected. Osborn said he would handle the rest of the office tasks.

Osborn explained that due to staffing problems, area hospitals have been in a bidding war for EMTs. He said they keep increasing wages to bring in employees. Council Member Albright said he doesn't know how the county can compete with that and asked if the county would have the same staffing issues.

Osborn said his goal is to create a workplace where staff are proud of the work they do. He said having new equipment and pride in the community can make a huge difference. He explained that another (See 'AMBULANCE' on page 2)

# AMBULANCE

(Continued from page one)

er issue with working for a hospital as an EMT is overnight transports, which wouldn't be required through Martin County's ambulance service. He said the EMTs would be working for their own county which is also a perk. Osborn said he isn't saying there will never be issues with staffing, but the goal is to create a pleasant work environment.

Discussion then ensued on how much revenue the county could bring in with reimbursements. Since the current ambulance service didn't keep that data, there is no way of knowing. It was noted that based on some research, they are estimating 1,000 calls a year and \$250,000 in revenue from reimbursement.

Osborn said they can always do convalescent transports to bring in extra money down the road, which are transports from hospital to hospital. He said they have also discussed having a membership for residents, much like what the medical helicopter companies do.

It was discussed that it was estimated to cost the county \$500,000 to have a hospital provide one ambulance with two staff members, if one would have been interested in serving Martin County. None were, however.

Osborn said they are working to get the two ambulances purchased outfitted. Currently, the commissioners are using ARPA (American Recovery Plan Act) funds. The two used ambulances purchased are 2008 and 2013 models with low mileage. Council Member Albright asked how long those ambulances would last. Osborn replied that he is not sure since they don't have run data to evaluate. Council Member Albright said the money that comes in from reimbursements should go back into maintaining the ambulances and equipment and not be counted to pay for salaries.

When asked about staff training, Osborn said he is certified to do that, and it

would mostly be done in-house. He said the medical director from the hospital would also provide some training.

Mary Smith, who was in the audience, asked Osborn what his qualifications are to run this ambulance service. She said she has had a lot of people ask and has never heard it mentioned in a previous meeting. Osborn said he is a lifelong Martin County resident and has run two successful businesses in the county. He said he became a paramedic 10 years ago and served as ambulance manager for Memorial Hospital. Osborn was asked why he left Memorial Hospital. Osborn replied he wanted to pursue other avenues. He said he is only going back to ambulance service now because the county is in dire straits and there is a need to get this done. "The county deserves a lot better than what they have," said Osborn noting that he has expressed his concern about this in the past.

Memorial Hospital has agreed to be Martin County's sponsor hospital and Dr. Sample has agreed to be the medical director of the ambulance service. This means that the EMTs works directly under Dr. Sample's medical license and the hospital takes on the liability. The council asked Osborn if there is a cost associated with that. Osborn said he is not sure; he is waiting for the contract from Dr. Sample.

Commissioner George noted the commissioners have the \$210,000 in the budget to pay for the current ambulance contract that was supposed to go through 2023 and will no longer be needed. Having townships help pay with their surplus funds was also discussed. Council Member Albright said he has looked into it and townships do have the ability to help fund public safety. He said there are other counties in the state whose townships help pay for ambulance service. The county's financial advisor, Charlie Joyce, with FSG, who joined the meeting via Zoom, said the only issue with having townships

was competitive and the town was not awarded the grant.

Rutledge said she would like approval to move forward with setting up professional emails for the town ending in .gov. She said information has been put out that in the future to be eligible for federal funding an entity must have a .gov email. She believes she can set the emails up through the website hosting company.

Rutledge presented meter deposit and applies for K. Haviland and B. Sorrells. Councilman Hoffman made a motion to approve the deposit and applies with Councilman Ragsdale making the second and all were in favor.

Shoals Volunteer Fire Chief Jim Hamby said he was seeking approval to let the ambulance service park an ambulance in one of the bays at the fire station. After discussion, Hamby stated he would check with other volunteer fire departments to see how they handle housing an ambulance.

Councilman Ragsdale asked if there was an update on the Main Street lights being switched over to LED. Councilman Albright said he had spoken with DEQ and told them they had the go ahead but didn't hear back but would follow up.

Ragsdale stated he had been thinking about Christmas decorations. He said Orleans contracts out the Christmas decorating, and he thought it would be a good idea for the town to look into this. The council will have a conversation with the beautification board concerning the subject.

With no further business, Councilman Hoffman made a motion to adjourn with Councilman Ragsdale making the second at 6:21 p.m.

The budget adoption meeting will be held Monday, September 12 at 5:45 p.m.

The next regular meeting will be Monday, September 12 at 5:59 p.m. at the Shoals Town Hall.

contribute is they all have to be treated the same for it to be considered a county-wide service. One township could not pay more than another.

Council Member Barb McFeaters said she doesn't want to live in a county without ambulance service. Commissioner Cody Roush said the commissioners are required by statute to provide ambulance service to residents.

Commissioner Aaron Summers said the commissioners have discussed implementing the LIT (Local Income Tax) for EMS. He said he believes most people in the county would be okay with paying a few extra dollars to have their loved ones cared for.

Auditor Michelle Norris explained the LIT tax for EMS is available to counties who provide a county-wide ambulance service. The max that can be collected is .20 percent which would bring in \$440,000 in additional revenue. She said the county's financial advisor recommended putting in for the maximum amount.

Joyce then explained the county could implement the .20 LIT tax and then reduce their EDIT (Economic Development Income Tax) by the same amount, thus not increasing taxes again. He said the issue with reducing the EDIT tax would be the city and towns would lose their portion of the tax that the county is required to share once collected. Loogootee would lose \$75,000, Shoals \$25,000 and Crane \$5,000. Moving that over to LIT would allow the county to keep all the money collected.

Council Member Buck Stiles said he doesn't think the county needs an ambulance service. "If you want to bankrupt the county, have at it," he said. Stiles said Osborn is just trying to create a job for himself and bring back the "good ole boys" to Martin County. Osborn replied that he didn't seek this job and he was trying to solve the problem.

Commissioner Roush said the county is required by law to provide ambulance service to residents.

Osborn asked Stiles if he was recommending that the commissioners break the law.

Stiles replied that he was. He said the ambulance service is going to be a million-dollar operation and the county has a shrinking population. He said again that Osborn is just trying to bring back the "good ole boys" to the county. He said residents can drive themselves to the hospital.

"We are not here to argue and get pissed about it," said Commissioner Roush. He said they are there to find solutions to the problem.

Stiles said they are using "handouts" to pay for the service, referring to ARPA funds. He said he is sick of residents complaining to him about the increase in taxes and hearing many say they are leaving Martin County because taxes are too high.

"People like to throw a fit about paying for it, but they will really be throwing a fit when it's not there," said Council Member Albright.

Council Member Sherri Bowling said they wouldn't be raising taxes if they reduce the EDIT the same amount they increase LIT.

County Attorney Dave Lett said he thinks they should take the EDIT collected down by a little, but not the entire .20 percent.

Council Member Stiles said he thinks the money should come from the townships because they have the money.

Council Member Albright reiterated what the financial advisor said about all of them paying the same or it can't be done. He said he estimates salaries to cost around \$800,000 when you include insurance and payroll taxes.

Council Member McFeaters said if

they use the \$210,000 budgeted for the ambulance contract for 2023 plus implement the LIT tax for \$440,000, the county would not be as short as they expected.

Joyce, with FSG, noted that reducing the EDIT would take away from the \$210,000 since that money has been coming out of the EDIT fund. He said the savings would be the \$105,000 not paid to the city and towns. Reducing the EDIT fund by .20 percent would reduce the money collected by \$325,000.

Council Member Adam Greene said they would have had to budget \$500,000 anyway, if a hospital would have provided the service. And that was just for one ambulance.

Joyce said they did get good news from the state that Martin County's income tax revenue estimate was increased by 1.5 percent for next year. He said they thought it would remain the same.

County Attorney Lett said he needs the council to approve moving forward with advertising for the new LIT rate. He said they can't vote on it unless it is advertised, and the ordinance is sent to the state. The state can take up to 30 days to approve the ordinance. The new tax would have to be approved by the council after a public hearing and all that must be done by October 31 for the tax to take effect for next year. Lett noted that the maximum rate is .20 percent, and the council doesn't have to go with the maximum.

Council Member Randy Winger said he thinks they need to wait and see where they are with the 2023 budget before adding on the new tax. He said the county also has a surplus of \$1.4 million and asked if some of that could be used. He said it's going to be a learning experience so they need to see how things go first.

Council Member McFeaters made the motion to have Attorney Lett move forward with the ordinance and advertising. Council Member Bowling made the second. The motion was voted down when Council Members Greene, Winger, Stiles and Keith Gibson all voted against saying they are not in favor of implementing the tax.

Council Member Albright asked the four voting against what they wanted to do if they don't want to go this route.

Council Member Greene said he didn't want to raise taxes.

Discussion then ensued on the fact that the council is not voting to raise the tax at this time, they are voting to start the process and then vote on the tax prior to October 31.

The vote happened again with everyone voting in favor except Greene.

Council Member Winger said again that he would like to look at using the county's surplus funds before raising taxes. It was noted that ARPA funds can also be used to pay for salaries in this case until the service is up and running.



**QUEEN-LEE CHAPEL**  
GEORGE FUNERAL CARE, LLC  
431 High Street  
Shoals, Indiana 47581  
812-247-3101

The Queen-Lee Chapel has served the Shoals and Martin County community for nearly a century. Carrying on the tradition of quality and compassionate service started by the Queen and Lee family is Derek and Abby George along with their two boys, Hudson and Kellen. They have been a part of the community since 2016 and have now solely purchased the funeral home. Derek will continue to manage the day-to-day operations serving you. We look forward to the privilege of our family serving yours for the years to come.

## BILL LUKENS

William A. "Bill" Lukens passed away peacefully, surrounded by loved ones, Sunday, August 21, 2022 at his home. A resident of Owensburg, he was 79.



He was born September 17, 1942, in Ragsville; son of Walter and Ruby (Sheetz) Lukens.

Bill married his loving wife, Treva (Rollins) Lukens on July 5, 1997.

Bill was an owner/operator of Lukens Home Service, building homes, remodeling and doing handyman work. He was also a Journeyman Electrician, retiring in 2005.

Family left to cherish the memories of Bill include his wife, Treva Lukens; two sons, Bruce and Jennifer Lukens and Marcus Lukens; three daughters, Lisa and Ken Chestnut, Melinda and Ben Horsting and Lindsey Lukens; 13 grandchildren; nine great-grandchildren; one sister, Donna Sue Yuschak; mother-in-law, Pat Rollins; sisters-in-law, Linda Ketchem and Jane (Morris) Carie; brothers-in-law, Mike Coxon and Jim (Patty) Wade. Also survived by several nieces, nephews, foster children and extended family.

Bill was preceded in death by his first wife, Marilyn A. Wade Lukens; his parents; sisters, Hazel Lukens, Eva George, Mary Coxon and Betty Jean Deckard; father-in-law, James Rollins; sister-in-law, Direnda Rollins; and brothers-in-law, John Yuschak, Gary Deckard and Kenny George.

Funeral services to honor the life of

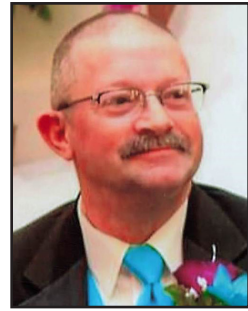
Bill were held today, Wednesday, August 24 at Odon Nazarene Church with Rev. Josh Nichols officiating. Bill was laid to rest in Burns City Cemetery.

Arrangements and care have been entrusted to Meng Family Funeral Home in Odon.

Condolences and memories may be shared with the family online at [www.mengfuneralhome.com](http://www.mengfuneralhome.com).

## MICHAEL BLANTON

Michael Jay Blanton passed away Sunday, August 21, 2022, at his home surrounded by his loving family. A resident of Loogootee, he was 63.



He was born in Linton on January 26, 1959; son of Gerald & Joanne (Colvin) Blanton.

He was a graduate of Linton-Stockton High School and received his associate degree from Ivy Tech Community College. He worked as a butcher for several years at several different grocery stores. He enjoyed fishing and driving his cars. He especially loved spending time with his family.

Jay is survived by his loving fiancé, Carole Strange of Loogootee; children, Bradlee Blanton of Sandborn, Benjamin Blanton of Bicknell, Kyanna (Wade) Arvin of Loogootee and Trista (Kandice) Strange of Lafayette; daughter-in-law, Dainielle Blanton; grandchildren, Destiny Blanton, Gage Blanton, Skylyr Raney, Kori Arvin, Kaia Arvin, Kross Arvin and Kaidence Coleman; sister, Sue Ann

(John) Preble of Linton; nieces, Emilee (Drea) Preble and Julie Marie (Nick) Jackson as well as a great nephew, Duncan Schmidt.

He was preceded in death by his parents and son, Brandon Blanton.

Funeral service will be held at 1 p.m. at Welch & Cornett Funeral Home in Linton on Friday, August 26, with Pastor Nick Moore officiating. Burial will follow at Fairview Cemetery in Linton.

Visitation will be held at the funeral home on Friday from 11 a.m. until the time of service.

Online condolences may be shared with Jay's family at [www.welchcornett.com](http://www.welchcornett.com).

## JANET FOX

Janet K. Fox passed away at 7:53 a.m. Sunday, August 21, 2022, at Memorial Hospital and Health Care Center in Jasper. A resident of Loogootee, she was 58.

She was born February 24, 1964, in Rushville; daughter of Gary and Carolyn (Street) Fox.

Janet loved spending time with her family and granddaughters.

She was preceded in death by her mother, Carolyn Fox; sister, Tammy Hampton; and nephew, Hunter Fox.

Janet is survived by her son, Travis (Brandi) Fox of Loogootee; father, Gary Fox of Loogootee; granddaughters, Bryleigh Fox and Emma Evans; brother, Jeff Fox of Loogootee; and nieces and nephews, Dustin Fox, Trish Fox, Gunner Fox and Alivia Fox.

Visitation will be from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. Wednesday, August 24 at Blake Funeral Home in Loogootee.

No funeral service will be held.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Blake Funeral Home.

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

Blake Funeral Home is honored to serve the family of Janet K. Fox.

## CAROL RICHER

Carol Elisabeth (Smith) Richer, loving mother of three, and adoring wife to husband Dale Richer, passed away in the early hours of August 17, 2022, after a courageous battle with breast cancer. She peacefully left this world surrounded by family at her home on the family farm. A resident of Loogootee, she was 55.



Carol entered this world on June 13, 1967, in Washington; daughter of Norbert W. and Clara (Divine) Smith. In 1985, Carol met the love of her life, Dale Richer. In the words of Carol, "I chased him till he caught me". Carol married Dale E. Richer on October 18, 1986, at Berea Mennonite Church.

She was a proud graduate of Shoals High School, Class of 1985. Despite moving to Loogootee after marriage, she remained a loyal Jug Rox fan. In her words, "we were a house divided."

Carol had a fulfilling career with Daviess Community Hospital Hospice and Home Health team prior to following in her father's footsteps and pursuing a career in funeral services at Queen Lee Funeral Home. In recent years, fueled by her passion for agriculture, she took a leap of faith and joined the Farm Credit Mid America team. Her co-workers and clients alike knew her for her positive can-do attitude, infectious laugh, and dedication.

Every Sunday, Carol could be counted on to be at the piano at Faith Baptist Church in Loogootee. It brought her great joy to play, sing, and praise the

Lord. One last time, from the seat of her wheelchair, the Sunday before her passing Carol lead the church in the old hymn "'Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus."

She enjoyed spending time with her family and friends, sitting on the beach, camping, mowing the yard, vacationing with family, and spoiling her grand babies. One of her greatest joys in life was raising her three children with her husband Dale. She loved being a mother and grandmother.

She was preceded in death by her father, Norbert W. Smith and aunt, Mildred Divine.

Carol is survived by her husband, Dale E. Richer of Loogootee; her mother, Clara (Divine) Smith of Shoals; her brother, David (Jill) Smith of Loogootee; son, Jonathan (Megan) Richer of Loogootee; son, Caleb (Neely) Richer of Loogootee; daughter, Sarah (Alan) Knepp of Cannelburg; and grandchildren, Jackson Dale, Harrison Vern, Adeline Kate, Charlotte Claire, Illiana Dove, Sharon Elisabeth Divine, and Lydia Joy.

A public celebration of life service, for all family and friends, will be held at First Mennonite Church on Friday, August 26 at 5 p.m. at 8002 E 550 N Montgomery, IN 47558 with dinner and fellowship to follow.

The family would like to give a special thanks to Daviess Community Hospital's Hospice Care team and the St. Vincent Oncology Center.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions can be made to the Martin County 4-H Program or Daviess Community Hospital Hospice Foundation (Helping Hearts Hospice). If mailing, send to Martin County 4-H Council 2668 US HWY 50 Loogootee, IN 47553 - or - Helping Hearts Hospice 1314 E Walnut St Washington, IN 47501.

Arrangements for Carol Richer have been entrusted to the Ferguson-Lee Chapel of Thorne-George Family Funeral Homes and Queen-Lee Chapel of George Funeral Care.

## CLIFFORD MAUDER

Clifford L. Mauder passed away at 9:56 a.m. Tuesday, August 16, 2022, in the Northwood Retirement Community in Jasper. A resident of Haysville, he was 76.



Clifford was born in Alfordsville on June 9, 1946; son of Vernon and Vernelda (Weisheit) Mauder. He married Wilma Jean Duncan on June 14, 1964, in Loogootee United Methodist Church in Loogootee.

He was a truck driver for over 50 years for various companies, including Hahn Truck Line, Stonebelt, Wabash Valley, and JFS Milling.

He was a member of St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Haysville.

He was an avid NASCAR fan and loved being outside, working in the yard, and spending time with his dog, Lady.

Surviving is his wife of 58 years, Wilma Jean Mauder of Haysville; two children, Clifford (Linda) Mauder of Jasper and Christine "Tina" Alvey of Depauw; eight grandchildren and seven great grandchildren.

Preceding him in death is one sister, Ellene Schmitt.

A funeral service was held Tuesday, August, 23 at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Haysville, with burial following in the church cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be made to the St. Paul's Lutheran Church.

Online condolences may be made at [www.becherkluesner.com](http://www.becherkluesner.com).

## Update from the Mustering Elm Park

Mustering Elm Park, in Trinity Springs, has been busy this summer with their car show and rentals. They still have t-shirts and hand towels to sell to raise funds.

The group is planning to participate in Hindostan Days in October. A big project coming up will be their first online Facebook auction. It will be held the first part of October, so keep an eye open for the exact dates on the Mustering Elm Park in Trinity Springs Facebook page. Volunteers Kaylee and Rachel have been gathering "really good stuff" for the auction.

They would like to thank the following businesses for donating door prizes at their recent car show Greene's Body

Shop, Corner Café, O'Reilly's, NAPA, Bo-Mac's, Bauer Family Coffee Shop, Crane Credit Union, Velma's, Chastain's Flowers, Faytastic's Pizza, Wilstem Ranch, Evansville Otters, Greenwell's Hardware, White River Bait & Tackle, and Amstutz Tax Service.

The Park is available to rent for weddings, reunions, showers, etc. Cost is \$30 for members, \$50 for non-members. Water is available for an additional \$10. If interested, call 812-276-6838. The park group is also looking for additional members.

Their next meeting will be September 11 at 7 p.m. at the Park.



## STEAK NIGHT

Last Saturday Of Every Month!

at the Loogootee VFW Post 9395

300 W. Vine Street, Loogootee IN 47553

We start serving at 5 p.m.

Grilled Ribeye \$22 or Grilled Chicken Breast \$15  
Served with: Salad Bar, Baked Potato, Green Beans & Dinner Roll

Call to reserve your steak - 812-296-4188

PUBLIC WELCOME!

## Martin County Sheriff's Department log

### MONDAY, AUGUST 15

8:00 a.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an officer and ambulance in Loogootee. Loogootee Chief Means, ISP Trooper Beaver and Martin County EMS responded. Martin County EMS transported one patient to Daviess Community Hospital.

8:01 a.m. - Received a call requesting an officer east of Loogootee. Chief Deputy Keller and Corporal Wells responded.

8:30 a.m. - Received an animal complaint north of Shoals. Animal Control Deputy Hughett was notified.

8:52 a.m. - Received a 911 call reporting an accident in Loogootee with no injuries. Loogootee Chief Means responded. Indiana State Police was advised.

10:12 a.m. - Received an animal complaint north of Shoals. Animal Control Deputy Hughett was notified.

12:10 p.m. - Received a report of a possible theft in Shoals. Sergeant Gibson responded.

3:03 p.m. - Received a call reporting a reckless driver in Shoals. Deputy Branham and Sergeant Gibson responded.

4:39 p.m. - Received a 911 call from a motorist needing assistance south of Shoals. Sergeant Gibson responded.

5:09 p.m. - Received an accidental 911 call.

6:51 p.m. - Received a 911 reporting a fire southwest of Shoals. Shoals Fire Department, Sergeant Gibson and Reserve Deputy Shaw responded.

7:30 p.m. - Received a call reporting an illegal burn in Crane. Loogootee Fire Department, Crane Fire Department, Deputy Branham and Loogootee Officer Long responded.

8:30 p.m. - Received a call requesting extra patrol in Shoals. Captain Reed was notified.

11:50 p.m. - Received a call reporting a missing child in Shoals. Captain Reed and Loogootee Officer Long responded. The child was located right away.

### TUESDAY, AUGUST 16

3:32 a.m. - Received a call from Guardian Medical requesting a welfare check in Loogootee. Loogootee Officer Long responded.

9:31 a.m. - Received a call reporting a missing dog. Animal Control Deputy Hughett was notified.

10:00 a.m. - Deputy Pressley transported two inmates to remote court.

10:54 a.m. - Received an accidental 911 call.

12:38 p.m. - Received a report of harassment in Shoals. Corporal Wells responded.

5:08 p.m. - Received a report of a reckless driver on US 50 heading east. Sergeant Gibson responded.

10:11 p.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance east of Loogootee. Martin County EMS and Loogootee Fire Department responded. Martin County EMS transported one patient to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

10:54 p.m. - Received a 911 call reporting a tree down on US 50 east of Shoals. Shoals Fire Department responded.

### WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 17

7:18 a.m. - Received a 911 call reporting a reckless driver heading south on US 231 South. All Martin County Law Enforcement were advised.

9:45 a.m. - Received an animal complaint north of Shoals. Animal Control Deputy Hughett was notified.

10:59 a.m. - Received a call from an alarm company requesting an ambulance in Shoals. Martin County EMS and Shoals Fire Department responded. Martin County EMS transported one patient to Daviess Community Hospital.

11:51 a.m. - Received a 911 call re-

questing an ambulance south of Loogootee. Haysville Fire Department and Dubois County EMS responded.

2:30 p.m. - Received a report of a reckless driver on Highway 50 heading east. Corporal Wells responded.

3:00 p.m. - Received a 911 call reporting an accident with no injuries north of Loogootee. Corporal Wells, Loogootee Assistant Chief McBeth and Martin County EMS responded. No one was transported.

3:20 p.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an officer south of Shoals. Deputy Pressley responded.

4:10 p.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an officer and ambulance in Shoals. Sergeant Gibson, Corporal Wells, Martin County EMS and Shoals Fire Department responded. No one was transported.

4:50 p.m. - Received a report of a tree down northeast of Shoals. Martin County Highway Department was notified.

7:54 p.m. - Received a report of a disabled vehicle on US Highway 50, west of Shoals. Corporal Wells responded.

8:05 p.m. - Received a report of an active domestic dispute southwest of Shoals. Martin County Law Enforcement, Loogootee Police Department, Indiana State Police Troopers, Shoals Fire Department and Martin County EMS responded. Martin County EMS transported one patient to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

9:04 p.m. - Received a report of a juvenile runaway in Loogootee. Loogootee Chief Means responded.

### THURSDAY, AUGUST 18

11:37 a.m. - Received a report of individuals driving at high rates of speed north of Shoals, during school bus hours. Corporal Wells responded.

12:53 p.m. - Received a 911 call reporting a reckless driver on US 231 South. All Martin County Law Enforcement were advised.

3:23 p.m. - Received an animal complaint in Loogootee. Animal Control Deputy Hughett was notified.

4:12 p.m. - Received a 911 call reporting a traffic hazard in Loogootee. Deputy Branham responded.

7:45 p.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance north of Shoals. Martin County EMS and Shoals Fire Department responded. No one was transported.

10:19 p.m. - Received a report of a suspicious person north of Loogootee. Deputy Branham responded.

### FRIDAY, AUGUST 19

5:20 a.m. - Received a report of a suspicious vehicle sitting north of Loogootee. Deputy Long responded.

6:45 a.m. - Received a 911 call from Crane Naval Base. Transferred call to Crane 911.

7:16 a.m. - Received a report of an accident south of Loogootee. Corporal Wells and Big John's Towing responded.

10:51 a.m. - Received an animal complaint east of Shoals. Animal Control Deputy Hughett was notified.

11:09 a.m. - Received a report of an ADT burglar alarm going off in Loogootee. ISP Trooper Beaver responded.

11:32 a.m. - Received a call requesting to speak to an officer. Sheriff Greene responded.

11:46 a.m. - Received a report of a hit-and-run accident in Loogootee. Loogootee Chief Means responded.

2:00 p.m. - Received a report of a suspicious person in Loogootee. Loogootee Police were advised.

3:56 p.m. - Received an accidental 911 call.

6:02 p.m. - Received a report of a theft north of Loogootee. Corporal Wells responded.

7:59 p.m. - Received a 911 call advising of a strange acting deer. Advised DNR South Region.

8:18 p.m. - Received a report of a reckless driver north of Loogootee, heading South. Corporal Wells and Deputy Branham responded.

8:28 p.m. - Received a request for extra patrol north of Loogootee. Deputy Branham was advised.

9:14 p.m. - Received a report of a reckless driver in Shoals. Deputy Branham responded.

9:20 p.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County EMS and Loogootee Fire Department responded. Martin County EMS transported one patient to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

### SATURDAY, AUGUST 20

2:33 a.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance in Loogootee. Deputy Long, Loogootee Officer Sims and Martin County EMS responded. Martin County EMS transported one patient to Daviess Community Hospital.

3:34 a.m. - Received a report of a suspicious person northeast of Shoals. Deputy Long advised he will make extra patrol in the area.

9:55 a.m. - Received a report of a neighbor dispute in Loogootee. Deputy Flanagan responded.

10:30 a.m. - Received an animal complaint east of Shoals. Animal Control Deputy Hughett responded.

11:06 a.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an officer northeast of Loogootee. Deputy Flanagan responded.

12:50 p.m. - Received a report of an ATV accident southeast of Shoals. Deputy Flanagan, Martin County EMS and Shoals Fire Department responded. No one was transported.

2:42 p.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance south of Loogootee. Martin County EMS, Deputy Flanagan and Deputy Branham responded. Martin County EMS transported one patient to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

3:09 p.m. - Received a 911 call requesting officers and EMS in Loogootee. Deputy Flanagan, Deputy Branham and Daviess County EMS responded.

5:23 p.m. - Received a 911 call reporting an accident south of Loogootee. Deputy Flanagan, Deputy Branham, Loogootee Officer Sims, Martin County EMS and Loogootee Fire Department responded. No one was transported.

7:19 p.m. - Received a report of possible impaired drivers north of Loogootee. Deputy Long responded.

8:57 p.m. - Received a 911 call reporting a vehicle with no lights on, south of Loogootee. Loogootee Officer Sims and Deputy Long responded.

9:18 p.m. - Received a report of a reckless driver on Highway 50, heading west. Loogootee Officer Sims, Deputy Long and Deputy Branham responded.

10:54 p.m. - Received a 911 call reporting a reckless driver north of Loogootee. Deputy Long and Deputy Branham responded.

### SUNDAY, AUGUST 21

7:35 a.m. - Received an accidental 911

call.

9:31 a.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance north of Loogootee. Martin County EMS, Loogootee Fire Department and Deputy Flanagan responded. Martin County EMS transported one patient to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

10:21 a.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance in Shoals. Martin County EMS responded and transported one patient to IU Health in Bedford.

11:46 p.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County EMS, Loogootee Fire Department and Deputy Flanagan responded. Martin County EMS transported one patient to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

12:20 p.m. - Received a report of a tree down east of Shoals. Shoals Fire Department responded.

12:52 p.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County EMS, Loogootee Fire Department, Sergeant Gibson and Deputy Flanagan responded. No one was transported.

12:52 p.m. - Received a report of a tree down northeast of Shoals. Shoals Fire Department and Sergeant Gibson responded. Contacted Martin County Highway Department to advise.

3:02 p.m. - Received a 911 call reporting a car-dog accident south of Loogootee. Animal Control Deputy Hughett and Sergeant Gibson responded.

7:40 p.m. - Received a 911 call reporting a reckless driver on Highway 50, heading east toward Lawrence County. Lawrence County was advised.

10:25 p.m. - Received a call reporting a car-deer accident south of Loogootee. Captain Reed and Big John's Towing responded.

10:58 p.m. - Received a 911 call reporting a suspicious person knocking on a door west of Shoals. Captain Reed responded.

## ARRESTS

### TUESDAY, AUGUST 16

10:49 a.m. - Dustin Cramer, 39, of Loogootee, was arrested by Deputy Pressley on a Martin County warrant. He is being held on \$10,000 10% bond.

### WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 17

7:40 a.m. - Justin Axsom, 35, of Bloomfield, was arrested by Corporal Wells and charged with driving while suspended. He is being held on a \$10,000 10% bond.


6:18 p.m. - Monte Graham, 25, of Loogootee, was arrested by Loogootee Assistant Chief McBeth and charged with battery, aggressive driving and criminal recklessness. He is being held on \$15,000 10% bond.

6:18 p.m. - Danny Arthur Jr., 18, of Loogootee, was arrested by Sergeant Gibson and charged with battery, aggressive driving and criminal recklessness. He is being held on \$15,000 10% bond.

### FRIDAY, AUGUST 19

10:35 p.m. - Randall Cornelius, 51, of Shoals, was arrested by Corporal Wells and charged with operating while intoxicated. He is being held on \$10,000 10% bond.

## TOY'S AUTO PARTS, INC.

<b>Loogootee</b> (812) 295-2312	<b>Shoals</b> (812) 247-3321	<b>Jasper</b> (812) 634-2222	<b>Washington</b> (812) 254-2540
<b>Sullivan</b> (812) 268-5252	<b>Martinsville</b> (765) 342-6623	<b>Linton</b> (812) 847-4494	
<b>Jasonville</b> (812) 665-3969	<b>Bicknell</b> (812) 735-3545	<b>Bloomfield</b> (812) 384-4453	

# COURT NEWS

## CRIMINAL JUDGMENTS AND SENTENCINGS

**August 16**

Andrew W. Lyon, convicted of check deception, a Class A Misdemeanor. Sentenced to pay restitution and all fines and fees.

**August 16**

Devin Marquel Dewberry, convicted of operating a vehicle while intoxicated, a Class C Misdemeanor. Sentenced to serve 60 days with 56 days suspended and credit for 2 actual days previously served plus 2 Class A credit days. Defendant received 6 months of probation.

## CRIMINAL CHARGES DISMISSED

**August 10**

William E. Nugent, operating a vehicle with suspended registration, a Class C Misdemeanor, dismissed.

**August 11**

Ronald E. Truelove, operating a vehicle with an ACE of .15 or more, a Class A Misdemeanor, dismissed; possession of marijuana, a Class B Misdemeanor, dismissed; driving while suspended, a Class A Misdemeanor, dismissed.

**August 15**

Lloyd Reed Burch, possession of marijuana, a Class B Misdemeanor, dismissed.

**August 16**

Andrew W. Lyon, three counts of check deception, Class A Misdemeanors, dismissed.

## CIVIL COURT

### Indiana State Police end of summer 'Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over' campaign

Drive sober or get pulled over. That is the warning coming from the Indiana State Police as it gears up to participate in an end-of-summer impaired driving enforcement campaign. Starting this past weekend through Labor Day, officers are increasing patrols designed to target those driving under the influence of drugs or alcohol.

The extra high-visibility enforcement is funded by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) through grants administered by the Indiana Criminal Justice Institute (ICJI).

Alcohol-impaired traffic fatalities have increased over the past few years, as have other dangerous driving behaviors, fueling a nationwide surge in roadway deaths. It's an unfortunate trend that doesn't appear to be slowing.

Newly released data from NHTSA shows that an estimated 9,560 people died in motor vehicle crashes in the first quarter of 2022. That's up 7 percent from the previous year and the highest number of deaths in 20 years for that period.

In Indiana, traffic fatalities increased by more than 20 percent during that time compared to 2021. If the pace continues, 2022 could be the third straight year with more fatalities, following 897 in 2020 and 931 in 2021.

"People who drive drunk or high aren't thinking about the repercussions," said Devon McDonald, ICJI Executive Director. "It's not just their life they're risking, but the life of the person in the car next to them and the pedestrian crossing the street. No one 'accidentally' drives impaired. It's always a choice."

Drunk driving continues to be a major factor making up roughly 25 percent of the state's fatal collisions, but alcohol isn't the only concern.

Research indicates drug prevalence has been on the rise among drivers during the pandemic. Last year, the number of blood samples submitted to the Indiana Department of Toxicology for drug analysis after a crash increased by 7 percent.

"Since the start of the pandemic, more drivers are testing positive for THC and poly-drug use, a combination of drugs,"

## New Suits Filed

**August 12**

Capital One Bank vs. Tina Shaw, civil collection.

## CIVIL COURT JUDGMENTS

**August 10**

Judgment in favor of the plaintiff Portfolio Recovery Associates, LLC and against the defendant April Crew in the amount of \$1,355.88.

## CIVIL COURT DISMISSED

**August 15**

Citibank vs. Leanna Felton, civil collection, dismissed.

## SMALL CLAIMS DISMISSED

**August 10**

Property Sure vs. Betty Cundiff, eviction, dismissed.

Property Sure vs. Charlotte Cundiff, eviction, dismissed.

## MARRIAGE LICENSES

Jon Leslie Perry of Shoals and Danniell Dawn Smoot of Shoals.

Roy James Montgomery of Shoals and Teresa Jo Lundy of Shoals.

Michael L. Stewart of Loogootee and Magdalen R. Arvin of Loogootee.

Morgan Elise Baylis of Shoals and Samantha Jo Rank of Shoals.

Joshua S. Lampert of Loogootee and Kelsy A. Seals of Loogootee.

Dirk Michael Fahey of Loogootee and Gabrielle Anna Autry Johnson of Loogootee.

Joshua K. Venters, Jr. of Loogootee and Jazmyne L. Cooper of Loogootee.

said Robert Duckworth, ICJI Traffic Safety Director. "We're working to address that by training more officers in advanced detection techniques and providing new tools to law enforcement, but the best and easiest solution is for people to not drive high in the first place."

Driving under the influence, whether it's drugs or alcohol, is illegal in Indiana. Those who choose to drive impaired are, not only risking their life and the lives of others, but also could face an arrest, jail time, and substantial fines and attorney fees. The average drunk driving arrest costs up to \$10,000.

With officers showing zero tolerance throughout the campaign, the department recommends celebrating the end of summer responsibly by having a safety plan in place. Even if it's only one drink, designate a sober driver or use public transportation or a ride service to get home safely. Never drive impaired or let friends get behind the wheel if they've been drinking.

It's also important to wear a seat belt at all times. It's the best form of protection against drunk drivers. Motorists are encouraged to report suspected impaired drivers by calling 911 or contacting the department.

For more information on impaired driving, visit [www.nhtsa.gov](http://www.nhtsa.gov).

## Real estate transfers

Feldan, LLC, of Martin County, Indiana to Geoffrey B. Tomlinson, of Martin County, Indiana, Lots Numbered 5 and 6 in Block "E" in Loogootee Land Company's Addition to the Town, now City of Loogootee, Indiana.

Carl R. Walker to Listening Hearts, LLC, a strip of ground in Section 24, Township 2 North, Range 5 West.

Advertise in the  
Martin County Journal

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

# Loogootee Police log

## MONDAY, AUGUST 15

8:03 a.m. - Chief Means assisted the Indiana State Police with a domestic dispute.

8:57 a.m. - Chief Means assisted the Indiana State Police with a property damage accident on Broadway Street.

5:45 p.m. - Chief Means responded to a local business in reference to a possible theft.

8:18 p.m. - Loogootee Fire Department was dispatched to a fire in Crane.

11:50 p.m. - Officer Long responded to assist the Martin County Sheriff's Department with a report of a missing child.

## TUESDAY, AUGUST 16

3:32 a.m. - Officer Long completed a welfare check.

10:11 p.m. - First responders were dispatched to a medical call on Dover Hill Road.

11:04 p.m. - Officer Wells responded to a report of a possible break in at an empty residence.

## WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 17

2:55 p.m. - Assistant Chief McBeth and first responders were dispatched to a semi accident on US 231 North.

4:10 p.m. - Assistant Chief McBeth spoke with a complainant regarding a possible battery on a child.

5:35 p.m. - Assistant Chief McBeth responded to a fight in progress in Red Wing Trailer Court.

7:06 p.m. - Officer Seymour assisted with a vehicle lock out.

8:05 p.m. - Assistant Chief McBeth and Officer Seymour assisted the Martin County Sheriff's Department with a report of a male firing a gun at a propane tank.

9:04 p.m. - Chief Means responded to a report of a runaway child.

## THURSDAY, AUGUST 18

### Attorney General warns Hoosiers of identity theft victims' vulnerability to mental illness

Attorney General Todd Rokita is warning Hoosiers of the risk of identity theft victims developing a range of mental illnesses after scammers target and steal their hard-earned money.

Identity theft is a constant threat to all Americans. In 2020, nearly 50 percent of the country was financially harmed by identity theft, according to a study done by the Aite Group.

"In today's world, we are tied to technology, whether it's our phones or our computers, and we often feel obligated to stay connected and respond to anyone and everyone who reaches out," Attorney General Rokita said. "Most people can detect a fraudster when they are face-to-face, but it's easy to fall victim to identity theft when you're pressured over the phone or email. What is not recognized often enough is that this is an emotional rollercoaster for people, and it can result in depression, anxiety, and other mental illnesses."

Injured parties often experience fear, exhaustion, and anger. When people have the stress of financial loss combined with these feelings, long-lasting mental health conditions are more likely to arise if left

12:49 p.m. - Assistant Chief McBeth responded to a report of an erratic driver nearing Loogootee on US 231 South.

3:01 p.m. - Assistant Chief McBeth completed a welfare check.

3:50 p.m. - Captain Rayhill completed a vehicle check.

7:35 p.m. - Officer Seymour responded to a report of a stolen phone.

## FRIDAY, AUGUST 19

11:46 a.m. - Chief Means responded to a report of a hit-and-run of the ATM machine at German American Bank.

1:56 p.m. - Chief Means and Captain Rayhill responded to a report of a suspicious person on Butcher Boulevard.

7:14 p.m. - Officer Sims responded to a report of battery on a child in Sunset Trailer Court.

9:18 p.m. - First responders were dispatched to a medical call at Redwing Trailer Court.

## SATURDAY, AUGUST 20

5:20 p.m. - Officer Sims responded to a property damage accident on US 231 South. Loogootee Fire Department was also dispatched to assist with traffic control.

8:57 p.m. - Officer Sims responded to a report of a vehicle nearing Loogootee on US 231v South, traveling without lights.

9:18 p.m. - Officer Sims responded to a report of an erratic driver on US 50.

## SUNDAY, AUGUST 21

9:31 a.m. - First responders were dispatched to a medical call at West Boggs Park.

11:47 a.m. - First responders were dispatched to a medical call on Sycamore Street.

12:54 p.m. - First responders were dispatched to a medical call on Redwood Street.

untreated.

According to the Federal Trade Commission, Americans' reported losses from identity theft grew from \$3.3 billion in 2020 to \$5.8 billion in 2021. This creates an even larger pool of victims at risk of developing mental illness.

Attorney General Todd Rokita warns Hoosiers of the following red flags that could lead to identity theft:

-Stolen checks, credit cards, or debit cards

-Unfamiliar online purchases on financial statements

-Mysterious medical charges

-Emails asking for personal information

-Phone calls or text messages seeking credit card or bank account information

-Scammers using computer programs that track your personal information

-Scammers digging through household trash to find private information.

If you believe you have encountered identity theft, please visit [www.Indiana-Consumer.com](http://www.Indiana-Consumer.com).

If signs of anxiety, depression, or any other form of mental illness develop, contact a physician immediately or visit [www.in.gov/bewellindiana/](http://www.in.gov/bewellindiana/).

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

BBQ OR  
POTATO SALAD  
BAKED BEANS  
DESSERT  
DRINK



Cost is  
\$10 Adult  
\$6 Children  
Dine in or  
Carry-out  
available

SUNDAY, AUGUST 28

10:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. at St. Martin Hall, Whitfield

This event is dedicated to the memory of Bob Lannan, John Walker and Ronnie Burris.

## CLASSIFIED ADS

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### YARD SALES

**MULTI-FAMILY YARD SALE & FLEA MARKET**



**Sept. 2 thru Sept. 4 at the American Legion Country Club, 607 Church St. Loogootee**

**Items Include:**  
 Craft Supplies, Books, Furniture Items, Clothing, Tools, Kitchen Items, Home Decor, Toys, and much more!

Food & Drinks will be available for purchase.

### HELP WANTED

#### HELP WANTED: BUILDING COMMISSIONER

The City of Loogootee is accepting applications for Building Commissioner, part-time position. Building Commissioner works under the general administrative supervision of the Mayor and Land Use Planning Commission. Duties include but not limited to: issuing building permits, maintaining city code in reference to yard upkeep and trash issues within the city limits, examining issues within zoning regulations and monthly reports to the Board of Public Works and Safety. Applications may be picked up at City Hall and the Mayors' office, 8 a.m.-4 p.m., Monday-Friday. Deadline for submittal of application: September 2, 2022

## Hiring Night Nurses

# KETCHAM MEMORIAL CENTER

**FULL-TIME and PART-TIME  
 12-Hour Shifts (5:45P-6:15A)**

**Competitive Pay!  
 Flexible Schedule!  
 Benefits Available!  
 New Graduates Welcome!**

*Opportunities for career advancement as we continue to expand our services in our community.*

*Email resume to [kathy@ketchammemorial.com](mailto:kathy@ketchammemorial.com), apply online at [ketchammemorial.com](http://ketchammemorial.com), or call us at 812-636-4920.*

#### Strange-O'Maley Reunion

The Strange-O'Maley-Jones Reunion will be held Sunday, September 4 at the St. Joseph Annex in Bramble. Food will be served at 12:30 p.m. Attendees are asked to bring a covered dish. Iced tea and table service will be provided.

#### LUMC Food Pantry

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

#### Mental Health Task Force

The Martin County Mental Health Task Force meets via Zoom. If interested in being a part of the tax force, email [echristmas@youthfirst.org](mailto:echristmas@youthfirst.org) or [toddamy@iu.edu](mailto:toddamy@iu.edu).

#### Celebrate Recovery meetings

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

#### St. Vincent Food Pantry

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

#### 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

### Lady Lions Volleyball defeat NE Dubois

The Loogootee High School Volleyball Teams took on Northeast Dubois last Thursday, August 18. The varsity Lady Lions won in three sets, 25-22, 25-16, 27-25 and the junior varsity also got the win in two sets, 25-21, 25-21. Both have a 1-1 record.

In the varsity matches, Brooklyn Summers led in assists with 19 and also had 10 serving points. Sydnee Wittmer finished with eight serving points, 15 assists, 14 digs, seven kills and two blocks. Kyleigh Courter led in digs with 20 and Breanna Courter contributed 11. Lindsey Nolan finished with 10 serving points including five aces. Alana Hedrick had a team high eight kills and Cacia Wilcoxon had six. Mallorie Sutton led in blocks with three.

In the junior varsity matches, Madison Ramsey led in kills with nine, in digs with 11 and had eight serving points. Addy Lengacher finished with 27 assists and seven serving points. Abbi Nonte had eight serving points and six digs, Macy Knepp finished with 10 digs and three kills, Ava Fuhrman had four kills and Cacia Wilcoxon had three.

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

#### SOAR Tutoring

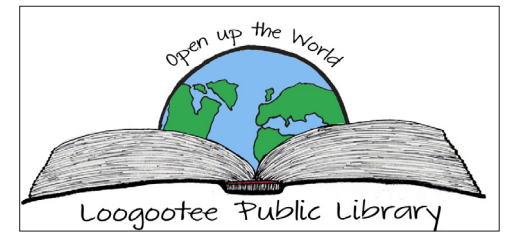
Need Skills? SOAR tutors can help! Free and confidential. Call or text Karen at 812-709-1618 to learn more. Located in the Martin County Community Learning Center Improve Your Skills, Improve Your Life!

#### Solid waste board

The Martin County Solid Waste Board holds their monthly meetings on the second Wednesday of each month at noon 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.



#### BY DARLA WAGLER

Librarian, Loogootee Public Library

Carolyn's Book Club will meet on Monday, September 12 at 6 p.m. The book to be discussed is "Three Weeks with My Brother," by Nicholas Sparks. She is able to request several copies, call her if you are interested.

Friends of Loogootee Library (FOLL) meet on the first Monday of each month at 1 p.m. If you are interested in joining a worthwhile cause, stop by the next meeting to see what it is all about. FOLL and CALL will partner on a Christmas fundraiser. Stay tuned for more details.

#### New Books:

Mystery: "Girl, Forgotten" by Karen Slaughter, "The Ninth Month" by James Patterson, and "The Hunt" by Faye Kellerman.

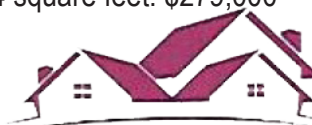
Fiction: "The Book Woman's Daughter" by Kim Michele Richardson.

DVDs: "The thing About Pam".

Library hours: Monday 10-7, Tuesday 10-5, Closed on Wednesday, Thursday 10-7, Friday 10-5, and Saturday 9-1. The library phone number is 812-295-3713 and check out the website [www.loogootee.lib.in.us](http://www.loogootee.lib.in.us) or like us on Facebook. The library has free Wi-Fi service available for patrons.

## Spacious home in Shoals

Spacious home on 2.36 acres, in Shoals! The main floor has 3 bedrooms & 2 full baths! The full walk-out basement has the potential for 2 additional bedrooms/1 full bath with plenty living space! 3,804 square feet. \$279,000



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Last week, we discussed the sense of sight in the garden as it relates to colors. This week, we will continue our discussion with textures. If variety is the spice of life, textures must be the spice of the garden. Each plant has a texture that is a little different from all others, and, even within a single species, individual plants may have different textures. With a good pair of pruners, a skilled gardener can completely alter the texture of a plant. Texture may be used to invite someone into a garden space or to block access to a certain area.

In general, rounded textures tend to feel softer, while straight lines feel more formal. This difference may be demonstrated by hedges. When a hedge is allowed to grow with infrequent trimming, it is much less formal than the hedges in formal gardens that are checked daily for branches that disrupt the straight lines. The softer lines also tend to invite one in, while the straight lines seem to direct our paths to the paved areas adjacent to the hedges.

Textures may also guard a location. My grandmother had flowers growing on a bank by the sidewalk. Too often, passing children helped themselves to her flowers. Her solution was to plant prickly-pear cactus at the edge of the bed. That texture can be painful for anyone daring to reach over to pick a flower. I have seen bushes with thorns used to hedge an area to discourage deer and other wildlife. Such areas also provide shelter for birds. Many birds are able to get into such thickets with no problem, but the great enemy (cats) rarely try after the pain of the first attempt.

One of my favorite places to use texture is in the many shade gardens at Sandhill Gardens. Flowers in these areas are fleeting, at best, so for much of the year, one must depend on foliage for interest. My favorite shade plants provide a lot of interest with variegation, but even more with the different textures the plants provide. Ferns provide an airy quality,

with fronds that move with the slightest breeze. Some, such as ostrich fern, also give some vertical interest. While epimediums may also be airy, the mounds of heart-shaped leaves offer a softness not supplied by ferns. The stiff, waxy leaves of hellebores provide structure. They remain green well into winter, so they really do anchor the perennial beds. The leaves just need to be cut back with the new blooms appear in late winter. Of course, the most common plant in the shade gardens is the hosta. Within this genus, there is a lot of variety in color, variegation and texture to provide interest in the garden. An expanse of a smooth-leaved large variety, such as Royal standard, may be broken up with a thick-leaved, variegated hosta, such as Brother Stephan. Brother Stephan always makes me think of my grandmother's quilts. Hostas differ greatly in size, also. My smallest is a miniature, Hope, which has rounded, variegated leaves the size of a nickel. I often use it in pots with small trees and shrubs to make miniature gardens. On the other end, Empress Wu can grow to four feet high and has huge heart-shaped leaves. It can actually provide shade for smaller plants. Hosta leaves also range from large elephant-ear leaves to narrow leaves. Some of the narrow leaves also have ripples and twists. The hostas Whee and Curly Fries can give a bed a lot of interest by their different textures.

Height of plants also is a texture tool. One usually places tall plants in the back of beds, with smaller, rounded plants in the front. A bed may be completely altered by placing tall, spikey plants in the middle of the bed. Tall plants placed at the end of a tunnel or beyond an arbor will also draw one into the space.

Another use of texture in the gardens is to bring interest to the sense of touch. We will take a look at the ways a garden may appeal to that sense next time.

## USDA to mail additional pre-filled applications to producers impacted by 2020, 2021 disasters

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) announced another installment (phase) in assistance to commodity and specialty crop producers impacted by natural disaster events in 2020 and 2021. More than 18,000 producers will soon receive new or updated pre-filled disaster applications to offset eligible crop losses. Approximately \$6.4 billion has already been distributed to 165,000 producers through USDA's Farm Service Agency's (FSA) Emergency Relief Program (ERP).

"We knew when we announced ERP in May that we would have additional applications to send toward the end of the summer as we received new information, and we came to know of producers who were inadvertently left out of the first data set we used," said USDA Under Secretary for Farm Production and Conservation Robert Bonnie. "I am proud of our team's continued effort to capture additional insurance records to enable over 18,000 producers to receive new or updated pre-filled disaster applications to provide much needed financial relief."

FSA will begin mailing pre-filled applications in late August to producers who have potentially eligible losses and:

Received crop insurance indemnities for qualifying 2020 and 2021 disaster events after May 2, 2022.

Received crop insurance indemnities associated with Nursery, Supplemental Coverage Option (SCO), Stacked Income Protection Plan (STAX), Enhanced Coverage Option (ECO) and Margin

Protection (MP) policies.

New primary policyholders not included in the initial insured producer Phase 1 mailing from May 25, 2022, because their claim records had not been filled.

Certain 2020 prevent plant losses related to qualifying 2020 disaster events that had only been recorded in crop insurance records as related to 2019 adverse weather events and, as such, were not previously provided in applications sent earlier this year.

New Substantial Beneficial Interest (SBI) records, including SBIs where tax identification numbers were corrected.

Producers are expected to receive assistance direct deposited into their bank account within three business days after they sign and return the pre-filled application to the FSA county office and the county office enters the application into the system.

Before applying any program payment factors or eligibility criteria, it is estimated that this next installment (phase) may generate about \$756 million in assistance.

Emergency Relief Payments to Date

This emergency relief under ERP complements ERP assistance recently provided to more than 165,000 producers who had received crop insurance indemnities and Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) payments for qualifying losses. USDA has processed more than 255,000 applications for ERP, and to date, has made approximately \$6.4 billion in payments to commodity and

## Reserved hunt applications opened this past Monday

Starting August 22, hunters could apply for a variety of reserved hunts via [on.IN.gov/reservedhunt](http://on.IN.gov/reservedhunt).

The online method is the only way to apply for the hunts listed below. No late entries will be accepted. Applicants must possess a hunting license that is valid for the hunt for which they apply.

Hunters will be selected through a random computerized drawing. Applicants can view draw results online within two weeks after the application period closes. An email will be sent to all applicants when draws have been completed.

Applications must be submitted by 11:59 p.m. ET on September 23:

-Fish & Wildlife Area (FWA) Waterfowl Hunts: Participating FWAs include Goose Pond, Hovey Lake, Kingsbury, Kankakee, and LaSalle. Province Pond Wetland Conservation Area, managed by J.E. Roush Lake FWA, will also participate.

-FWA Deer Hunts: Deer Creek and Fairbanks Landing FWAs will host firearm season hunts.

State Park Deer Hunts: State Parks participating include Brown County, Chain O'Lakes, Charlestown, Fort Harrison, Harmonie, Lincoln, McCormick's Creek, Ouabache, Pokagon, Potato Creek, Prophetstown, Shades, Shakamak, Summit Lake, Tippecanoe River, and White-water Memorial. Trine State Recreation Area and Cave River Valley Natural Area will also participate.

-National Wildlife Refuge (NWR) Deer Hunts: Properties participating include Big Oaks NWR and Muscatatuck NWR will host hunts for archery, firearms, and muzzleloader deer hunts.

November Game Bird Area (GBA) Hunts: Participating GBAs in northern Indiana are in Benton, Jasper, Newton, Warren, and White counties. Hunters may choose from a variety of dates. These hunts are not put/take pheasant

hunts.

-Indiana Private Lands Access (IPLA) Hunts: IPLA will offer reserved hunts for game bird and deer on private lands.

Additional hunting opportunities:

Camp Atterbury (National Guard property) is not allocating deer hunting opportunities through the Indiana DNR reservation system. For details on how to apply for hunting opportunities at Camp Atterbury, see [atterbury.isportsman.net](http://atterbury.isportsman.net). Email questions to [ng.in.inarnrg.mbx.hunting-program@army.mil](mailto:ng.in.inarnrg.mbx.hunting-program@army.mil) or call 812-5261499, ext. 61375.

Please note that for opportunities allocated through the Indiana DNR reservation system, only one application per hunt is allowed. No changes can be made once an application is submitted.

The application process is consolidated into the online services website along with licenses, CheckIN Game, and HIP registration. An online account is not required to apply, but a Customer ID number is needed.

In this system, hunts without a registration fee will follow the same process as those with a fee. To register for hunts with no fee required, applicants will be asked to "Add to Cart," "Proceed to Checkout," and "Place Order." If the transaction total is \$0, the applicant will not be asked to enter credit card information. Applicants must place an order to submit their application.

To view draw results, applicants can log into their online services account or click "View hunt draw results" at [on.IN.gov/reservedhunt](http://on.IN.gov/reservedhunt), which also includes additional information. From there, applicants should select "Click here" under Reserved Hunts to see the status of registered hunts. The link will only show upcoming hunts that an individual has registered for. Logging into an account online is required to see the full history of past hunt registrations.

specialty crop producers to help offset eligible losses from qualifying 2020 and 2021 natural disasters. Also, earlier this year, staff processed more than 100,000 payments through the Emergency Livestock Relief Program (ELRP) and paid eligible producers more than \$601.3 million for 2021 grazing losses within days of the program announcement.

Phase Two

The second phase of both ERP and ELRP will be aimed at filling gaps and provide assistance to producers who did not participate in or receive payments through the existing risk management programs that are being leveraged for phase one implementation. USDA will keep producers and stakeholders informed as program details are made available.

More Information

In addition, on August 18, 2022, USDA published a technical correction to the Notice of Funds Availability for ERP and ELRP to clarify how income from the sale of farm equipment and the provision of production inputs and services to farmers, ranchers, foresters, and farm operations are to be considered in the calculation of average adjusted gross farm income. Producers whose average adjusted gross farm income is at least 75 percent of the producer's the average Adjusted Gross Income can gain access to a higher payment limitation.

ERP and the previously announced ELRP are authorized by the Extending Government Funding and Delivering

Emergency Assistance Act, which President Biden signed into law in 2021. The law provided \$10 billion to help agricultural producers impacted by wildfires, droughts, hurricanes, winter storms and other eligible disasters experienced during calendar years 2020 and 2021.

For more information on ERP and ELRP eligibility, program provisions for historically underserved producers as well as Frequently Asked Questions, producers can visit [www.fsa.usda.gov/programs-and-services/emergency-relief/index](http://www.fsa.usda.gov/programs-and-services/emergency-relief/index). A new public-facing dashboard on the ERP webpage has information on ERP payments that can be sorted by crop type – specialty or non-specialty – specific commodities and state. FSA will update the dashboard every Monday.

Additional USDA disaster assistance information can be found on [farmers.gov](http://farmers.gov), including the Disaster Assistance Discovery Tool, Disaster-at-a-Glance fact sheet and Farm Loan Discovery Tool. For FSA and Natural Resources Conservation Service programs, producers should contact their local USDA Service Center. For assistance with a crop insurance claim, producers and landowners should contact their crop insurance agent.

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# State refund checks have started going out to taxpayers

State Auditor Tera Klutz, CPA confirmed the 1.7 million automatic taxpayer refund (ATR) checks are printing and the first group of checks should have started reaching mailboxes last week.

“We have worked tirelessly with the Governor’s team to get Hoosiers their checks, and despite the many challenges we encountered, we are pleased to get printing started,” said Auditor Klutz. “To those Hoosiers who have been patiently waiting for their check, I want to say - the wait is over! We have successfully printed the first round of checks, which eligible Hoosiers should start to see receive this weekend.”

• On June 30, 2021, when state reserves exceeded 12.5 percent of state budget general fund appropriations for the following year, an \$1.1 billion excess reserve transfer was automatically generated. The transfer was divided equally amongst Indiana taxpayers (\$125 each) and teacher pensions.

To qualify for the \$125 (or \$250 if filed jointly), taxpayers would have had to file an Indiana individual income tax return for 2020 with a postmark date of January 3, 2022.

• In June of 2022, the state closed the books with an annual surplus of \$3.9 billion, and when combined with its previous reserve balance, resulted in Indiana having over \$6 billion in reserves. Governor Eric Holcomb called a legislative special session asking the General Assembly to return some of that surplus to Hoosiers.

• On August 5, 2022, Gov. Holcomb signed Senate Enrolled Act (SEA) 2 to provide a second ATR of \$200 for any individual who qualified for the first refund of \$125.

How taxpayers receive their \$125 and \$200 refunds will depend on how they filed their 2021 individual income tax return with the Department. If taxpayers listed direct deposit (checking or savings account) information on their 2021 Indiana income tax refund, they should have already received their \$125 direct deposit. If they have not received a direct deposit, they will receive a combined check from the Auditor of State for \$325 (or \$650 if filed jointly).

“Like many industries, state government was not spared the headaches that come from dealing with a shortage – in our case, a paper shortage,” said Auditor Klutz. “We typically don’t print this many checks at one time, which created the challenge of locating the amount of paper required to print the 1.7 million checks needed.”

“Luckily, this challenge became a ‘blessing in disguise’ since the paper arrived within days of SEA 2 becoming law, enabling us to send Hoosiers one check instead of two which saves the State an additional \$1 million in processing, printing and postage costs.”

With roughly 50,000 checks printed each day, Auditor Klutz anticipates all 1.7 million refund checks being mailed by early October.

SCAM ALERT: Auditor Klutz, along with the Department of Revenue, also cautions Hoosiers to be mindful of potential scams about ATRs. All refunds will be issued by direct deposit or check.

Individuals should ignore any texts, emails or phone calls regarding these refunds, especially messages containing links or requesting personal or financial information, such as Social Security or bank account numbers. If taxpayers have any questions on the validity of messages or calls, please contact the Auditor of State’s office or Department of Revenue directly.

# Submit your dog to the Indiana Cutest Dog Contest

Lt. Gov. Suzanne Crouch, the Indiana Destination Development Corporation (IDDC) and Indiana’s First Dog Henry are searching for adorable dogs in great locations across the state through the Visit Indiana Cutest Dog Photo Contest.

“I encourage all Hoosiers to make memories with your pup just like I do with my dog, Luna Lovegood (AKA Bubby),” Crouch said. “Show off your furry friends enjoying the beauty of Indiana whether that’s at one of our incredible state parks, miles of trails or countless pet-friendly destinations.”

A different winner will be selected every week for one year. Each winning dog

# Whitfield Grade School reunion to be held Sunday, September 4

On Sunday, September 4, all Whitfield grade school alumni are invited to a casual social, beginning at 4 p.m. at the St. Martin Hall in Whitfield. This event is for anyone that attended Whitfield Grade School, or for the many that attended religious education in the school every Sunday morning between masses. Everyone that is interested in Whitfield Grade School, or the community of Whitfield, or dated someone from Whitfield, or just want to attend the social, is welcome. This will be a casual affair, come as you are, with hamburgers, hot dogs, tea and lemonade being provided. Bring any old pictures, report cards, or any memorabilia that you have, to share with everyone. Class pictures were taken every year, so if you have yours, bring it along and post it to Whitfield Memories if you can.

Fifty-seven years ago, this past spring, the Whitfield Grade School graduated the last class to complete all eight years. Starting in the fall of 1965, grade schoolers who would have attended Whitfield were bused to either St. John’s or Loogootee Public, and the Whitfield Aces were no more. Although this consolidation was a fairly smooth transaction, many people still have warm feelings of the time spent at the smaller school. Many classes were as small as five kids, although the class of the “Korean War” babies had over 20 in the class.

For anyone that doesn’t remember

or know about the grade school, it was a two-room school that was next to the church at St. Martin in Whitfield. Until 1958, there was an auditorium upstairs, consisting of one large room with a stage. The upstairs was used for class plays and other school activities, as well as for some church functions. Running water was not installed until 1957, which also allowed the school to have restrooms inside instead of the two sided “outhouse”. For many years, there were only two teachers each school year, including John C. Strange, Dorothy Carrico, Mary Hagerty, Margaret Norris, Rose Toy, and many others.

In 1958, there was a new church hall erected, and the Whitfield Aces used this facility for basketball, where they played the Rutherford Rangers, Crane and Loogootee Eagles, Loogootee Lions, and other area schools. The school was demolished around 1970, and the location of the school, playground, and softball field became parking for the St. Martin Hall and the church. Some of the playground equipment ended up in Harold Frye’s yard (Ken Frye’s dad) and some was in Carl Dages’ yard.

The Facebook site “Whitfield Memories” will have information as any more becomes available, so be sure and check often. Many classmates and friends are no longer with us, so be sure and attend and share your memories with others.

will get:

A note from Indiana’s first dog, Henry; An exclusive ‘More To Discover IN Indiana’ dog bandana; and

A feature as one of the Cutest Dogs IN Indiana on the Visit Indiana social channels.

To enter, upload a photo or video of your dog to Instagram, tag @VisitIndiana and use the hashtag #DogsINIndiana. Entries must include the location where the photo was taken.

“There’s no need to leave your dog at home when traveling in Indiana,” IDDC Secretary and CEO Elaine Bedel said. “No matter the time of year, Visit Indiana

has plenty of resources to help you find the perfect spots to explore with your pets.”

Pet-friendly trip ideas, destinations and lodging in Indiana are available at VisitIndiana.com.

The Indiana State Nature Passport and Indiana Arts and Culture Passport also highlight locations across the state welcoming to dogs.

For more information go to VisitIndiana.com/dogs or follow Visit Indiana on social media at @VisitIndiana on Facebook, Twitter or Instagram.

\*All prizes are available while supplies last.

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