

Martin County JOURNAL

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Ten pages

County council approves stipend for sheriff employees, unsure of increase for auditor's office

BY COURTNEY HUGHETT
Martin County Journal Publisher

Sheriff Travis Roush approached the Martin County Council at their meeting Monday night, October 5, about giving a stipend to his employees for the work they have done through COVID. Sheriff Roush told the council that his officers do not just work a shift and then go home, they help with training, classes, and when other officers need help. "We just can't walk out of the office at the end of a shift," said Roush. "We are unique", he said, adding that they don't work 8-4 and then go home.

The jail matron put together a proposal the Sheriff Roush presented to the council. The proposal gives a \$1,000 stipend to all full-time sheriff's department staff and from \$100 to \$500 to part-time employees, depending on how many hours they work per month. The total cost of all stipends would be \$25,300.

Council Member Randy Winger asked the sheriff where his officers are compared to Loogootee Police pay. Chief Deputy Josh Greene replied that new patrol deputies in Loogootee start out with pay similar to what seasoned sheriff's deputies are paid. It was noted there is an estimated \$5,000 difference in starting pay between departments. Sheriff Roush said that they have lost officers to Loogootee. "Our loss is Loogootee's gain," he said.

Council Member Sherri Bowling asked if the sheriff's department is back to covering dispatch for the City of Loogootee. Roush replied that they currently cover the "graveyard shift" along with all 911 calls. Loogootee covers their own dispatch 16 hours a day. The sheriff said he is sending a proposal to the Loogootee Mayor to

see if the sheriff's department can do 16 hours of dispatch for Loogootee instead of eight. They are also sending a proposal to Shoals. The sheriff said he didn't think it was fair to charge Loogootee to provide dispatch and not Shoals, who they have always handled dispatch for.

Council Member Barb McFeaters said that she thinks the sheriff's department is "very deserving" of the stipend. Council Member Winger agreed. Council Member Warren Albright added that the stipend also helps make up for the sheriff's department employees working holidays and weekends. Council Member Winger said that the jail has been free of COVID too, which is worth noting. "He doesn't have to do all this stuff," said Winger of the sheriff. "He wants to."

The council verbally agreed to move forward with the stipends for this year. They sheriff will be required to request the stipends again next year.

The sheriff also presented a check for \$78,850 for four months of housing Vigo County inmates in the jail.

Sheriff Roush thanked Council Member Richard Summers for following through with a commitment he made a few years ago to check in with department heads from time to time. Roush said Summers comes by the jail once a month to check in and he really appreciates it. He added that Council Member Winger stopped by last Friday and he appreciated that as well. He said it boosts the morale of his employees.

Prosecutor Aureola Wright came to answer questions about her second deputy prosecutor after the subject came up at the last meeting. The council last year approved Wright hiring another deputy

to help her office catch up on a backlog of cases. Wright said her office is doing "very good" at catching up and they are continuously finding ways to cut their budget. She said that they have increased reimbursements from the state for the child support fund and because of that, the state has now taken over paying more for her office. She said she brought in \$85,000 last year in reimbursements and \$45,000 so far this year. She added that Martin County's reimbursement rate for child support is now above the state and national average.

Council Member Bowling said that they discussed last year when hiring the new deputy that it would be discussed at budget hearings this year. Prosecutor Wright said she attended budget hearings, but the subject didn't come up. The position was in her budget for full-time for next year. Wright added that she was available at budget hearings to answer any questions the council may have had.

Council Member Winger asked Wright if there is a timeline on when her office will be caught up or if she is expecting to fund the position forever. The prosecutor replied that she always wants

to decrease the budget whenever she can, and they are always looking for ways to do that.

Council Member Albright suggested leaving the position as is for next year and look at it again at budget hearings in 2021. The council agreed.

Recorder Rhonda Sanders and Treasurer Lori Carrico, who were in the audience, then asked if the auditor and her two full-time employees are still getting the raise requested at budget hearings. The commissioners had included extra money in their budget for next year for the auditor's office for handling extra tasks the office has taken on, mainly involving human resource.

Council Member Bowling said she still thinks the county needs someone responsible for human resources. Council Member Buck Stiles agreed. Bowling asked the auditor if someone in her office would be interested in that.

Carrico asked how someone would file a grievance against the auditor's office if the human resources director worked for the auditor's office. Auditor Bobbie Abel replied that any grievance against her of-

(See 'COUNCIL' on page 2)

Commissioners hear from Air Evac after considering another company's proposal

BY COURTNEY HUGHETT
Martin County Journal Publisher

John Gott, with Air Evac, and Jason Monday, Air Alliance Divisional Director, approached the Martin County Commissioners at their meeting Tuesday, October 6, about their medical helicopter service. Monday explained that he is aware that another company presented a proposal to the commissioners for a county-wide membership plan. He wanted the commissioners to know that 30 percent of Martin County residents are already members of the Air Evac program, at their own choosing. He said that around 21 percent of residents are on Medicare, that covers helicopter transport, so 50-51 percent of Martin County residents are already covered. Monday said that Air Evac has a base in Paoli, and he is fairly sure they are always the first call when a helicopter is needed because they are the closest. A dispatcher from the sheriff's department who was in the audience confirmed that Air Evac has always been the first call, in the two years she has dispatched.

Commissioner Paul George said one reason they considered the other company is because they are moving a base to Huntingburg. A member of the audience said they have been saying they were put-

ting a base in Huntingburg for a few years now, but it has yet to be done.

John Gott said he isn't at the meeting to discuss the other company's offer, but he knows Air Evac couldn't offer that kind of price. Commissioner George asked how the other company can because when he saw their price he thought it was too good to be true.

Gott recommended the commissioners ask the right questions because there are many factors to consider. He said that there are landing zone issues with certain helicopters in rural settings, federal regulations, and challenges with insurance companies when it comes to paying for transport.

Gott said Air Evac has an excellent relationship with Martin County fire departments, sheriff's department and ambulance service as they have been working with the county for 19 years. He said that when an accident happens, dispatch is going to call the first available helicopter, whoever can get there the quickest.

Commissioner Aaron Summers noted that when something is too good to be true, it usually is. Millie Brown, Lost River Township Trustee, said that when she got all the trustees together to discuss the offer from the other company, she also felt

(See 'COMMISSIONERS' on page 2)

Martin County Historical Society receives \$8,601 grant from state

Lt. Gov. Suzanne Crouch last week announced 479 organizations will receive almost \$10 million through the Arts, Cultural and Destination Marketing Organization (DMO) grant program. This initiative is made possible through a partnership between the Indiana Destination Development Corporation (IDDC) and the Indiana Arts Commission (IAC), providing operational support to local organizations whose operations were disrupted by COVID-19.

The Martin County Historical Society received \$8,601.35.

"These organizations help enhance the quality of life here in our great state," Crouch said. "I am pleased to see the arts and cultural sector, which adds to Indiana's tourism economy, get this funding."

A complete list of the awardees can be found at www.in.gov/arts/about/covid-19-actions/arts-cultural-and-destination-marketing-organization-support-grants/.

"Ensuring the arts and cultural community can survive is what this grant will do for so many organizations across the state," said Lewis Ricci, IAC's Executive Director. "This funding can help bridge the gap."

"The tourism and hospitality industry is one of the leading economic sectors in Indiana, contributing over \$37 billion to the state's gross domestic product," said Elaine Bedel, IDDC's Secretary and CEO. "These funds will help the Destination Marketing Organizations lead the recovery of our leisure and travel related economy."

Award amounts were determined by a formula which included factors for budget size, previous amounts of CARES Act funding received and amount of eligible expenses, resulting in an equitable distribution to organizations in all areas of the state.

Each grantee will be responsible for documenting the use of all distributed funds.

Martin County Civil Defense receives \$2,500 equipment grant

More than 70 rural and volunteer fire departments from 47 Indiana counties have been awarded more than \$320,000 in Volunteer Fire Assistance grants, DNR Director Dan Bortner announced last week. Martin County Civil Defense received \$2,500 for communication equipment.

The awards will be used for training, installation of dry hydrants, or to purchase necessary firefighting equipment and gear to combat wildland fires. The grants are administered by the DNR Division of Forestry and made available through the U.S. Department of Agricul-

ture Forest Service.

Recipients were selected based on population density, acres of public wildlands protected, and wildland fire reporting to DNR Fire Control Headquarters. As in past years, emphasis was given to projects that involved the fighting of wildfires.

The awarded grants range from \$1,000 to \$5,000 and were given to 76 departments.

Fire departments receiving the grants in 2020, the amount of the grant, county and the project category are:

(See 'CIVIL DEFENSE' on page 3)



Sign update

-Photo provided

The staff at West Boggs Park recently revamped the “West Boggs Park” lettering at the Lakeview Golf Course, making it much more visible to passersby.

COMMISSIONERS

(Continued from page one)

it was too good to be true. She said her fire department and first responders really like Air Evac and they have never had an issue with them. Gott again encouraged the commissioners to ask the right questions and make sure they are getting what they think they are getting.

Commissioner Paul George told Brown that they need to set up another meeting to discuss the other company’s proposal again.

(Editor’s note: Stat Flight recently proposed covering all Martin County residents for medical helicopter transport for \$25,188 a year. The idea was to break up the cost between Loogootee, Shoals and each township. The Loogootee City Council approved paying their portion for Loogootee residents for \$7,488 at their meeting last month. No other entity has approved a contract yet.)

Dr. Del Jarmin and Brian Cornelius, with SiteLogicIQ, provided information to the commissioners about their facilities management company. Dr. Jarmin said they currently work with Shoals School and their goal is to form long-term relationships with their clients. Cornelius said they are not a project-based firm, they look at a long-term plan. They offered to

COVID testing site open

A COVID-19 testing site has been set up for Martin, Dubois and Spencer county residents at the former Ruxer’s Golf Course building, at 400 South Clay Street in Jasper Tuesday through Friday 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Saturday 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Closed on Sunday.

Register for appointment at <https://scheduling.coronavirus.in.gov/>. You will have to click “I don’t have an invitation code”. If you do not have internet, you can call the phone number above, if no one answers please leave a message and they will call you back. Results should be available within 72 hours. If you do not get your results you can call the Indiana State Dept. of Health at 1-877-826-0011.

Testing is for anyone who lives or works in Indiana. Anyone can be tested, even those not showing symptoms. There is no charge for the testing. However, if you do have private health care insurance, you are asked to bring that to the testing site.

If you have questions you can contact 812-329-0523 or the Dubois County Health Department at 812-481-7050.

look over the county buildings for an assessment of what upgrades, repairs, etc. need to be completed. Commissioner Paul George said they could assess the courthouse, jail and highway department.

Sheriff Travis Roush reported there are currently 73 inmates in the jail with 29 of them from Vigo County.

Tiffany Whaley, director of Martin County EMS, presented the ambulance service’s quarterly report. Whaley said the ambulance service has had 751 runs so far this year with a 10-minute average response time. She said the national average for urban areas is nine minutes and 58 seconds and with Martin County being extremely rural, she thinks their time is very good. She said runs had gone down due to COVID because many people didn’t want to go to the hospital, but they are picking back up now. Whaley said she is new to the director position and wanted to know if the commissioners needed anything else in their report from her. Commissioner George said the commissioners have not received any report for a long time and asked if one could be presented quarterly. Whaley said she would do that.

Tim Hunt, with HWC Engineering, reported that work on the Brooks Bridge bank erosion should be done this week. There was no crop damage that needed to be paid for. Work on bridge 69 has been stalled due to emergency work the crew needed to do in another county.

Hunt recommended not doing the January 2021 cycle of the Community Crossings grant so the highway department has time to build back up matching funds. The cycle after that will be in July.

Commissioner George said he hates to let one cycle slide by. He said if they can’t get the full \$1 million in January, they can reapply for the July cycle.

Hunt said they can come up with a preliminary list for the next commissioners’ meeting so they can discuss it. He said the state may have roughly \$90 million to pass out for January which is less than half of what they have had in the past to split up around the state.

The burn ban for the county is still in effect. Monte Wolfe said it is really dry and they are hoping to get some rain from the hurricane coming through in the south.

The commissioners approved a National 4-H Week Proclamation for October 4-10. Wednesday is Wear Green 4-H Service Day.

COUNTY COUNCIL

(Continued from page one)

fice could be filed with the commissioners or county attorney.

Carrico then said that none of this is fair for the other courthouse offices, to have one office receive more pay than the others. “You are saying to everyone else that they are more important than the rest of us,” said Carrico.

Council Member Stiles replied that only the person with the human resources title would receive extra pay.

Carrico asked what the human resources job description entailed. Auditor Abel replied that she didn’t have a copy of the job description with her but could provide one to Carrico the next day. Abel said she did email it to the council members.

Recorder Sanders said that if a human resources position was being discussed, they need to have the job description read. She asked if someone could pull up the email and read it. No one replied.

Auditor Abel told the council that the salary and wage ordinance doesn’t have to be approved until December, so they do not have to decide anything right now.

Council Member Summers said the same issue with more pay for one department transpired a few years ago. He said it’s a lot better to work as a team and in his opinion, the commissioners should have discussed the extra pay with the council prior to putting it in the budget before assuming they would pay for it. “It’s a lot easier to work together,” he said. “We come in here on day and there it is on a piece of paper. I may be right or wrong, but that’s how I feel about it,” he said.

Council Member Stiles said he spoke to two of the commissioners and asked them if they would be in favor of meeting with the county council quarterly and they were in favor of that. He added that he didn’t want to “kick the can down the road to December” and would prefer to make a decision on the extra money now. He said he didn’t think it was fair to the other office holders and the increase needed to be removed from the budget for next year.

“Fine idea,” said Sanders from the audience.

“Until you run for that job,” said Council Member Albright to Sanders.

“I don’t want that job,” replied Sanders. “Right there, exactly!” said Council Member Winger.

Sanders said that she doesn’t want the auditor’s job, just like she wouldn’t want the sheriff’s job, but she knows several people who do want the auditor’s job.

Sanders was asked why the auditor is running unopposed this year then, if there are others who want the job.

Sanders replied that if the auditor gets the raise that’s been requested, she may run for that position next cycle.

Council Member Winger asked if the assessor’s office employees make more than the other offices. Assessor Carolyn McGuire, from the audience, said that they do, but they have to be certified.

Winger replied that he thinks there are problems, and he is not ready to vote on salaries right now.

Clerk Gerald Montgomery, from the audience, said that the auditor’s job is the third hardest job in the courthouse. When asked who had the first two hardest jobs, Montgomery replied that his job is the hardest and the assessor job is the second hardest.

Sanders said that it’s someone’s choice to do more than they are required to do. Treasurer Lori Carrico added that all offices do that and it’s not fair to compensate one and not the others. “It’s a morale thing in our building,” said Carrico. “It doesn’t make things run smoother in the building.”

Council Member Stiles said the county council hasn’t had a raise in five years and they will change that next year. “We will see what you say about that,” Stiles

said to the audience. “Let’s move on with this. There is no use arguing.”

Council Member McFeaters asked the auditor if the additional part-time employee the council approved for her office last year has helped. She said they were hoping that would have taken some of the burden off the staff. Auditor Abel replied that it helps them focus more on their other duties.

Council Member Stiles said that last year they upgraded the computer systems in the auditor’s office, and he thought that was supposed to speed up the work. Auditor Abel said that the upgrades were due to software no longer being supported but it didn’t change anything as far as the work required.

Council Member Bowling said that in her opinion, if there are three people who work harder than the others, they should be compensated, and everyone says their job is the hardest.

Council Member Stiles said again that he wanted to cut the raises out of the budget. Winger again said he wasn’t ready to make a decision because he wants to know how much extra has been put on the auditor’s office to do HR and how much time it takes. He also would like to know how other counties handle human resources tasks.

Council Member Bowling asked if one person does human resources takes or if it’s divided up in the office. The auditor said it is divided depending on the question.

Abel then said she has spent hours, at budget hearings, through emails and at other meetings explaining what her office does. “I am done defending what my office does,” she said. She said the commissioners added the increase to the budget, she didn’t.

Council Member Summers asked if they want to deal with this later or talk to the commissioners about their intentions. Council Member Stiles replied that he thinks the commissioners were looking for an increased budget since the taxes were raised.

Council Member Albright said someone needs to look at the job descriptions and see who deserves what. “Everyone’s job is the hardest when you are defending your job,” he said. Albright added that all of the staff are underpaid for what the job is, but he doesn’t feel qualified to say which job is worth what.

Council Member McFeaters said they have talked about hiring an independent professional to help with the financial aspect. She recommended doing more research into that and not jumping into anything. In the end, the council made no decision on the issue.

In other business, the council has been tasked with appointing someone to the new tourism board that will oversee the recently implemented innkeepers’ tax. The commissioners have already appointed Jameson Hibbs and have one more appointment to make. The City of Loogootee appointed Pam Loughmiller. Auditor Bobbie Abel said the advertised looking for anyone wishing to serve on the board but didn’t get any response. The council agreed to see if they could find someone interested in the appointment. The position is unpaid.

The council approved a \$500 transfer for the recorder’s office from travel to office supplies and \$11,000 in the commissioners’ budget from health insurance to maintenance contracts.

The council approved \$15,000 for the drug fund grant to be used in contract services for the community corrections department.

The council also approved a reduction in the budget of \$272,463 for reassessment fees for this year.

The council will meet again Monday, November 2 at 6 p.m. This will also be the 2021 budget adoption.

ELECT
CATHY EVANS
Martin County Coroner

Registered Nurse • Organized
Compassionate • Responsible
Servant’s Heart • Lifetime Resident

Thank you for your support and vote!

-Paid for by Cathy Evans

OBITUARIES

KAY WALKER

Kay Walker passed away Monday, September 28, 2020 at Daviess Community Hospital. A resident of Washington, she was 82.



She was born June 13, 1938 in Sparksville, Indiana; the daughter of John and Evelyn (Huffman) Wallace.

She attended Washington High School. She was a member of Good Shepard Lutheran Church.

She enjoyed attending church every Sunday, being outdoors and spending time with her great-grandchildren.

She is survived by a son, Gerald Walker of Washington; two brothers, Dr. Victor H. (Margie) Wallace of Loogootee and Dr. Dennis H. (Reta) Wallace of Beaverton, Oregon; two sisters, Susan Wallace of Brownstown and Jo Anne Hill of Seymour; one grandchild, Jonathan (Lisa) Walker of Washington and three great-grandchildren, Grant, Drew and Isaac Walker.

She is preceded in death by her husband, Charles J. Walker; parents; son, Nathan Walker; daughter, Cheryl Walker and sister, Adrienne Baker.

A graveside service was held Friday, October 2 at Bethel Cemetery.

Condolences can be sent to the family online at www.edleemortuary.com. All arrangements were entrusted to Ed Lee Mortuary.

JAMES HOPKINS

James L. Hopkins passed away at 4:35 a.m. Saturday, October 3, 2020 at The Timbers of Jasper. A resident of Loogootee, he was 82.

He was born March 17, 1938 in Shoals; son of the late James John and Mae (Ross) Hopkins.

Jim was a member of Mt. Zion Wesleyan Church. He loved to travel with his family. His family was his pride and joy. He enjoyed woodworking and coon hunting. His favorite past time was sitting on his front porch with his wife, Vondale Hopkins, who passed away March 23, 2018.

He was preceded in death by an infant son and daughter; wife, Vondale Hopkins; parents, James John and Mae (Ross) Hopkins; and siblings, Keith Hopkins, Catherine Langenour, Bessie Stone,

Brenda Sherfick, Joann Hopkins, Imogene Witt, Goldie Wilcutt, Lois Gillion and Helen Hurt.

Jim is survived by his daughters, Alice (Thomas) Stempf of Loogootee and Rose (Jeff) Popp of Jasper; grandchildren, Katie Stempf, John (Brittney) Stempf and Matthew (Lauren) Popp; great-grandchildren, Lilly Moffatt, Luke Bruner, Millie Popp and Baby Beckham Popp, due to arrive January 2021; and sister, Jewell Ziegler.

Funeral services were held Tuesday, October 6 at Blake Funeral Home in Loogootee. Burial followed in Truelove United Methodist Cemetery.

Condolences may be made online at www.blakefuneralhomes.com. Blake Funeral Home is honored to serve the family of James L. Hopkins.

CIVIL DEFENSE

(Continued from page one)

Haogland Volunteer Fire Company, Inc. of Allen County for \$4,932 for safety equipment

Hope Volunteer Fire Department of Bartholomew County for \$4,740 for communication equipment

Southwest Bartholomew Volunteer Fire Department in Bartholomew County for \$3,100 for safety equipment

Richland Township Volunteer Fire Department in Benton County for \$5,000 for safety equipment

Southern Brown Volunteer Fire Department of Brown County for \$5,000 for safety equipment

Charlestown Volunteer Fire Department of Clark County for \$5,000 for water handling equipment

Monroe Township Volunteer Fire Department of Clark County for \$5,000 for safety equipment

Centerpoint & Community Volunteer Fire Company of Clay County for \$2,800 for water handling equipment

Poland Fire Protection Territory of Clay County for \$5,000 for wildland firefighting

Van Buren Township Volunteer Fireman's Association of Clay County for \$5,000 for water handling equipment

Rossville Volunteer Fire Department of Clinton County for \$4,850 for safety equipment

Elnora Elmore Volunteer Fire Department of Daviess County for \$4,828.32 for safety equipment

Letts Community Volunteer Fire Department of Decatur County for \$4,750 for wildland firefighting

Decatur County Fireman's Association of Decatur County for \$5,000 for communication equipment

Celestine Volunteer Fire Department of Dubois County for \$4,987.50 for communications equipment

Dubois Volunteer Fire Department of Dubois County for \$4,390.60 for safety equipment

Madison Township Volunteer Fire Department of Dubois County for \$4,125 for communication equipment

St. Anthony Volunteer Fire Department of Dubois County for \$4,125 for communication equipment

Eagle Fire Company of Oldenburg of Franklin County for \$4,000 for water handling equipment

Oakland City Fire Department of Gibson County for \$2,678.26 for wildland firefighting

Center Jackson Fire Territory of Greene County for \$4,990 for water handling equipment

Sheridan Fire Department of Hamilton County for \$2,091.95 for wildland firefighting

Harrison Township Fire Protection District of Harrison County for \$3,800 for safety equipment

Stilesville Volunteer Fire & Rescue of Hendricks County for \$4,190 for safety equipment

Greentown Volunteer Fire Company of Howard County for \$5,000 for safety equipment

Mt. Etna Volunteer Fire Department of Huntington County for \$5,000 for safety equipment

Owen Township Volunteer Fire Department of Jackson County for \$5,000 for wildland firefighting

Pershing Township Volunteer Fire Department of Jackson County for \$2,700 for wildland firefighting

Wheatfield Volunteer Fire Department of Jasper County for \$2,499.50 for water handling equipment

Campbell Township Volunteer Fire Department of Jennings County for \$2,537.50 for communication equipment

Palmyra Township Fire Department of Knox County for \$4,970 for communication equipment

Vincennes Township Fire District of Knox County for \$5,000 for water handling equipment

LaGrange Volunteer Fire Department of LaGrange County for \$5,000 for safety equipment

Lowell Volunteer Fire Department of Lake County for \$3,000 for training

LaCrosse Volunteer Fire Department of LaPorte County for \$5,000 for wildland firefighting

Long Beach Fire Department of LaPorte County for \$1,000 for wildland firefighting

Noble Township Volunteer Fire Department of LaPorte County for \$5,000 for safety equipment

Marion Township Rural Fire Department of Lawrence County for \$5,000 for safety equipment

Marshall Township Volunteer Fire & EMS of Lawrence County for \$2,500 for safety equipment

Oolitic Volunteer Fire Department of Lawrence County for \$2,000 for wildland firefighting

Decatur Township Fire Department of Marion County for \$5,000 for wildland firefighting

Argos Volunteer Fire Department of Marshall County for \$5,000 for safety equipment

Martin County Fire and Rescue of Martin County for \$2,500 for communi-

cation equipment

Benton Township Volunteer Fire Department of Monroe County for \$3,050 for communication equipment

Ellettsville Fire Department of Monroe County for \$2,500 for water handling equipment

Albion Volunteer Fire Department of Noble County for \$5,000 for safety equipment

JUGA Volunteer Fire Department of Parke County for \$5,000 for safety equipment

Adams Township Fire Department of Parke County for \$5,000 for communication equipment

Jefferson Township Pike County Volunteer Fire Department of Pike County for \$5,000 for safety equipment

Petersburg Volunteer Fire Department of Pike County for \$5,000 for safety equipment

Kouts Volunteer Fire Department of Porter County for \$4,684 for water handling equipment

Morgan Township Volunteer Fire Department of Porter County for \$5,000 for safety equipment

Porter Fire Department of Porter County for \$4,635.14 for safety equipment

Franceville Volunteer Fire Department of Pulaski County for \$4,500 for water handling equipment

Monterey and Tippecanoe Volunteer Fire Department of Pulaski County for \$5,000 for safety equipment

Farmland Volunteer Fire Department of Randolph County for \$5,000 for safety equipment

Lynn Fire Department of Randolph County for \$5,000 for safety equipment

White River Township Fire Department of Randolph County for \$5,000 for safety equipment

Posey Township Volunteer Fire Department of Rush County for \$4,750 for communication equipment

Liberty Township Volunteer Fire Department of St. Joseph County for \$5,000 for safety equipment

Walkerton Fire Department Territory of St. Joseph County for \$5,000 for safety equipment

Warren Township Fire Department of St. Joseph County for \$4,238.80 for safety equipment

Centre Township d/b/a SW Central Fire of St. Joseph County for \$5,000 for

safety equipment

Scottsburg Fire Department of Scott County for \$5,000 for water handling equipment

Fountaintown Community Volunteer Fire Department of Shelby County for \$1,941.44 for water handling equipment

North Judson-Wayne Township Fire Department of Starke County for \$1,955 for water handling equipment

San Pierre Volunteer Fire Department of Starke County for \$2,500 for water handling equipment

Jeff-Craig Fire & Rescue of Switzerland County for \$5,000 for communication equipment

Moorefield Community Fire Department of Switzerland County for \$5,000 for safety equipment

Sharpsville Fire Department of Tipton County for \$5,000 for safety equipment

German Township Volunteer Fire Department of Vanderburgh County for \$5,000 for safety equipment

Roann Volunteer Fire Department of Wabash County for \$4,800 for safety equipment

Chandler Volunteer Fire Department of Warrick County for \$2,500 for safety equipment

Lynnville Volunteer Fire Department of Warrick County for \$5,000 for communication equipment

Pigeon Township Volunteer Fire Department of Warrick County for \$5,000 for communication equipment

Monon Volunteer Fire Department of White County for \$1,250 for training

Fire departments interested in applying for future grants should contact Mark Huter, Assistant State Fire Coordinator, Fire Control Headquarters, 6220 Forest Road, Martinsville, IN 46151, or call 765-792-4654.

A Proud Member of the Shoals Community Since 1937!



Stop by and see our newly renovated facility!

QUEEN-LEE CHAPEL
Thorne-George Family Funeral Homes, Inc.

Thank you all for the cards, gifts, and prayers after the loss of my father, Herald Stuffle, on September 19. It means so much to me. Bless you all!

-David Stuffle and family

Martin County Sheriff's Department log

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 28

9:06 a.m. - Major Keller helped unlock a vehicle in Loogootee

9:50 a.m. - Shoals ambulance responded to an E-911 call received for an 80-year-old female in Loogootee who is sick.

9:00 p.m. - Received a call requesting a vehicle unlock. Deputy Seymour responded and unlocked the vehicle.

11:29 p.m. - E-911 call received for a request for an ambulance in Shoals due to a male who can't breathe. Both Shoals Fire-First Responders and Martin County Ambulance responded to call. Male was transported to Daviess Community Hospital.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 29

9:18 a.m. - Received a request for a vin check. Major Keller responded.

9:25 a.m. - Received a report of a suspicious person. Chief Deputy Greene responded.

1:15 p.m. - Received a report of a hit and run. Major Keller responded.

1:40 p.m. - Received a report of a suspicious article in the roadway. Chief Deputy Greene responded.

2:32 p.m. - Received an animal complaint. Advised Animal Control Officer Hughett.

4:22 p.m. - Received a report of a reckless driver. Deputy Gibson and Loogootee Sgt Floyd responded.

6:11 p.m. - Received a request for a vin check. Deputy Flannagan responded.

6:55 p.m. - Received an animal complaint. Advised Animal Control Officer Hughett.

7:21 p.m. - Received a request for a vehicle unlock. Deputy Gibson responded.

11:24 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance. Martin County EMS and Shoals Fire responded.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30

12:32 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance. Martin County EMS, Loogootee Sgt Floyd, Loogootee Fire Department, Deputy Seymour, and Dubois County EMS responded.

6:20 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance. Martin County EMS, Shoals Fire, and Deputy Seymour responded.

7:30 a.m. - Received a report of a vehicle accident. Chief Deputy Greene responded.

10:14 a.m. - Received a request for a welfare check. Chief Deputy Greene responded.

11:27 a.m. - Received a report of a reckless driver. Advised All Martin County law enforcement.

11:40 a.m. - Received a report of harassment. Chief Deputy Greene responded.

2:46 p.m. - Received a report of reckless drivers. Major Keller responded.

2:50 p.m. - Received a report of a motorist in need of assistants. Major Keller responded.

2:56 p.m. - Received a report of a domestic dispute. Chief Deputy Greene responded.

3:00 p.m. - Received a report of an animal complaint. Advised Animal Control Deputy Hughett.

3:57 p.m. - Received a request for the fire department in Shoals. Shoals Fire and Deputy Gibson responded.

4:21 p.m. - Received a report of a reckless driver. Advised all Martin County law enforcement.

4:54 p.m. - Received a report of a motor vehicle accident. Shoals Fire, Martin County EMS, Major Keller, Deputy Flannagan, and Shoals Town Marshal Eckert responded.

4:56 p.m. - Received a report of a disturbance. Sgt Reed, Shoals Town Mar-

shal Eckert, and Deputy Barnett responded.

5:54 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance. Martin County EMS and Shoals Fire responded.

8:55 p.m. - Received a report of a disturbance. Major Keller responded.

9:05 p.m. - Received a report of a subject locked out of their home. Major Keller and Loogootee Sgt. Floyd responded.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 1

5:51 a.m. - Received a report of a disabled vehicle. Deputy Seymour responded.

7:54 a.m. - Received a report of reckless driver. Major Keller responded.

8:25 a.m. - Received an animal complaint. Advised Animal Control Deputy Hughett.

9:57 a.m. - Received a request to speak with a deputy. Major Keller responded

11:16 a.m. - Received an animal complaint. Advised Animal Control Deputy Hughett.

11:16 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance. Shoals Fire, Martin County EMS, and Major Keller responded.

6:10 p.m. - Received a report of a downed power line. Deputy Lents and REMC responded.

6:34 p.m. - Received a report of a disturbance. Advised Loogootee Police.

8:06 p.m. - Received a report of a wild game problem. Advised South Region.

8:08 p.m. - Received a report of a vehicle accident. Deputy Lents responded.

10:44 p.m. - Received a report of a disabled vehicle. Loogootee Officer Means responded.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 2

8:20 a.m. - Received a report of a railroad problem. Advised CSX.

9:30 a.m. - Received a report of a disturbance. Advised Loogootee Police.

10:11 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance. Martin County EMS responded.

11:11 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance. Shoals Fire, Martin County EMS, and Major Keller responded.

11:24 a.m. - Received a report of a reckless driver. Major Keller and ISP Trooper Beaver responded.

12:48 p.m. - Received a request for a vin check. Deputy Wells responded.

1:00 p.m. - Received a report of sign stolen. Advised the county highway department.

1:48 p.m. - Received a request for officer back up. Deputy Lents and ISP Trooper Beaver responded.

7:45 p.m. - Received a request for an officer. Advised Loogootee Police.

7:48 p.m. - Received a request for a welfare check. Shoals Town Marshal Eckert responded.

9:28 p.m. - Received a report of a disturbance. Loogootee Sgt Floyd responded.

10:38 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance. Martin County EMS responded and Loogootee Police Department dispatched Loogootee Fire Department first responders.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3

2:11 a.m. - Received a report of a reckless driver. Deputy Barnett responded.

11:07 a.m. - Received a report a tree in the roadway. Deputy Lents responded.

11:45 a.m. - Received a dog complaint. Deputy Lents responded.

12:58 p.m. - Received an animal complaint. Advised Animal Control Deputy Hughett.

1:20 p.m. - Received a report of a vehicle accident. Deputy Lents responded.

2:50 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance. Martin County EMS re-

sponded. Loogootee Police Department contacted Loogootee Fire Department for first responders.

4:18 p.m. - Received a report of a disabled vehicle. ICO Doane responded.

5:29 p.m. - Received a report of a disturbance. Deputy Flanagan and Loogootee Sgt Floyd responded.

5:53 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance. Martin County EMS and Shoals Fire responded.

6:41 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance. Martin County EMS responded. Loogootee Police Department contacted Loogootee Fire Department for first responders.

7:12 p.m. - Received a report of a reck-

less driver. Deputy Flannagan responded.

7:55 p.m. - Received a report of a reckless driver. Deputy Flannagan responded.

8:12 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance. Martin County EMS, Loogootee Sgt Floyd, and Loogootee Fire Department responded.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4

12:02 a.m. - Received a report of a disturbance. Deputy Barnett responded.

8:35 a.m. - Received a report of a dead deer in the roadway. ISP responded.

9:11 a.m. - Received a report of a tree down. Sheriff Roush and Shoals Fire Department responded.

3:03 p.m. - Received a report of a disturbance. Deputy Flanagan responded.

Loogootee Police log

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 28

10:05 a.m. - Chief Rayhill assisted a first responder and EMS at a medical call on SR 550.

3:15 p.m. - Chief Rayhill was advised of and observed a semi-truck that was hauling explosives and was reportedly crossing the center line several times entering town from north on US 231.

5:50 p.m. - Sgt. Floyd took a report of stolen medication.

10:54 p.m. - Sgt. Floyd checked on a reported possible impaired driver.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 29

7:37 a.m. - Chief Rayhill responded to a report of an aggressive dog chasing a neighbor's dog.

11:05 a.m. - Chief Rayhill received a report of stolen medication.

4:37 p.m. - Sgt. Floyd assisted the Martin County Sheriff's Department on a report of an impaired driver.

4:43 p.m. - A female came on station to complete a handgun permit.

6:38 p.m. - A female came on station to pick up a theft report.

9:35 p.m. - Sgt. Floyd checked US 231S for a male reportedly walking along the highway.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30

12:32 a.m. - First responders responded to a medical call at a residence on US 231S.

3:15 p.m. - Chief Rayhill assisted a female in retrieving personal property from a residence.

8:34 p.m. - Received a report of a possible impaired driver entering town from west on US 50.

9:17 p.m. - Officer Means responded to a request for assistance from a female that had locked herself out of her residence. Means was assisted by Martin County Sheriff's Department Major Keller.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 1

8:57 a.m. - Officer Means responded to a property damage accident in the Loogootee High School parking lot.

10:47 a.m. - Captain Hennette assisted with a funeral escort.

2:28 p.m. - Captain Hennette respond-

Human Trafficking Awareness event to be held Thursday

A Human Trafficking Awareness Initiative will be held Thursday, October 8 from 5-7 p.m. at West Boggs Park in the Bittersweet Shelter. The event is free to the public and was organized in order to bring awareness, education, and prevention of human trafficking. Guest speakers include Martin County Sheriff Travis Roush, Middle Way House County Services Specialist Heidi Weaver, and Sheila Bobay, the Region 10 Coalition Coordinator with Indiana Trafficking Victims Assistance Program. Children are not advised to attend this event. Food will be available for purchase.

ed to a report of an erratic driver in the area of Redwing Trailer Court.

10:01 p.m. - Officer Means assisted the department of child services with a battery report.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 2

10:30 a.m. - Captain Hennette assisted with a funeral escort.

9:36 a.m. - Captain Hennette completed a welfare check at a local business that was not answering the door.

6:32 p.m. - Sgt. Floyd checked a residence on Queen Street in reference to a reported unusual odor.

10:39 p.m. - First responders responded to a medical call on Butcher Boulevard.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3

2:54 p.m. - First responders responded to a medical call on Bramble Road.

6:41 p.m. - First responders responded to a medical call on Grant Street.

7:45 p.m. - Sgt. Floyd assisted the Martin County Sheriff's Department with a report of a possible impaired driver northbound toward Loogootee on US 231.

8:13 p.m. - First responders and Sgt. Floyd assisted Martin County EMS with a medical call on Grant Street.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4

4:10 p.m. - Sgt. Floyd spoke with a complainant about a possible scam.

4:35 p.m. - Received a report of a strong odor of possible sewer gas on Crestview Drive and contacted the sewer department.

5:29 p.m. - Sgt. Floyd investigated a report of possible drug activity.

ARRESTS

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 28

4:17 p.m. - Debra Bottorff, 65, of Loogootee, was arrested by Loogootee Chief Rayhill and charged with operating a vehicle while intoxicated. She is being held without bond. Loogootee Sergeant Floyd assisted with the arrest.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 29

5:07 p.m. - Chris Bearden, 40, of Shoals, was arrested by Deputy Gibson and charged with operating a vehicle while intoxicated. He is being held without bond.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 1

10:23 p.m. - Dale Jones Jr., 39, was arrested by Deputy Dorsey on a Martin County warrant. He is being held without bond. Jail Officer Ivey assisted with the arrest.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 2

8:32 p.m. - Nathan Lundgren was arrested by Deputy Lents on Stuben County warrant. He is being held without bond.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3

9:36 p.m. - Chad Mussel White, 41, of Ellettsville, was arrested by Deputy Flanagan and charged with operating a vehicle while intoxicated. He is being held on a \$10,000 10% bond.

COURT NEWS

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

CRIMINAL COURT New Charges Filed August 26

Shelby R. Harder, operating a vehicle while intoxicated endangering a person, a Class A Misdemeanor; operating a vehicle with a schedule I or II controlled substance or its metabolite in the body, a Class C Misdemeanor.

Jasmine Nichole Harner, two counts of cruelty to an animal, Class A Misdemeanors.

Cody M. Waid, false informing, a Class A Misdemeanor; cruelty to an animal, a Class A Misdemeanor.

Mindy E. Rueger, five counts of criminal mischief, Class A Misdemeanors.

August 27

Sasha L. Pottorff, possession of marijuana, a Class B Misdemeanor; possession of paraphernalia, a Class C Misdemeanor.

Brian M. Conley, possession of methamphetamine, a Level 6 Felony; possession of marijuana, a Class B Misdemeanor; possession of paraphernalia, a Class C Misdemeanor.

August 31

Jaycobson John Wagoner, operating a vehicle with an ACE of .15 or more, a Class A Misdemeanor; operating a vehicle while intoxicated endangering a person, a Class A Misdemeanor; minor in possession of alcohol, a Class C Misdemeanor.

Timothy B. Horn, possession of methamphetamine, a Level 6 Felony; unlawful possession of a syringe, a Level 6 Felony; visiting a common nuisance – controlled substances, a Class B Misdemeanor.

Heather L. Waight, possession of methamphetamine, a Level 6 Felony; unlawful possession of a syringe, a Level 6 Felony; visiting a common nuisance – controlled substances, a Class B Misdemeanor.

Travis R. Campbell, four counts of theft, Level 6 Felonies.

September 1

Phillip M. Bailey, dealing in marijuana, a Class A Misdemeanor; possession of marijuana, a Class B Misdemeanor.

Nathaniel J. Hart, minor in possession of alcohol, a Class C Misdemeanor.

September 8

Jaycobson John Wagoner, minor in possession of alcohol, a Class C Misdemeanor.

Caleb R. Baker, minor in possession of alcohol, a Class C Misdemeanor.

September 9

Gregory Scott Stroud, operating a vehicle with an ACE of .08 or more, a Class C Misdemeanor.

Bradley Allen Coleman, three counts of theft, Level 6 Felonies.

Audra Renee Seals, possession of methamphetamine, a Level 6 Felony; two counts of possession of a controlled substance, Class A Misdemeanors.

September 10

Rayna J. Moffitt, theft, a Class A Misdemeanor.

September 11

John Michael Mattingly, domestic battery, a Level 6 Felony; invasion of privacy, a Class A Misdemeanor.

September 14

Brian R. Asbell, operating a vehicle with an ACE of .08 or more, a Class C Misdemeanor.

September 15

Alicia Marie Hitner, invasion of privacy, a Class A Misdemeanor.

Connie Elaine Carlson, domestic battery, a Level 6 Felony.

September 17

Gregory E. Guy, Jr., theft, a Class A Misdemeanor.

September 18

Thomas James Ehrman, driving while suspended, a Class A Misdemeanor.

September 22

Bradley Allen Coleman, theft, a Level 6 Felony; possession of methamphetamine, a Level 6 Felony; possession of marijuana, a Class B Misdemeanor.

September 23

Dale E. Jones, Jr., criminal trespass, a Class A Misdemeanor.

September 24

Carolyn S. Shipp, possession of methamphetamine, a Level 4 Felony; maintaining a common nuisance – controlled substances, a Level 6 Felony; unlawful possession of a syringe, a Level 6 Felony; battery, a Class B Misdemeanor; possession of marijuana, a Class B Misdemeanor; possession of paraphernalia, a Class C Misdemeanor.

Connie E. Carlson, possession of methamphetamine, a Level 6 Felony; maintaining a common nuisance – controlled substances, a Level 6 Felony; neglect of a dependent, a Level 6 Felony.

September 28

Dwayne M. Decker, possession of marijuana, a Class B Misdemeanor.

Neil P. Tomson, operating a vehicle as an habitual traffic violator, a Level 6 Felony; criminal mischief, a Class B Misdemeanor.

CRIMINAL CONVICTIONS AND SENTENCINGS

September 3

Charlotte A. Browder, convicted of operating a vehicle while intoxicated, a Class C Misdemeanor, amended from operating a vehicle while intoxicated endangering a person, a Class A Misdemeanor and driving while suspended, a Class A Misdemeanor. Sentenced to serve 300 days with 270 days suspended and credit for 1 actual day previously served plus 1 Class A credit day. Defendant received 9 months of probation.

Robin A. (Rush) Salmon, convicted of theft, a Level 6 Felony. Sentenced to serve 548 days with 0 days suspended and credit for 28 actual days previously served plus 28 Class A credit days plus 163 days on pretrial home detention plus 163 Class A credit days. Defendant shall serve 83 actual days on the Martin County Community Corrections Home Detention Program.

September 11

Cecorra R. Holt, convicted of possession of methamphetamine, a Level 6 Felony; operating a vehicle while intoxicated endangering a person, a Class A Misdemeanor and possession of marijuana, a Class B Misdemeanor. Sentenced on the first count to serve 900 days with the Indiana Department of Corrections with 900 days suspended. Defendant shall serve 900 days as a direct commitment through Martin County Community Corrections Home Detention Program. Sentenced on the second count to serve 160 days with 0 days suspended and credit for 80 actual days previously served plus 80 Class A credit days. Sentenced on the third count to serve 180 days with 0 days suspended and credit for 90 actual days previously served plus 90 Class A credit days.

September 14

Damon Michael Dant, convicted of possession of methamphetamine, a Level 6 Felony and operating a vehicle while intoxicated, a Class C Misdemeanor. Sentenced on the first count to serve 912 days with 670 days suspended and credit for 121 actual days previously served plus 121 Class A credit days. Defendant received 23 months of probation. Sentenced on the second count to serve 60 days with 0 days suspended and credit for 30 actual days previously served plus 30 Class A credit days.

September 22

Ashton V. Pottorff, convicted of domestic battery, a Class A Misdemeanor.

Sentenced to serve 365 days with 117 days suspended and credit for 124 actual days previously served plus 124 Class A credit days. Defendant received 11 months of probation.

September 24

Marc A. Schroy, convicted of check deception, a Class A Misdemeanor. Sentenced to 0 days and must pay fines, costs and fees.

CRIMINAL CHARGES DISMISSED

September 11

Cecorra R. Holt, maintaining a common nuisance – controlled substances, a Level 6 Felony, dismissed; unlawful possession of a syringe, a Level 6 Felony, dismissed; possession of a controlled substance, a Class A Misdemeanor, dismissed; two counts of theft, Class A Misdemeanors, dismissed; two counts of possession of marijuana, Class B Misdemeanors, dismissed; possession of marijuana, a Class B Misdemeanor, dismissed.

September 14

Damon Michael Dant, possession of marijuana, a Class A Misdemeanor, dismissed; possession of paraphernalia, a Class C Misdemeanor, dismissed; refusal to submit to breath or chemical test, a Class A Infraction, dismissed.

September 23

Gregory F. Wolfe, nonsupport of a dependent child, a Level 6 Felony, dismissed.

September 24

Marc A. Schroy, check deception, a Class A Misdemeanor, dismissed.

Meredith D. Dickey, check deception, a Class A Misdemeanor, dismissed.

September 25

Matthew G. Baxter, driving while suspended, a Class A Misdemeanor, dismissed.

Christopher D. Ketterer, possession of

marijuana, a Class B Misdemeanor, dismissed.

Carla M. Robinson, driving while suspended, a Class A Misdemeanor, dismissed.

CIVIL COURT New Suits Filed September 25

LVNV Funding, LLC vs. Roland Slaubaugh, civil collection.

Old National Bank vs. the unknown heirs of Noreen Trambaugh, deceased; Steven Trambaugh and Bryant S. Trambaugh, mortgage foreclosure.

U.S. Bank National Association vs. Ryan D. Spencer, Mary S. Spencer and Phillip L. Spencer, mortgage foreclosure.

September 29

Lacy Haven vs. Kenneth Haven, petition for dissolution of marriage.

SMALL CLAIMS COURT New Suits Filed September 25

Hoosier Accounts Service vs. Christopher Royston, complaint.

Hoosier Accounts Service vs. Crystal Barnett, complaint.

Hoosier Accounts Service vs. Mark A. Floyd, complaint.

Hoosier Accounts Service vs. Sheila R. Hudson, complaint.

SMALL CLAIMS JUDGMENTS October 1

Judgment in favor of the plaintiff Mark's Garage and against the defendant Tyler M. Howard in the amount of \$575.

Judgment in favor of the plaintiff Garry E. Jones and against the defendant Caleb A. Tisdell in the amount of \$525.

MARRIAGE LICENSES October 6

Cheryl Fields of Loogootee and Steven Davidson of Loogootee.



SATURDAY, OCTOBER 10TH

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More Neat Stuff



By Ann Ackerman



I often run into interesting people when I walk my dog in the mornings. Lately, I've seen Norbie Burch who is on his "post office walk" and we've had some good conversations. He likes More Neat Stuff, so this is for him.

THOUGHTS

*I have decided to get into politics. I have decided to run for childhood. If elected, I promise to bring back mid-day naps, chocolate milk with lunch, and recess.

*Accidentally used the dog shampoo today and I'm feeling like such a "good girl."

*I can't believe it's October. It literally feels like it was March just 16 years ago.

*They say with age comes wisdom so therefore I don't have wrinkles, I have wise cracks.

*Cooler weather is coming. Unfortunately, I never got that bikini body, but I can rock a hoodie and sweatpants like nobody's business.

*This goes out to all the girls who had report cards growing up that read, "talks too much."

*Some people wake up feeling like a million bucks. I wake up feeling like insufficient funds.

*If 2020 was a Pinata, it could be a wasp's nest.

*I posted a photo of my clean house and it was flagged and removed as "fake news."

*Just spent 15 minutes searching for my phone in my car while using my phone as a flashlight.

Did you ever look at your nephews and think?

1. That one will be dropping me curbside at the nursing home.
2. That one will be paying for it.
3. That one will visit me most.

4. And that one? He'll be sneaking in the good tequila and Twinkies.

SERIOUSISMS

*Education is not something you can finish.

*You won't change the world by saving an animal, but you will change that animal's world.

*We are visitors on this planet. We are here for ninety or one hundred years at the very most. During that period, we must try to do something good, something useful with our lives. If you contribute to other people's happiness, you will find the true goal, the true meaning of life. -Dalai Lama XIV

HOME COVID TEST

1. Pour a large glass of red wine, try to smell it.

2. If you can smell the wine, then drink it and see if you can taste it.

3. If you can taste and smell, it confirms you don't have COVID.

Last night I did the test 19 times, and all were negative, thank God.

Tonight, I am going to do the test again, because this morning I woke up with a headache and feel like I am coming down with something.

I am so nervous?

Make someone smile today!

Shoals Library hosting Outdoor Medicare Bingo

The Shoals Public Library is hosting "Outdoor Medicare Bingo" sponsored by SHIP (State Health Insurance Assistance Programs) at 11 a.m. Thursday, October 8 at the Martin County Museum lawn and shelter house.

If you are on Medicare, will soon be, or know someone who is, this is a great way to learn about the benefits. Join Shoals

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Shoals School Board meeting

The Shoals School Board will meet Thursday, October 8 at 6 p.m. in the central administration office. The meeting is open to the public.

Green benefit

A benefit for Dennis Green, of Loogootee, will be held Sunday, October 18 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Loogootee City Park. A pork chop dinner, carry out only, will be available for \$10. Dennis was diagnosed with kidney cancer in 2018 and last year learned he has cancer of the tongue.

Shoals Town Council meeting

The Shoals Town Council will meet in regular session on Monday, October 19 at 6 p.m. at the Shoals Town Hall. If a person wishes to attend via electronic access, please call the Shoals Town Hall at 812-247-2110.

Cemetery clean-up

Goodwill Cemetery will be holding their first annual Fall Cleanup Day at the cemetery on Saturday, October 10 at 9 a.m. until 2 p.m., or as needed. The cemetery group has a facebook page and request that you post there if you plan to attend. They have several jobs lined up for the day. Goodwill Cemetery is located on North Line Street in Loogootee.

Food pantry hours

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

Mental Health Task Force

The Martin County Mental Health Task

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

Celebrate Recovery meetings

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

Local recovery meetings

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

Free lunch for kids

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

SOAR Tutoring

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

Solid waste board

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

Soil and Water meetings

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

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LHS Varsity Boys' Tennis win sectional, fall in regional

The Loogootee Varsity Boys' Tennis Team fell in the regional against Jasper on Tuesday, October 6, 1-4.

Head Coach Mike Tippery said, "Jasper is a great team. They pounced on us early at #1 doubles and #2 and #3 singles and never really let us get into any kind of rhythm. #2 Doubles got off to a good start and played well in that first set. Jordan played a solid first set and struggled in the second. He was able to turn things around in the 3rd set to get us our lone point."

The varsity boys finished with a record of 23-1. This year's senior class at LHS finished with an 81-9 record over the past four years. "They set the bar awfully high. They will be missed but their accomplishments will never be forgotten."

Senior Jordan Wildman advanced in the individual tournament and will go up against Jaylen Mullen of North Daviess tonight (Wednesday) at 5:50 p.m.

"Tennis is a single class sport, so every team except one is going to end the season disappointed. Though we are disappointed this loss cannot diminish the historic season we had. 23 wins shatters the school record of 20 that we set last year. We had four players end the regular season undefeated. Jalen and Jordan both broke the school record for most wins. There are countless other individual records broken as well," said Coach Tippery.

Regional results

#1 Singles Jordan Wildman (L) defeated Owen Franks 6-1, 2-6, 6-2

#2 Singles Max Sternberg (J) defeated Jalen Wildman 6-0, 6-2

#3 Singles Grant Levy (J) defeated Bryant Eckerle 6-0, 6-2

#1 Doubles Jobe Luebbehusen/Grant Stratton (J) defeated Luke Nonte/Peyton Bledsoe 6-2, 6-2

#2 Doubles Bennett Schmitt/Hudson Himsel (J) defeated Rory Tippery/Drew Walker 6-4, 6-0

The Loogootee Varsity Team won sectional last Friday, October 2 against Northeast Dubois, 4-1. This is LHS's third consecutive sectional title and 24th overall.

Sectional Final results

#1 Singles Jordan Wildman (L) defeated Aden Thewes 6-2, 6-0

#2 Singles Jalen Wildman (L) defeated Ross Mehringer (NED) 6-2, 6-1

#3 Singles Bryant Eckerle (L) defeated Nick Hemmerlein (NED) 6-1, 6-0

#1 Doubles Tanner Hurt/Logan Lampert (NED) defeated Luke Nonte/Peyton Bledsoe 7-6 (6), 4-6, 6-2

#2 Doubles Rory Tippery/Drew Walker (L) Ty Kalb/Tucker Neukam (NED) 7-6 (4), 6-2

Last Thursday, the Lion boys defeated Barr-Reeve in the first round of sectional action, 3-2.

Sectional first round results

#1 Singles Jordan Wildman (L) defeated Kayden Graber 6-2, 6-0

#2 Singles Jalen Wildman (L) defeated Tommy Kidwell 6-4, 6-3

#3 Singles Brycen Graber (BR) defeated Bryant Eckerle 6-1, 7-6 (3)

#1 Doubles Luke Nonte/Peyton Bledsoe (L) defeated Logan Graber/Hagen Knepp 6-3, 6-0

#2 Doubles Donnie Miller/Ethan Stoll (BR) defeated Rory Tippery/Drew Walker 6-2, 7-6 (0)



LHS Beta Club donations

-Photos by Shelley Christmas

The Loogootee High School Beta Club donated the profits from their recent cookie dough sales fundraiser to the Martin County Humane Society and the Martin County Toy Store. Each group received \$2,350. The Beta Club decided to donate the funds due to their annual conference being cancelled this year, which was the purpose of raising the funds. Shown above, from left to right, are Beta Club members Jaelyn Walker and Reece Tippery, MCHS volunteer Courtney Hughett, and Beta Club members Wayden Wagoner and Kalea Fleming. Brandy Tippery and Audra McAttee are the Beta Club sponsors. Below are the same Beta Club members with Curt Johnson, with the Martin County Toy Store.



Lady Lions defeat Wood Memorial, compete in Warrick County Invitational

The Loogootee Varsity Volleyball team defeated Wood Memorial Monday in three sets, 25-7, 25-11, and 25-16. The girls stand at 21-5 on the season.

Grace Lingenfelter led the team in points with 16 and in digs with 16. Makenzie VanHoy led in assists with 21 and also had 12 points and seven kills. Jaelyn Walker finished with a team high eight kills while Haylie Mathies finished with six. Kylie VanHoy contributed nine assists and Asia Crim and Jocelyn Strange each had 10 digs.

The junior varsity also defeated Wood Memorial in two sets, 25-15 and 25-17. The JV record stands at 13-3.

Sydnee Wittmer led the team in points with 12 followed by Kyleigh Courter with 10. Courter also had a team-high 12 digs. Brooklyn Summers finished with

19 assists, 10 digs and six kills. Ashlynn Gilbert contributed eight kills and Madison McAttee and Mallorie Sutton had five each.

The varsity Lady Lions competed in the Warrick County Invitational the past Saturday. The girls defeated

Evansville Reitz in three sets, 19-25, 25-21, and 15-13 and Evansville Central in two sets, 25-7 and 25-15. They lost to Castle in two sets, 20-25 and 18-25 and to Floyd Central in two sets, 22-25 and 20-25.

Jocelyn Strange led the team with 26 points for the day followed by Grace Lingenfelter with 20. Kylie VanHoy finished with 24 kills and 27 assists. Makenzie VanHoy contributed 18 kills and 41 assists and 32 digs. Lingenfelter also had 20 digs.



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National unemployment edges down to 7.9 percent for September

Total nonfarm payroll employment rose by 661,000 in September, and the unemployment rate declined to 7.9 percent, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported last week. These improvements in the labor market reflect the continued resumption of economic activity that had been curtailed due to the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic and efforts to contain it. In September, notable job gains occurred in leisure and hospitality, in retail trade, in health care and social assistance, and in professional and business services. Employment in government declined over the month, mainly in state and local government education.

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

Household Survey Data

In September, the unemployment rate declined by 0.5 percentage point to 7.9 percent, and the number of unemployed persons fell by 1.0 million to 12.6 million. Both measures have declined for 5 consecutive months but are higher than in February, by 4.4 percentage points and 6.8 million, respectively.

Among the major worker groups, the unemployment rates declined in September for adult men (7.4 percent), adult women (7.7 percent), Whites (7.0 percent), and Asians (8.9 percent). The jobless rates for teenagers (15.9 percent), Blacks (12.1 percent), and Hispanics (10.3 percent) showed little change over the month.

Among the unemployed, the number of persons on temporary layoff decreased by 1.5 million in September to 4.6 million. This measure is down considerably from the high of 18.1 million in April but is 3.8 million higher than in February. In September, the number of permanent job losers increased by 345,000 to 3.8 million; this measure has risen by 2.5 million since February. The number of unemployed job leavers rose by 212,000 to 801,000 in September. (Job leavers are persons who quit or voluntarily left their previous job and immediately began looking for new employment.)

In September, the number of unemployed persons who were jobless less than 5 weeks increased by 271,000 to 2.6 million. The number of persons jobless 5 to 14 weeks decreased by 402,000 to 2.7 million, and the number of persons jobless 15 to 26 weeks fell by 1.6 million to 4.9 million. The number of long-term unemployed (those jobless for 27 weeks or more) increased by 781,000 to 2.4 million.

The labor force participation rate decreased by 0.3 percentage point to 61.4 percent in September and is 2.0 percentage points lower than in February. The employment-population ratio, at 56.6 percent, changed little over the month but is 4.5 percentage points lower than in February.

In September, the number of persons employed part time for economic reasons (sometimes referred to as involuntary part-time workers) declined by 1.3 million to 6.3 million, reflecting a decrease in the number of persons whose hours were cut due to slack work or business conditions. The number of involuntary part-time workers is 2.0 million higher than in February. These individuals, who would have preferred full-time employment, were working part time because their hours had been reduced or they were unable to find full-time jobs.

The number of persons not in the labor force who currently want a job, at 7.2 million, changed little in September; this measure is 2.3 million higher than

in February. These individuals were not counted as unemployed because they were not actively looking for work during the last 4 weeks or were unavailable to take a job.

Among those not in the labor force who currently want a job, the number of persons marginally attached to the labor force, at 1.9 million, changed little in September. These individuals were not in the labor force, wanted and were available for work, and had looked for a job sometime in the prior 12 months but had not looked for work in the 4 weeks preceding the survey. The number of discouraged workers, a subset of the marginally attached who believed that no jobs were available for them, was 581,000 in September, also little changed from the previous month.

Household Survey Supplemental Data In September, 22.7 percent of employed persons teleworked because of the coronavirus pandemic, down from 24.3 percent in August. These data refer to employed persons who teleworked or worked at home for pay at some point in the last 4 weeks specifically because of the pandemic.

In September, 19.4 million persons reported that they had been unable to work because their employer closed or lost business due to the pandemic—that is, they did not work at all or worked fewer hours at some point in the last 4 weeks due to the pandemic. This measure is down from 24.2 million in August. Among those who reported in September that they were unable to work because of pandemic-related closures or lost business, 10.3 percent received at least some pay from their employer for the hours not worked.

About 4.5 million persons not in the labor force in September were prevented from looking for work due to the pandemic. This is down from 5.2 million in August. (To be counted as unemployed, by definition, individuals must either be actively looking for work or on temporary layoff.)

These supplemental data come from questions added to the household survey beginning in May to help gauge the effects of the pandemic on the labor market. The data are not seasonally adjusted. Tables with estimates from the supplemental questions for all months are available online at www.bls.gov/cps/effects-of-the-coronavirus-covid-19-pandemic.htm.

Establishment Survey Data

Total nonfarm payroll employment rose by 661,000 in September, following larger gains in the prior 4 months. In September, nonfarm employment was below its February level by 10.7 million, or 7.0 percent. Notable job gains occurred in leisure and hospitality, in retail trade, in health care and social assistance, and in professional and business services. Employment declined in government, mainly in state and local government education.

Employment in leisure and hospitality increased by 318,000 in September, with almost two-thirds of the gain occurring in food services and drinking places (+200,000). Despite job growth totaling 3.8 million over the last 5 months, employment in food services and drinking places is down by 2.3 million since February. Amusements, gambling, and recreation (+69,000) and accommodation (+51,000) also added jobs in September.

Retail trade added 142,000 jobs over the month, with gains widespread in the industry. Clothing and clothing accessories stores (+40,000) accounted for about one-fourth of the over-the-month change in retail trade. Notable employment increases also occurred in general mer-

(See 'UNEMPLOYMENT' on page 10)



-- PRIORITIES --

Priorities are one of my favorite topics. That and how we need focus in our lives. Focus helps to define what is important to you. Your priorities will play a major role for your focus in your life.

-- BROAD, SPECIFIC --

Your priorities can define the context of how you live or help define the order or importance of choices before you. I have always tried to keep to five broad priorities before looking at the more specific ones. My five, in order, are God, family, others, myself and work. It's always amazed me how, that by focusing on the higher priorities, the lower ones (though not at all insignificant) tend to take care of themselves.

-- PASSION --

You may share priorities with others. You may have your very own. They are your framework; they, at times, are your passion. A priority without passion often loses importance and lessens the likelihood of success.

-- OUR LOCAL BANDS --

I'm sure that most of you have seen and heard our local high school bands in action. It's wonderful to see the passion in those students and the band directors. They are there because they want to be there. They have a passion for making music and boosting up the energy level at an event. It's a priority for them, a priority

that can fall under any of those broad ones I mentioned earlier, depending upon why the students are there and doing what they do.

-- COVID IMPACTS --

This year is making it hard on our bands to enjoy their passion and they're looking for ways to continue making the music and spreading the joy. Based on some Emergency Relief Fund grant applications from the Loogootee and Shoals high schools, the MCCF Board approved special grants to the bands at both schools for online learning, assessment and concerts.

The Shoals High School band was awarded \$1,950 with Duke Energy providing an additional \$1,500 towards the project. And the Loogootee High School band received a \$3,568 grant for the efforts. The MCCF is happy to be able to help keep the passion alive in our band students.

-- MORE INFORMATION --

For more information about the MCCF and how we can help you with your giving priorities, please contact the MCCF Director, Curt Johnson, at 812-295-1022 or mccf@cfpartner.org.

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



Pictured left to right are Chris Walker (LHS Principal), Dan Gregory (MCCF Board member), Amy Hamm (LHS Band Teacher), Lisa Starr (CFP Grants Officer), and Curt Johnson (MCCF Director).



Picture left to right are Lisa Starr (CFP Grants Officer), Joel Weitkamp (SHS Band Director) receiving the \$1,950 grant, and Dr. Candace Roush (SHS Superintendent).

ATTENTION: MEDICARE RECIPIENTS

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UNEMPLOYMENT

(Continued from page 9)
 chandise stores (+20,000), motor vehicle and parts dealers (+16,000), and health and personal care stores (+16,000). Employment in retail trade is 483,000 lower than in February.

Employment in health care and social assistance rose by 108,000 in September but is down by 1.0 million since February. Health care added 53,000 jobs in September, with continued growth in offices of physicians (+18,000), home health care services (+16,000), and offices of other health practitioners (+14,000). Social assistance added 55,000 jobs, mostly in individual and family services (+32,000) and in child day care services (+18,000).

Professional and business services added 89,000 jobs in September. Employment increased in services to buildings and dwellings (+22,000), architectural and engineering services (+13,000), and computer systems design and related services (+12,000). Despite gains of 910,000 since April, employment in professional and business services is 1.4 million lower than in February.

Employment in transportation and warehousing rose by 74,000 in September. Within the industry, job gains continued in warehousing and storage (+32,000), transit and ground passenger transportation (+21,000), and couriers and messengers (+10,000). Although the industry has added 291,000 jobs since May, employment in transportation and warehousing is 304,000 lower than in February.

Manufacturing added 66,000 jobs over the month. Durable goods accounted for about two-thirds of the gain, led by motor vehicles and parts (+14,000) and machinery (+14,000). Despite gains over the past 5 months, employment in manufacturing is 647,000 below February's level.

Financial activities added 37,000 jobs in September. Job growth occurred in real estate and rental and leasing (+20,000) and in finance and insurance (+16,000). Employment in financial activities is 162,000 below the level in February.

In September, the other services industry added 36,000 jobs, largely in membership associations and organizations (+31,000). Employment in other services is 495,000 lower than in February.

Employment in information grew by 27,000 in September but is down by 276,000 since February. Motion picture and sound recording industries accounted for most of the September gain (+23,000).

Construction employment increased by 26,000 in September, with growth in residential specialty trade contractors (+16,000) and construction of buildings (+12,000). Construction employment is below its February level by 394,000.

In September, wholesale trade added 19,000 jobs, with gains in both the durable and nondurable goods components (+13,000 and +8,000, respectively). Employment in wholesale trade is 312,000 lower than in February.

Government employment declined by 216,000 in September. Employment in local government education and state government education fell by 231,000 and 49,000, respectively. A decrease of 34,000 in federal government was driven by a decline in the number of temporary Census 2020 workers. Partially offsetting these declines, employment in local government, excluding education, rose by 96,000.

Employment in private education decreased by 69,000 in September, after a gain of similar magnitude in August. Employment in the industry is down by 355,000 since February.

Employment changed little in mining in September (+1,000). Employment in the industry is down by 133,000 since a recent peak in January 2019; about three-fourths of this decline has occurred since February of this year.

In September, average hourly earnings for all employees on private nonfarm payrolls, at \$29.47, changed little (+2 cents). Average hourly earnings of private-sector production and nonsupervisory employees were also little changed in September (+1 cent) at \$24.79. The large employment fluctuations over the past several months--especially in industries with lower-paid workers--complicate the analysis of recent trends in average hourly earnings.

The average workweek for all employees on private nonfarm payrolls rose by 0.1 hour to 34.7 hours in September. In manufacturing, the workweek rose by 0.2 hour to 40.2 hours, and overtime decreased by 0.1 hour to 2.9 hours. The average workweek for production and nonsupervisory employees on private nonfarm payrolls rose by 0.1 hour to 34.1 hours.

The change in total nonfarm payroll employment for July was revised up by 27,000, from +1,734,000 to +1,761,000, and the change for August was revised up by 118,000, from +1,371,000 to +1,489,000. With these revisions, employment in July and August combined was 145,000 more than previously reported.

West Nile virus found in Dubois County

The Dubois County Health Department is reminding residents to stay vigilant in protecting themselves from West Nile virus and other mosquito-borne diseases. A sample of mosquitoes has recently tested positive for West Nile virus in Dubois County.

The Dubois County Health Department encourages everyone in the county to protect themselves from being bitten by mosquitoes by following these simple steps: apply insect repellent containing DEET to clothes and exposed skin; wear light colored clothing; Avoid wet, highly vegetative areas where mosquitoes live; and avoid being outdoors during prime mosquito biting times, dusk to dawn, when possible.

Some simple steps to prevent mosquitoes from breeding are as follows.

- Eliminate areas of standing water on your property
- Repair failing septic systems.

- Remove any containers that will hold water.

- Clean your clogged gutters.
- Keep grass cut short and shrubbery trimmed. Tall vegetation is an excellent harborage area for mosquitoes.

- Keep swimming pools chlorinated and clean.

The basic rule is; if water lasts more than four days mosquitoes can reproduce. Even a small bucket can produce up to 1,000 mosquitoes in just a few days.

Some symptoms of West Nile virus are high fever, severe headache, stiff neck, muscle weakness or paralysis, nausea, vomiting, and confusion.

West Nile virus can also infect domestic animals like horses. The virus is very serious and often fatal in horses. It is very important to contact your veterinarian to get your horse immunized if you haven't already.

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