

Martin County JOURNAL

Year 14, Issue 42

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2023

Nine pages

Loogootee Council changes public comment rules for meetings

BY COURTNEY HUGHETT
Martin County Journal Publisher

The Loogootee City Council confused audience members at their meeting Monday night, October 16 by changing the rules on what can be discussed at the meetings. According to Mayor Noel Harty, City Attorney Arianna Wright quit, and they have asked Dave Lett to stand in as city attorney for the rest of the year. When asking for public comment, the mayor noted that it must only pertain to items on the agenda.

Brian Ader, who was in the audience, asked why it was only items on the agenda. The mayor started to explain and then asked Attorney Lett to do so. Lett said in order to have organized meetings, they need to know in advance of what public issues will be coming to the council. He said this allows the council the ability to have an answer or response to those issues.

Ader said he respects what the attorney is saying but it would have been nice to know this in advance because some people come to the meetings to ask questions on past projects, etc.

Lett said this is his first meeting and he was asked to try and create more order with city council meetings.

A member of the audience asked how one would get on the agenda. The mayor

replied that they can call the mayor's office prior to each meeting. Attorney Lett said it should be in writing.

Jason Tinkle, from the audience, asked why any ongoing issues could not be brought up. The mayor replied that they are not on the agenda. Mayor Harty said this is how the county runs their meetings.

Tinkle said he has been to county meetings, and they do allow discussion on things that have come up in the past. He said he understands if it were new business being brought up.

Council Member Nolley asked if they should establish a deadline for people to get on the agenda. The mayor said the deadline would be the Friday by noon before the Monday meeting.

The mayor had passed out papers listing the new "Rules of Decorum" for the city council meetings, prior to the meeting. It stated that anyone wishing to address the city council must be recognized by the presiding officer, state their name and address, speak from the podium in a civil, non-argumentative and respectful manner; comments are limited to two or three minutes and speakers should speak into the microphone and speak clearly. The rules also stated that if a group wishes to address the council on the same subject, the presiding officer may ask that a spokesperson be chosen by the group.

In other business, Council Member Teresa Nolley asked why the city hired Midwestern Engineers to do the survey of the city property where the pickleball courts are planned. She said she thought they were asking the county surveyor to do it. Mayor Harty said the county surveyor wouldn't do it and "time was of the essence." Nolley noted that the \$3,000 was a lot of money for the survey.

Police Chief Kyle Long requested the city approve the purchase of a new police vehicle for \$44,000. Long said they recently purchased one vehicle that is now in service and the other one, that was ordered a year ago, is now in. He said the price will go up by a few thousand dollars next year if they do not purchase this one. He also noted that it may be 2025 before they can get another one.

It was mentioned that the police department only had one car in their budget for this year and that one had already been purchased. Council Member Tim Lawrence asked if they could pay for the car next year since the 2024 budget allows for a vehicle purchase. Mayor Harty said they can, but that will come with around \$1,000 in interest.

Clerk-Treasurer Roger Downey said there is \$531,000 in the LOIT (Local Option Income Tax) budget currently however the city has been overspending on that line item, spending much more than they are taking in.

Chief Long told the council that if they agreed to buy this car, he would give the fire department one of the old vehicles since they were going to request a new vehicle as well.

Clerk-Treasurer Downey said he doesn't understand why two vehicles were ordered when only one was approved. He also noted there are other places where a vehicle can be purchased. Long replied that they are purchasing a Ford vehicle which is cheaper. He said a Dodge Durango would cost around \$50,000.

Council Member Carroll Rayhill then
(See 'COUNCIL' on page 2)

Commissioners get road crew update, approve ambulance billing resolutions

BY COURTNEY HUGHETT
Martin County Journal Publisher

The Martin County Commissioners held a quick 15-minute meeting Tuesday night, October 17.

Commissioner Paul George read an update from community corrections road crew. The report stated that the road crew started back up in June and will run through October. So far, they have had 58 clients in road crew and 14 have completed their hours. The road crew has picked up 420 bags of garbage and other debris not bagged for a total of 19,420 pounds.

Highway Superintendent Scott Seals reported they have a truck and Gradall down and he is still negotiating for the excavator with tires. He said they plan to start some bridge work in Lost River Township at the end of this week or the start of next week, depending on the weather. County Attorney Dave Lett was

Shoals Adult Boosters to host Fall Festival

The Shoals Jug Rox Adult Booster Club will host their annual Fall Festival on Saturday, October 28 from 5 to 8 p.m. Admission is \$2 or free if wearing a costume.

This year's events and activities include games and inflatables and a haunted house, sponsored by the Shoals Junior Class, from 5-8 p.m.; a costume contest at 6 p.m.; king and queen ceremony at 7 p.m.; silent gift basket auction at 7:30 p.m.; and kids door prizes (must be present to win) at 7:45 p.m.

Many door prizes, donated by local businesses, will be raffled off throughout the evening.

Costume categories for all ages are funniest, most original, scariest, best costume, and best group. Age divisions are as follows: 0-11 months, 1-3 years, preschool-kindergarten, 1st-3rd grade, 4th-6th grade and 7th grade-adult.

This year, J & J will be bringing their food truck so there will be plenty of food options.

Board approves Dollar General rezoning

BY COURTNEY HUGHETT
Martin County Journal Publisher

The Loogootee Zoning Board met Monday, October 16 to vote on whether to allow Dollar General to rezone 302 West Williams Street (formerly The Lodge Restaurant) from a business 1 to a business 2, which is required for the level of retail the store would have.

Property owners connected to the location were notified by certified letter. No property owners or general public spoke out for or against the project.

Dollar General plans to build a 12,480-square-foot store with a minimum of 40 parking spaces. They plan to expand Williams Street by 10 feet at the intersection of Highway 231, on the Dollar General side to accommodate the increased traffic. Building Commissioner Justin Davis said they are in talks with the engineers to see if the same can be done on the other side of Williams Street.

The zoning board unanimously approved the rezoning.



-Photo by Kerry Cooper

Shown above are the Lady Lion Sectional Champs 2024. In the first row, from left to right, are Phil Goodpaster, Alana Hedrick, Ashlynn Gilbert, Madison Ramsey, Abbi Nonte, Sydnee Wittmer, and Mya Hedrick. In the back row are Jocelynn Strange, Leslie Summers, Brock Rayhill, Alaina Diamond, Macy Knepp, Jocelynn Sims, Cora Consley, Addy Lengacher, Ashley Green, Cacia Wilcoxon, Ava Fuhrman, Breanna Courter, Gabe Nolley, Ella Parker and Hailey Cummins.

Lady Lions win sectional title

The Loogootee Varsity Volleyball Team won Sectional 63 on Saturday, by defeating Springs Valley in four sets, 12-25, 25-17, 25-22, and 25-22. They defeated Orleans in three sets, 25-10, 25-17, and 25-21 to advance to the final. The girls move on to regional action this Saturday at home, against Trinity Lutheran. The game starts at 10 a.m. The varsity record stands at 21-7.

In the sectional final match, Cacia Wilcoxon led the team in serving points with 11 and had two aces, seven kills, and three blocks. Addy Lengacher contributed 10 serving points and 17 assists with Breanna Courter having nine serving points and four aces and six kills and 17 digs.

Sydnee Wittmer finished with two aces, 19 assists and 18 digs. Madison Ramsey led in kills with 10 and had six blocks. Ashlynn Gilbert finished with six kills and two blocks. Jocelynn Sims added 10 digs.

In the first round against Orleans, Sydnee Wittmer led the Lady Lions in serving points with 19 including 10 aces and had 19 assists and seven digs. Madison Ramsey finished with three aces, 11 kills and one block. Breanna Courter led in digs with 13 and also had 10 serving points. Addy Lengacher contributed 15 assists and six kills. Cacia Wilcoxon had six kills and one block. Alana Hedrick and Macy Knepp each finished with seven digs. Ashlynn Gilbert had nine serving points.



City of Loogootee Election
Preview with Candidate
Q&A in next week's
Martin County Journal

COUNCIL

(Continued from page one)
made a motion to purchase the police car with Council Member Ron Gilbert making the second. The motion was voted down 3-2.

Council Member Lawrence said he would prefer to pay the interest and allow the money to come out of the 2024 budget since they put funds in for a new vehicle. He made a motion to that effect seconded by Council Member Nolley. The council unanimously approved.

Long also requested the council approve a new RMS (Records Management System). He said the system would keep track of reports, databases and evidence. The cost is \$3,680 a year to maintain. The mayor told Long he should meet with the clerk-treasurer prior to next month's meeting to see where the money could come from in his budget.

City Superintendent Bo Wilson told the council that the aerator at the water treatment plant has iron build up. He said

it's been 21 years since it was removed and cleaned. He provided two quotes, one from Lane for \$20,100 and the other from National Water Servicing for \$20,630. The council approved the Lane quote.

Wilson also requested the council consider allowing him to purchase pallets of radio read water meters. He said they have purchased 900 meters over the last several years and with 1,400 water customers, they need 500 more. He said by the time they get full coverage on the radio read meters they are going to have some purchased several years ago that need replacing. He said there are 144 meters per pallet. One pallet would cost \$40,320 and two pallets would cost \$79,200. He requested the council agree to buy one pallet now and another in six months. He said buying by the pallet saves around \$10,000 as opposed to buying a box of six. The council did not make a decision on the purchase.

Tim Salsman, who was on the agenda, told the council that the former city attorney told him that if Summerfest is allowed on the square, then the Pride Festival should be given the same respect. He said the organizers of the Pride Festival expressed previously that they would be fine with using the new pavilion at the railroad property on Church Street/JFK Avenue, if it was done but they prefer to be downtown, not at the city park. He then made a new request to hold the 2024 Pride Festival on September 7. He said they have decided it would be better to hold a fall festival which would not be in competition with the Summerfest and Catfish Festival. He requested the city allow the festival to be held on the downtown square, which would include closing the roads around that area. He

also asked to borrow the city's stage if the Pride committee cannot acquire their own.

Attorney Lett said the city council adopted a resolution prohibiting any events other than Summerfest from being on the square. He said the Pride committee was offered the pavilion or the city park.

Salsman said in his conversations with the ACLU (American Civil Liberties Union), they told him that if Summerfest is allowed on the square then the city has to allow everyone the same opportunity.

Lett said he doesn't agree with what Salsman was told. He said the council voted and if they want to change that, then they can do so but the city has the ability to hold their own event where they want.

Council Member Nolley said the September 7 request is something new. She said she would like to see it in writing before the council votes on it. She also requested to see a copy of the resolution that was approved a few months back, that allows only the Summerfest on the square.

Clerk-Treasurer Downey said the resolution wasn't included in that month's minutes because he was not provided a copy. The resolution was read from Council Member Rayhill's cell phone

during the meeting, and no one received a copy.

Nolley said she would like to read the resolution because she thought it was only preventing the closure of streets around the square. Salsman said what was read said nothing about street closures only who is allowed to have events on the square.

Nolley said she wasn't ready to vote on anything at that meeting, she just wanted to see a copy of the resolution.

The mayor asked the council if they were all in agreement that there would be no vote on the matter at that meeting. One of the council members said they already voted on it. The mayor told Salsman there would be no vote that evening.

Prior to the adjournment of the meeting, a resident in the audience expressed disappointment in the standing water issue at Green Acres taking so long to resolve. He said it has been three years and the city is dragging their feet. The mayor asked Matt Clarke, with Midwestern Engineers, who was in the audience, to get a report on the progress at Green Acres. The resident also brought up issues with three areas of the city where the road is collapsing. Superintendent Wilson asked the resident to call his office and give locations of those areas.

You are invited to a

90th Birthday Party for Bonnie Jean Dye

Sunday, November 5

2-4 p.m.

at the Loogootee United Methodist Church

If you cannot attend, we are having a card shower in her honor as well, please mail it to:

Bonnie Jean Dye

108 Hill St, Loogootee, IN 47553



New restaurant in Shoals -Photo provided
Casa Sevilla, a Mexican restaurant, opened in Shoals, at 228 Main Street, last week. A ribbon cutting ceremony was held. Shown above, from left to right, are Cody Roush, President of Martin County Alliance; Yuliana Castareda, employee of Casa Sevilla; Roman Villadenor, Casa Sevilla owner; Cary Albright, Shoals Town Council President; Sierra Rutledge, Shoals Clerk-Treasurer; and Jessica Potts, Director of Martin County Alliance

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OBITUARIES

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MARTIN COUNTY JOURNAL

Wednesday, October 18, 2023

KELLY RIGGINS

Max Kelly Riggins began a new season with the Lord on October 12, 2023. A resident of Loogootee, he was 95.



He was born June 13, 1928, in Daviess County; son of Russell and Maude Riggins. He was married to Mary Rosalie (Beasley) for 64 years before her passing in 2018.

Kelly was a loving husband, father, grandfather, great-grandfather, brother and uncle. He was a member of St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church in Loogootee after being a long-standing and active member in St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Bramble, before its closing. Even though they lost their original home and barn to a tornado in 2005, Kelly and Rosalie lived on the same small, family farm, located north of Bramble, since 1957. Just down the road, Kelly was one of the founding-members of the Bramble Conservation Club.

After serving in the Army during the Korean War era, Kelly worked at NSWC Crane for 37 years serving on the fire department and then in the water and sewer operations, becoming the superintendent of those operations the last several years of his career. He retired from Crane in 1986 but then very much enjoyed his 37 years of retirement.

Kelly loved quail and deer hunting, fishing, pitching fast-pitch softball until the age of 47, playing euchre and bingo with Rosalie at various venues, sitting on

his back porch watching the purple martins, following his kids and grandkids in all of their sporting events, and later in life became an unbeatable rummy player. For many years he raised and trained English pointers for quail hunting. There were very few farms in Martin and Daviess County with which he was not familiar, and he knew exactly where every covey of quail could be found. Kelly was an amazing shot with his shotgun and rifle, shooting many clay pigeons over at the Epsom Gun Club and dimes out of the air with his old .22.

Kelly leaves behind his son, Mark of Murray, Kentucky; daughter, Diane (John) Vaupel of Bramble; and son, Jim (Lisa) of Bloomington; five grandchildren, Chelsea Riggins (Mark), Andrea (Nick) Wilmes and Ryan (Kaylyn) Vaupel (Diane), Ben (Hanna) Riggins and Clay (Aubrey) Riggins (Jim); two great-grandchildren, Grace and Cooper Riggins (Ben); one brother, Roger (Karin) Riggins of Arvada, Colorado; and one sister in law, Liz (Terry) Bordenet of Lafayette.

He is preceded in death by his wife, Rosalie; parents, four brothers and one sister, his granddaughter, Mallory Riggins (Jim); and his daughter-in-law, Tammie Riggins (Mark).

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated by the Very Rev. J. Kenneth Walker on Tuesday, October 17 at St. Joseph Catholic Church in Bramble. A burial followed in the church cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be sent to St. Joseph, Bramble Cemetery Fund (St. John the Evangelist, 408 Church St, Loogootee, Indiana 47553); Ragsville Cemetery Fund (9977 North Cross Street, Odon, Indiana 47562); or

Ketcham Memorial Center for Dementia Care (601 East Race Street, Odon, IN 47562)

Condolences may be made online at www.blakefuneralhomes.com

Blake Funeral Home in Loogootee is honored to serve the family of Max Kelly Riggins.

MARY JANE CARRICO

Mary Jane Carrico passed away at 2 p.m. Friday, October 13, 2023, at The Legends Village. A resident of Loogootee, she was 79.

She was born November 1, 1943, in Loogootee; daughter of the late Edgar McGuire and Elsie (Reese) Ward.

Jane loved to sew and could often be found working in her sewing room.

She was preceded in death by her husband, George W. Carrico Jr.; parents, Edgar McGuire and Esle Ward; and siblings, Rick McGuire, Bob (Mary Rose) McGuire and Kenny (Ethel) McGuire.

Jane is survived by her children, Bill (Michelle) Carrico and Sheila Chambers, both of Loogootee; grandchildren, Cody and Kaitlin Carrico and Stephanie (Zak) Greene; great-grandchildren, Zoe Greene and Sidney Green; and sister-in-law, Jackie McGuire.

Jane wished to be cremated and no services will be held.

Condolences can be made online at www.blakefuneralhomes.com.

Blake Funeral Home in Loogootee is honored to serve the family of Mary Jane Carrico.

COMMISSIONERS

(Continued from page one)

brakes on Wednesday and the ambulance service is fully staffed.

Attorney Lett presented two resolutions pertaining to the ambulance service billing county entities. The first resolution waived the collection of fees for medical transport for Martin County inmates (not to include out-of-county inmates) and the second waived the collection of fees for transport services at the direction of the Martin County Coroner. Commissioner George said the way he sees it is the ambulance service is billing the county offices so it's "taking from one pocket in Martin County and paying it to another pocket". Commissioner Cody Roush added that the company that handles the billing for the ambulance service is also getting a percentage of those paid bills. Commissioner George asked Ambulance

Director Osborn to still keep track of the runs associated with the two departments so the county council will know what extra is being done in case the ambulance service would need to request more money for fuel at the end of the year.

Osborn asked how the ambulance service is supposed to know if an inmate they are transporting is from Martin County or Vigo County. Commissioner Roush said the sheriff's department should know that right away when the inmate is being picked up. Attorney Lett said there will just have to be communication between the ambulance service and the sheriff's department. He added that billing would not be done at the time of pickup anyway. The commissioners approved both resolutions.

The next commissioners' meeting is Tuesday, October 31 at 5:30 p.m.

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Martin County Sheriff's Department log

MONDAY, OCTOBER 9

8:31 a.m. - Received a call requesting to speak with an officer in Shoals. Captain Gibson responded.

11:41 a.m. - Received a 911 call reporting a reckless driver traveling north on US 231 South. Loogootee Chief Long and Loogootee Captain Rayhill responded.

4:02 p.m. - Received a call requesting a vehicle identification number check east of Shoals. Deputy Shields responded.

4:40 p.m. - Received a call reporting an animal problem southeast of Shoals. South Region Dispatch was notified.

5:04 p.m. - Received a 911 call reporting an accident north of Loogootee. Loogootee Officer Wagoner, Deputy Shields, Loogootee Fire Department, Crane Fire Department, Martin County Medic 1, and Big John's Towing responded. Medic 1 transported one patient to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

5:04 p.m. - Received multiple 911 calls reporting accident on Highway 231 North, north of Loogootee.

5:42 p.m. - Received a 911 call reporting a piece of farm equipment on fire southwest of Shoals. Lost River Fire Department and Deputy Shields responded.

7:06 p.m. - Received a 911 call reporting a vehicle parked in the roadway south of Shoals. Deputy Shields, Lost River Fire Department, and Indiana Conservation Officer Fuhrman responded.

7:36 p.m. - Received a call reporting a piece of farm equipment had hit a power line south of Loogootee. Loogootee Officer Wagoner, Deputy Shields and Corporal Hawkins responded. REMC was also notified.

8:17 p.m. - Received a 911 call from a Daviess County address. Transferred call to Daviess County 911.

9:34 p.m. - Received a report of a suspicious vehicle in Loogootee. Loogootee Officer Wagoner responded.

9:42 p.m. - Received a 911 call reporting a possible break in, in Loogootee. Loogootee Officer Wagoner responded.

11:51 p.m. - Received a call reporting a verbal dispute in Loogootee. Loogootee Officer Wagoner, Major Reed and Deputy Doane responded.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 10

5:52 a.m. - Received a 911 call from a Greene County address. Transferred call to Greene County 911.

8:45 a.m. - Received a call requesting assistance for funeral detail today. Captain Gibson and Corporal Hawkins responded.

9:44 a.m. - Deputy Shields transported three inmates to court.

10:05 a.m. - Received a call requesting a vehicle identification number check northeast of Shoals. Corporal Hawkins responded.

11:02 a.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Medic 1, Loogootee Fire Department and Loogootee Captain Rayhill responded. Medic 1 transported one patient to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

11:27 a.m. - Received a report of a fire alarm in Loogootee. Loogootee Fire Department, Martin County Medic 2, Captain Gibson, and Corporal Hawkins responded. No transport was needed.

2:30 p.m. - Received a 911 call reporting a possible verbal dispute northeast of Shoals. Captain Gibson and Corporal Hawkins responded.

2:36 p.m. - Received a 911 call reporting an accident west of Shoals. Martin County Medic 1, Chief Deputy Keller, Shoals Fire Department and Big John's Towing responded. No transport was needed.

2:46 p.m. - Received a call requesting an officer northeast of Shoals. Captain Gibson and Corporal Hawkins responded.

2:56 p.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance in Shoals. Martin County Medic 1 and Shoals Fire Department responded. Medic 1 transported one patient to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

2:58 p.m. - Received a call reporting a verbal dispute east of Shoals. Captain Gibson and Corporal Hawkins responded.

3:25 p.m. - Received a call reporting a suspicious vehicle northeast of Shoals. Captain Gibson and Corporal Hawkins responded.

4:58 p.m. - Received a call requesting a vehicle unlock east of Shoals. Captain Gibson responded.

5:22 p.m. - Received a call reporting a possible domestic dispute northeast of Shoals. Captain Gibson responded.

6:10 p.m. - Received a call reporting a physical altercation in Shoals. Martin County Medic 1, Chief Deputy Keller, ISP Trooper Watson, Corporal Hawkins, Loogootee Officer Wagoner and Shoals Fire Department responded. Medic 1 transported one patient to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

6:46 p.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Medic 2 and Loogootee Fire Department responded.

9:04 p.m. - Received a call reporting a suspicious vehicle in Shoals. Deputy Doane responded.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 11

1:03 a.m. - Received a call from AT&T advising of a 911 service outage that could impact the area.

4:39 a.m. - Received a call from AT&T advising the outage has been resolved.

10:15 a.m. - Received a call reporting a suspicious vehicle east of Shoals. Chief Deputy Keller responded.

12:42 p.m. - Received a call reporting a suspicious vehicle in Shoals. Captain Gibson responded.

3:00 p.m. - Received a 911 call reporting an accident with no injuries in Loogootee. Loogootee Captain Rayhill responded.

3:40 p.m. - Received an animal complaint in Crane Village. Animal Control Deputy Hughett was notified.

4:09 p.m. - Received a call requesting to speak with an officer in Shoals. Captain Gibson responded.

4:53 p.m. - Received a call requesting to speak with a conservation officer. Indiana Conservation Officer Mann was notified.

6:49 p.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Medic 1, Loogootee Fire Department and Loogootee Officer Sims responded. Medic 1 transported one patient to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

7:15 p.m. - Received a call reporting a suspicious vehicle northeast of Shoals. Captain Gibson responded.

8:57 p.m. - Received a call reporting a suspicious vehicle in Loogootee. Loogootee Officer Sims responded.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 12

6:48 a.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance north of Loogootee. Martin County Medic 1 responded and transported one patient to IU Health Bloomington.

9:03 a.m. - Transport Officer Johnson transported one inmate to court.

9:06 a.m. - Corporal Hawkins transported one inmate to court.

10:58 a.m. - Received a call requesting a vehicle identification number check east of Shoals. Sergeant Wells responded.

3:05 p.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Medic 1 responded and transported one patient to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

3:50 p.m. - Received a call from Life Alert advising of a fall detection south of

Shoals. They called back and advised to disregard.

3:55 p.m. - Received a 911 call from a Daviess County address. Transferred call to Daviess County 911.

4:40 p.m. - Received an animal complaint in Crane Village. Sergeant Wells responded. Animal Control Deputy Hughett was also notified.

5:15 p.m. - Received a call about a water problem in Loogootee. Notified Loogootee Water Department.

8:26 p.m. - Received a call reporting a reckless driver in Loogootee. Loogootee Officer Sims responded.

8:30 p.m. - Received a call requesting to speak with an officer in Loogootee. Loogootee Officer Sims responded.

9:15 p.m. - Received a call reporting a suspicious vehicle in Loogootee. Loogootee Officer Sims responded.

9:43 p.m. - Received a 911 call reporting an accident northeast of Shoals. Martin County Medic 1, Sergeant Wells, Martin County Civil Defense, and Indian Creek Fire Department responded. No one was transported.

9:44 p.m. - Received a 911 call reporting the same accident northeast of Shoals. Advised caller units were enroute.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 13

6:13 a.m. - Received a call reporting an accident with no injuries north of Shoals. Deputy Shields and Big John's Towing responded.

7:01 a.m. - Received a 911 call reporting a car-deer accident in Loogootee. Loogootee Captain Rayhill and Big John's Towing responded.

8:48 a.m. - Sergeant Wells transported one inmate to court.

9:32 a.m. - Sergeant Wells transported two inmates to court.

11:25 a.m. - Received a call requesting to speak with an officer southeast of Loogootee. Deputy Doane responded.

12:35 p.m. - Received a call reporting a reckless driver on US 231 South, heading south. Notified Dubois County.

1:09 p.m. - Received a call reporting a reckless driver north of Shoals. Deputy Doane responded.

1:55 p.m. - Received a call reporting a reckless driver on US 50, heading west. Loogootee Captain Rayhill responded.

2:24 p.m. - Received a call reporting a possible theft east of Loogootee. Deputy Doane responded.

2:24 p.m. - Received a call reporting possible harassment in Shoals. Chief Deputy Keller responded.

5:02 p.m. - Received a call reporting a brush fire northeast of Shoals. Sergeant Wells and Shoals Fire Department responded.

7:00 p.m. - Received a call requesting a building unlock for a meeting in Loogootee. Loogootee Officer Wagoner responded.

7:09 p.m. - Received a call from Area 1 Protection advising of a commercial burglar alarm in Loogootee. Keyholder was notified and advised to disregard.

8:16 p.m. - Received a call requesting an officer in Loogootee. Loogootee Officer Wagoner responded.

9:53 p.m. - Received a call reporting an accident with no injuries northeast of Loogootee. Deputy Shields, Loogootee Officer Wagoner and Big John's Towing responded.

10:02 p.m. - Received a 911 call from a Greene County address. Transferred call to Greene County 911.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 14

1:37 a.m. - Received a 911 call reporting possible harassment in Loogootee. Loogootee Officer Wagoner responded.

8:53 a.m. - Received a call from Jas-

per City Police advising of a stolen vehicle that could be heading toward Martin County. Advised all on duty units.

9:01 a.m. - Received a 911 call from a Daviess County address. Transferred call to Daviess County 911.

9:33 a.m. - Received a call reporting a traffic hazard south of Shoals. Sergeant Wells responded. The county highway department was also notified.

10:16 a.m. - Received an animal complaint in Loogootee. Animal Control Deputy Hughett was notified. Loogootee Dispatch was also advised.

10:49 a.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance south of Loogootee. Martin County Medic 1 responded and transported one patient to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

12:10 p.m. - Received multiple calls reporting a disabled vehicle in Loogootee. Loogootee Officer Davis, Sergeant Wells and Big John's Towing responded.

1:42 p.m. - Received a call reporting a vehicle fire in Shoals. Shoals Fire Department responded.

3:51 p.m. - Received a call reporting a traffic hazard south of Shoals. Martin County Highway Department was notified.

4:08 p.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance north of Loogootee. Martin County Medic 1, Loogootee Fire Department and Loogootee Officer Davis responded.

4:30 p.m. - Received a call reporting a deer in the roadway north of Loogootee. Sergeant Wells responded.

6:43 p.m. - Received a call reporting a cow in the roadway southeast of Loogootee. Owner was notified.

7:32 p.m. - Received a call advising of a car-deer accident south of Loogootee. Deputy Doane responded.

8:31 p.m. - Received a call requesting an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Medic 1, Loogootee Officer Wagoner, Deputy Shields, Loogootee Fire and Martin County Coroner responded.

9:09 p.m. - Received a report of an accident with no injuries in Loogootee. Loogootee Chief Long responded.

9:35 p.m. - Received a call reporting a disorderly subject in Crane. Deputy Shields responded.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 15

2:11 a.m. - Received a call requesting an officer in Loogootee. Loogootee Officer Wagoner and Deputy Shields responded.

10:26 a.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance north of Loogootee. Martin County Medic 1, Loogootee Fire Department and Sergeant Wells responded. Medic 1 transported one patient to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

11:12 a.m. - Received a call reporting a reckless driver in Loogootee. Loogootee Officer Davis responded.

2:19 p.m. - Received a call requesting an officer in Shoals. Captain Gibson responded.

4:50 p.m. - Received a 911 call reporting a possible domestic dispute north of Loogootee. Loogootee Officer Davis, Captain Gibson and Deputy Doane responded.

5:13 p.m. - Received an animal complaint in Loogootee. Loogootee Dispatch was notified.

6:29 p.m. - Received a call requesting to speak with an officer in Loogootee. Loogootee Officer Wagoner responded.

7:21 p.m. - Received a call reporting a possible reckless driver in Loogootee. Loogootee Officer Wagoner responded.

7:58 p.m. - Received a 911 call reporting an aggressive driver traveling north on US 231. Loogootee Officer Wagoner, Major Reed and Deputy Doane responded.

COURT NEWS

CRIMINAL CHARGES DISMISSED October 4

Harmony K. Pemberton, possession of marijuana, a Class B Misdemeanor, dismissed; illegal consumption of an alcoholic beverage, a Class C Misdemeanor, dismissed.

Christopher S. Rector, use of private land without consent, a Class C Misdemeanor, dismissed.

Caleb C. Shumaker, operating a motor vehicle without ever receiving a license, a Class C Misdemeanor, dismissed.

Nicholas A. Shult, invasion of privacy, a Class A Misdemeanor, dismissed.

Ricky Lamar Stigger, driving while suspended, a Class A Misdemeanor, dismissed.

Phillip W. Rutledge, driving while suspended, a Class A Misdemeanor, dismissed.

October 5

Caleb H. Truelove, domestic battery committed in the presence of a child less than 16 years old, a Level 6 Felony, dismissed; possession of methamphetamine, a Level 6 Felony, dismissed; possession of a controlled substance, a Class A Misdemeanor, dismissed; criminal mischief, a Class A Misdemeanor, dismissed; invasion of privacy, a Class A Misdemeanor, dismissed.

CIVIL COURT New Suits Filed October 6

Portfolio Recovery Associates, LLC vs. Daniel Cox, civil collection.

Portfolio Recovery Associates, LLC vs. Janna Back, civil collection.

ARRESTS

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 12

1:32 p.m. - Brian Sinnott, 19, of Loogootee, was arrested by ISP Master Trooper Lents and charged with resisting arrest and disorderly conduct. He is being held without bond.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 14

1:43 a.m. - Hannah Flynn, 37, of Loogootee, was arrested by Loogootee Officer Wagoner and charged with operating a vehicle while intoxicated. She is being held without bond.

Martin County real estate transfers

Laura Mae Kemp, of Daviess County, Indiana to **Hillside Mennonite Church**, of Martin County, Indiana, a part of the south half of the southeast quarter of Section 19, Township 3 North, Range 3 West, Center Township, Martin County, Indiana, containing 1.394 acres, more or less.

Joshua D. Huff and Andrea Diana Huff, of Martin County, Indiana to **Michael Wininger and Jill Wininger**, of Daviess County, Indiana, a part of the northwest quarter of Section 24, Township 3 North, Range 5 West, Perry Township, Martin County, Indiana, containing 0.59 acre, more or less. Being Tract 20 in Country Court IV.

Scott S. Callison and Jeremy D. Wildman, of Martin County, Indiana to **Alicia S. Wildman**, of Martin County, Indiana, a tract of land in Section 24, Township 3 North, Range 5 West.

Linda D. Brown and Laura Ann Brown, of Martin County, Indiana to

Planet Home Lending, LLC vs. Dakota N. Mullins, Kali Mullins, and unknown occupants, mortgage foreclosure.

October 7

Discover Bank vs. Mark Taylor, civil collection.

October 10

Synchrony Bank vs. Zachary Danielson, civil collection.

CIVIL COURT JUDGMENTS October 2

Judgment in favor of the plaintiff Crystal C. Trambaugh and against the defendant Thomas R. Moffitt for civil plenary in the amount of \$39,000.

Judgment in favor of the plaintiff Mariner Finance, LLC and against the defendant Samantha M. Carpenter and Melissa D. Ferguson in the amount of \$9,890.16.

Judgment in favor of the plaintiff Specialized Loan Servicing, LLC and against the defendant William G. Edwards for mortgage foreclosure in the amount of \$77,316.82.

October 4

Judgment in favor of the plaintiff Hoozier Accounts Service and against the defendant Rachel Blythe in the amount of \$14,166.66.

October 5

Judgment in favor of the plaintiff LVNV Funding, LLC and against the defendant Andrew White in the amount of \$1,145.51.

CIVIL COURT DISMISSED October 5

Discover Bank vs. Rachel Bruner, civil collection, dismissed.

SMALL CLAIMS COURT New Suits Filed October 6

James M. Seals vs. Bob Canada and Tonya Canada, complaint.

SMALL CLAIMS JUDGMENTS October 4

Judgment in favor of the plaintiff Crane Family Housing and against the defendant Howard Andrews for eviction in the amount of \$10,115.

MARRIAGE LICENSES October 4

Calli Wininger of Loogootee and Christopher Jones of Loogootee.

Macey Way and Jalen Pearson, of Martin County, Indiana, all that part of the northeast quarter of the southeast quarter of Section 10, Township 2 North, Range 4 West, containing 10 acres, more or less.

Charles B. Qualkenbush, William S. Qualkenbush, James M. Qualkenbush, of Martin County, Indiana and **Lance Mountford**, of Putnam County, Indiana to Billy Walker and Lorissa Walker, of Daviess County, Indiana, Lot Number 125 in Chenoweth's Extension to the Town of West Shoals, now Shoals, Indiana.

Benoni Willard Asdell, of Hendricks County, Indiana to **M and L Properties, LLC**, of Daviess County, Indiana. Tract I: The north part of Lot Number 16 in Cray's Addition to the town, now City of Loogootee, Indiana. Tract II: A strip of ground out of the northeast corner of Lot Number 17, Cray's Addition to the town, now City of Loogootee, Indiana.

Loogootee Police log

MONDAY, OCTOBER 9

11:41 a.m. - Chief Long and Captain Rayhill investigated the report of an erratic driver on US 231 South.

5:04 p.m. - Officer Wagoner assisted the Martin County Sheriff's Department with an accident on US 231 North.

7:36 p.m. - Officer Wagoner assisted the Martin County Sheriff's Department with an accident on US 231 South.

9:42 p.m. - Officer Davis responded to a complaint on Mulberry Street.

11:51 p.m. - Officer Wagoner responded to a civil complaint on Vincennes Street.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 10

11:06 a.m. - Loogootee Fire Department and Captain Rayhill responded to a medical call at Marathon.

11:26 a.m. - Loogootee Fire Department responded to a fire alarm on Poplar Street.

6:10 p.m. - Officer Wagoner assisted the Martin County Sheriff's Department with a call in Shoals.

6:46 p.m. - Loogootee Fire Department responded to a medical call on North Line Street.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 11

1:09 p.m. - Chief Long responded to a complaint at Marathon.

3:03 p.m. - Captain Rayhill responded to an accident on West Broadway Street.

6:49 p.m. - Officer Sims responded to a medical call on Cedar Street.

8:57 p.m. - Officer Sims responded to a complaint on North Oak Street.

9:28 p.m. - Officer Sims responded to a 911 hangup at CVS.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 12

1:19 p.m. - Chief Long assisted the Indiana State Police with a call at Dollar General.

2:00 p.m. - Chief Long responded to a call on West Washington Street.

8:26 p.m. - Officer Sims investigated a report of an erratic driver on Southwest Second Street.

8:30 p.m. - Officer Sims responded to a complaint at Family Dollar.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 13

7:01 a.m. - Captain Rayhill responded to an accident on Bloomfield Road.

10:28 a.m. - Captain Rayhill responded to a complaint on station.

12:08 p.m. - Captain Rayhill performed a funeral detail on Church Street.

12:26 p.m. - Captain Rayhill responded to a complaint at CVS.

8:16 p.m. - Officer Wagoner assisted the Martin County Sheriff's Department with a call in Shoals.

9:53 p.m. - Officer Wagoner assisted the Martin County Sheriff's Department with an accident on Reinhart Road.

CLASSIFIED ADS

HELP WANTED

NOW HIRING

Full-Time Soil & Water Conservation District Coordinator

The Martin County Soil & Water Conservation District (SWCD) is seeking to fill a full-time (30 hrs. wk.) SWCD District Coordinator position. This position provides administrative and office management support to the SWCD board.

This position requires a minimum of 3 year's office experience. Proficiency in QuickBooks, Microsoft Office, Publisher, Excel and Word is a must. Full job description and application can be obtained by emailing (see email below) or visiting the SWCD office during office hours.

Applications with cover letters and resumes will be accepted until November 3rd, 2023.

Please email application with cover letter to martinswcdtemp@yahoo.com or mail to Martin County SWCD, PO Box 142, Loogootee, IN 47553

NOW HIRING!

We are currently seeking highly motivated individuals to join our team at H&H Hometown Hardware on Main Street in Shoals, IN. We have multiple positions available, including Full-Time Assistant Manager, Full-Time Cashier, and Part-Time Cashiers. If you are interested in a career in the retail industry and have a passion for providing excellent customer service, this may be the perfect opportunity for you.

Assistant Manager:
The Assistant Manager will work closely with the Manager to ensure the smooth operation of the store. Responsibilities include assisting with staff management, coordinating inventory management, and providing exceptional customer service. The ideal candidate will have previous experience in a supervisory role, excellent organizational skills, and the ability to multitask effectively.

Cashier:
The Cashier will be responsible for processing customer transactions, handling cash, and ensuring accuracy in all monetary transactions. Strong attention to detail and excellent numerical skills are crucial for this position. Previous cashier experience is preferred, but we are willing to train the right individual.

All positions require the ability to work in a fast-paced environment, excellent problem-solving skills, and a commitment to providing exceptional customer service. Flexibility in working hours, including weekends and holidays, is also required.

If you are interested in any of these positions, please submit your resume along with a cover letter stating the position you are applying for. We offer competitive wages and benefits, as well as opportunities for growth and advancement within the company.

To apply, please email your application to contact@handhhometownhardware.com or drop off your resume in person at our store location at 314 Main Street, Shoals, IN. We thank all applicants for their interest, but only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

Join our team today and become part of a thriving local business!

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Grant Sherfick, Owner
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H&H HOMETOWN HARDWARE



Corner Cafe

201 N JFK Avenue, Loogootee

812-295-4243

Monday-Friday 6:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.
Saturday (Breakfast Only!) 6:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.
Sunday (Breakfast Only!) 7:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

More Neat Stuff

By Ann Ackerman

THOUGHTS

*If you ever get lost in the woods in the south, find a possum and follow it. You'll be in the middle of the road in no time.

*You know you're starting to get a little older when you run into your friends at the pharmacy instead of the night club.

*Parallel lines have so much in common. It's a shame they'll never meet.

*Once you accept the fact that tacos and margaritas taste better than being skinny, the second half of your life truly begins.

*I'm afraid of speed bumps but I'm slowly getting over it.

*The reason I don't like Facebook's "memories" feature is because it shows me 6 years ago wearing the same shirt I have on right now.

*Weekends are starting to feel like a 30-minute lunch break.

*I am a very strong and independent woman, and I am proud of myself for that (unless there's something wrong with my car.)

*Never blame someone else for the road you're on. That's your own asphalt.

*I'm always disappointed when a liar's pants don't actually catch on fire.

*The older I get, the more I understand why roosters just scream to start their day.

*I don't wanna party like it's 1999....I just wanna go grocery shopping like it's 1999.

*When I was younger, excitement was going to a ballgame or holiday gathering. Now I get excited seeing a butterfly.

A police officer attempts to stop a car for speeding and the guy gradually increases his speed until he's topping 100 mph. The man eventually realizes he can't escape and finally pulls over.

The cop approaches the car and says, "It's been a long day, and my shift is almost over, so if you can give me a good excuse for your behavior, I'll let you go."

The guy thinks for a few seconds and then says, "My wife ran away with a cop about a week ago. I thought you might be that officer trying to give her back."

GRATITUDE SCAVENGER HUNT

1. Find something that makes you happy.
2. Something to give someone else to make them smile.
3. Find one thing that you love to smell.
4. Find one thing you enjoy looking at.
5. Find something that's your favorite color.
6. Find something you are thankful for in nature.
7. Find something that you can use to make a gift for someone.
8. Find something that is useful for you.

SERIOUSISMS

*You will never love someone enough to make them get sober.

*Telling teachers to use scripted curriculum is like telling Picasso to use paint by numbers.

*The only people I owe my loyalty to are those who never made me question theirs.

*And some days life is just hard. And some days are just rough. And some days you just gotta cry before you move forward. And all of that is okay.

*You're never too old to become young. -Mae West

*One of the best feelings in the world is knowing someone is happy because of you.

Make someone smile today!



Make My Day grant *-Photo provided*

The Martin County Council on Aging (MCCoA) received a \$500 Make My Day grant from the Martin County Community Foundation (MCCF). These funds went to buy some needed kitchen supplies. Shown above, from left to right, are MCCF Board member Megan Hawkins, MCCoA members Dee Tedrow and Teddy Holt, and MCCoA Director Judith Montgomery. The MCCF likes to make someone's day!

TOY'S AUTO PARTS, INC.

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

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Loogootee School Board meeting
The Loogootee School Board will meet Thursday, October 19 at 5 p.m. in the high school media center. The meeting is open to the public.

Dog/cat Wellness Clinic
The Martin County Humane Society hosts a wellness clinic on the third Friday of each month from 5-6 p.m. The clinic offers low-cost vaccines, testing, nail trims, etc. No appointment needed.

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

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

Free lunch for kids
New Beginnings Community Church will be offering a free lunch to all school age children every Saturday. Lunches can be picked up at the fellowship hall of the church, located at 105 Wood St.

Loogootee no later than 10:30 a.m. Deliveries will begin between 10:30 and 11 a.m. Saturdays.

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!

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

Solid waste board
The Martin County Solid Waste Board holds their monthly meetings on the third Tuesday of each month at 8:30 a.m. at the recycling center located at 500 Industrial Park Drive in Loogootee. The meetings are open to the public and anyone is invited to attend.

Soil and Water meetings
The Martin County 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 Fridays when it is closed. Visit www.martinswcd.com or call at 295-3149.

Notes from the WIC Nutritionist

BY ELIZABETH WHITE
WIC Nutritionist & Site Supervisor

The autumn season is here. What a great time to be active, enjoy the beautiful weather, and take in the splendor of the changing season. Safely take a walk and talk to your children about the colors of the leaves and how the trees are preparing themselves for winter. There are many fruits and vegetables that are in season right here in our community. Some Indiana fall fruits are apples, cantaloupes, and pears. Pumpkins, onions, potatoes, sweet potatoes, carrots, okra, beets, greens, eggplant, Brussel sprouts, just to name a few, are all vegetables that are in season. Choosing produce, when it is in season, has a fresher taste and a better nutritional value than if you would choose it in its off season.

Thank you to all who participated in our World Breastfeeding Week event.

Special congratulations go out to our WIC family who won the Big Splash Adventure day passes. We hope you enjoy a great family day.

NEW WIC location, hours, and phone number. The Martin County WIC is now located at 2666 Hwy. US-50, Loogootee. We are in the Community Learning Center on the Martin County 4-H Fairgrounds. We are open Monday 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and Thursday 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Our new phone number is 812-407-4282.

The WIC program provides supplemental nutritional foods, referrals, breastfeeding support, and nutrition education for pregnant women, nursing women, infants, and children 1-5 years. The Martin County WIC clinic is open Monday 8:30 am to 4:30 pm and Thursday 10 am to 7 pm. Please call 812-407-4282 to make an appointment.

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

PRIMARY CARE FOR ALL AGES

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IHC Bedford
2415 Mitchell Rd.
Suite C

Kate McCalla-Gilliatt
DNP, APRN, FNP-C, ANP-C
Nurse Practitioner

Brooke Gregory
FNP-C
Nurse Practitioner



The leaves come tumbling down. What should we do? The answer to that question has certainly changed in recent years. As with the clean-up question discussed in my previous column, an increased awareness in ecology has certainly changed recommendations on leaves.

It is a fact that a heavy layer of leaves will smother turf grass. Because of that, the old recommendation was to rake up the leaves and remove them from the site. Leaves and other yard debris were routinely bagged and sent to landfills. Many people routinely burned leaves. Later, as landfills began to fill, homeowners were instructed to shred the leaves and compost them or take them to a public composting facility. Many towns would pick up the leaves if they were raked to the edge of the streets. That practice continues today.

For years, I have raked or blown leaves off my lawn areas and into perennial beds and other vegetable and flower gardens. I also picked up leaves from friends and shredded them for my compost bins. Returning that organic material to the earth is a responsible way to handle the leaves.

However, ardent ecologists now tell us that blowing leaves or running the lawn mower over them is not good practice. As in the case of garden debris discussed last week, the fallen leaves have become shelter for many insects, and even the leaf blowers will disturb their resting places. Instead, ecologists are telling us to let the leaves lie where they fall. Of course, for safety's sake, leaves must be removed from driveways, walkways, porches and patios. When removing the leaves, we are urged to use a rake and to rake gently as possible.

Ecologists, in general, are not proponents of turf grass lawns. They decry the use of chemical fertilizers and pesticides traditionally applied to lawns to get that golf course look. They also dislike the monoculture of turf grass.

I recently read an article that said the leaves are doing us a favor by killing off turf lawns. Ecological purists advocate killing off lawns and replacing them with meadows or prairies, such as were found when European settlers first came to America. Not only would this save the insects, eggs and larvae wintering in the leaf cover, the native plants would supply food and shelter for native fauna in the future.

Sandhill Gardens is a certified wildlife habitat, but as ecologically minded as I am, I still am not ready to completely give up my lawn areas. My lawns are not pure turf grass, but I do like having areas that I mow for eye appeal and for recreation purposes. I will continue mowing over the leaves in lawn areas to shred the leaves and hasten decomposition. If some areas have heavy leaf carpeting, I will still rake or blow them into garden beds.

Realistically, one cannot expect everyone to agree to give up their neat lawns. While attitudes are changing with education, I think there will always be a need for lawns for children and adults to play. I do think that the day for burning leaves is gone, and everyone should realize that burning destroys valuable nutrients that the soil in our garden needs. I therefore ask that you consider your options and choose the best option that allows you to enjoy your property, while still being aware of the other forms of life sharing

Martin State Forest to hold open house October 24

Open houses hosted by the Indiana Department of Natural Resources (DNR) will be offered at numerous state forests on October 24, 25, and 26.

Martin State Forest's open house will be Tuesday, October 24, 4 to 7 p.m., at the property office off U.S. 50, approximately four miles northeast of Shoals. Call 812-247-3491 for more information.

During the events, Hoosiers can learn more about outdoor recreation available at Indiana's state forests and how the properties' professional foresters work to manage the properties for long-term forest health.

"These open houses provide Hoosiers with a chance to receive first-hand information about how Indiana's state forests provide diverse wildlife habitat and recreational opportunities," State Forester John Seifert said. "They also allow us to receive valuable feedback from our neighbors and users about state forest management — I encourage everyone to participate."

A guided hike will be offered at 5 p.m. during each open house. Attendees who want to go on the hike should meet at the forest office.

In addition to attendees being able to ask questions and comment, Hoosiers can submit written questions or comments at dnr.IN.accessgov.com/Forms/Page/forestry/forestry-comment/1.

Other open houses will be offered as follows:

Salamonie River and Frances Slocum State Forests: October 24, 4 to 7 p.m. at the Salamonie River State Forest office off State Road 524, approximately 6 miles east of Wabash. Call 260-782-0430 for more information.

Clark State Forest: October 24, 4 to 7 p.m., at the property office, which is a mile north of Henryville on U.S. 31. Call 812-294-4306 for more information.

Fall prescribed burns planned on the Hoosier National Forest

The USDA Forest Service plans to conduct seasonal prescribed burning this fall on the Hoosier National Forest. Prescribed fire is used to maintain, restore or improve early successional habitat for wildlife, maintain wetlands, restore and maintain unique barren communities, and restore oak-hickory dominated ecosystems. It also reduces the amount of woody material on the forest floor, thereby lowering the risk of catastrophic wildfire, and increases plant diversity.

Prescribed burns will be conducted on National Forest System lands and through agreements with adjacent private landowners.

Areas being considered for burning this fall have signage placed in advance, but determination of whether a fire will be imple-

Harrison-Crawford State Forest: October 25, 4 to 7 p.m., at the property office off State Road 462, just past the O'Bannon Woods State Park gatehouse. Call 812-738-7694 for more information.

Jackson-Washington and Selmier State Forests: October 25, 4 to 7 p.m., at the Jackson-Washington State Forest office, 2.5 miles east of Brownstown, just east of the Jackson County Fairgrounds on State Road 250. Call 812-358-2160 for more information.

Greene-Sullivan State Forest: October 25, 4 to 7 p.m., at the property office on State Road 159, approximately 1.5 miles south of Dugger. Call 812-648-2810 for more information.

Ferdinand and Pike State Forests: October 26, 4 to 7 p.m., at the Ferdinand State Forest office, off State Road 264, approximately 4 miles northeast of Ferdinand. Call 812-827-2857 for more information.

Owen-Putnam State Forest: October 26, 4 to 7 p.m., at the property office, 5 miles west of Spencer and less than a mile north of State Road 46. Call 812-829-2462 for more information.

Morgan-Monroe, Ravinia, Yellowwood, and Mountain Tea State Forests: October 26, 4 to 7 p.m., at the Morgan-Monroe State Forest office off State Road 37, approximately 6 miles south of Martinsville. Call 765-792-4654 for more information.

Property staff members are also often available during normal business hours, which are 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily. See dnr.IN.gov/forestry/properties/ for contact information.

The DNR Division of Forestry promotes and practices good stewardship of natural, recreational, and cultural resources on Indiana's public and private forest lands. This stewardship produces continuing benefits, both tangible and intangible, for present and future generations.

menting will be made on the day of the burn after careful evaluation of key factors and conditions. Forest staff notifies residents and businesses in the immediate area of a potential prescribed burn one or two days prior depending on neighbor preference. Check the forest's social media accounts for announcements of burns at www.facebook.com/HoosierNF/ and <https://twitter.com/HoosierNF>.

Designated burn units are closed to all public entry, including hunting, on the day of the burn and until the area is considered safe. For your safety, please contact the Indiana Interagency Coordination Center Dispatcher (812-547-9262) if you plan to hunt or camp in or near a prescribed burn area.

Smoke is an unavoidable consequence of prescribed burning. Fire managers burn only under atmospheric conditions specified in a burn plan and rely on meteorologic data to choose days in which the impacts of smoke are minimized. Smoke plumes from a prescribed fire usually rise high into the air where the smoke dissipates. If smoke is present on roadways, motorists should reduce speeds and turn on headlights.

All burns are implemented under carefully planned prescriptions and protocols to mitigate the risk of an escaped fire and smoke exposure to communities. Forest neighbors who wish to be notified of a specific date of a burn, or those who wish to report medical conditions that could be affected by smoke, may contact the Indiana Interagency Coordination Center Dispatcher at 812-547-9262.

Derek George
Owner & Funeral Director

"The most dangerous phrase in our language is, 'We've always done it this way.'"
-Admiral Grace Hopper

It may seem strange to plan your own cremation or funeral ceremony, but it's the best way to ensure it's what you want. It also helps your family get everything taken care of in advance, so they know they're doing the right thing for you. Gain peace of mind by preplanning with a name you trust.

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City of Loogootee to flush water mains

The Loogootee Water Department will be flushing water mains beginning October 22 and ending October 17. Customers may experience periods of low water pressure and, or cloudy water. It is recommended that you check your water quality before cooking, drinking, or doing laundry. If you continue to experience any problems with your water quality, contact the water office at 812-295-1000

ext. 4 or after 4 p.m., call the Loogootee Police Department at 812-295-2246.

The water department would like to caution drivers and pedestrians to be cautious when utility employees are in the area. Water main flushing through fire hydrants releases large volumes of water at high pressure which can be dangerous and harmful to yourself and water employees.

FALL CLEAN -UP

**Friday, October 27 - 9 am - 4:30 pm &
Saturday, October 28 - 8 am - noon**

at the Loogootee Recycling Center only

500 Industrial Park Drive • 295-4142 • Martin County Residents Only!

Pick-up truck load of trash is \$20. Feel free to bring all recyclables.

For questions, please call the recycling center 812-295-4142.



Martin County Historical Society to dedicate shelter house next to the museum in memory of Jim and Jane Marshall

On Saturday October 21 at 10 a.m. at the Martin County Museum, the historical society will be dedicating the shelter house on the property in honor of Jim and Jane Marshall for their love for Martin County history. The shelter house was designed by Jim Marshall when he was the president of the historical Society and Jane was the historical society secretary. Jim received a grant in 2013 from the Martin County Community Foundation to build the shelter house. Jim worked for Midwestern Engineering for 35 years. His co-worker heard of the plans and wanted to get together to honor Jim and Jane for their friendship and love for the community. His co-worker power washed and re-stained the shelter house. This Saturday the shelter house will be named Marshall Shelter House after Jim and Jane. The community is invited to share in the celebration.

INDOT initiating Tier 2 environmental study on Mid-States Corridor

The Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) is moving forward with the next round of environmental studies on the Mid-States Corridor Project. On or after November 14, 2023, the agency will advertise a Request for Proposals (RFP) seeking a consulting firm to conduct the Tier 2 environmental study on a portion of the future highway.

On September 9, 2023, the Federal

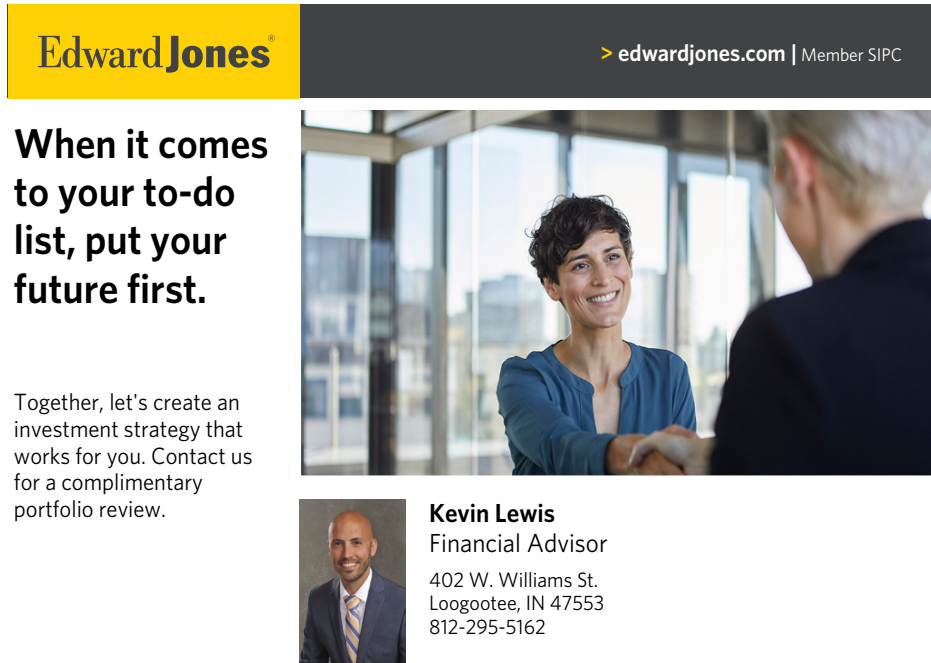
Highway Administration (FHWA) and IN-
DOT issued a Tier 1 Combined Final En-
vironmental Impact Statement/Record of
Decision (FEIS/ROD) for the Mid-States
Corridor Project.

The Tier 1 preferred alternative begins at State Road 66 near the William H. Natcher Bridge that crosses the Ohio River at Rockport, continues through the Huntingburg and Jasper area and extends north to connect to Interstate 69. The preferred alternative corridor was divided into five Sections of Independent Utility (SIU).

The first Tier 2 study will focus on SIU 2, which runs from Interstate 64 to State Road 56 at Haysville. During the Tier 2 study designers will narrow their focus and create multiple alternatives (alignments) within the chosen Tier 1 corridor. A comparison of costs, impacts and benefits of each alternative will be used to select the final footprint for SIU 2.

During the Tier 2 National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) study, agencies, stakeholders, and the public will have the opportunity to provide input.

INDOT anticipates the selection of a consulting engineering firm by early 2024 and commencement of the Tier 2 study in Spring 2024. More information about the Mid-States Corridor Project is available at <https://midstatescorridor.com/>.



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