

## City approves sick leave increase, buys downtown lot

BY COURTNEY HUGHETT  
*Martin County Journal Publisher*

The Loogootee City Council met Monday, November 9. On the subject of increasing city employees' sick leave that was brought up in the special meeting held two weeks ago, Council Member Richard Taylor motioned to increase the amount of accumulated sick leave an employee can have from 240 hours to 480 hours. The original recommendation at last meeting, from Council Member Rick Norris, was to increase it to 640 hours. This allows an employee to have three months of paid sick leave accumulated, any gained after that would have to be used or they would lose it.

Council Member Rick Norris seconded Taylor's motion.

Council Member Ron Gilbert asked if the city offers long term disability to employees. Norris replied that it did not.

The motion passed with a 4-1 vote, with Gilbert voting against the increase.

John Siever approached the council to talk about the city absorbing the West Boggs Sewer District. He said the original plan was for the city to purchase the sewer district but since the district still has a loan of \$1.7 million to pay off and Rural Development, who the loan is through, won't lower the payoff amount, the city cannot afford to take it on. The loan is scheduled to be paid off in 2031. Siever said that the city can go ahead and take over the operation and maintenance of the sewer district, they just could not own it until the loan is paid off.

Mayor Noel Harty said that the city's own debt will be paid off in about six years and at that time they could consider doing financ-

ing to pay of the sewer district's loan.

Siever said that the state board of accounts wants a separation of public funds from West Boggs so that City of Loogootee funds are not used for the operation there. He also noted that the city can still increase the rates even though they do not own the district.

Bo Wilson said West Boggs sewer rate is quite a bit higher than City of Loogootee sewer customers. At last count there were 350 customers and the district netted around \$75,000 in cash flow a year.

The council gave the consensus that taking over the West Boggs Sewer District was worth pursuing but no vote was made at the meeting.

The council also voted to purchase the downtown lot where His & Hers Beauty Salon used to be, before the fire. The cost of the lot is \$15,000 and is approximately 17 feet. Mayor Harty said that there is another party interested in purchasing the lot from owner Judy Stuffle so the council needs to act quickly in order to purchase it. He said that the plan is to go after grant funds to rebuild the downtown area that burned, but that would require purchasing the other four lots, all of which are for sale according to the mayor. Harty noted that if the grant funding doesn't work out, the lot could always be sold to the interested party down the road.

Council member Fred Dupps voted against the purchase citing the fact that the city owns the lot by the railroad tracks that nothing has ever been done with. Clerk-Treasurer Nancy Jones also noted that the city owns a lot by the park that has also never been developed. The \$15,000 will come out of the city's EDIT (Economic Development Income Tax) funds.

Mayor Harty said a resident requested that the intersection of North Oak and Clark streets be made a four-way stop. Council Member Taylor said that he and Council Member Carroll Rayhill went to look at the intersection and he is not sure why the person wants it to be a four-way stop, as it is now a three-way. Being a board of public works de-

cision, Board of Works Member Fred Dupps recommended tabling the decision until he could go look at it.

The council approved the only gas quote that was received, from Jones Oil. The cost is the same as in the past, one cent lower per gallon as the outside signage's advertised price.

## Highway department wants pay scale change to keep employees

BY COURTNEY HUGHETT  
*Martin County Journal Publisher*

Highway Superintendent Leo Padgett went before the Martin County Council Monday night, November 9, to get approval for changes in job classifications and pay differential for his truck drivers. Padgett said he is losing employees due to them finding higher paying jobs with better insurance. He said he has to keep his employees from leaving, especially the equipment operators. He said that right now he does not have a Class A CDL driver to haul equipment but has an employee interested in getting the license needed. He said he wants to compensate this employee for taking that extra step to get licensed. Padgett noted that the commissioners agreed to pay for the testing on CDL licenses.

He has nine Class B CDL operators and they all make \$15.30 per hour. He wants to change the classifications to a scale paying \$15.50, \$16.00, and \$16.25 depending on the level of operator. He said he has the money in his budget to cover the increases.

Council member Warren Albright explained that the last time the highway superintendent, back in 2009, requested raises the council denied the request so the superintendent reclassified the highway department positions so that they were on the highest end of the pay scale, and in turn made more money. "He gave everybody a pay raise by going around us," said Albright. The commissioners had approved the reclassification back in 2009.

The council decided to wait to hear back from the state on next year's budget before voting on the pay changes. It was also noted that the commissioners would be voting to reclassify, the council would be voting on the extra money spent.

Sheriff Travis Roush told the council that he needs \$10,030 to replace the server and backup system in the jail through RTC Communications. He said that officers do not have access to current data during traffic stops, in relation to outstanding warrants. He said this is a problem that needs attention as soon as possible. The council expressed the need for the replacement and will officially vote on it at their December meeting, so the additional money request can be advertised to the public.

Judge Lynne Ellis reported to the council that so far this year she has collected \$27,000 from bond money to go back into the public defender fee fund. They have also taken in around \$54,000 from the state public defender reimbursement program.

The council approved the following addi-

tional appropriations:

-\$1,000 from the riverboat fund for the prosecutor for office supplies. A second request for \$1,000 for office supplies in the IV-D line item for the prosecutor was tabled until the next meeting.

-\$3,000 for the circuit court for psychiatric medical from the riverboat fund. Council members Lonnie Hawkins and Buck Stiles voted against the additional funds but it still passed 5-2.

-\$6,000 for the circuit court for the alcohol and drug program director. Judge Ellis explained that she has \$23,000 in her fund to cover this additional appropriation.

-\$7,000 from the LOIT public safety fund for jail meals. Council member Hawkins asked Sheriff Roush why the cost of meals has stayed the same for the past 12 years but the number of inmates in the jail has gone down by half, on average. He asked that the sheriff look into that and report back to him.

## Lt. Governor announces open hours at WestGate

Lt. Governor Sue Ellspermann joins the Indiana Office of Defense Development (IODD) and the Indiana Office of Small Business and Entrepreneurship (OSBE) to announce the beginning of open hours at WestGate@Crane Technology Park for government and academic partners to provide local business support services in the region.

"This groundbreaking partnership will provide Southwest Central Indiana with comprehensive business support services free of charge on a recurring basis from organizations conveniently located in one place to assist those considering launching a business venture, tech startups, as well as existing companies," said Lt. Governor Ellspermann. "We see the open hours and collaborative approach as a way to further assist our small businesses as well as encourage them to aspire and achieve new levels of success for the region and ultimately all of Indiana."

On Tuesday, November 17 from 8-11 a.m., individuals and businesses are invited to come learn about and discuss the services available in Southwest Central Indiana.

Participating partners include:  
IODD's Technology Commercialization Program

Indiana Procurement Technical Assistance Center (PTAC)

Indiana Small Business Development Center (ISBDC)

Additional services will be represented by:  
Purdue University's Technical Assistance Program (TAP) and Purdue Foundry  
(See 'ACADEMY' cont. on page 3)



-Photo provided

## We salute you!

Mr. Sanders's two social studies classes (Mr. Sanders and Mrs. Wagoner home-rooms) made Veterans Day cards for veterans in our local nursing homes. "We do this every year, to show that they are not forgotten, and that we appreciate their service. It brings joy to both the veterans and the students," said Mr. Sanders. Shown above is one of Mr. Sanders's students presenting the cards.

**GET OUTDOORS**

Because Reality TV Is Still Just TV

DAVIESS-MARTIN JOINT COUNTY  
PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT

**WEST BOGGS PARK**

GLENDALE SEWA CAMPGROUND

# VETERANS DAY

NOVEMBER 11, 2015



HONORING ALL WHO SERVED  
IN TIMES OF WAR - IN TIMES OF PEACE



[WWW.VA.GOV](http://WWW.VA.GOV)

# OBITUARIES

Wednesday, November 11, 2015 ~ Martin County Journal

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## SHEILA CRAYS

Sheila Renee Bruner Crays passed away November 8, 2015 at her home. A resident of Washington, she was 44.

She was born in Washington; daughter of the Late Lorrie Shoultz Bateman and Starlin Bruner of Raglesville.

She married Russel Crays on April 21, 2012 and he survives with son, Eric, still at home; daughter, Mandy Rehl of Loogootee; daughter, Mary (Tyler) Stoll of Loogootee and son, Joey Rehl of Loogootee.

Sheila enjoyed gardening, canning, cook-

ing, mushroom hunting and anything to do with the outdoors. She was kind, outgoing and loved by many.

Also surviving is step-father, Gary Bateman of Otwell; grandchildren, Abigail Survance, Kayden Honeycutt, Addi Bradley, Jaren Stoll, Kynlee Stoll, and Jayven Bradley, all of Loogootee; sister, Bobbie Bruner Souerdike of Cannelburg; brother, Chris Crowder of Daytona Beach, Florida; sister, Angie Bruner of Raglesville; brother, Damien Troy Bruner of Evansville; niece, Josey Souerdike of Loogootee; nephews,



SHEILA CRAYS

Daniel Crowder and Ryan Souerdike of North Carolina and several aunts and uncles.

She is preceded in death by her mother, Lorrie Bateman and grandparents, Margaret Street Shoultz and Maurice Shoultz.

A Celebration of Life and benefit dinner will be held December 5, 2015. As per her wishes, there was a private showing for family.

Queen-Lee Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

## BARBARA HARKER

Barbara Jean Harker passed away at 3:45 p.m. Monday, November 9, 2015 at the University of Louisville following a brief illness. A resident of Shoals, she was 87.

She was born June 20, 1928 in Smithville, Indiana; the daughter of Rex and Effie (Bledsoe) Hayes.

She graduated from Shoals High School. In her younger years, she was employed by Sherfick Music Company, and retired after twenty-nine years of service from the office of National Gypsum. She was a member of St. John's Lutheran Church in Loogootee, Shoals Fraternal Order of Eagles #2442, and Loogootee V.F.W. Ladies Auxiliary.

She is survived by her sister, Doris Winkle of Shoals; many friends and neighbors, all who dearly loved her.

Her husband Dewey Harker preceded her in death in 1991. Also preceding her in death were her parents, and brother, Donald Lee Hayes.

Visitation will be from 4-8:00 p.m. this evening, Wednesday, November 11 at the Queen-Lee Funeral Home in Shoals. The Loogootee V.F. W. ladies auxiliary will conduct a memorial service at 6 p.m. The funeral will be at 11 a.m. on Thursday at the funeral home. Burial will follow in Springhill Cemetery.

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

## JOYCE WININGER

Joyce A. Winger passed away at 12:18 p.m. November 8, 2015 at Good Samaritan Hospital. A resident of Washington, she was 70.

She was born July 22, 1945 in Washington; daughter of Elizabeth (Conner) and Charles "Jim" Lee.

She attended North Knox High School. She had worked at Aarmor, RCA Bloomington, and McDonald's. She belonged to the Ladies of the Moose. She loved to fish and to crochet.

She is survived by her husband, Howard "Buzz" Winger whom she married December 16, 1967; son, Jeffery (Rebecca) Winger of Sanborn; daughter, Debra (Louis) Butler of Washington; six grandchil-

dren, David Winger, Dereck Winger, Dillion Winger, Scott Butler, Dakota Butler and Ryan Butler; nine great-grandchildren, sister, Ruby (Bill) Pipher of Vincennes; brothers, Bill Lee of Orange, Virginia; Bob (Mary) Lee of Teutopolis, Illinois; David Lee of Washington, Jack (Lisa) Lee of Loogootee, and John (Gayle) Lee of Princeton.

She is preceded in death by both parents, and two brothers, Jim Lee and Donald Lee Sr.

Funeral services will be Friday, November 13 at 10:30 a.m. at Ed Lee Mortuary with Rev. Garret Sloan officiating. Burial will follow at Sugarland Memory Gardens. Visitation will be Thursday from 4-8 p.m. at Ed Lee Mortuary.

## MONA ENKOFF

Mona C. Enkoff passed away at 9:50 a.m. Saturday, November 7, 2015 at the Indiana Masonic Home in Franklin, where she resided for the past two years. She was 89.

She was born May 6, 1926 in Hamilton County; daughter of L. Eldean and Mary (Hadley) Hopkins.

She graduated from Westfield High School. She married Carl G. Enkoff and together they operated the Overlook Tourist Cabins in Shoals. In later years, she moved to Venice, Florida and resided there for several years. While residing in Florida, she was active in the Christ United Methodist Church. Mona was a fifty-year member of The Order of Eastern Star, member of the Martin County Extension Homemakers and the United Methodist Women.

She is survived by son, Bryan L. and his wife, Melanie, of Columbus; three grandchildren, Meredith, and her husband, Aaron, Spielman of Fayetteville; Hal Enkoff of Columbus, and Lee Enkoff, a student at IU Bloomington; and sister, Carol Talbott of Venice, Florida.

She is preceded in death by her parents, son, Michael Enkoff; and two brothers, Bobby and Billy Hopkins.

A memorial service will be held on Saturday, November 14 at 4 p.m. at the Shoals United Methodist Church. Her family will receive friends at the church from 3 p.m. until the hour of service. Services under the direction of the Queen-Lee Funeral Home in Shoals.

## ACADEMY

(Continued from page one)

University of Southern Indiana's Center for Applied Research

Ivy Tech's Gayle & Bill Cook Center for Entrepreneurship (Bloomington)

Bloomington Economic Development Corporation

NSWC Crane Division's Small Business and Technology Transfer programs

Open hours will be held at the WestGate Academy facility located at 13598 East WestGate Drive, Odon, IN 47562 - immediately east of NSA Crane (Crane Gate). No appointments necessary.

## ~LETTERS TO THE EDITOR~

'Veterans Day should inspire all of us to do more'

To the editor of the *Martin County Journal*,

"Freedom is never more than one generation away from extinction. It must be fought for, protected and handed on to the next generation to do the same". Ronald Reagan may have described the purpose of Veterans Day better than anyone else with this statement. Reviewing the course of history, each generation of Americans has had its own war or conflict since the revolution. Even though World War I was supposed to be "the war to end all wars" there has been numerous wars and conflicts since then, with fifteen or less years being the longest period of relative calm. Veterans Day was officially made a holiday by President Eisenhower in 1954, to honor all the living veterans from these conflicts, although the "eleventh day of the eleventh month at eleven o'clock" had been celebrated as National Veterans Day or as Armistice Day since the end of WWI.

For the present generation, most who don't remember WW2, or Korea, and many that weren't alive during the Vietnam Conflict, Veterans Day may have lost its importance as a day to honor all veterans. Since 1975 and the beginning of the all-volunteer military, the younger generation does not know as many veterans who have impacted our way of life and our freedoms. With the technology and weapons available to the military today, we do not have as many veterans in our neighborhoods as we did in the past.

But Veterans Day is still important to veterans and non-veterans alike. Veterans Day offers a three-fold opportunity to all citizens. First, the purpose of Veterans Day continues to be a day to honor family and community members who helped defend the freedoms we enjoy, and to deter the spread of governments that suppress basic human rights. Second, and perhaps more important, educating current and future generations to honor and never forget the sacrifices made by military veterans, and never to neglect those veterans suffering physical, emotional, and psychological issues resulting from war. Third, Veterans Day should inspire all of us to do more with the freedoms that have been won and preserved through the sacrifices of all those who have served.

Everyone can honor these veterans in many ways; donate to organizations that assist wounded warriors, and organizations that assist homeless or under-educated veterans. Honor veterans by getting involved in community organizations that foster basic freedoms for the under-privileged. Get out and vote, but first become familiar with the platforms of those running for political office. But just as important as all this, simply thank a veteran for their effort to preserve, protect and defend our nation.

Phil Todd  
Loogootee, Indiana

'Local law enforcement needs your help'

To the editor of the *Martin County Journal*,

Why does our county have traffic signs and road name signs?

We have traffic signs to protect people on our roadways that live in the county and the people coming through our county for the

safety of speed limits, children in the area, schools, dangerous curves and hills, etc.

We have road name signs for the safety of our citizens; so WHEN, not if, emergencies arise, these road name signs assist with emergency responders: law enforcement, fire and rescue, civil defense, ambulances, utility companies, delivery companies (US mail, UPS, Fed-Ex) can better find YOU and serve YOU.

So why are we in jeopardy? When our signs are stolen, shot up, spray painted, defaced, etc.

Martin County citizens are in JEOPARDY!

So local law enforcement needs your help, so we can better serve you by decreasing this type of theft and vandalism to our traffic signs and our road name signs.

NOTE: If anyone has information on this type of criminal activity; feel free to contact the Martin County Sheriff's Office anonymously by calling 1-812-247-3726. This will help us serve you better.

Major T.A. Burkhardt  
Martin County Sheriff's Department

'Thank you'

To the editor of the *Martin County Journal*,

The Shoals Jug Rox Adult Booster Club would like to thank the following businesses for their donations and support of this year's Fall Festival: Jones Oil Company, Loughmiller Machine, Tool & Design/Southern Indiana Steel, Bailey Brothers Used Cars, Pizza Junction, Bo Mac's, Queen-Lee Funeral Home, Old National Bank, Shoals Lions Club, Linda and Richard Hawkins, Crowder's Pharmacy, Velma's Diner, Curtis Orthodontics, Larry and Linda Sherfick, James and Lorna Troutman, Beth and Shelby McKibben, White River Co-Op, Crane Federal Credit Union, Dr. Donald and Terri Kerr, Martin County Co-Op Credit Union, Builders Best, Lett & Jones, Shoals Package Store, American Legion Auxiliary, Ark and Kendra Wright, Kyle and Bobbie Turpin, Kenneth and Deirdree Sanders, Daviess Martin REMC, Shirley Harding-Mary Kay, Country Lace (Linda Bauer), United States Gypsum Co., German American Bank, SHS Media, Hawkins Health Care, Linda Dillon, French Lick Resort, Jiffy Treat, Hoosier Hills Credit Union, Chicago Pizza, Marengo Cave, Hilltop Photography, French Lick Indoor Karting, Big Splash, Stoll's Lakeview, Blake Hi-Y Car Wash, Evansville Mesker Zoo, WonderLab, Ruth Smith, Aunt Bee's Brew HAHA, Jessica Hert, Cooper Candles, Pam Doane, The Candy Mill, Janelle Crews-Younique, Chastain's Flowers & Gifts, The Shoals News, Wood N Treasures, JD Designs, Hair Tropics, Butler Graphics, Pizza Junction, Martin County Civil Defense, Greene's Auto Body, Toy's Auto Parts, Loogootee Fire Department, Fast Eddies, Papa Johns-French Lick, The Lodge, Faytastic Pizza, Chocolate Bliss, Lions Club, Tania's Touch, Larks Zip Line, Michael's Car Wash, Rascio Auto Body, and Mad Hatter Adventures Travel

A special thanks to all of the coaches, staff, parents and student athletes who volunteered and thank you to everyone who attended this year's festival and helped to make it a great success.

Shoals Jug Rox Adult Booster Club

Senior Independent Living Apartments  
**Cottage Duplexes**  
on the campus of Parkview Village

Secure Location, 24 Hour Emergency Call System  
Activities Available, Meal Plans Available

Parkview Village  
Christian Care, Inc.

Call for more info:  
812-636-3000  
[www.parkview-village.org](http://www.parkview-village.org)

**CALL FOR AVAILABILITY**

## Martin County Sheriff's Department log

### MONDAY, NOVEMBER 2

1:09 a.m. - Received a report of a car-deer accident on US 231. Corporal Baker responded.

9:12 a.m. - Captain Dant assisted the department of child services with a welfare check north of Shoals.

12:30 p.m. - Captain Dant assisted a motorist in Loogootee.

2:15 p.m. - Received a report of a domestic disturbance in Loogootee. Loogootee Chief Rayhill and Captain Hennette responded.

8:23 p.m. - Received a report of vandalism in Loogootee. Sgt. Keller responded.

8:32 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. Loogootee Fire Department and Martin County Ambulance responded but no one was transported.

9:46 p.m. - Received a report of a domestic situation east of Shoals. Sgt. Keller and Loogootee Sgt. Norris responded.

11:01 p.m. - Received a report of possible poachers north of Shoals. Sgt. Keller and ICO Mann responded. The vehicle was located.

11:26 p.m. - Received a report of harassment in Loogootee. Loogootee Sgt. Norris responded.

### TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 3

7:47 a.m. - Received a report of a car-deer accident on US 150, east of Shoals. Chief Deputy Greene responded.

8:05 a.m. - Captain Dant assisted a motorist north of Loogootee on US 231.

11:00 a.m. - Received a report of a theft south of Loogootee. Chief Deputy Greene responded.

12:35 a.m. - Received a report of a drive off in Loogootee. Loogootee Police Department was advised.

1:55 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance near Loogootee. Martin County Ambulance responded for lift assistance.

3:25 p.m. - Received a dog complaint in Loogootee. Loogootee Chief Rayhill responded.

3:26 p.m. - Received a complaint of burning in Loogootee. Loogootee Chief Rayhill responded.

9:01 p.m. - Received a call of a natural gas odor south of Loogootee. Haysville Fire Department responded.

### WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 4

8:03 a.m. - Received request for an ambulance in Shoals. Martin County Ambulance responded and transported the subject to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

1:55 p.m. - Captain Dant took 3 inmates to court.

2:37 p.m. - Received report of an accident North of Loogootee. Major Burkhardt responded.

4:19 p.m. - Received a dog complaint near Shoals. Martin County Humane Society was contacted.

4:21 p.m. - Received a report of an accident just north of Loogootee. Loogootee Officer Nolan responded.

10:12 p.m. - Received a report of suspicious activity east of Shoals. Marshal Eckert, Corporal Baker, and Deputy Salmon responded.

10:43 p.m. - Received a report of a car-deer accident west of Shoals. Corporal Baker worked the accident.

### THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 5

2:39 a.m. - Received a report of a tree down on SR 150 just east of Shoals. Shoals

Fire Department responded and removed the tree.

6:45 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Ambulance responded and transported the subject to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

7:47 a.m. - Received a dog complaint north of Shoals. Chief Deputy Greene was advised.

7:58 a.m. - Received a report of a car-deer accident on Hwy 550. Chief Deputy Greene responded.

8:45 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Shoals. Shoals Fire Department and Martin County Ambulance responded. The subject was transported to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

9:30 a.m. - Sheriff Roush took one inmate to court.

10:03 a.m. - Chief Deputy Greene assisted a motorist North of Shoals.

10:28 a.m. - Sheriff Roush took one inmate to court.

10:46 a.m. - Chief Deputy Greene took one inmate to court.

12:00 p.m. - Received a report of harassment in Loogootee. Loogootee Chief Rayhill responded.

1:00 p.m. - Sheriff Roush took one inmate to court.

1:18 p.m. - Received a report of harassment in Loogootee. Loogootee Chief Rayhill responded.

2:25 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance near Loogootee. Martin County Ambulance responded and transported the subject to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

3:00 p.m. - Major Burkhardt took four inmates to court.

3:39 p.m. - Received a report of a fight in Shoals. Sheriff Roush, Chief Deputy Greene, and Major Burkhardt responded.

4:51 p.m. - Major Burkhardt assisted the department of child services with a welfare check near Shoals.

5:55 p.m. - Received a report of a reckless driver on US 50, east of Shoals. Corporal Baker responded.

6:16 p.m. - Received a report of a car-deer accident on US 231, near Loogootee. Loogootee Officer Nolan responded.

6:18 p.m. - Received a report of a property dispute near Shoals. Corporal Baker took the call.

11:14 p.m. - Received a report of a fight in Loogootee. Loogootee Officer Nolan responded.

### FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 6

12:05 a.m. - Received a report of a reckless driver near Loogootee. Loogootee Officer Nolan responded and checked the driver.

2:43 a.m. - Received a report of a reckless driver on US 231, south of Loogootee. Deputy Salmon and Loogootee Officer Nolan were dispatched.

8:30 a.m. - Major Burkhardt made a public speaking appearance at Shoals School.

7:47 a.m. - Received a report of an injured deer in Loogootee. Loogootee Captain Akles responded.

8:38 a.m. - Received a report of a tree blocking Windom Road. Martin County Highway Department removed the tree.

8:55 a.m. - Chief Deputy Greene in court in reference to a special detail.

10:00 a.m. - Chief Deputy Greene took two inmates to court.

11:04 a.m. - Major Burkhardt and Indi-

ana State Police Trooper Lents responded with the department of child services on a welfare check north of Shoals.

11:15 a.m. - Received a report of trespassing in Loogootee. Loogootee Captain Akles was notified.

12:00 p.m. - Received a report of an accident on US 50, west of Shoals. Major Burkhardt responded.

1:30 p.m. - Received a report of a possible drunk driver in Loogootee. Loogootee Captain Akles took the call.

2:00 p.m. - Major Burkhardt made a personal speaking engagement at Loogootee School.

3:42 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Ambulance responded and transported the subject.

6:08 p.m. - Major Burkhardt assisted a motorist in Loogootee.

8:39 p.m. - Received a report of harassment in Loogootee. Loogootee Police Department responded.

9:42 p.m. - Received a report of a theft in Loogootee. Loogootee Police Department took the call.

11:19 p.m. - Received a report of a possible drunk driver on US 231, near Loogootee. Loogootee Officer Nolan responded and checked the driver.

### SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 7

7:04 a.m. - Received a report of a car-deer accident west of Shoals. Sgt. Keller responded.

8:49 a.m. - Received a report of harassment near Shoals. Sgt. Keller took the call.

12:15 p.m. - Received a report of an accident near Shoals. Sgt. Keller responded.

1:01 p.m. - Received a dog complaint in

Loogootee. Loogootee Captain Akles responded.

1:38 p.m. - Received a report of a domestic situation east of Shoals. Sgt. Keller and Indiana State Police Trooper Lents responded.

3:55 p.m. - Received a report of a reckless driver in Shoals. Sgt. Keller responded.

5:10 p.m. - Sgt. Keller assisted a motorist in Shoals.

8:02 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Shoals. Shoals Fire Department and Martin County Ambulance responded. No one was transported.

9:26 p.m. - Received a report of harassment in Loogootee. Loogootee Police Department, Deputy Salmon, and Conservation Officer Mann responded.

9:53 p.m. - Deputy Salmon assisted a motorist in Loogootee.

### SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 8

12:39 p.m. - Received a report of harassment in Loogootee. Loogootee Captain Akles took the call.

2:51 p.m. - Received a report of a domestic situation in Loogootee. Loogootee Captain Akles responded.

4:11 p.m. - Received a report of an alarm north of Loogootee. Captain Dant responded and all was okay.

11:08 p.m. - Deputy Salmon assisted a motorist near Loogootee.

### MONDAY, NOVEMBER 9

2:39 a.m. - Received a report of alarms going off in Loogootee. Loogootee Fire Department responded.

4:33 a.m. - Received a report of a car-deer accident on US 231, south of Loogootee. Deputy Salmon responded.

## Real estate transfers

**Amber M. Lashley**, of Martin County, Indiana to **Richard Dale Graber and Lillie Catherine Graber**, of Daviess County, Indiana, a part of the northwest quarter of the northwest quarter of Section 30, Township 3 North, Range 4 West, Perry Township, Martin County, Indiana, containing 0.499 acres, more or less.

**Robert L. Spurgeon**, of Martin County, Indiana to **Terry L. Howell and Sherry L. Howell**, of Martin County, Indiana, Lots Numbered 122, 123, and 124 in Chenoweth's Extension to the Town of West Shoals, now Shoals, Indiana.

**Joe Estrada**, of Martin County, Indiana to **Howard Reed**, of Martin County, Indiana, part of the west half of the northeast quarter of Section 36, Township 2 North, Range 3 West, Martin County, Indiana, containing 0.54 acres, more or less.

**Joe Estrada**, of Martin County, Indiana to **Billie J. Groff**, of Martin County, Indiana, a part of the west half of the northeast quarter of Section 36, Township 2 North, Range 3 West, Martin County, Indiana, containing 5 acres, more or less.

**Liza R. Denson, Richard D. Denson, and Rita J. Denson**, of Martin County, Indiana to **Joshua M. Graber and Brittany L. Parker**, of Martin County, Indiana, a part of the southeast quarter of the southwest quarter of Section 13, Township 3 North, Range 5 West.

**Teresa M. Nolley**, of Martin County, In-

diana to **Donna M. Souerdike**, of Martin County, Indiana. Tract I: Starting at the northwest corner of the northwest quarter of the northeast quarter of said Section 24, Township 2 North, Range 5 West. Tract II: Also, a portion of the northwest quarter of the northeast quarter of Section 24, Township 2 North, Range 5 West.

**Kelly J. Blackman**, of Martin County, Indiana to **Justin Allen Senne and Tracy Elizabeth Senne**, of Monroe County, Indiana, a part of Lot 86 in Campbell and Breen's Addition to the City of Loogootee, Indiana.

**Walton Woodrow Hembree**, of Martin County, Indiana to **Trina Morris**, of Martin County, Indiana, that portion of the west half of the northwest quarter of Section 2, Township 2 North, Range 4 West of the second principal meridian, Center Township, Martin County, Indiana, containing 1.774 acres, more or less.

**Anne F. O'Neal**, of Martin County, Indiana to **Perry Dale Graber and Frances Diane Graber**, of Daviess County, Indiana, a part of the northwest quarter of Section 31, Township 3 North, Range 4 West.

**Oscar K. Strahley, Jr. and Linda Lou Strahley**, of Martin County, Indiana to **Courtney Kender**, of Martin County, Indiana, a part of the northeast quarter of the northwest quarter of Section 24, Township 3 North, Range 4 West, containing 3.3 acres, more or less.

## NOTICE TO MEMBERS OF EAST FORK WATER, INC.

Nominations for new directors for Mitcheltree and East Perry townships will be accepted before December 11th at the East Fork office located at 213 S. Main Street in Shoals, Indiana. Fifteen or more members may make nominations for new directors in writing, by certified mail, or personal delivery. The annual meeting will be held January 25, 2016 at 7:30 p.m. and nominees will be voted upon at that meeting. All members are invited to attend.

## 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		
Jasonville (812) 665-3969	Bicknell (812) 735-3545		

# Loogootee Police log

## MONDAY, NOVEMBER 2

9:45 a.m. - Chief Rayhill assisted with a funeral procession.

2:15 p.m. - Chief Rayhill and Captain Hennette assisted child protective services.

3:11 p.m. - Caller reported a reckless driver on US 231.

8:35 p.m. - First responders were requested on John C. Strange Street for a medical call.

9:57 p.m. - Sgt. Norris assisted the Martin County Sheriff's Department with a domestic dispute in the Shoals area.

11:26 p.m. - Received a report of a disturbance in Bowling Trailer Court.

## TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 3

12:30a.m. - Caller reported someone was beating on her trailer.

3:15 p.m. - Caller reported a dog complaint on South Kentucky Avenue.

3:30 p.m. - Caller reported someone burning leaves.

5:35 p.m. - Caller reported a dog complaint on Church Street.

10:05 a.m. - Caller reported possible drug activity.

## WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 4

4:24 p.m. - Female came on station to report identity theft.

6:21 p.m. - Caller reported a snake in his residence.

8:37 p.m. - Officer Nolan assisted Indiana State Police with a traffic stop.

## THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 5

12:11p.m. - Caller reported a disturbance in Redwing Trailer Court.

12:10 p.m. - Received a report of a reckless driver on US 231. Officer was unable to locate.

12:12 p.m. - Male came on station to report a possible scam.

12:20 p.m. - Caller reported a dog complaint.

12:45 p.m. - Female came on station to report problems from juveniles at a local business.

11:14 p.m. - Received a report of a fight in Shaded Estates.

## FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 6

12:05 a.m. - Caller reported a possible intoxicated driver on US 231. Officer Nolan located the vehicle and the driver checked out okay.

2:43 a.m. - Received a report of a reckless driver on US 231.

7:47 a.m. - Caller requested a road kill permit.

11:15 a.m. - Caller reported a trespasser in Shaded Estates.

1:30 p.m. - Received a report of a possible intoxicated driver.

6:32 p.m. - Caller reported an elderly male that may be lost. Officer Todd located the male.

8:41 p.m. - Caller reported a disturbance

in Redwing Trailer Court.

9:47 p.m. - Male reported a stolen cell phone.

11:19 p.m. - Caller reported a possible intoxicated driver.

## SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 7

10:41a.m. - Caller reported a possible intoxicated driver on SW 2nd Street. Officer was unable to locate.

9:28 p.m. - Caller reported harassment.

9:55 p.m. - Received a report of a vehicle without tail lights.

## SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 8

12:39 p.m. - Caller reported harassment.

2:51 p.m. - Caller reported a stolen cell phone.

6:32 p.m. - Caller reported a theft from her vehicle while parked on Cedar Street.

## JAIL BOOKINGS

### MONDAY, NOVEMBER 2

12:40 a.m. - Jason Mails, 40, of Indianapolis, was arrested by ICO Mann on a Monroe County warrant and is being held without bond.

### TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 3

1:38 p.m. - William Threet IV, 32, of Shoals, was arrested by Captain Dant and is being held on a Boone County warrant.

3:00 p.m. - Joshua Phillips, 35, of Loogootee, was arrested Chief Deputy Greene on a Martin County warrant and is being held without bond.

3:33 p.m. - Sonya Davis, of Shoals, was arrested by Captain Dant on a Daviess County warrant and transported to Daviess County Sheriff's Department.

7:02 p.m. - Gina Grafton, 34, of Loogootee, was arrested by Major Burkhardt for battery and is being held on a \$25,000 10% bond.

### WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 4

9:10 p.m. - Glenn Roll, 49, of Jasper, was arrested by State Trooper Beaver for operating while intoxicated and is being held on a \$20,000 10% bond.

### THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 5

8:17 a.m. - Dylan Day, 20, of Loogootee, was arrested by Chief Deputy Greene for driving while suspended, operating while intoxicated refusal, and neglect of a dependent. He is being held without bond. Sheriff Roush assisted in the arrest.

### SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 8

3:26 p.m. - Joshua Phillips, 35, of Loogootee, was arrested by Loogootee Captain Akels for theft and is being held without bond.

## Accident reports

### WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 4

4:26 p.m. - Corey J. Wathen, of Loogootee, was operating a 2001 Ford and stopped on US 231 waiting to turn onto Goodwill Cemetery Road. Hydi D. Perry, of Odon, was operating a 2012 Dodge and was stopped behind the Wathen vehicle. At this time, Bladen J. Allbright, of Loogootee, who was operating a 1995 Ford crested the hill and could not get stopped in time. This caused damage to all three vehicles. Officer Nolan was the investigating officer.

### THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 5

6:15 p.m. - Raymond D. Boyd, of Shoals, was operating a 2003 Chevy on US 231. At this time, a deer ran into the path of the Boyd vehicle. Officer Nolan investigated.

### SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 7

7:04 a.m. - Matthew S. Clark, 30, of Shoals, contacted the Martin County Sheriff's Department stating that he was involved in a crash involving a deer on Brooks Bridge Road west of Jackman Hill Road. Clark stated he was westbound when several deer entered the roadway. There was another deer that entered the roadway after the first group. Clark was unable to avoid the last deer striking it with his vehicle. There was damage to the right headlight and right front fender of Clark's 1994 Buick LeSabre. The investigating officer was Sergeant Keith Keller with the Martin County Sheriff's Department.

# Martin County Court News

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

## CRIMINAL CONVICTIONS

### & SENTENCING

#### October 6

Natasha L. Graber, convicted of criminal mischief, a Class D Felony. Sentenced to serve 2 year at the Indiana Department of Corrections with 1 year suspended and 1 year direct commitment with Martin County Community Corrections and credit for 2 actual days previously served plus 2 good time credit days. Defendant received 1 year of probation.

Kent B. Smith, convicted of operating a vehicle with an ACE of .08 or more, a Class C Misdemeanor and invasion of privacy, a Class A Misdemeanor. Sentenced to serve, on the first count, to 60 days in the Martin County Security Center with 44 days suspended and credit for 8 actual days previously served and 8 good time credit days. Defendant received 30 days of probation. On the second count, sentenced to serve 365 days in the Martin County Security Center with 365 days suspended. Defendant received 11 months of probation.

#### October 20

Travis S. Bauernfiend, convicted of operating a vehicle as an habitual traffic violator, a Class 6 Felony. Sentenced to serve 1 year at the Indiana Department of Corrections with 0 days suspended and credit for 161 actual days previously served and 161 good time credit days.

Zachary K. Nolan, convicted of possession of marijuana, a Class B Misdemeanor. Sentenced to serve 180 days in the Martin County Security Center with 170 days suspended and credit for 5 actual days previously served and 5 good time credit days. Defendant received 5 months of probation.

Anthony B. Richmond, convicted of battery resulting in bodily injury, a Class A Misdemeanor, amended from a Class 6 Felony. Sentenced to serve 196 days in the Martin County Security Center with 0 days suspended and credit for 98 actual days previously served plus 98 good time credit days.

Marty Peek, convicted of domestic battery, a Class A Misdemeanor. Sentenced to serve 365 days in the Martin County Security Center with 357 days suspended and credit for 4 actual days previously served plus 4 good time credit days. Defendant received 6 months of probation.

## CRIMINAL CHARGES DISMISSED

#### October 20

Travis S. Bauernfiend, possession of paraphernalia, a Class A Misdemeanor, dismissed; possession of marijuana, a Class B Misdemeanor, dismissed.

Anthony B. Richmond, criminal mischief, a Class B Misdemeanor, dismissed.

## CIVIL COURT

## New Suits Filed

### October 29

Portfolio Recovery Associates, LLC vs. Lori Plano, civil collection.

Capital One Bank vs. Darlene A. Lauders, civil collection.

### November 2

Capital One Bank vs. Charles A. Keller, Jr., civil collection.

### October 26

Susan E. Ford vs. Jarret W. Ford, petition for dissolution of marriage.

## CIVIL COURT JUDGMENTS

### October 29

Judgment in favor of the plaintiff Portfolio Recovery Associates, LLC and against the defendant Paul Steiner in the amount of \$709.39.

## SMALL CLAIMS COURT

### New Suits Filed

#### October 29

Isha E. Wright-Ryan, Attorney at Law P.C. vs. Carolyn Baker Sims, complaint.

## SMALL CLAIMS JUDGMENTS

### October 28

Judgment in favor of the plaintiff Staci Whitehead Morrow and against the defendant Jennifer R. Hurst in the amount of \$121.

### November 5

Judgment in favor of the plaintiff Crane Federal Credit Union and against the defendant Robin D. Carwile in the amount of \$1,284.75.

Judgment in favor of the plaintiff Crane Federal Credit Union and against the defendant Angela M. Ruble in the amount of \$2,316.

Judgment in favor of the plaintiff Crane Federal Credit Union and against the defendant Frank J. Gruse, Jr. in the amount of \$2,265.

Judgment in favor of the plaintiff Crane Federal Credit Union and against the defendant Ami L. Sewell in the amount of \$700.98.

Judgment in favor of the plaintiff Crane Federal Credit Union and against the defendant Cory D. Staggs in the amount of \$687.07.

Judgment in favor of the plaintiff Crane Federal Credit Union and against the defendant Gerald S. Thompson Jr. in the amount of \$1,843.01.

Judgment in favor of the plaintiff Crane Federal Credit Union and against the defendant Kevin S. Young in the amount of \$3,111.61.

## MARRIAGE LICENSES

### October 27

Anthony S. Chestnut of Loogootee and Jennifer Louise Yoder of Loogootee.

### October 31

Ronald Tyler Divine of Loogootee and Kenedi Rohlman of Loogootee.

## Martin County JOURNAL

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## In the Garden

By Ralph Purkhiser  
Purdue University Master Gardener

While many people think the gardening season is over, true gardeners know that there is still a lot of work to be done. Just when I thought I had almost finished with fall planting, I happened upon a great end-of-the-season sale and could not resist purchasing some bargain plants. If you find such bargains, do not be afraid to buy some plants. While most shrubs, trees and perennials are going dormant, the roots will continue to develop as long as the soil is not frozen. Of course, as I have often admonished, make sure you have some mulch on hand to put around newly-planted specimens after the ground freezes to avoid problems with ground heave during the freeze-thaw cycles typical of southern Indiana winters.

This may be the most important lawn-care time of the year. Mowing should continue as long as lawns continue to grow. A November application of fertilizer is probably the most important feeding a lawn can get. Although top growth slows as temperatures cool, root growth continues. It is important to use the right fertilizer. A water soluble fertilizer will allow the plant to take up the nitrogen to encourage the continuation of photosynthesis. The sugars not needed for plant growth now will be stored in the crown and roots of the plant, allowing for rapid green-up in the spring. Do not use insoluble or time-released nitrogen. The nitrogen not taken up by the plant immediately will remain in the soil and often leaches away during winter rains, causing contamination of water supplies. When applying fertilizers in November, use 1 to 1 1/2 pounds of actual nitrogen per 1000 square feet of lawn. By fertilizing now, the plants will have stored carbohydrates that will last through early spring, allowing spring fertilization to be delayed until May. Fertilization in March and April is usually counter-productive. It will cause the lawn to green up quickly, but the growth is all top-growth, resulting in the need for more mowing and in plants that are not as healthy, since the spring fertilization does

little for the roots of the plants.

The other important lawn-care job this time of the year is the removal of leaves. If you have only a few leaves, you may mow them with a mulching mower and leave the residue on the lawn, where the tiny pieces will fall between the grass blades and decompose. This is actually good for the lawn, supplying a source of organic matter. However, if you have large leaves or a lot of small leaves, the resulting matting will smother the lawn grass, so it is important to remove the leaves from the lawn. I suggest using a mulching lawn vac, which will shred the leaves, making for more rapid decomposition. If you do not have access to such a machine, you may rake the leaves and use a string trimmer to shred them a few at a time in a metal garbage can. The resulting leaf mold will break down to form wonderful compost, which will enrich the soil in planting beds and on lawns next summer.

Roses also need some attention in November. Most shrub roses will do fine in Hoosier winters, but if you grow the hybrid tea roses, you have some work to do. The reason is that most of the hybrid teas have roses native to southern China as a part of their heritage. Those roses simply cannot survive the temperatures we normally get in winter without some protection. Rose experts advise mounding soil up over the graft about seven inches deep. That may then be covered with straw or mulch. Of course, when warm temperatures return in the spring, that mounded soil needs to be removed, or the stem of the plant will rot. If you have roses with long canes, it is recommended that the canes be cut back to keep them from being whipped in the wind. I have heard many people lament that their roses have changed colors. What usually has happened in such cases is that the graft has been killed by the winter and the rose has regenerated from the hardy root stock, which is usually a shrub rose of some sort.

There is still a lot to do in the garden. At least the cooler temperatures make a day of gardening more pleasant.

## Purdue Extension hosts sheep and goat webinar

BY EMMA HOPKINS  
Purdue University News Service

The Purdue and the Kentucky Extension services will present a live webinar for sheep and goat producers 7-9 p.m. EST on December 3.

Experts will provide their perspective on small-ruminant health and management practices, including record keeping, lambing, kidding and nutrition.

Topics and presenters:

\* "Utilizing Herd Performance Programs to Increase Productivity," Kenneth Andries, Extension goat specialist, Kentucky State University.

## 14 state parks to close temporarily for deer reductions

Select Indiana state parks will close temporarily to allow for controlled deer reductions in the coming weeks.

The dates for the temporary closings are November 16 and 17, and November 30 and December 1.

The state parks affected are Clifty Falls, Fort Harrison, Harmonie, Lincoln, McCormick's Creek, Ouabache, Pokagon, Potato Creek, Prophetstown, Shades, Shakamak, Tippecanoe, Turkey Run and Whitewater Memorial.

These state parks will close to the general public the evening before each of the two efforts and reopen the morning after each two-day reduction.

Only individual hunters drawn last September and those hunters they listed on their applications may participate in the hunts.

\* "Causes, Diagnosis, Prevention and Treatment of Sheep/Goat Abortions," Beth Johnson, field veterinarian, Kentucky Department of Agriculture.

\* "The Veterinary Feed Directive's Impact on Small Ruminants," Johnson.

The webinar is free and will be presented live at several host locations throughout Indiana. For more information and a list of viewing sites, go to the Fulton County Extension website at <https://extension.purdue.edu/Fulton/>.

The webinar will be archived for later viewing on the Purdue Department of Animal Sciences website at: <https://vimeo.com/channels/648515>.

There will be no standby drawings this year.

DNR biologists evaluate which parks require a reduction each year based on habitat recovery and previous harvest rates at each park. The state parks are home to more than 32 state-endangered plants and numerous significant natural communities. The reductions help control browsing by deer to a level that helps maintain habitat throughout the state parks for all plants and animals.

Information on 2016 state park deer reductions, including online applications, will be available next summer at [dnr.IN.gov/fish-wild](http://dnr.IN.gov/fish-wild). The application deadline is usually the end of August.

A report on the 2014 reductions is at [dnr.IN.gov/parklake/files/sp-DeerRMRR.pdf](http://dnr.IN.gov/parklake/files/sp-DeerRMRR.pdf).

## Mild and dry weather expected initially this winter in Indiana

BY KEITH ROBINSON  
Purdue University News Service

Indiana likely will be mild and dry early this winter and then return to more normal weather later in the season, the Indiana State Climate Office says.

The outlook will be seen as comforting to those who don't like cold and snow. The two previous winters in Indiana for the most part were cold - at times brutally so - and included heavy snowstorms. Yet climatologists caution that this does not mean Indiana won't have blustery cold snowstorms that blow through the region during the peak of the winter months.

Winter weather in the Midwest is often driven by combinations of global weather patterns, known as oscillations. One oscillation may have more influence over all others in determining what any winter season turns out to be like in Indiana.

This year, the major oscillation at work is ENSO, the El Niño - Southern Oscillation, or, specifically, the El Niño portion of ENSO. El Niño is identified by the cyclic warming of tropical surface water temperature in the Pacific Ocean. It affects Indiana weather, especially in the winter.

The current El Niño, which arrived in Indiana over the summer and should reach its peak in December, is among the strongest on record since 1950, said the climate office, based at Purdue University.

"Weather history tells us very strong El Niños bring warmer temperatures and about half the normal amount of snow to Indiana," said Dev Niyogi, Indiana state climatologist. "A famous example of El Niño warmth was Christmas Day 1982 when no coats were needed outdoors in Indiana."

If El Niño fades after December, more normal temperatures and precipitation could return in the second half of winter, or another oscillation, such as the Arctic Oscillation, may become more dominant and bring a



There could be fewer scenes such as this in Indiana this winter - at least early on - if the weather outlook of the Indiana State Climate Office, based at Purdue University, holds true. (Purdue Agricultural Communication file photo/Keith Robinson)

much colder and snowier late winter.

"Currently, a fading El Niño in late winter with more normal winter weather seems more likely," said Ken Scheeringa, associate state climatologist.

Last November was unseasonably cold, with conditions including locally heavy snowfall, gusty winds and many traffic accidents on icy roads. December was generally pleasant and easy, with hardly any snowfall. Then more typical winter weather returned and with it snowstorms. The storms continued in February, and temperatures dropped 10-30 degrees below normal for 15 consecutive days.

But that wasn't as severe as the previous winter, which often brought crippling snowstorms and temperatures and wind chills as much as 30 degrees below zero for extended periods.

The Useful to Usable climate initiative, based at Purdue, has an online tool to better assess how climate patterns such as El Niño in other parts of the world can influence local conditions. The tool is available at <https://my-geohub.org/groups/u2u/tools>.

## Fall prep can lead to healthier pastures next year

BY EMMA HOPKINS  
Purdue University News Service

Fall is the ideal time for livestock producers to walk their pastures and assess what may need to be improved before next year's grazing season, a Purdue Extension forage specialist says.

"They should be assessing what's out there - the amount of grass and type of grasses, the amount of legume and type of legumes, and what weeds are there," said Keith Johnson.

The time frame for pasture improvement begins with assessing the pasture in early November, testing the soil and checking fences. Fall is a good time for repairing fences when temperatures are milder than the heat of summer and the cold of winter.

Johnson said pastures should have excellent ground cover and be around 30 percent legumes or 50 percent for lactating animals - that is, roughly two legume plants per square foot. Ideally, the remaining cover should be adapted cool-season grasses.

It is important for producers to test the soil if they haven't done so in the past three years. Special attention should be paid to pH, phosphorus and potassium levels. If lime is needed, it should be applied in the fall so it can begin to increase soil pH over the winter months. Other nutrients may be applied at the same time, especially if nutrient levels are low, or deferred to a spring application. Lime and fertilizer should not be applied to frozen soil so nutrient movement offsite can be minimized.

A list of soil-testing labs can be found at [https://ag.purdue.edu/agry/extension/Pages/soil\\_testing.aspx](https://ag.purdue.edu/agry/extension/Pages/soil_testing.aspx).

Pastures should be evaluated for the specific types of weeds present as some are more problematic to control and some might be poisonous concerns if eaten by livestock. A plan for reducing weed problems should be developed now so proper control methods can be implemented in the upcoming year.

Johnson said overseeding is most successful if pastures are grazed down to about 3 inches high in the fall, a condition that borders on overgrazing. This reduces the amount of broadcast seed that can get caught in very tall residual vegetation and, therefore, have no opportunity to become a soil-anchored seedling.

Very late February and the first three weeks of March, before grasses become green, is an excellent time to overseed pastures with legumes or grass seed. That is also an acceptable time if not done in the fall to apply soil test recommended nutrients such as potassium and phosphorus, and to apply nitrogen to grass dominant pastures that will not be overseeded with legumes.

"What happens when you let nutrient levels get low is that the cost to get them back up is extremely high," Johnson said. "So it's best to keep what's needed and follow through with the application of the nutrients and the occasional soil test every third year or so to see if you're on course."

"To get the seed closer to the soil surface some may let livestock out over the pasture immediately after seeding or use a harrow pulled by a tractor," he said. "They need to be cautious because typically Indiana pastures in late March and early April can be fairly wet, and if we're not careful the hoof action can do more damage than good."

# Governor dedicates Fox Ridge Nature Park in honor of the Bicentennial

Gov. Mike Pence joined members of the Bicentennial Commission and the Knox County Parks & Recreation Department last Thursday to officially dedicate the recently acquired Fox Ridge Nature Park northeast of Vincennes.

The 95-acre former golf course property includes more than two miles of paved cart paths that will be developed into walking and biking trails. Pence announced that the Department of Natural Resources has awarded a \$200,000 Land & Water Conservation Fund grant to expand trails, install native tree and prairie plantings, and develop public fishing facilities for two ponds at the new park.

"Today is an exciting day as we celebrate the dedication of Fox Ridge Nature Park, an act of stewardship that will benefit Hoosiers for years to come," Pence said. "It seems all too fitting that we have dedicated this outstanding Bicentennial project in the same county that hosted our first Territorial Capitol, and I couldn't be more proud to join members of the Bicentennial Commission and local officials to mark this special day."

The Parks Department completed the purchase of the property in April. The county provided half the purchase price with matching funds from the Bicentennial Nature Trust (BNT). The Parks Department owns and manages the property while the DNR holds a conservation easement ensuring public access and permanent protection.

"Fox Ridge adds a unique mix of ameni-

ties for residents to use and enjoy," said Rama Sobhani, Knox County Parks director. "We are grateful to the Bicentennial Nature Trust and members of the community who helped make this day a reality."

The BNT is a project of the Bicentennial Commission, co-chaired by former Lt. Gov. Becky Skillman and former U.S. Representative Lee Hamilton. The statewide program is aimed at expanding trails, conservation areas and recreation sites to help celebrate Indiana's 200 years of statehood in 2016. The state parks system was created during Indiana's centennial celebration in 1916, and BNT projects will provide a similar legacy for generations of Hoosiers.

An initial \$20 million in state funding was obligated for BNT projects, and the Lilly Endowment donated another \$10 million to the effort. Money from the fund is matched no less than \$1:1 with the local community sponsor. To date, the Bicentennial Commission has approved 156 projects, and 90 of the projects have been completed for a total of 6,646 acres.

"We applaud Knox County leaders for their effort to preserve Fox Ridge for public use," Skillman and Hamilton said in a joint statement. "The Bicentennial Commission is committed to nature conservation in Indiana, and we look forward to celebrating many more success stories for the Bicentennial Nature Trust in the coming year." In addition to Fox Ridge Nature Park, Knox

County Parks operates four properties, including the 254-acre Ouabache Trails Park featuring hiking trails, mountain biking, and public camping. For more information, visit [knoxcountyparks.com](http://knoxcountyparks.com).

The BNT is seeking additional private

## FSA County Committee Elections to begin

Farm Service Agency (FSA) Administrator Val Dolcini last Thursday announced that the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) will begin mailing ballots to eligible farmers and ranchers across the country for the 2015 FSA County Committee elections on Monday, November 9, 2015. Producers must return ballots to their local FSA offices by December 7, 2015, to ensure that their vote is counted.

"County committee members represent the farmers and ranchers in their communities," said Dolcini. "Producers elected to these committees have always played a vital role in local agricultural decisions. They are essential to the daily operation of nearly 2,200 offices across the country. It is a valued partnership that helps us better understand the needs of the farmers and ranchers we serve."

Nearly 7,700 FSA County Committee members serve FSA offices nationwide. Each committee has three to 11 elected members who serve three-year terms of office. One-third of county committee seats are up for election each year. County committee members apply their knowledge and judgment to help FSA make important decisions on its commodity support programs; conservation

programs; indemnity and disaster programs; emergency programs and eligibility. Producers must participate or cooperate in an FSA program to be eligible to vote in the county committee election. Approximately 1.9 million producers are currently eligible to vote. Farmers and ranchers who supervise and conduct the farming operations of an entire farm, but are not of legal voting age, also may be eligible to vote.

For more information, visit the FSA website at [www.fsa.usda.gov/elections](http://www.fsa.usda.gov/elections). You may also contact your local USDA Service Center or FSA office. Visit <http://offices.usda.gov> to find an FSA office near you.

For more information, visit the FSA website at [www.fsa.usda.gov/elections](http://www.fsa.usda.gov/elections). You may also contact your local USDA Service Center or FSA office. Visit <http://offices.usda.gov> to find an FSA office near you.

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Toll Free: 888-302-3209  
Fax: 812-295-3209



**AUTO REPAIR**

**Loogootee COLLISION CENTER** 295-4041  
loogcollision@verizon.net  
FULL SERVICE COLLISION REPAIR  
NEXT DAY GLASS SERVICE  
12851 E 150 N, Loogootee, IN 47553  
(Next to Loughmiller Machine)

**AUTO REPAIR**

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## More Neat Stuff



By Ann Ackerman



The following are quotes from people who realized that life is a fleeting commodity. Appreciate each day.

1. Today, I interviewed my grandmother for part of a research paper I'm working on for my Psychology class. When I asked her to define success in her own words, she said, "Success is when you look back at your life and the memories make you smile."

2. Today, I asked my mentor - a very successful business man in his 70s-what his top 3 tips are for success. He smiled and said, "Read something no one else is reading, think something no one else is thinking, and do something no one else is doing."

3. Today, after a 72-hour shift at the fire station, a woman ran up to me at the grocery store and gave me a hug. When I tensed up, she realized I didn't recognize her. She let go with tears of joy in her eyes and the most sincere smile and said, "On 9-11-2001, you carried me out of the World Trade Center."

4. Today, after I watched my dog get run over by a car, I sat on the side of the road holding him and crying. And just before he died, he licked the tears off my face.

5. Today at 7 a.m., I woke up feeling ill, but decided I needed the money, so I went into work. At 3 p.m. I got laid off. On my drive home I got a flat tire. When I went into the trunk for the spare, it was flat too. A man in a BMW pulled over, gave me a ride, we chatted, and then he offered me a job. I start tomorrow.

6. Today, as my father, three brothers, and two sisters stood around my mother's hospital bed, my mother uttered her last coherent words before she died. She simply said, "I feel so loved right now. We should have gotten together like this more often."

7. Today, I kissed my dad on the forehead as he passed away in a small hospital bed. About 5 seconds after he passed, I realized it was the first time I had given him a kiss since I was a little boy.

8. Today, in the cutest voice, my 8-year-old daughter asked me to start recycling. I chuckled and asked, "Why?" She replied, "So you can help me save the planet." I chuckled again and asked, "And why do you want to save the planet?" "Because that's where I keep all my stuff," she said.

9. Today, when I witnessed a 27-year-old breast cancer patient laughing hysterically

at her 2-year-old daughter's antics, I suddenly realized that I need to stop complaining about my life and start celebrating it again.

10. Today, a boy in a wheelchair saw me desperately struggling on crutches with my broken leg and offered to carry my backpack and books for me. He helped me all the way across campus to my class and as he was leaving he said, "I hope you feel better soon."

11. Today, I was feeling down because the results of a biopsy came back malignant. When I got home, I opened an e-mail that said, "Thinking of you today. If you need me, I'm a phone call away." It was from a high school friend I hadn't seen in 10 years.

12. Today, I was traveling in Kenya and I met a refugee from Zimbabwe. He said he hadn't eaten anything in over 3 days and looked extremely skinny and unhealthy. Then my friend offered him the rest of the sandwich he was eating. The first thing the man said was, "We can share it."

Let no one ever come to you without leaving better and happier. Be the living expression of God's Kindness.

Kindness in your face.

Kindness in your eyes.

Kindness in your smile. Blessed Mother Teresa

Don't get mad. Don't get even. Do better. Much better. Become so engulfed in your own success and happiness that you forget it ever happened.

Dogs come into our lives to teach us about love, they depart to teach us about loss. A new dog never replaces an old dog, it merely expands the heart. If you have loved many dogs, your heart is very big.

Some people make you laugh a little brighter and live life a little better. Try to be one of those people.

A strong friendship doesn't need daily conversation; doesn't always need togetherness. As long as the relationship lives in the heart, true friends will never part.

Make someone smile today!

## Tri-Kappa holds monthly meeting

On October 27 a meeting of the Delta Tau Chapter of Tri-Kappa was held at the Loogootee Branch of the German American Bank. Hostesses for the evening were Darlene Ridgway, Kristin Ridgway, Jennifer Ridgway and Linda Kaiser. The theme for the meeting was "Nashville". The little kindness for the month was "food pantry items."

The meeting was called to order by President Barb McFeaters. Roll call was read with members responding with "Your favorite country place". September minutes were read and approved.

Audrey Robinson explained the breakdown of the scholarship awards. Martin County residents could be eligible for a \$1,000 Academic Scholarship, a \$1,000 Key Scholarship, a \$1,000 Fine Arts Scholarship, or the \$1,000 Twanette Nutter Fleming Music Award. Please spread the word to college sophomores-seniors. The deadline to submit applications is Friday, January 8. Students wishing to apply for any of these scholarships need to contact Audrey Robinson at 812-296-1924.

ART: Brenda Strange brought in a book written by Pauline Hotz, 2014; Prose, Poetry & Art Metrical Rhythm of Imagination.

MENTAL HEALTH: Brittany Lyons gave a discussion on early detection of breast cancer, as October is breast cancer awareness month.

PARADE: With Christmas right around the corner, the parade was announced. It is Sunday, December 6 at 6 p.m.

SCRAPBOOK: Judy Treffinger won 1st place for her scrapbook at Province Convention.

BIRTHDAY CALENDARS: are being taken to Country Pines on October 28.

PECANS: Judy Kluesner announced that the NUTS ARE IN!

Brenda brought up the article "places to go" in the Indianapolis Star. The article mentioned Bo-Mac's in Shoals, as being in business for 50 years and a site to see is The Jug Rock in Shoals.

Beth Lett talked about Hindostan Falls. She suggested if we get the time to take a drive and enjoy it.

Under announcements, Judy and Richard Kluesner were honored as Philanthropists of the Year!

Judy and Richard Kluesner have a new granddaughter.

Brittany Lyons had a brother and sister married two weeks apart.

The group talked about Nashville, Tennessee. When Barb McFeaters son, Mark, was at West Point, the Glee Club, sang at the Grand Ole Opry with Trace Adkins.

Next meeting will be on Tuesday, November 24 at 7 p.m. at the Loogootee United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall.

Meeting was called to close.

## Festival of Lights Christmas Parade and Christmas Stroll

The 2nd Annual City of Loogootee Festival of Lights Christmas Parade will be Sunday, December 6 along with the downtown stores being open for Christmas shoppers as the Christmas Stroll will start at 5 p.m. The parade will proceed through downtown at 6 p.m.

The theme for the parade is "The First Christmas" and entries are being accepted by calling the mayor's office at 295-4770 or stopping in for an entry form.

Santa will again pay a visit during the parade and candy will be passed out to the young ones in attendance.

There will be lighted floats for you to enjoy along with marching bands and Christmas carolers.

## Calendar of Events

### Shoals School Board meeting

The Shoals School Board will meet Thursday, November 12 at 6 p.m. in the central administration office. Some items on the agenda include health insurance renewal for 2016 and roof replacement estimates. The meeting is open to the public.

### Loogootee School Board meeting

The Loogootee School Board will meet Tuesday, November 17 at 5:30 p.m. in the meeting room off the superintendent's office. The meeting is open to the public.

### Surviving the Holidays program

Surviving the Holidays program to be offered at Loogootee United Methodist Church on Monday, November 23 at 6 p.m. Plan to attend and bring a friend. Call 295-3049 to register.

### Veterans Day closing

Hoosier Uplands and the Martin County Health Department Immunization Clinic will be CLOSED on Wednesday, November 11 in observance of the Veterans Day holiday.

### Sons of the Revolution meeting

The Indiana Society Sons of the American Revolution, Daniel Guthrie Chapter will hold their 4th quarter meeting on November 17. This meeting will be held in the basement of the Free Methodist Church on 4th Street in Bedford. Dinner will begin at 6 p.m. and the meeting at 7 p.m. All are welcome to attend.

### Chamber of commerce meeting

The Martin County Chamber of Commerce will meet Wednesday, November 18 at noon at Wendy's in Loogootee.

### Free lunch for kids

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

2525.

### Boy Scouts and Cub Scouts

Boys interested in Boy Scouts or Cub Scouts, call 295-6652 or 854-7837 for information on joining.

### SOAR Tutoring

Need Skills? SOAR tutors can help! Free and confidential. Call or text Beverly 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.

### Humane society meetings

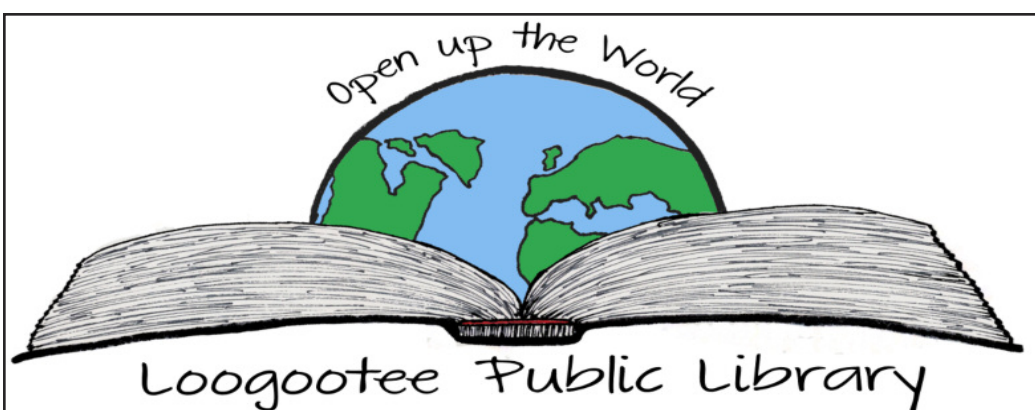
The Martin County Humane Society meets on the third Friday of the month at the animal shelter at 507 N Oak Street in Loogootee, at 7 p.m. Members of the humane society are invited to attend. To find out how to become a member, email mchs@frontier.com.

### Tourism meetings

The MCCC Tourism Committee meets on the third Wednesday of each month at 7 p.m. in the basement of the Shoals Public Library. The public is invited to attend.

### Soil and Water meetings

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



BY DARLA WAGLER

Librarian, Loogootee Public Library

Monday night, November 16, at 6-6:45 p.m., the library will offer an adult (18 years and older) coloring program.

New studies have shown that creating art relaxes people and can be very therapeutic. We live in a very busy world with many demands on us but when you start to color you slow down.

Studies show your breathing slows down causing you to relax. You start to forget about your problems plus creating something beautiful improves your mood. We will supply the adult coloring sheets,

crayons, colored pencils, and markers.

Mystery Fiction: "Crimson Shore" by Preston & Child and "The Promise" by Robert Crais.

Fiction: "The Magic Strings of Frankie Presto" by Mitch Albom.

Inspirational Fiction: "Hester on the Run" by Linda Byler.

DVDs: "Inside Out".

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



## State board approves ISTEP+ bonus points and sends diploma proposal back to committee

The Indiana State Board of Education made two key decisions during its regular business meeting last Wednesday in Indianapolis. The board voted unanimously to refer a proposal for new high school diplomas to a task force and approved the addition of bonus points for students on the 2014-15 ISTEP+ exam to offset the difference in difficulty between the online and paper versions of the test.

The board approved a resolution by Dr. Steve Yager, At-Large Member appointed by the Senate, to refer the proposed changes to Indiana's high school diploma requirements to a new task force created by the Department of Education for further work. The resolution requests the task force to clarify certain aspects of the proposals and provide course descriptions of new required courses, maintain flexibility of students to take electives, rename the proposed diplomas, reinstate the option of a general diploma, and provide an impact study on the effect the proposed changes would have on local school budgets and operations. The resolution also expresses the board's support for the Indiana General Assembly to pass a law requiring all high schools to offer all diploma options to eligible students. The updated diploma proposal would return to the board for consideration by April 1, 2016.

"The subcommittee did tremendous work

getting these proposals to this point," said Dr. Yager. "As this process moves forward, I look forward to addressing many of the concerns voiced by parents, teachers and educators, and refining these proposals to ensure all Hoosier students leave high school with the skills and credentials needed to succeed throughout their life."

The Board also approved recommendations by the state's outside assessment experts that would add bonus points to student scores to offset differences in difficulty between the online and paper versions of the 2014-15 ISTEP+ test. The experts concluded the tests were different in terms of difficulty. The addition of one to nine bonus points, depending on the student's method of testing, would offset the differences and provide a fair and equal test scores for all Hoosier students.

"As many teachers and educators have said since last spring, it appeared the online and paper ISTEP+ tests were not equal in difficulty," said Lee Ann Kwiatkowski, 9th District representative. "By adding bonus points to student scores, we are ensuring that every student is treated equally, regardless of the method in which they took the test."

The board also approved more than \$25 million in loan requests from traditional public school corporations for new construction and technology, approved the creation of a new Advanced Placement Computer Science Course, and received an update from the department of education on the performance of its turnaround academies.

The next meeting of the State Board of Education will take place on Wednesday, December 2, 2015 in the Indiana Government Center South - Conference Room B at 9 a.m.

## Indiana sees decline in rate of preterm births

State health officials say Indiana's efforts to reduce preterm births are resulting in a decrease in the number of babies born before 37 weeks gestation.

From 2009 to 2013, the last year for which data are complete, the number of preterm births dropped from 10.1 percent to 9.6 percent statewide. The percentage of black infants born before 37 weeks had the highest decline, dropping from 14.1 percent to 13.2 percent.

"Preterm births are a top factor in the number of children who die before their first birthdays, so we are glad that more mothers are delivering full-term babies," said State Health Commissioner Jerome Adams, M.D., M.P.H. "But we need to continue working to improve these numbers to ensure that every child has the best chance possible at leading a long, healthy life."

Reducing infant mortality is the top priority for the Indiana State Department

of Health, which will host its third annual Labor of Love infant mortality session on Nov. 6, 2015, at the JW Marriott in downtown Indianapolis.

Speakers at the event will address the health disparities that can contribute to preterm births, including access to prenatal care.

"By focusing attention on health disparities and preterm births at events like the Labor of Love Summit, we are taking steps to improve the health of pregnant women and their babies and reduce the number of children who never live past their first birthdays," Dr. Adams said.

For more information about the 2015 Labor of Love Summit, visit [www.in.gov/laboroflove/](http://www.in.gov/laboroflove/). To learn more about the Indiana State Department of Health, visit [www.statehealth.in.gov](http://www.statehealth.in.gov) or follow the agency on Twitter at @StateHealthIN and on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/isdh1](http://www.facebook.com/isdh1).

## Hoosiers urged to avoid dangerous alternative heating sources; use space heaters wisely

With cold weather right around the corner, the Indiana Department of Homeland Security is warning Hoosiers to be safe when heating their homes. Every year, unsafe alternative heating sources are one of the leading causes of home fires and fire-related deaths during the winter months.

Two of the leading culprits are improper use of space heaters and using a cooking stove or oven as a heating source. Hoosiers are urged to make sure space heaters are kept away from flammable materials and far away from items like curtains, bedding or clothing.

"Space heaters need space," said Indiana State Fire Marshal James Greeson, "and we recommend they be turned off whenever the room they are in is unoccupied and at bedtime each night. We also recommend Hoosiers buy space heaters with built-in tilt sensors, so that they automatically turn off if tipped over. It's also important not to overload a circuit or power strip or run an extension cord under rugs."

Greeson reminds citizens that kerosene space heaters should always be refueled outside in a well ventilated area.

Wood stoves and fireplaces can be good heat sources in the winter, but Greeson says to use only dry, seasoned firewood to avoid the build-up of creosote, which can keep the chimney from venting properly. He also cautions against using any flammable liquid to start fires in fireplaces or wood stoves. Also closing the damper too early with hot ashes in the fireplace can lead to the release of dan-

gerous levels of carbon monoxide throughout the house.

"It's vital to have a sturdy screen to prevent sparks from flying into the room and equally important to allow ashes to cool before disposing of them," Greeson said. "Ashes should be thrown away in a metal container that is kept outside at a safe distance from the home."

Greeson urges those who use wood as an alternate heating source to have chimney flues inspected and cleaned annually.

And each year it is recommended that Hoosiers evaluate the condition of their traditional furnaces before turning them on for the winter. The U.S. Department of Energy estimates one in four furnaces has been in operation for 20 years or more, making it even more important that a trained professional evaluate a furnace's condition and operation.

For more tips on being prepared for winter weather, visit [GetPrepared.in.gov](http://GetPrepared.in.gov).

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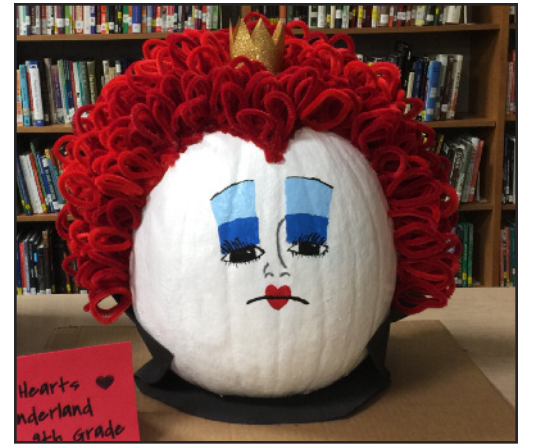




## The Great Pumpkins

-Photo provided

The Loogootee High School and Middle School Student Councils held a Home-room/WIN period pumpkin decorating contest. Lark's Ranch graciously donated the pumpkins. The top three winning classes earned a pizza party. The winning classes were: Mrs. Nikki Wagoner's homeroom, Mrs. Shelley Christmas's WIN class, and Mrs. Lacy Jeffers's WIN class. Shown above is Mrs. Wagoner's homeroom's first place winning pumpkin. Below is Mrs. Wagoner's homeroom class.



-Photos provided

Shown in the top photo is Mrs. Wagoner's class that placed first in the pumpkin contest. In the photo on the left is the second place winning pumpkin from Mrs. Christmas' class and above is the third place winning pumpkin from Mrs. Jeffers' class. Directly below are the student from Mrs. Christmas' class responsible for the "ice cream cone" pumpkin and the bottom photo is Mrs. Jeffers' class that made the clown pumpkin.



## Tennis awards

-Photo provided

Shown above are the award winners from this year's Loogootee Varsity and Junior Varsity Tennis Teams, coached by Rick Graves. From left to right are Jake Carrico: Most Improved-JV, Trysten Booker: Most Improved-Varsity, Sheldon Christmas: Mental Attitude, Wyatt Wade: MVP-Varsity. Not pictured is Landon Diamond: MVP-JV.



## IBA All-District High School Honor Band performance

The Vincennes University Department of Music will host the southwest region Indiana Bandmasters Association 2015 All-District Honor Band November 21-22 at the Red Skelton Performing Arts Center. Musicians from 16 area high schools will take part. The highlight of the weekend will be a performance by the Honor Band on November 22 at 4 p.m. (EST), at the Skelton Center. The concert is free and the public is invited to attend.

VU is one of eight Indiana sites to host IBA District Honor Band events.

VU will host high school students from Barr-Reeve, Boonville, Evansville Central, Loogootee, Mater Dei, North Daviess, North Knox, North Posey, Pike Central, Princeton, South Knox, Southridge, Sullivan, Tecumseh, Vincennes Lincoln, and Washington. The 58-piece ensemble, under the direction of guest conductor Jim Jones, will rehearse all day Saturday and part of Sunday.

### ABOUT THE CONDUCTOR

Jim Jones currently serves as Director of Bands at Bedford North Lawrence High School in Bedford, Indiana. He previously held the same position at Heritage Hills High School in Lincoln City, Indiana, and

North Harrison High School in Ramsey, Indiana. A native of Yorktown, Indiana, he earned his bachelor's degree from Ball State University and his master's degree from Walden University.

The conductor's junior and senior high school music ensembles have consistently received gold ratings at Indiana State School Music Association (ISSMA) band festivals, and his marching bands have been finalists at the ISSMA State Marching Contest, Indiana State Fair Band Day, and Mid-States Marching Band Competition.

In addition to his teaching duties, he has served as a guest conductor, adjudicator, and clinician for various band festivals. He has been named to Who's Who of American High School Teachers and received the Extra Mile Award from the North Spencer School Corporation. Jones holds professional memberships in the Indiana Bandmasters Association (IBA), Indiana Music Educators Association (IMEA), National Association for Music Educators (NAfME), and Indiana Jazz Educators Association (IJEA). He currently serves on the IMEA Honor Band Committee, is an IBA Board Member, and is serving a third term on the ISSMA State Board.



## Christmas Open House

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# GUEST COLUMN: The reality behind socialism

BY ANDREW KYGER  
MCJ Guest Columnist

Over the years I, like most of you most likely, was taught from a very young age that evil in the world nearly all originated from socialism. Given that my mother was terrified of an impending invasion by the then Soviet Union, I felt as though perhaps I was being given accurate information. No harm done, except that I have grown up now and upon nearing completion of my undergraduate studies, we here in the US, am confronted with a surreal reality of a man running for the highest office of the land as a self-proclaimed democratic-socialist. Being in college at the ripe old age of 36, I'm around a lot of people who never knew the Soviet threat and who were never raised with the same kind of fear and warning regarding socialism. These young adults were raised in a 9/11 world where the big fear was that of terrorism not socialism. Lots of isms, everything dark and scary seems to always end with an ism.

I suppose at this point most of you are probably wondering where I'm going with this thought, but you see, this trend is not so easy to just point out with just socialism and terrorism. These haven't always been the big, dark, scary monsters in the closet waiting to pounce. Before socialism there was fascism or Nazism, and there was also the 'Red Scare' of communism. See what I mean about the isms? We've had about a century now of ism fear in our society and I feel as though it is time that we lay the fear of socialism to rest.

To be fair, there have been countries over the past century who called themselves 'Socialist' and it is true that they did leave a lot to be desired. However, we have in our midst a number of countries who call themselves 'Socialist-Democracies' and they, depending on your point of view, could very easily be viewed as places to be admired. I am speaking of primarily the countries of Scandinavia,

Norway, Sweden, Finland, and Denmark, where society is built around people. We might argue that our society is as well, but the sad reality is that our society is built around profit. Profits are good if you're a business person or own stock, but profits aren't so great if they're being made as a result of your illness or the illness of a family member. I bring this up because across this country millions of people reside in what are called nursing homes and many of these facilities are operated for profit, thus because a person is no longer able to care for themselves they are relegated to being an instrument of profit, just another number on a balance sheet. The Scandinavian countries, though, are different, they hold human life above profit, they utilize tax revenue to provide healthcare for all, education for all (you have to apply yourself to get accepted), as well as a variety of other benefits. I know for most of us, this may sound like an impossibility, but I'll explain why it isn't so impossible.

You see, the United States is not so different from the European Union. We have forgotten that our union began with 13 independent 'colonies' the history books call them combining forces to form a 'more perfect union'. The European Union today is not really thought of as a single nation, but in several ways it is very much like the union of the states. Since the Civil War here in the 1860s we have increasingly been encouraged to think of the USA as a single country 'America', but that is just as false today as it was 150 years ago. We are a union of 50 countries, or states, who have freely given up certain sovereign rights to the union in order that we all may gain greater prosperity. In fact the Constitution of the United States spells out exactly three functions that the Federal government has to the exclusion of the states. Those three functions are; common defense, regulate commerce, and maintain the money

supply. Then the Bill of Rights was added on which outlines what laws the governments of the USA, notice the plural here, may not pass to impede upon our rights. Keep in mind the US Constitution is unique to other countries in that the rights it espouses to us, the citizens, are done so by our Creator. In other countries those same rights are considered a privilege or gift from the government.

When we think about what is maintaining common defense, regulating commerce, and maintaining the money supply, we might be struck by how big our federal government has gotten just handling these three functions. It is also important to remember that all other functions that a government might have are reserved to the states. Remember the states are in fact countries and as such have sovereign rights which should not be imposed upon by the Federal government; that was not part of the agreement. The original ideals set up in the Constitution were to promote free trade between the states which in turn made us the greatest of the nations in a short period of time. In pursuit of this trade, the Federal government engaged on several projects such as a transcontinental railroad in the 1860s and the Interstate Highway System in the 1950s, all designed to help defend the country as well as to promote commerce. I'll not delve into the Federal Reserve system, that would require a short book to explain I fear. The Federal government has done some things which, in a strict interpretation of the Constitution, could be seen as unconstitutional. I'm talking about Social Security, Medicare, Medicaid, the whole notion of a 'National healthcare system'. Believe me when I say, I am not stating this in an effort to abolish them, simply as to give a balanced report. I think that everyone should have a government willing to do for them what the governments of many European countries have done for their citizens. I find it difficult to believe that we would not invest in the future of our nation as a whole by creating a pathway to higher education for all who qualify academically. Nor should we forget the importance of skilled trades, and work to expand access to them as well. We should have national healthcare, personal opinion here I know, but it just makes sense. As a unit, the United States outspends every other country in the world by a factor of 7 per capita on healthcare yet our life expectancy is lower and our infant mortality rate is higher than our counterparts in Europe and the only real difference is that in Europe healthcare is done in a way where profit is removed from the equation. Education is much the same. Granted we have many great public universities here in the US, I'm currently attending one, but I am convinced that if the focus was to educate and not to promote the brand so to speak, the outcomes might actually be more desirable.

How can this be? It is a bit of a thought experiment. Over the summer during the course of an internship, my boss kept admonishing me for suggesting that he place expectations on the volunteers from the community with the statement "They're only volunteers!". Having worked in a variety of businesses, I am indoctrinated with all the usual slogans such as "the customer is always right", or "the customer may not always be right, but they are always the customer". The same is true of education. See if the university, public that is, is paid for by the taxpayers, the taxpayers are essentially investing in every student in attendance and thus have every right to have high expectations for academic output. However, if the students themselves are footing the bill, or the larger part of it, then they have the right to demand a level of service befitting that of a customer. Dare I say it? How do you fail your customer? How can a customer be expected to believe that the failure of them receiving an education when they are the one paying for it, is on them and not on the institution? This would be similar to a restaurant blaming a customer for receiving an incorrect order, we just don't operate that way. So I would argue that if we as a society want the best possible education for our youth and our future prosperity, then we simply must remove the mention of money

(profit) from it.

The same kind of mentality is at work in healthcare, although money in healthcare creates a bit of a monster. In healthcare the problem of money is not so much in the customer non customer dilemma as it is in education. No, in healthcare the problem of money is in creating an incentive to keep people sick. Once upon a time, medical science created something called vaccines. These 'miracle' drugs only needed to be taken once and a person would be prevented from getting the illness for life. What happened to those creations? Here it is important to remember that most pharmaceutical companies are for profit enterprises. Therefore, they have strong motivation to maximize the return for the shareholders with each and every product they produce. How many one-time vaccines would any company sell? What if they could create a drug, call it a vaccine, and then convince society that in order to stay protected one should receive the medication every 12 months? Would that not improve their bottom line? Now they can sell the same vaccine, minor variance in formula of course, to the same population year after year. This same profit motive would also work against any real cures being made for people who are already sick. Why cure them when you can placate their symptoms for the rest of their lives, while they are taking your medicine? Do you see how this might produce less than desirable results? Instead of addressing the root issue of poor health, we simply take a pill.

All of this to outline why socialism is not so bad. The fear surrounding it really is unwarranted. Designed to protect the profits of the corporations at the expense of education, healthcare, family time, enjoying a life well lived in retirement. The very things that make us human are to be bought and sold like so many cattle. The trick is, that once you understand what socialism is, you realize that to claim that it is evil is to suggest that government itself is evil, and I would agree with you if said government was not protecting the humans which granted it existence in the first place. I am here to tell you that the very notion of government is in fact socialist. How can I say such things? Simple, socialism at its very basic level is simply the government performing an act for the benefit of the many at the expense of the few. We human beings have created governments all over the planet throughout history and every one of them has done the same thing. That is to say, they have all passed laws of some sort or another which were designed, and if properly enforced, prevented some people from performing an action for the benefit of the rest. Laws against murder are socialist, laws against fraud are socialist, laws protecting your civil liberties while diminishing another's right to religious expression are socialist, all laws are socialist, all governments are socialist. The question is not whether to be socialist or not, because to not be socialist would be anarchy. The question for us is whether we want our governments to provide opportunities for all of us to live as full a life as we are willing to work for or do we wish to continue allowing our government to take from us all and give it out in corporate welfare? I can only answer this question for myself, but I would like to see our governments focused on human life and how to improve that rather than being focused on improving the profitability of only a few.

With that said, I would strongly encourage everyone who reads this to take a particular interest in his or her local and state elections in the years ahead, and start asking your local representatives to focus on human life rather than corporate life. Let us return pride in being a 'Buckeye' or a 'Hoosier', a 'Sooner' or a 'Lone Star'. We are so lucky in that respect, not only are we from the United States, but we also get to claim a second nation(state) as our home. I am from Indiana, I have lived her for all of my 36 years and even in the darkest hours of Mike Pence's governorship, I could not turn my back on Indiana knowing that I can make a difference here, and that together we can and should expect better from our governments. Thank you.

## Classified ADS

HELP WANTED

**JASPER RUBBER**  
A KEYWORD FOR SUCCESS

DATE: FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 13<sup>TH</sup>

TIME: 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Make Friday the 13<sup>th</sup> a LUCKY DAY

**JOB FAIR**

JOIN US TO LEARN MORE ABOUT HOW YOU CAN  
BECOME AN EMPLOYEE OWNER!

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