

Martin County JOURNAL

Year One, Issue Thirty-Nine

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16 Pages



Beautiful sunrise

-Photo by Courtney Hughett

With the change of Daylight Saving Time, the sun begins to rise in the sky in time for children to begin their school day. This fall sunrise, taken after the storms Monday night, through a group of leafless trees, was full of pretty purple, red and blue colors.

Loogootee School Board hears about conventions, receives tobacco-free campus award

BY COURTNEY HUGHETT
Martin County Journal Publisher

Mrs. Debbie Truelove, student council sponsor, was present at the Loogootee School Board meeting last Thursday, November 18 with a few members of the student council who attended the recent annual convention at Garrett High School.

27 students attended the convention themed "Come Ride on the Train." The students did workshops on team management, problem solving, bullying and hazing. The students also donated a children's book that will go to the less fortunate. Students attended a formal dinner, visited the Basketball Hall of Fame, and attended a dance with movies, inflatables, and other activities. The keynote speaker was Mr. Phil from Louisiana.

Prior to going to Garrett, the students took a pre-field trip to Indiana University Bloomington and visited the art museum, Assembly Hall, the bookstore, and toured the campus. They also visited one of the biggest high

school gyms in Indiana in New Castle.

Student council member Shelby McAtee then showed the school board photos of the trip and passed each one around.

Mrs. Truelove noted that starting next year the student council convention will be held at the Indiana Convention Center in Indianapolis every year. Students will be staying at the Hyatt Hotel downtown. She also noted that on Saturday night the Indiana State Museum and the IMAX Theatre and auditorium will be rented.

On the subject of bullying, Mrs. Truelove wanted to comment student Austin Bradley. During his speech at the convention, Bradley openly admitted joining in on the teasing of a young girl at LHS. He told the crowd that it was going to be his main objective when he returned to school to apologize to the girl and let her know that he would be available if she needed any assistance with bullying. Mrs. Truelove said that Bradley received a standing ovation after his speech and followed through with his pledge and spoke with the young lady on Monday morning after returning to school.

Linda Tarr with Hoosier Uplands representing the Martin County Tobacco Prevention Coalition presented the board with the Gary Sandifur Award for LHS being a tobacco-free campus. She then explained who Gary Sandifur was a resident of Kokomo and a lifelong smoker who promised his family he would quit smoking on his 50th birthday. The day before his 50th birthday he was diagnosed with brain tumors and stage four lung

Oops . . .

In last week's story about the resignation of Terry Pielemeier as Loogootee Fire Chief, his daughter's last name was incorrect. Her name is Shelly Tackett. I apologize to Terry and Mrs. Tackett for this error.

Martin County's jobless rate stays at 6.9 percent

BY COURTNEY HUGHETT
Martin County Journal Publisher

Martin County's unemployment rate went unchanged from September to October according to yesterday's report released by the Indiana Department of Workforce Development. The rate is stalled at 6.9 percent keeping the county in 87th place of the 92 Indiana counties for the lowest unemployment tied with Boone County.

Only six residents were added to Martin County's workforce for October taking it to 5,137 with 4,784 residents employed and 353 unemployed.

One year earlier, in October of 2009, the county's unemployment was also 6.9 percent with 4,979 residents in the workforce and 343 unemployed.

Daviess County's unemployed dropped only slightly for October going from 5.7 percent to 5.5 percent. Daviess County has the lowest unemployment rate in the state. The county had 15,073 residents in the workforce with 14,242 employed and 831 unemployed. In 2009 Daviess County's rate was 5.6 percent.

Dubois County's jobless rate also fell just

slightly going from 6.8 percent for September to 6.5 percent for October pushing them into the 88th spot, tying them with Hamilton County, up from 87th place in September. Dubois had 22,088 residents in the job market with 20,662 employed and 1,426 unemployed. For October of 2009, the county had a rate of 6.3 percent.

Orange County's unemployment rate only dropped by .01 percent for October but moved them into 39th place in the state down from 41st place just a month prior. They are tied with three other counties. For September the county's jobless rate was 9.6 percent and 9.5 percent for October. Orange County had 10,173 residents in the workforce with 9,210 employed and 963 unemployed. A year earlier, Orange County had an unemployment rate of 10.1 percent.

The counties in the top five for lowest unemployment in the state for October are Daviess County at 5.5 percent, Monroe and Knox at 6.4 percent, Hamilton and Dubois counties at 6.5 percent, Martin County and Boone County at 6.9 percent, and Switzerland County at 7.0 percent.

The counties in the top five for highest ('UNEMPLOYMENT' continued on page 2)



-Photo by Joshua Hughett

Adam Lark, Austin Bradley, Ethan Mathies, Abby Ackerman, and Shelby McAtee, members of the Loogootee High School Student Council were present at the school board meeting to talk about their recent trip to the annual convention held at Garrett High School in Garrett.

cancer. After learning he was dying of cancer, Gary began speaking to children and teenagers about the dangers of smoking. After losing his battle, Gary's wife Lorene Sandifur, decided to continue his work. She appeared in a series of commercials about the effects of tobacco in Indiana and continues to speak to children, teens, and adults about the harmful effects of tobacco. The award was created in memory and honor of Gary Sandifur and the Sandifur family.

Loogootee Schools prohibits any and all tobacco use on their campuses including in vehicles, 24 hours a day.

Ryan Bell came before the board with issues concerning bullying in the school system and the effects it is having on his children. He said that he has spoken to both high school Principal John Mullen and elementary prin-

icipal Laura Mattingly.

Before Mr. Bell continued board member Eric Ackerman asked him if he had spoken to Superintendent Weitkamp about the situation. Mr. Bell said that he has not spoken to him about the most recent issue.

"I want to make sure you have talked to the proper people and went through all the channels. I can tell you we take bullying very seriously," said Ackerman. He went on to say that some of the issues have already been looked into and the board will continue to look into it if it's not taken care of.

He advised Mr. Bell to make an appointment with Mr. Weitkamp and went on to say that he does believe bullying has become an issue recently and he can speak for all the school board members when he says that they ('LOGOOTE' continued on page 2)

Happy
Thanksgiving

From Our Family
To Yours

Josh, Courtney, Wyatt,
and Alex Hughett

Martin County
JOURNAL

LOOGOOTEE

(Continued from page one)

all take it very, very seriously.

"If you feel like your kid is in danger, please come and talk to Mr. Weitkamp," said Ackerman.

"We're sorry this happened to your kids," said board member Tim Bradley. "Don't ever be afraid to come and tell us, you are welcome here, it took a lot of courage to come here tonight so, thanks."

Condolences were offered to Laura Downey for the passing of her uncle, Jon Casper for the death of his great uncle, Sharon Allen for the passing of her aunt, Jaime Wildman for the death of her great-aunt and grandmother-in-law, Johnny Simmons for the passing of his sister, and Greg Bate-man for the passing of his mother.

The board also congratulated Amber Smith for the birth of her baby boy, Jackson Michael.

The board also accepted the resignation of Amber Smith for the school year for the musical choreography related to the school musicals. The board also accepted the resignation of Dave Smith as high school girls' basketball coach. Weitkamp said that Smith wanted to thank all of the board members for giving him the opportunity to coach and "did the very best of his abilities each and every day for the program."

"He personally felt like it was time to make a change," said Weitkamp.

Board member Bradley thanked Mr. Smith saying, "I would like to thank Dave for his long-time service to Loogootee sports and athletics and I wish him the best."

Board member Ackerman thanked him as well.

Weitkamp said that with games already in progress in girls' basketball he recommended the board approve Josh Mullis, currently the assistant, to take over the program. The board unanimously approved Mullis with board member Ackerman noting that Mr. Mullis has become a better teacher and coach year after year, "I think he will do a great job, he has a great temperament," said Ackerman.

Board member Shawn Howell agreed saying he worked with him in the cross country program for a few years and "he is nothing but good" and he will do a good job.

The board also approved Kelci Mann as varsity girls' volunteer and the ability for Mr. Weitkamp to approve volunteers as needed without coming to the board first.

The board voted to move the December



-Photo by Courtney Hughett

Loogootee High School student Shelby McAtee showed the board photos of the student council's trip to Bloomington, New Castle, and Garrett High School for the annual convention.

21st board meeting to 6 p.m. due to a choral concert that evening.

Elementary West Principal Laura Mattingly gave her monthly school success report telling the board that the school was given \$790 from the Pamida Foundation.

Mr. Walton's third grade class also raised more than \$1,600 for the Martin County Humane Society in only one week.

High school principal John Mullen was not present at the meeting. Mr. Weitkamp reported that the robotics team, headed by Mr. Ernie Martin, beat the old record. Curtis Slaubaugh, Courtney Gokey, and Courtney Morow were distinguished in All-District Band.

Rita Divine gave the board information regarding the Beta Club's annual convention. She said that there were 19 positions that the students did top ten or better including four students who competed in Spanish.

Three students competed in French and two finished in the top ten. English, Science, and spelling also had a student finish in the top ten and in oratory two students competed and finished in the top five. The campaign booth was first place, the campaign skit was third place, and three students placed in arts and crafts. The spotlight your club poster came in third place. The students competed in quiz bowl where they were defeated by Shoals who won the competition and will go on to state. The students also competed in the scrapbook category for the first time which came in first place.

Nationals will be held in Nashville, Tennessee



-Photo provided

Dollar General Toy Drive

The Dollar General Store in Loogootee is collecting toys for the Martin County Toy Store. This event is sponsored by area Martin County churches including the Martin County Catholic Churches, St. Johns Lutheran, Loogootee United Methodist and the Hindostan United Methodist churches. This event will be held on Saturday, December 11 at the Loogootee United Methodist Church. Please stop in and support this Christmas giving opportunity for the community.

Loogootee School closings – bad weather information

It is time to consider the approaching winter season and the inclement weather that it brings. Because of weather conditions, it may become necessary to delay the buses, cancel school, or dismiss students early.

When the decision is made to cancel school, all Loogootee Community Schools will be closed for that day. Whatever decision is made may not please everyone, but the safety of the students has been and will continue to be Loogootee Schools' primary concern.

The decision will be made before 6:15 a.m. based on road conditions throughout the district. Administrators drive the routes and consult with bus drivers, county road crews, and law enforcement officials. Sometimes rapidly changing weather conditions will occur after 6:15 a.m. and decisions to close or delay have to be made. Please remember that every effort will be made to make timely announcements but "Mother Nature" doesn't always work on our schedules.

Once the decision is made to close or delay school, the school will contact the following radio and television stations:

- Loogootee WRZR 94.5 FM,
- Washington WWBL 106.5 FM,

- Washington WAMW 107.9 FM,
- Jasper WITZ 104.7 FM/990 AM,
- Terre Haute Channels 2 and 10.

An automated phone message will be sent to parents/guardians who have signed up for this service. To sign up for this service or to change existing contact information, call Mike Tippery at 295-2595 ext 555.

In homes where both parents work, an early dismissal can be very inconvenient. The school urges those parents to be certain that children, teacher, principal, and bus driver know where the child is to go if school is dismissed early.

Inclement weather decisions are difficult to make and are based on many factors throughout the school district.

Please do not call administrators or school offices. This can block phone lines and delay communication between decision makers.

The state requires the school to make up any days lost due to bad weather or other circumstances. Nevertheless, the safety of the children is the number one priority of Loogootee Community Schools.

When schools are open, no announcement will be made by the media. Let's all have a safe winter!

UNEMPLOYMENT

(Continued from page one)

unemployment in the state for October are Elkhart at 12.9 percent, Fayette County at 12.8 percent, Vermillion at 11.9 percent, Henry and Noble counties at 11.2 percent, and Scott County at 11.1 percent.

Indiana added 7,600 private sector jobs in October. Total private sector employment has grown by 49,700 (2.1 percent) in 2010. U.S. private sector job growth stands at 1.0 percent.

Indiana's preliminary seasonally-adjusted unemployment rate dropped 0.2 percent to 9.9 percent in October 2010. The U.S. unemployment rate remained flat at 9.6 percent.

"Since the beginning of the year, we have seen strong growth in several key industries including professional and business services and manufacturing," said Mark. W. Everson, Commissioner of the Department of Workforce Development. "Overall, private sector employment has increased twice as fast in Indiana as the nation."

Employment by Sector

Sectors showing significant employment gains in October include: Professional and Business Services (4,500), Construction (1,900), Private Education and Health Services (1,700) and Trade, Transportation and Utilities (600). Sectors showing significant declines are Leisure and Hospitality (-1,000) and Government (-800). Total non-farm employment increased (6,800) in October.

Midwest Employment Picture

Indiana and its neighbors, except Michigan, report statistically even unemployment

rates.

This article was created in part with a press release from the Indiana Department of Workforce Development.

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Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted. -Matthew 5:4

ELMER "SONNY" COX

Elmer Allen "Sonny" Cox died at his home on Tuesday, November 16, 2010. A resident of Alfordsville, he was 91.



ELMER "SONNY" COX was a life long farmer in Daviess County. He was a member of the

Alfordsville Christian Church, American Legion Post # 147 in Jasper, and life member of the Glendale Masonic Lodge. He is survived by a nephew, John Shafer of Apache Junction, Arizona and a niece, Kim O'Conner of Miami, Florida. He was preceded in death by two sisters, Wilma Shafer and Jessema O'Conner. A funeral service was held Saturday, November 20 at the Alfordsville Christian Church. Burial followed in the Old Union Cemetery in Alfordsville. Becher & Kluesner North Chapel was in charge of arrangements. Memorial contributions may be made to Alfordsville Christian Church.

Alfordsville Christian Church, American Legion Post # 147 in Jasper, and life member of the Glendale Masonic Lodge.

He is survived by a nephew, John Shafer of Apache Junction, Arizona and a niece, Kim O'Conner of Miami, Florida.

He was preceded in death by two sisters, Wilma Shafer and Jessema O'Conner.

A funeral service was held Saturday, November 20 at the Alfordsville Christian Church.

Burial followed in the Old Union Cemetery in Alfordsville.

Becher & Kluesner North Chapel was in charge of arrangements.

Memorial contributions may be made to Alfordsville Christian Church.

RAY L. PORTER

Ray L. Porter died at 8:29 p.m. Friday, November 15, 2010 at Ketcham Nursing Center. A resident of Elnora, he was 85.

He was born July 25, 1925, in Martin County; the son of Marion and Nell (Holt) Porter.

He married Jean (Shafer) Porter on August 25, 1948 and she survives.

He was a farmer and owned and operated Porter TV for more than 55 years. He was also a mechanic for Hoefling's. He was a member of Pleasant Hill Church.

He is also survived by sons and daughters-in-law, Kenneth and Nancy Porter of Howell, Michigan, James Porter of Melba, Idaho, Ron Porter of Washington, and Larry and Nancy Porter of Odon; a sister, Iva Kasal of Wichita, Kansas; six grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren.

He is preceded in death by one brother, Roy Porter.

The funeral was held Tuesday, November 23 at Poindexter-Hall and McClure Funeral Home, Odon Chapel, with Bill Talbot officiating. Burial was in Walnut Hill Cemetery.

VU off-campus credit classes begin January 10

Vincennes University will offer a variety of off-campus credit classes throughout its service area in south central Indiana during the spring semester. Classes begin the week of January 10 and registration is now underway.

Students may register by contacting their academic advisor on the Jasper or Vincennes campus. Textbooks are only available through the bookstores in Vincennes and Jasper.

For more information contact Jim McFaul, director of Continuing Education, VU Jasper Campus, 812-481-5909 or jmcfaul@vinu.edu. For the complete spring 2011 schedule go to www.vinu.edu.

Loogootee High School will offer English Composition II, American History I, Intermediate Algebra, Principles of Sociology, and Speech.

Lifetime Fitness and Wellness will be offered at two locations - Shoals High School

and the Tri-County Y in Ferdinand.

Classes offered at White River Valley High School's Ivy Tech Community College Cooperative in Switz City include English Composition II, American History II, Beginning Algebra, Intermediate Algebra, College Algebra, Lifetime Fitness and Wellness, and Principles of Sociology.

General Psychology will be offered at Sullivan High School.

Classes offered at Washington High School include English Composition I, English Composition II, World Civilization I, Intermediate Algebra, College Algebra, Lifetime Fitness and Wellness, and General Psychology.

Classes offered at Mitchell High School include Anatomy and Physiology II, General Psychology, Principles of Sociology, Earth Science, and Beginning Algebra.

Southridge High School in Huntingburg will offer Basic Conversational Spanish.

Urgent Care, St. Mary's Breast Center to offer mammograms

Urgent Care of Martin County in conjunction with St. Mary's Breast Center will hold a Mobile Mammography Digital Screening on Thursday, December 16, from 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at Urgent Care located at 104 Wood Street in Loogootee.

St. Mary's has portable mammogram equipment that they will bring into an exam room at the clinic for all females in need of a mammogram.

A radiologist at St. Mary's Breast Center will read the mammogram and the results will be sent to your primary care provider.

Call St. Mary's Breast Center directly, at 812-485-4437, to schedule an appointment.

If a patient does not have insurance or if there is a financial need, please inform St. Mary's staff and financial assistance will be arranged.

More dates are tentatively being schedule for the future if the need exists.

Call Urgent Care of Martin County at 295-2955 with any questions.

VU Christmas gala concert is December 8

The Vincennes University Music Department will present a Christmas Gala Concert on December 8, at 7:30 p.m. (EST), at the Red Skelton Performing Arts Center.

Admission is free and the public is invited to attend.

The concert will showcase various Christmas songs in a variety of musical styles. Featured VU groups include the Concert Band, Concert Choir, VU Connection, Brass Ensemble, Percussion Ensemble, String Ensemble, Advanced Guitar, Blues Ensemble, and Woodwind Ensemble, as well as performances by VU faculty and other guests.

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Martin County Sheriff's Department log

Tuesday, November 16

7:30 a.m. - A male caller reported his residence broken into.

9:22 a.m. - An ambulance was requested on Gun Shop Road. The subject was transported to Bloomington Hospital.

9:34 a.m. - An ambulance was requested at Martin County Healthcare. The subject was taken to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

3:54 p.m. - Received a report of a vehicle following too closely on U.S. 231, northbound from Haysville.

4:54 p.m. - A female caller advised that someone had broken her front window to her house and may still be on the property.

5:08 p.m. - Received a report of a possible impaired driver having hit a mailbox on S.R. 450.

11:23 p.m. - Received a request for lift assistance in Shoals.

Wednesday, November 17

12:26 p.m. - Received a request for a vehicle check on S.R. 450.

4:25 p.m. - Received a report of a possible impaired driver. The subject was located in Greene County and that county was contacted.

6:38 p.m. - Received a report of a deer accident on U.S. 231 just north of West Boggs.

7:14 p.m. - Received a report of a deer accident in the area of Mill Road and Fairview Road intersection.

7:40 p.m. - Received a report of a deer accident on U.S. 231, north of Loogootee and south of the Burns City turnoff.

7:44 p.m. - Received a report of a deer accident on U.S. 231, south of Loogootee.

Thursday, November 18

5:33 a.m. - Received a report of reckless driving in Loogootee.

9:29 a.m. - Received a report of a deer in the roadway on Brickyard Road.

10:30 a.m. - Received a call from Mitchell Police Department about a shop lifter that may be headed toward Martin County.

10:50 a.m. - A subject came on station to request a vehicle inspection.

11:50 a.m. - A male caller reported of a subject breaking into his house and stealing medication and jewelry.

1:47 p.m. - Received a report of a possible impaired driver on S.R. 150.

4:26 p.m. - Received a report of a property damage accident on Spout Springs Road.

Friday, November 19

6:21 a.m. - Received a report that there was a deer accident outside of Burns City gate.

10:14 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. The subject was transported to Daviess Community Hospital.

2:00 p.m. - Received information reference a controlled burn on Haw Creek Road.

7:11 p.m. - Received a report of a possible impaired driver on Reinhardt Road.

Saturday, November 20

4:25 a.m. - Received a report of a person possibly on the roof of a business in Shoals.

5:05 a.m. - Received a report of an accident in Odon. Daviess County Sheriff's Department was contacted.

9:40 a.m. - Received a complaint of harassment in Shoals.

11:30 a.m. - Received a report that a mailbox and a street sign were knocked down on Brooks Bridge Road sometime through the night.

12:21 p.m. - Received a request for a vehicle check on Sherfick School Road.

1:32 p.m. - Received a request from a female for assistance with a runaway.

5:40 p.m. - Received a request for extra patrol on Emmons Ridge Road for two young kids on four wheelers on private property.

6:20 p.m. - Received a report of a brush fire across from the Shoals School.

6:30 p.m. - Received a report of a chimney fire in Loogootee.

8:44 p.m. - Received a report of a house fire in Crane Village.

9:02 p.m. - Received a request from Loogootee to send the Martin County Civil Defense to assist the Loogootee Fire Department with a fire in Loogootee. Martin County Ambulance transported one subject to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

Sunday, November 21

2:00 a.m. - Received a report of a battery in Shoals.

10:40 a.m. - Received a report of several items stolen on Zehr Lane.

1:24 p.m. - Received a request to check a

controlled fire at a residence on S.R. 450 that the caller was concerned may be out of control.

4:19 p.m. - Received a report of a limb that had fallen on S.R. 150, near Natchez.

4:51 p.m. - Received a report of a fight on Winger Road.

Monday November 22

12:55 a.m. - Received a report of a large tree or log across one lane of traffic on S.R. 150, near Singing Hill.

6:12 a.m. - Received a report of a deer accident just north of West Boggs on U.S. 50.

10:29 a.m. - Received a report of cows in the roadway on Mill Road near the church.

6:12 p.m. - Received a report of a semi on U.S. 50 without taillights.

7:02 p.m. - Received a report of a possible impaired driver on U.S. 231, south of Loogootee.

7:36 p.m. - A male caller reported a theft.

7:39 p.m. - Received a report of a suspicious vehicle in a driveway in Shoals.

10:41 p.m. - Received a report of harassing phone calls and texts.

Tuesday, November 23

1:14 a.m. - Received a report of a property damage accident on St. Mary's Road. Daviess County was advised.

1:18 a.m. - Received reports of trees down on Lundy Road and in Shoals.

2:03 a.m. - Received a report of a fire

alarm at a business in Shoals.

4:22 a.m. - Received a report of a tree on the roadway on S.R. 550, just west of Spout Springs.

4:58 a.m. - Received a report of a stranded semi on U.S. 50 at Buffalo Bottoms.

5:04 a.m. - Received a report of a treetop in the westbound lane on U.S. 50, near National Gypsum.

6:31 a.m. - Received a report of a deer accident on U.S. 231, south of Loogootee.

Detectives arrest deputy on two felony counts

An investigation by Indiana State Police Detectives from the Bloomington Post initiated Tuesday, resulted in the arrest of a Lawrence County Sheriff's Deputy last night. In heavy cooperation with the Lawrence County Sheriff's Department and the Lawrence County Child Protective Services Office, the investigation led detectives to serve an arrest warrant issued by Lawrence County Superior Court I early yesterday evening to Cory Mikels, of Mitchell. Mikels was charged with battery of a minor and domestic battery in the presence of a minor, both Class D Felonies.

The charges can carry a possible sentence of one to six years in prison and up to \$2,000 in fines.

ISP Jasper Post October enforcement activity

The Indiana State Police had the following enforcement activity for October 2010. The Jasper State Police Post covers Crawford, Daviess, Dubois, Martin, Orange, Perry, and Spencer Counties.

Traffic Arrests (tickets) - 711
Warnings - 2,082

Commercial Motor Vehicle moving arrests - 9

DUI Arrests - 20

Total Criminal Arrests - 129

The holiday shopping season is upon us with the busiest days yet to come. Many shoppers will begin their day in the darkness of the early morning hours and end in the late evening hours, leaving shoppers vulnerable at times to potential criminal activity. To counter any person(s) wishing to perform their criminal acts of ill deed on unsuspecting shoppers, the Indiana State Police offer the following safety tips and reminders:

-Stay alert and be aware of what's going on around you.

-Park in a well-lighted area and be sure to lock your car.

-Use extra caution when walking to and from your car, preferably with a friend.

-Avoid carrying large amounts of cash; pay with a check or credit card whenever

possible.

-Deter pickpockets and purse-snatchers. Don't overburden yourself with packages. Be extra careful with purses and wallets. Carry a purse close to your body, not dangling by the straps. Put a rubber band around your wallet and place in the inside coat or front pants pocket.

-Do not leave purses unattended in shopping carts.

-Place gifts and other valuables in the trunk of your car.

-Keep your car doors and windows locked at all times.

-Make sure your car is good mechanical condition.

-Carry a fully charged cell phone with you.

Shopping with kids? Teach them to go to a store clerk or security guard if they get separated.

If you notice suspicious activity contact store security or the nearest police agency especially if you notice person or persons loitering around your vehicle.

Remember, the most important tip is to know who and what is around you at all times. This includes driving to and from your shopping ventures.



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Martin County accident reports

Friday, November 19

1:30 p.m. - Melinda C. Riggins, of Can-nelburg, was backing her 2005 Ford from a parking spot at IGA when she backed into the rear of a 2003 Buick owned by Marilyn Graber, of Loogootee. No injuries were reported. Officer Fischer was the investigating officer.

7:05 p.m. - Michael McAtee, 39, of Loogootee, was traveling in his white 2002 Buick on U.S. 231, just north of Old School Road when a deer collided into the driver's side of his vehicle. No one was injured in the accident and he was able to drive the vehicle home. Damage was done to the left front quarter panel, driver's door, and driver's side mirror. The investigating officer was Major T.A. Burkhardt.

Sunday, November 21

9:10 a.m. - Luke Jahn, 28, of Indianapolis, was traveling north in a 2005 Chevrolet Equinox on U.S. 231, near Truelove Church Road when he was unable to avoid striking a deer in the roadway. Damage to the vehicle is estimated at \$2,500. The investigating officer was Deputy Steve Nolan.

Monday, November 22

7:00 a.m. - William M. Teague, 20, of Bedford, was traveling west on U.S. 50 east of Shoals in a black 1991 GMC truck when the left front tire and wheel came off his vehicle. The tire and wheel traveled left of center and struck a silver 2006 Chevrolet Cobalt driven by Chad Fl. Peachee, 35, of Washington. The investigating officer was Chief Deputy Rob Street.

Jail bookings

Tuesday, November 16

6:25 p.m. - Wade Arvin, 18, of Loogootee, was arrested and charged with minor consumption, burglary, theft, resisting law enforcement, and possession of a handgun without a permit.

Thursday, November 18

10:17 p.m. - James Amos, 44, of Batesville, was arrested and charged with operating a vehicle while intoxicated.

Monday, November 22

4:30 p.m. - Michael Siekmann, 37, of Washington, was arrested on a Martin County warrant.



Crash near Haysville

-Photo provided

On Thursday, November 18 at 12:35 p.m. Johnnie L. Gilliam, Jr., 65, of Jasper, driving a 1998 Chrysler van, was traveling westbound on SR 56 when he left the north edge of the roadway and over corrected. This caused Gilliam, Jr. to travel south across SR 56 hitting a utility pole causing the pole to break thus lowering live power lines across the roadway. SR 56 was closed between Kellerville Road and Haysville for approximately one hour while crews cleaned up the scene. Gilliam, Jr. was wearing his seatbelt and the air bags did deploy. He complained of chest pain and was transported to Jasper Memorial Hospital. ISP Sgt. Chad Dick was the investigating officer.

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Many home fires caused by alternative heating equipment

According to the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), in 2008, heating equipment was the second leading cause of home fires in the United States. More than 66,000 reported fires caused 480 civilian deaths, 1,660 civilian injuries, and more than \$1 billion in property damage.

The Indiana State Fire Marshal's Office, Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission (IURC) and Indiana Housing and Community Development Authority (IHCDA) encourage Hoosiers to pursue safe ways to stay warm this season.

"Every winter, firefighters across the state respond to thousands of home fires caused by heating equipment," said Indiana State Fire Marshal Jim Greeson. "These types of fires can almost always be prevented by homeowners and renters who use alternative heat sources carefully and responsibly."

The Indiana State Fire Marshal's Office is a division of the Indiana Department of Homeland Security (IDHS).

For those using alternative sources to heat their homes, the Indiana State Fire Marshal advises proper use and maintenance.

Tips for safe alternative heating

-According to NFPA, between 2004 and 2008, the leading factor contributing to home heating fires was failure to properly clean creosote, an oily deposit that easily catches fire, from solid-fueled heating equipment such as chimneys.

-Regular cleaning and annual inspections by a professional chimney sweep will help keep a fireplace free from obstructions and creosote.

-Among fatal home heating fires, the leading factor contributing to the ignition of the fires was heating equipment stationed too close to flammable materials.

-Keep all flammable materials, such as draperies, blankets, clothing, bedding, mattresses, upholstered furniture, etc. at least three feet away from heating equipment.

-Use only paper or kindling wood, not a flammable liquid, to start a fire.

-Use only dry, seasoned wood in a fireplace or wood stove to avoid the buildup of creosote. Do not use artificial logs in wood stoves.

-If using a gas fireplace, ensure the fireplace vents properly and that there is a functioning carbon monoxide detector in the room.

-Keep fire extinguishers on hand and know how to use them.

Space heater safety

-When buying a new space heater, make sure it carries the mark of an independent

testing laboratory and is legal for use in your community.

-Use the proper grade of fuel for your liquid-fueled space heater and never use gasoline in any heater not approved for gasoline use.

-Refuel space heaters only in a well ventilated area and when the equipment is cool.

-Plug power cords only into outlets with sufficient capacity and never into an extension cord.

-Turn off space heaters whenever the room they are in is unoccupied.

-Turn off space heaters when you go to bed each night to avoid knocking them over in the dark.

"With the weather turning colder, it is important to remind Hoosiers who are unable to afford their gas or electric heating bills that alternative heating doesn't have to be a last resort," said Sherry Seiwert, IHCDA Executive Director. "Last heating season we assisted more than 185,000 families and assistance is available once again this year if you need help heating your home."

IHCDA administers the federally funded Energy Assistance Program which offers low-income Hoosiers assistance with winter heating bills through local community action agencies. For a complete list of community action agencies, or more information on the Energy Assistance Program, please visit: <http://www.in.gov/ihcda/2523.htm> or call 1-800-872-0371.

IURC also reminds customers who are having difficulty paying their utility bills to contact their utility companies as soon as possible to see what payment options may be available. If customers need further assistance, they may contact the IURC's Consumer Affairs Division toll-free at 1-800-851-4268.

Tips for reducing heating costs

-Make sure your home is properly insulated.

-Caulk and weather strip doors and windows to keep out cold air.

-Install a programmable thermostat and set it to lower the temperature at night and whenever the house is unoccupied.

-Keep doors and windows closed as much as possible, including overhead doors on attached garages.

-Insulate the pipes around the water heater with inexpensive, easy-to-install pipe insulation.

-Always unplug holiday lights before going to bed or leaving the house.

For more information about winter heating safety, visit www.in.gov/dhs/get-prepared.

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Health officials concerned about pertussis outbreak

State health officials report that with more than 500 cases of pertussis (whooping cough), including two infant deaths, Indiana is experiencing its largest outbreak since 1959.

Pertussis is a contagious illness caused by bacteria. It may cause severe coughing fits that can interfere with breathing. Although pertussis is often milder in older children and adults, undiagnosed persons can transmit the disease to infants and young children. Pertussis can lead to pneumonia, seizures, and sometimes death. Most of these serious problems occur in infants who are younger than a year old.

"I find this outbreak particularly concerning because pertussis can be prevented with a vaccine," said State Health Commissioner Gregory Larkin, M.D. "Children and adults, alike, are at risk for life-threatening infections from pertussis, but there is a safe and effective vaccine."

Dr. Larkin says parents should ensure their children are up-to-date with all of their vaccines, including pertussis. The Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices, which advises the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, has recommended the Tdap vaccine (tetanus, diphtheria, and pertussis) for everyone over seven years of age. Younger children should get the diphtheria, tetanus, and pertussis (DTaP) series.

"The key to the success of the pertussis vaccine is for everyone to be vaccinated," said Dr. Larkin. "When an infant is hospitalized or dies from pertussis, it is because someone in the child's environment of family, friends, community members, and health care providers were themselves not vaccinated and therefore exposed a susceptible child to infection."

"Only when families, communities, and health care providers are fully vaccinated will we have a 'cocoon of safety' around those most vulnerable for severe illness, particularly those too young or too ill to get vaccinated," said Dr. Larkin.

The symptoms of pertussis occur in three stages:

1. During the first stage, symptoms are similar to a cold: slight fever, sneezing, runny nose, dry cough, loss of appetite, and irritability.

2. During the second stage (about 1 to 2 weeks later), the cough becomes more intense. There may be short, intense coughing spells followed by a long gasp for air (this is when the "whoop" is heard). The coughing fits may be followed by vomiting, nose bleeds, or bluish color to the face.

3. During the third stage, the cough is less intense and less frequent, and appetite begins to increase. Eventually the cough stops, although this may take several months.

According to Dr. Larkin, the pertussis vaccine (as well as other required childhood immunizations) is available for FREE for children who are uninsured, underinsured, or are eligible for Medicaid. Parents should contact their local health department or visit the Vaccines for Children section of the State Health Department Website at: www.in.gov/isdh/17203.htm for more information.

There are some additional steps people can take to prevent the spread of pertussis, as well as other respiratory diseases, like influenza:

-Clean - properly wash your hands frequently,

-Cover - cover your cough and sneeze, and

-Contain - contain your germs by staying home (or keep children at home from school) if sick.

"Grandparents, parents, brothers, sisters, aunts, uncles, medical providers, and community leaders all are part of the life-saving cocoon of protection for the most vulnerable members of our communities: our infants and those too ill to be vaccinated," said Dr. Larkin. "Make it your responsibility to know the vaccine status of those in your family. Consult with your primary care doctor or your local health department to see if you and your family are fully protected, or go to: www.in.gov/isdh/17094.htm to determine which immunizations you should have."

Indiana to modernize death records

In January 2011, the Indiana State Department of Health will be taking the lead in improving the efficiency of the state's death records by launching an electronic, Web-based system for recording death, the Indiana Death Registration System. Approximately 56,000 death records are filed in Indiana every year.

"Hoosiers will benefit from the modernization of the death registration process in many ways, but perhaps the one most obvious to the general public will be a faster turnaround time for death certificates, from an average of 21 or more days to seven days," said State Registrar Erin Kellam, Esq.

According to Kellam, the goal of the Indiana Death Registration System is to enable the participants of the death registration process to electronically file death records with local and state registrars. Registration facilities will access the system online so decedent fact-of-death and cause-of-death information can be registered electronically without the time delay to move the paper record to each person in the process. For more information, go online at: <https://myweb.in.gov/ISDH/IDRSThin>.

"This system's ability to report cause of death with increased accuracy and timeliness will improve cause-of-death data for disease surveillance, which will help public health in its efforts to identify concerning trends," said Kellam.

The Indiana General Assembly passed legislation in 2009 to require all funeral directors, physicians, and coroners (if it is a coroner's case) to complete all their portions of a death certificate by using the new system. (See Indiana Code 16-37-1-3.1.)

The State Registrar and the Office of Vital Records at the Indiana State Department of Health have been working since April 2009 to provide education and training to local health officers, private physicians, coroners, and funeral directors about the Indiana Death Registration System.

According to Kellam, "The Indiana Death Registration System is up and running and we are accepting fully electronic records every day."

However, to date only 993 of 1,757 funeral directors; 44 of 92 coroners, and 1,807 of an estimated 3,000 physicians who file death certificates in Indiana have registered as users of the Indiana Death Registration System, despite the fact paper death certificates will no longer be accepted starting January 1, 2011.

"We are concerned everyone is waiting until the last minute to register for the system," said Kellam. "I urge all funeral directors, coroners, and physicians who handle death certificates get registered as soon as possible and start using the IDRS to avoid delays in death records being processed. Such a delay would be unnecessary and unfair to the family members who need the death certificate for the 'business side' such as collecting life insurance funds, receiving pension or other benefits, of losing a loved one."

Kellam says additional trainings will be offered in the coming months, including in-person trainings on November 18 at Wishard Hospital and the Indiana Veterans' Hospital and a webinar training on December 15 at 7 a.m., noon, and 6 p.m. (EST). Participants can view the webinar trainings by logging on to <http://media.ihets.org/isdh>.

The Messmer Report

By District 63 State Rep.

Mark Messmer



As you listen to political news, you've probably heard the term "committee" tossed around frequently.

For an idea to travel through the legislative process, there are a number of "check-points" it must pass. First it has to get down on paper with the correct language - there are an army of talented lawyers at the Legislative Services Agency who help with this.

Next, a bill gets assigned to a committee where a number of negotiations and discussions take place, often with members of the public. The discussions help make adjustments to a bill to ensure it is meeting the needs of as many groups and constituents as possible. These adjustments are technically known as amendments.

Committees are made up of small groups of legislators with special expertise on an issue.

These legislators are appointed by the House Speaker, and meet throughout session and often during the summer. Last year, the House had 23 different committees, ranging from topics like "Agriculture and Rural Development" to "Ways and Means."

Committee assignments are kind of a big deal, because they determine where and with whom legislators will be spending much of their time during session.

Committees are always 'chaired' by a member of the majority party. This is the person who chooses what bills to discuss at each meeting, how long the discussion will last and whether the bill will receive a vote. It's a powerful position.

There was a change made this week, by Speaker Brian Bosma (R-Indianapolis), appointing two minority members to chairman positions. Rep. Steve Stemler (D-Jeffersonville) was appointed to the House Commerce, Small Business and Economic Development Committee, which I will be the Vice-Chair. And Chet Dobis (D-Merrillville) will Chair the Select Committee on Government Reduction.

When committees meet, it's most often in an unimpressive, windowless basement room at the Statehouse. Meetings can run for several hours as we listen to constituents, nonprofits groups and private sector leaders who have signed up to give public comment on the issue at hand.

It's important to realize how much time these meetings save for the general body. If we had to take public comment and hammer out details of every single bill in front of 100 elected officials, we'd be in session year-round instead of only four months out of the year.

The process would be much more expensive for taxpayers and would mean that legislators would most likely not be able to hold down other jobs at home, which I think would detract from the abilities of our particular legislative body.

It's valuable to have citizen legislators at home, listening to constituents and then coming to Indianapolis every so often to craft laws, rather than living in the state's capital and visiting home only every once in a while.

Last year, I served on two committees: Financial Institutions Committee and Small Business and Economic Development Committee. I was happy to serve on these committees and I am excited about combining the Commerce Committee with the Small Business and Economic Development Committee.

In his opening address this week, Speaker Bosma said he expects our committee chairman to make the committees the workhorse of the institution. This is the place where most discussion should happen and where bills should be fine-tuned and corrected as good as they can be. I like Speaker Bosma's view that committees are where the heavy lifting needs to occur.

We haven't received our committee assignments yet, but I'm excited to see what mine will be. I will let you know when I hear. But in the meantime, always feel free to contact me at h63@in.gov. You can call my office toll free at 1-800-382-9841 or directly at 317-232-9648.

Commissioners' meeting

The Martin County Board of Commissioners will hold an executive session on Tuesday, November 30 at 5:30 p.m. at the Martin County Courthouse in Shoals.

The purpose of the meeting is:

To discuss personnel classified as confidential by State and Federal statutes as authorized by I.C. 5-14-1.5-5.1 (b) (7).

The meeting is closed to the public.

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-Photo provided

New Speaker of the House, Brian Bosma, at left is sworn in on Organization Day. Chief Justice Randall Shepard administered the oath.

Speaker Bosma calls for the General Assembly to “do their duty” for Indiana

House Republicans began the 2010 legislative session with the swearing in of a new Speaker of the House, Brian C. Bosma and new members of the house. Organization Day is a ceremonial tradition where elected leaders are formally sworn in to uphold the State Constitution and the Speaker of the House is selected by the members. Chief Justice Randall Shepard administered the oath.

Last Tuesday, November 16, Speaker Bosma presented his goals and priorities for the upcoming session, which is scheduled to begin January 5, 2010. After all 100 State Representatives were sworn in, including 19 new members to the House Republican Caucus giving the Republicans the majority of 60-40, the newly elected Speaker took to the podium to deliver a powerful speech.

“Our top priority will be to protect Hoosier taxpayers and our state’s struggling economy by forcing government to live within its means. We are going to do what families and employers all over the state have done—we will adopt a spending plan that addresses our state’s critical needs without increasing taxes on Hoosier families or employees. Without a doubt this won’t be easy, at no time in our state’s history have revenues lagged six years behind—we have the same revenues that we once had in 2005, now in 2011.”

Speaker Bosma renewed the pledge that the House Republican caucus made before the election to deliver a balanced budget and continue to protect Hoosier taxpayers. When Rep. Bosma was first elected speaker and the House Republicans controlled the majority in 2005-2006, they delivered the first honestly balanced budget in a decade and championed transparency initiatives.

In September, the House Republican Caucus released their legislative plan, addressing job creation, education reform, spending and budget integrity, and taking a stand against runaway Federal initiatives. At the time, Leader Bosma also called for all members to “reach across the aisle” and “bring civility back to the house chamber”.

Today, Speaker Bosma reinforced the legislative plan, and the importance of working together for the future of Indiana.

“To demonstrate my commitment to bipartisanship, for the first time—to my knowledge—in state history, a Speaker of the Indiana House will reach across the aisle and appoint two members of the minority party to serve as committee chairs. In addition, I am pledging weekly meetings with the leadership of the Democrat Caucus to discuss events of the coming week and areas of agreement, disagreement and concern,” stated Speaker Bosma.

Among the most dramatic changes announced today was the intent of the Speaker to appoint two democrats to key committee chairmanships. He also announced the creation of the Select Committee on Government Reduction.

“In Indiana, over the next two years, we are going to buck the over regulation status quo with the goal of streamlining, deregulating and unburdening Hoosiers from unnecessary and outdated laws and regulations. The select committee composed of some of our most experienced legislators will be tasked with examining and reducing the Indiana Code, taking public testimony from all sectors regarding deregulation efforts,” said the Speaker. He continued, “and we will do our own part to stem the regulatory tide – the rules we are about to adopt to contain strict bill introduction limits to reduce our own avalanche of paperwork.”

“If you can’t forward your legislative agenda with a ten bill limit in the long session, then maybe your agenda is too long,” said Speaker Bosma.

House Republicans also elected Caroline Spotts as the new Principal Clerk for the House of Representatives.

Speaker Bosma closed with, “No one writes our destiny in this nation—we write our own.”

“We must think anew and act anew—I pledge to you that I will do my duty, and ask you to do the same.”

Hoosiers benefit from state, federal consumer protection collaboration

Attorney General Greg Zoeller welcomed the announcement from the Federal Trade Commission last Friday of a new set of rules aimed at protecting homeowners from mortgage relief and foreclosure consultant scams. Under the new rules, mortgage relief companies can only collect fees after a homeowner has received and accepted a written offer for a loan modification from their lender. The FTC’s new regulations, dubbed the Mortgage Assistance Relief Services (MARS) Rule, will protect distressed homeowners from mortgage relief scams that have sprung up during the mortgage crisis. All provisions of MARS will take effect January 31, 2011.

“I applaud the FTC for taking these steps to protect consumers from deceptive marketing practices and foreclosure scams. Greater protections for consumers can be achieved through active collaboration among state and federal government agencies, which has been demonstrated today,” Zoeller said. “The FTC’s new regulations of mortgage rescue companies will enhance our own enforcement abilities as we continue to search for new and stronger tools to protect Hoosiers.”

So far this year, Zoeller’s office has filed enforcement actions against 32 mortgage relief or foreclosure consultant companies offering foreclosure rescue services. In the most recent legislative session, Zoeller supported a law requiring any company claiming to provide credit related services, including foreclosure consultants, to register a \$25,000 surety bond with the attorney general’s office. This law took effect in July however so far no companies have registered a bond. Failure to have this bond is a red flag for consumers that the company is not operating legally in the state.

Under the new FTC rules, mortgage relief companies will be prohibited from telling consumers to stop communicating with their lenders and making any false or misleading claims about their services. Mortgage relief companies will be required to make certain disclosures in their advertising including that:

- they are not associated with the government, and their services have not been approved by the government or the consumer’s lender;
- the lender may not agree to change the consumer’s loan; and
- if companies tell consumers to stop paying their mortgage, they must also tell them that they could lose their home and damage their credit rating.

In addition, it was announced today that 16,736 Indiana residents will receive a check worth \$10.87 as part of a settlement negotiated by 35 state attorneys general and

the FTC with LifeLock, Inc. In March, LifeLock agreed to pay \$11 million to the FTC and \$1 million to the state attorneys general to resolve concerns that the company told consumers it could provide absolute protection from identity theft if they signed up for its identity protection service. Close to a million consumers nationwide who signed up for LifeLock’s services based on those false claims will receive a refund check.

All Indiana residents are eligible to perform a free credit freeze, also known as a security freeze, which is a consumer right provided by Indiana law. A security freeze can block an identity thief from opening a new account or obtaining credit and keeps new creditors from accessing a credit report without permission. A freeze also prevents an identity thief from taking out new credit in someone else’s name, even if the thief has a Social Security number or other personal information, because creditors cannot access the credit report. To perform a freeze, visit <http://www.in.gov/attorney-general/2411.htm>.

LifeLock refund checks will be mailed today to eligible Indiana residents. The distribution represents all eligible consumers and no further claims for refunds will be accepted. Consumers who have questions can call the settlement administrator’s toll-free number at 1-888-288-0783 or go to www.ftc.gov/refunds.

The Indiana Attorney General’s Consumer Protection Division investigates complaints against professionals in various fields to ensure safe and fair commerce. Its work protects Hoosiers from businesses, medical professionals, and other service providers who may fall short in their responsibilities to consumers.

To sign up to receive alerts about potential frauds and scams, or to file a consumer complaint, visit www.IndianaConsumer.com.

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Specialist: Farmers likely to spend more producing 2011 crops

BY STEVE LEER
Purdue University News Service

Grain prices moved higher this year and the costs of growing them are likely to do the same in the year ahead, according to Purdue University estimates.

The 2011 Purdue Crop Cost & Return Guide projects that farmers could see double-digit increases in variable costs, which include fertilizer, seed, pesticides, fuel, machinery, and other expenses not related to labor or land rental.

The guide is available by going online to www.agecon.purdue.edu/extension/pubs/index.asp and clicking on "2011 Purdue Crop Guide."

While prices for corn, soybeans, and wheat are up from this past spring, farmers will need those higher returns to offset a spike in variable crop production costs, said Bruce Erickson, Purdue's director of cropping systems management and a crop guide contributor.

"For rotational corn, which is most of the corn in Indiana, our estimates show variable costs in 2011 up around 13 percent compared with 2010," Erickson said. "Soybean production costs will be up around six percent, and for winter wheat we're estimating that costs will be 13 percent higher. If you grow continuous corn, you can expect to spend about 14 percent more next year."

Much of the projected cost increases are tied to a recent surge in fertilizer prices. An April U.S. Department of Agriculture survey of Illinois retail fertilizer prices - a benchmark for Indiana - reported average per-ton costs of ammonia at \$520, diammonium phosphate at \$503 and potash at \$501. This month those prices are \$736, \$661 and \$526, respectively.

After years of incremental movement in fertilizer prices, the market has been much more volatile since 2007, Erickson said.

"Crop production around the world, and the demand associated with that still seems to be the primary driver," he said. "And fertilizer is more and more a world market now. Producing fertilizers is an energy-intensive business, so producers often source outside the U.S., where energy costs can be a fraction of what they are here."

There's not a lot most farmers can do to soften the blow of higher production costs, Erickson said. They can shop around to find the best deal for fertilizer and other crop inputs and buy in bulk and store if they think prices are heading up, he said.

Erickson reiterated that the crop guide contains cost estimates, and that a lot could happen in the market between now and when the 2011 crop is planted.

"We offer these estimates to provide a relative benchmark to help farmers, landowners and those working with them some perspective on the economics of producing a crop," Erickson said. "The situation for an individual farm can be much different than this depending on how and when crops were sold, how purchases were made, etcetera."

"While costs are back up, most crop producers are managing to stay ahead of the curve. This is in contrast to the situation with livestock producers, though, where an increase in their feed prices further pinches returns. I'm old enough that I remember those long stretches of lean years on the farm, so we'll take this for now and ready ourselves for whatever the future holds."

The Purdue Crop Cost & Return Guide is prepared annually by Purdue's departments of Agricultural Economics, Agronomy, and Botany, and Plant Pathology.

Loogootee Scouts hold cornhole tourney fundraiser

On November 7, nearly \$100 was raised for the local Boy Scout Troop as Eric Reinhart and Robert Douglas, owner of the Bobber Stop Bait Store on US 231 just north of Loogootee, organized a local cornhole tournament.

While the scouters cooked and served hot dogs, five teams braved the cold winds of what turned into a beautiful afternoon to battle for cornhole supremacy.

In the final round, Elijah and Oscar Wilburn beat out John Padget and Calvin Wilburn for first place.

Tournament proceeds were donated to Brad Combs, Scoutmaster of Loogootee Scout Troop 484.

Watch for more tournament news this spring!



-Photo provided

Shown above are the competitors in the cornhole tournament to raise money for the Loogootee Boy Scouts held on November 7. In the front row, from left to right, are Calvin Wilburn, Elijah Wilburn, John Padget, Mary Kaiser, and Eric ReinHart, tournament organizer. In the back row, from left to right, are Brad Combs (Scoutmaster Troop 484), T.J. Miller, Rick Smith, Oscar 'Alabama' Wilburn, Tom Kaiser, Brad Corbin, and Jim Duzan.

**Humane Society
PET OF THE WEEK**



The Martin County Humane Society has this very nice female lab mix around nine months old. She would make a nice pet for your family. If interested in this nice dog, call Sandy at 812-295-3388 or 812-709-0130.

They also have some kittens, and adult cats for adoption.

The Martin County Humane Society will be taking pictures with Santa at the Christmas Boutique this Saturday at the community building at the fairgrounds from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. So come out and support the humane society. They will have the 2011 calendar for sale at this event.

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SCOUTING MATTERS

By Mike Leighty - Odon Troop 481 Scoutmaster

I have often stated that in one way or another scouting has touched ALL our lives. From the Troop Service Projects that benefit the community; or the single scout always willing to Do His Good Turn Daily; to the Eagle Scout Project that leaves a lasting and positive impression in the city park; scouting has touched each one of us. Many of us have had a scout in the family and through this column, I have discovered the rich and proud history of the local scouting fraternity and how it goes back decades. No matter if you or your son are current active participants in a local scouting program or participants from years gone by, rest assured the scouting spirit is alive and well.

As scouting's centennial year draws to a close, and the holiday's draws near, maybe now is the time to rekindle some of those memories of fun, camaraderie and adventure from long ago. Few things are as beneficial as some quiet reflection back to simpler times of childhood. With that in mind, I have recently discovered a couple of holiday gift ideas that are sure to please any scouter, young or old. They are... *The Best of Boys' Life* (Lyons Press) and *The Scouting Party: Pioneering and Preservation, Progressivism and Preparedness in the Making of the Boy Scouts of America* (Red Honor Press).

The first publication, a treasure trove drawn from Boys' Life's 99-year history, is full of great writing about camping, sports, patriotism, adventure and more. It is loaded with articles by famous names such as Theodore Roosevelt, Jack London, Orville Wright, Isaac Asimov, Arthur C. Clark, and Ray Bradbury. Sports fans can read first-person advice from the likes of Willie Mays, Johnny Unitas, and Olympic star Bruce Jenner (long before he met the Kardashians). Fare that is more serious includes first-rate reporting on world events over the past century from Germany, Russia, and other then distant countries.

Among the many pleasures of this collection, check out the Think & Grin jokes section that continues in Boys' Life publications today. This section is where scouts from all over the country submit their favorite jokes. For the historical buff simply leafing through the vintage ads takes you to a time of remembering the good old days when a boy could get a BB gun for \$12.95.

Then, go all the way back to the beginning with the second publication. Almost everyone associates Sir Robert Baden-Powell with the creation of the scouts, but few may know about the British-Canadian naturalist Ernest Thompson Seton, whose Woodcraft Indians

organization helped shape Baden-Powell's thinking. In addition, how many know that President Theodore Roosevelt disagreed with scouting's pacifism in the run-up to World War I?

All of this and much more is the subject of David Scott and Brendan Murphy's *The Scouting Party*. Readers will learn about the questions and conflicts that James West, Chief Scout Executive from 1911 to 1943 dealt with as he, Seton, and Daniel Carter Beard, founder of the Sons of Daniel Boone, debated the growth and direction of the Boy Scouts of America (BSA).

Historian Douglas Brinkley calls it "a gift to America," which makes it the perfect gift for any scouting enthusiast as the Boy Scouts of America launches into its second century.

So to all my scouting brethren out there enjoy a good read of BSA holiday history and remember to... DO A GOOD TURN DAILY.

If you would like to learn more about the scouting program in your local community drop me an email at mike.leighty@centurytel.net and I will help you make contact with a local unit.

Yours in Scouting, Scoutmaster Mike

Lion discount cards now on sale for \$10

Loogootee Lion discount cards are now on sale and can be purchased from any 5th or 6th grade student, teacher, or parent. Cards can also be purchased at any 5th and 6th grade boys' or girls' basketball game. The cards feature 28 discounts from area businesses. Discounts are valid from now until November 30th, 2011. Businesses participating in the discounts include: Buffalo Wings & Rings (Jasper and Bedford), Builder's Best, China Wok, Corner Cafe, CVS, Dairy Master, Dominos, Fat Boys Pizza (Montgomery), Fazoli's (Jasper), Gasthof (Montgomery), Greenwell Hardware, Hammerhead Bar & Grill (Jasper), Harder's Auto Service, Hunan Garden (Washington), La Carretta (Jasper), Li's Super Buffet (Jasper), Loogootee Family Restaurant, Marathon, The Millhouse (Jasper), Mr. Gatti's (Washington), Pizza & More, Pizza Junction, Ponderosa (Washington), Stoll's Lakeview, Subaco (Jasper and Bedford), Subway (Loogootee, Crane, and Washington), Tammy Nails, and Toy's Auto Parts. Remember that 100 percent of the profits from the cards benefit the students in grades five and six.

Thanksgiving comes early to Red Skelton Museum

Thanksgiving came early this year for Vincennes University's plans to build a Red Skelton Museum and Education Center.

Thanks to a \$1 million pledge by Lawrenceville, Illinois civic leaders Frank and Julia Ladner, the Red Skelton Foundation kicked off its fundraising campaign on November 22 with two-thirds of its \$4 million goal already in hand. The Ladner pledge was announced at VU's \$20 million Red Skelton Performing Arts Center, site of the planned museum.

"I think this is very important. First of all, people love to travel and see new and exciting things. Of course, Red Skelton is really an icon, so they will come to a place like this and see his paintings and his memorabilia. Yes, it will bring people to the area and we need that," Frank Ladner said.

According to Bernard Niehaus, president of the Red Skelton Foundation Board, the goal is to create an interactive exhibit of a vast Red Skelton collection, valued at more than \$5 million, that was previously donated to VU by Red's widow, Lothian. The collection includes Red's many costumes, scripts, original paintings, music scores, top entertainment awards, and videos from his many years in television, movies, and radio.

Looking ahead to the completion of the museum, Niehaus cited its economic development benefits. "We think this will definitely draw people to the Vincennes area. Several years ago we had a marketing study done about the Red Skelton Center. They told us that all we have to do is have people stop here on their way to places like Branson for a day-trip. There are so many things here - a national park, Grouseland, the Old Cathedral, and the university, so this will be another place for visitors to stop at this wonderful museum and education center," Niehaus said.

Speaking to the audience by telephone from her California home, Lothian Skelton thanked the Ladners and others who have made early pledges to the museum campaign. She recalled that Red had long dreamed of having a theatre of his own. "I just wish that all your dearest dreams come true. You certainly have made a dream for me come true. I thank you so much from the bottom of my heart. God bless all of you," Skelton said.

Widely recognized as one of the pioneers of television in the 1950s, Red Skelton had one of the longest runs of any television show - a 20-year, top-rated show that brought to life many legendary characters, such as Freddie the Freeloader. His career also spanned radio, the movies, painting, and musical composition.

Born in Vincennes in 1913, Skelton died

in 1997 and is remembered as one of the nation's most beloved entertainers.

In his honor, VU opened the \$20 million Red Skelton Performing Arts Center in 2006, located a short distance from Red's birthplace home.

In 2007, private donors funded and built an 11,000 square-foot structure, adjacent to the center, to house the Red Skelton Collection.

Included within the \$4 million campaign goal is \$1.7 million for building structure and interior finishing, \$1.2 million for a three-year operating budget, \$600,000 for creating museum exhibits, and \$500,000 for an endowment to support operations of the Skelton Museum and Education Center.

The center's planned interactive exhibits and programming will focus on Red Skelton's role in early television and theater, comedic characters, display of his clown paintings, and philanthropy that helped Shrine Children's Hospitals. The museum will also focus on Skelton's dedication to patriotism, as illustrated by his famous rendition of the Pledge of Allegiance. Periodic traveling exhibits are also planned at the museum.

"I think that the project will be highly successful," Ladner said. "It is my feeling that the people of Vincennes, who always come to bat, will come forth in a great fashion and I think the goal will be achieved in the next six to nine months."

FRANK S. LADNER

Long active in philanthropy, Ladner has intensified his efforts on behalf of the greater Lawrenceville community since 2004. His contributions include building a medical clinic, starting the Lawrence County Vocational Technical Center, and providing major support for the construction of a parking garage and re-built offices for Golden Rule Insurance following a fire. Both downtown Lawrenceville projects will have a major beneficial impact on Lawrenceville's economy and employment.

Last spring Ladner donated \$1.5 million to VU to support the development of the Haas CNC Training Center. The donation enabled VU to purchase seven Haas CNC machines with the balance of the funds used to purchase additional equipment to complete the training center. Located on campus in the Indiana Center for Applied Technology, the training center will help both area manufacturers and employees to remain competitive with the best practices in the world.

A member of the Bi-State Authority, with past service as its chair, Ladner has been a leader in promoting new airport facilities and an expanded economic development role for the Mid-American Air Center, which he views as a key asset for both southern Illinois and Indiana.

Following his graduation from St. John's University, Ladner arrived in Lawrenceville in 1948 as the first full-time agent for Golden Rule Life Insurance Company. Within one year he started the L&R Sales Organization with Pat Rooney as his partner and together they started a stock life insurance company in 1961 named Congressional Life.

In 1977 the name Congressional Life was changed to Golden Rule Insurance and Ladner and Rooney purchased the mutual company in 1980. Thirty percent of Golden Rule was sold to the company's employees in 2001, resulting in the employees receiving \$150 million when the company was purchased by United Health of Minnesota in 2003.

Beyond his professional and community service, Ladner is most proud of his family, including his wife Julia, whom he married in 1952, and their six adult children: Peggy, Tom, Julie, Will, Mary, and Ann Marie. The Ladners also have 11 grandchildren: Nancy, Frank, Jennifer, Jason, Helen, Robert, Joe, Todd, Aaron, Nathan, and Thomas.

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New Beginnings Church Weekly Message

BY SHIRLEY CANELL
Pastor's wife

Receive God's Smile Matthew 5:1-11
We must be aware that the devil prowls around like a roaring lion seeking who he may devour. The Bible says resist him firm in your faith knowing the same kind of sufferings are being experienced by your brotherhood throughout the world. Standing firm in true faith is the power that overcomes, the power that makes us act like the person that God calls us to be. There is an old saying that if you want to be happy, blessed, and have revival it has to begin with you. The only person you can change is yourself.

We must find what it is that is going to make us blessed and approved by God. When God approves us, He blesses us thereby it brings feelings of happiness. In Matthew 5, we learn about the beatitudes. They show us exactly where we stand in relation to the Kingdom of Heaven and eternal life. As we expose ourselves to the x-ray of Christ's word we see the authenticity of our relationship with Christ. No other scripture makes us face ourselves as does the Sermon on the Mount. It shows us in a mirror who we are and who we should be. By the power of the Holy Spirit and the changing power of Jesus we become more like Christ and have a great sense of well-being that the beatitudes tells us we will have.

The beatitudes demonstrate the way to heavenly blessedness, which is the opposite of the

worldly path normally followed in pursuit of happiness. The world idea is that happiness is found in riches, merriment, abundance, leisure, and such things. If we are going to find happiness and have God smile upon us we have to be several things.

If you follow the pattern of the beatitudes it is a progression, Jesus gives us a paradox - to be poor in spirit. How can we be poor yet rich enough to inherit the Kingdom of Heaven? Poverty of Spirit is the personal acknowledgment of spiritual bankruptcy. It is the opposite of self-sufficiency. It is a deep humility of recognizing one's utter spiritual bankruptcy apart from God. Blessed are those who realize that they have nothing within themselves to commend them to God, for there is the Kingdom of Heaven. Poverty of spirit is foundational because a continual sense of spiritual need is the basis for ongoing spiritual blessing.

Blessed are those who mourn. In the book Who Speaks for God, this question is asked, "Why is it that today sin is so seldom written or preached about?" The answer is, when we truly confront the sin within us it is a devastating experience. The fact is, man has always been in need of such an encounter. Jesus shows us here how necessary it is to truly face one's sin. This is the emotional counterpart of the first beatitude. When we see ourselves as we are it stirs emotions of mourning. To clarify, Jesus didn't say blessed are the grim, cheerless Christians, or blessed are those who are mourning over the difficulties of life. Mourning is essential for salva-

tion because no one can be forgiven if they are not sorry for their sins. For the believer it is a good mourning. Mourning over sin is essential to spiritual health.

God's comfort comes in the form of His divine companionship. He is our ally. He personally binds up our sorrows and consoles us. Comfort is immediate. It comes personally in the person of the Holy Spirit and it is based on the forgiveness of our sins. That is why we are called blessed.

Blessed are the meek, gentle. Meekness is not weakness, its not cowardliness, it not spinelessness or willingness to have peace at all cost. It is not shyness, or a withdrawn personality. Meekness and gentleness are caressing words. Meekness and gentleness also imply self-control, strength under control. The meek person is strong, strong as steel. He exhibits love rather than retaliation against those who do him evil. A gentle spirit is a gift from the Holy Spirit that comes through grace. We must cast ourselves on God asking in humble prayer that He gives us life, makes us his children and instills in us a spirit of meekness. Every soul needs to grow in grace regardless of one's level of spiritual maturity.

The progression of the beatitudes provides us with a three-step ladder to meekness. Poverty of spirit comes from a true knowledge of self. With this knowledge of self and that we fall short of the Glory of God we realize we need God so we progress to mourning. When true poverty of Spirit and spiritual mourning are present, they

make way for the positive virtue of meekness.

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied. Jesus tells us in this what we ought to eat and how we must eat if we are to have spiritual health and ultimate satisfaction. Spiritual health comes from hunger and thirst for righteousness. An inner righteousness is living and conforming to God's will, righteous living. It is a passionate desire which begins with one's own life, that all things should be lived in line with God's will.

Do you hunger after the wrong things and are not getting satisfied? Jesus provides the right menu and appetite. Corporate prayer is good defense against the Devil. Let's all pray now this prayer: God we pray that you would help us see our own need of being poor in spirit, to mourn over sin in our lives, to be meek yet bold for you. Father, help us to be hungry and thirst for your righteousness you desire in our lives. We desperately need you God. In Jesus name we pray. Amen.

Did you wonder what beatitude means? It means supreme blessedness, exalted happiness. Our Sunday service begins at 10 a.m. with praise and worship. We would love to see you there. DeShawn, Demi, and DeAnna performed an interpretive dance Sunday during praise and worship time. It was amazing to see. Can't forget Mya, she is my granddaughter, she is four and she was up there also. She did her best to keep up. It was cute to see the passion in the dance. If you have any questions please call Pastor Ernie at 709-0258. In Christ Alone.

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Shoals Varsity Boys' Basketball

-Photo provided

Pictured above are the members of the Shoals Varsity Boys' Basketball team. In the front row, from left to right, are Seth McCrary, Zach Cook, Garrett Bateman, and Jondavide Hopkins. In the back row, from left to right, are Coach Brian Smith, Darek Turpin, Mike Shartzter, and Tyler Price.



Shoals Junior Varsity Boys' Basketball

-Photo provided

Shown above are members of the Shoals Junior Varsity Boys' Basketball team. In the front row, from left to right, are Alex Doane, Scott Johnson, Dylan Erwin, Cole Kimmel, Cody Hert, and Cody Butcher. In the back row, from left to right, are Coach Tim Sorrells, Nick Gerkin, Jordan Sorrells, Waylon Bradley, Damon Roach, Enoch Spaulding, Tanner Abel, and Cody McKibben.

Loogootee Junior High boys defeat NE Dubois

The Loogootee Seventh and Eighth Grade Basketball teams traveled to Northeast Dubois Monday night and both teams came home with wins. The 8th grade finished 42-21 and the 7th grade finished 27-25.

Hayden Bell and Gabe Nolley led the eighth grade with nine points each with Bell adding four rebounds. Ben Blackwell and Jordan Berry each contributed six points. The team moved to 6-1 on the season.

The seventh graders were led in scoring by Corey Jacobs with seven points followed by Grant Carrico with six and Wyatt Wade and Jake Blackwell with five each. The seventh graders record is now 3-3.

Last Thursday, November 18, both teams played North Knox at home. The 8th grade took the win by a score of 37 to 24 with the 7th grade winning 23-16.

Ben Blackwell led in scoring for the 8th grade with 13 points followed by Darian Stewart with eight, and Gabe Nolley with seven points. Nolley and Blackwell also led the team with six rebounds each.

Jake Blackwell scored over half of the 7th grade teams points with 12. Corey Jacobs had eight rebounds.

Eighth grade Lady Lions start season with 3-2 record

Loogootee 8th grade girls were defeated in their season opening game at Pike Central on November 8. Final score for the evening was Pike Central 27, Loogootee 22. Allie Walker led Lion scoring with 14 points. Remaining points were contributed by Waylee Wagoner with four points, Kaelyn Nonte with two points, and Bailey Davis with two points.

The second game for the 8th grade Lady Lions was on November 13 where they were defeated by Vincennes Rivet 24 to 32. Leading the ladies was Allie Walker with 17 points. Also scoring were Waylee Wagoner, Macey Baxter, and Emily Bateman each with two points and Kaelyn Nonte with one point.

The 8th grade Lady Lions' third game was on November 15 when they defeated Shakamak 29-10. Allie Walker led scoring with 11 points followed by Waylee Wagoner with nine points, Chassidy Bridges with four points, Kaelyn Nonte with three points, and Macey Baxter with two points.

Game four was another win for the girls when they defeated North Daviess 20-18. Points were contributed by Allie Walker

with 12, Waylee Wagoner with five, Kaelyn Nonte with two points, and Emily Bateman with one point.

Game 5 was yet another win for the 8th grade girls' team, making it three wins for the week. The Lady Lions defeated the Jug Rox 28-15 at home. Leading the game in points was Waylee Wagoner with 12 points followed by Allie Walker with seven points, Kaelyn Nonte and Chassidy Bridges each with four points and Whitney Pendleton with one point.

To date the 8th grade girls' record is three wins with two losses.

Shoals Eighth Grade Boys defeat Cardinals

The Shoals 8th Grade Boys' Basketball team defeated Washington Catholic on November 17. Shoals finished with 33 point to the Cardinals' 24 points.

Johnny Arnett posted a double double for the Jug Rox. He had fifteen points and twelve rebounds. The team was led in rebounding by Michael Hawkins with sixteen boards.

"This was a hard-fought, physical game with the difference maker in the game being the offensive rebounding effort by the Jug Rox," said Coach Mike Fischer.

This win moved the team to 3-1 on the season. The team has a break until the next game against Springs Valley on December 2nd.

Lady Lions Sixth Graders win over Cedar Crest Gold

The Loogootee Girls' Sixth Grade A and B teams traveled to Cedar Crest on Tuesday night and went up against the Gold team. The A team won 29-15 and the B team was also victorious with a score of 12-10.

The A team game was tied six to six in the first quarter with Loogootee pulling away to take the win.

Megan Mathies led the A team in scoring with 11 followed by Kylie Hall with eight, Mayson Riley and Mya Hedrick with four points apiece, and Megan Lampert with two.

The B team was led by Mayson Riley and Mya Hedrick with four points each with Megan Lampert and Meghan Mathies contributing two points apiece. Hedrick hit the game winning shot with six second left in the game.

The girls will go up against Vincennes Rivet on November 30. The game will be held at the East gym.

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Shoals Honor Roll

Term 1 - Grading Period 2

Seventh grade

All A's: Allison Albright, Britney Cooper, Logan Harker, Megan Hawkins, Christina Hovis, Ashley Phillips, Reva Troutman, and Dawn Wright

Distinguished Honor Roll: Corbyn Sipes

Honor Roll: Taylor Atkison, Zachary Bleemel, Tyrell Brett, Julie Dorsey, Jasmine Gates, Cassidee Harker, Damion Hart, Victoria Mills, David Qualkenbush, Jessica Ryan, Cody Sanders, and Alex Wininger

Eighth grade

All A's: Logan Albright, Brittany Bauernfiend, Ashley Montgomery, Holly Self, and Kelsey Sellers

Distinguished Honor Roll: Haylie Brace, Austin Jones, and Josey Waggoner

Honor Roll: Ashton Albright, Angel Alsmann, Johnny Arnett, Audrey Bowers, Kyle Courtright, Kylee Hardwick, Michael Hawkins, Grady Key, Audrey Sanders, Donald Stoner, and Alexis Young

Ninth grade

All A's: Robin Hamby, Nicole Harder, and Cole Hovis

Honor Roll: Ryan Allen, Caleb Davis, Ariel Hert, Cody Hert, Tyler McGuire, Damon Roach, Sydney Tedrow, and Kandi Tichenor

Tenth grade

Distinguished Honor Roll: Whitney Albright, Tristan Bennington, Emily Richardson, and Ramona Simmons

Honor Roll: Amberly Albright, Waylon Bradley, Jonathan Butcher, Kayla Butler, Jessica Courtright, Lezlie Hart, Ethan Jones, Austin Kimmel, Brittani Land, Jennifer Montgomery, and Courtney Overfield

Eleventh grade

All A's: Rachel Harder and Darek Turpin
Distinguished Honor Roll: Victoria Bauer, Alex Bauernfiend, Zach Cook, Alanna Dawley, Grace LaMar, and Jacob Stoner

Honor Roll: Chelsey Baker, Michael Basley, Michaela Brockman, Supitcha Charoenram, Audra Deckard, MacKenzie Graves, Kelsey Hardwick, Brian Hert, Mackenzie Jones, Sasha Mains, Miranda Mullins, Kyra Ott, Megan Sanders, Audrey Sorrells, and Stephen Witt

Twelfth grade

All A's: Shaelin Adams, Bradley Phillips, Charles Shartzter, Augustus Sherfick, and Kyla Tichenor

Distinguished Honor Roll: Garrett Bate-man, Amber Lynn Bauer, John Harder, Ashley Hawkins, Jess Jenkins, Hillary Jones, Eric McDonald, Megan Montgomery, and Diamond Wright

Honor Roll: Jill Bradley, Jessica Conrad, Dillon Cornett, Casey Davis, Chase Dawley, Kailea Graves, Sarha Jones, Kayla Kidwell, Daniel Lagenour, Kaylea Mulder, Terry Newlin, Rachel Parsons, Bryan Patton, Deidre Pennington, Shannon Price, Caroline Pruet, and Amanda Stewart



LOOGOOTE ELEMNTARY WEST Breakfast

Thursday, November 25

Thanksgiving Break – No School

Friday, November 26

Thanksgiving Break – No School

Monday, November 29

French toast stick, sausage, juice

Tuesday, November 30

Breakfast pizza, egg, juice

Wednesday, December 1

Biscuit and gravy, sausage, fruit

Lunch

Thursday, November 25

Thanksgiving Break – No School

Friday, November 26

Thanksgiving Break – No School

Monday, November 29

Grilled chicken sandwich, corn, pears

Tuesday, November 30

Hot dogs, tator tots, green beans

Wednesday, December 1

Chicken noodle soup, applesauce, sweet rolls

LOOGOOTE INTERMEDIATE AND HIGH SCHOOL Lunch

Thursday, November 25

Thanksgiving Break – No School

Friday, November 26

Thanksgiving Break – No School

Monday, November 29

BBQ rib or pizza, baked beans, macaroni and cheese, cottage cheese, salad plate, milk

Tuesday, November 30

Chicken Alfredo or pizza, tossed salad, peas, fruit, salad plate, milk

Wednesday, December 1

Chicken nuggets or pizza, mashed potatoes, green beans, fruit, bread and butter, salad plate, milk

SHOALS SCHOOLS Breakfast

Thursday, November 25

Thanksgiving Break – No School

Friday, November 26

Thanksgiving Break – No School

Monday, November 29

Cereal, cinnamon bread, juice, milk

Tuesday, November 30

French toast, sausage, juice, milk

Wednesday, December 1

Egg, biscuit and jelly, juice, milk

Lunch

Thursday, November 25

Thanksgiving Break – No School

Friday, November 26

Thanksgiving Break – No School

Monday, November 29

Hamburger, spicy fries, fruit, cookies, milk

Tuesday, November 30

Chicken strips, mashed potatoes, corn on the cob, roll, milk; choice 4-12: cheese pizza

Wednesday, December 1

Chili soup with garlic bread, crackers, applesauce, milk; choice 4-12: sausage pizza and green beans



Loogootee Soccer ends season -Photo provided

Shown above are members of the Loogootee Soccer team. In the front row, from left to right, are Jake Simmons, Jonathon Jones, Andrea Blanton, Colin Bowling, Tyler Lythgoe, Konner Lyon, and Tye Collins. In the back row, from left to right, are Coach Dave Lythgoe, Ariel Jones, Jansen Sheer, Aaron Hudson, Bladen Albright, Jurnee Davis, and Assistant Coach Mike Jones. Not pictured are Kris Lyon & Angel Stuckey

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Classes and programs at the learning center

College classes

The following Ivy Tech classes will be held in Martin County during the spring 2011 semester:

English Composition (ENGL 111) Tuesdays 6 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Essentials of Algebra I (MATH 023) Wednesdays 6 p.m. to 9p.m.

Intro to Sociology (SOC1 111) Thursdays 6 p.m. to 9 p.m.

*In-state fees for Ivy Tech classes are \$104.55 per credit hour.

If you need a proctor for an online class or computers with internet to take your classes, contact Kathy at the learning center to schedule a time that works with your schedule.

Free computer usage

The Martin County Community Learning Center has multiple computers available with internet access. If you need to use a computer, please come by the center during office hours and sign the computer usage agreement form. Computer usage is free for academic purposes.

Meeting rooms

Meeting rooms, classrooms, and two computer labs are available for businesses and organizations who would like to hold meetings. Call for available dates.

Overcomer's group

Indiana Drug Education and Awareness Solutions are conducting an ongoing Over-

comer's Recovery Support Group at the center. Meetings are held every Tuesday evening from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., and newcomers are invited. There is no cost for participation. For further information, contact Jason Underhill at 812-653-1908.

Adult literacy and education

Do you know someone who could use some help with his or her reading skills? Anyone interested is encouraged to contact SOAR! at 812-709-1618 for further information.

For GED-Adult Basic Education, call Vicki Conrad at 812-936-2881 or 812-606-2056.

Coming soon!

The New Year will be here before we know it, and along with a new year comes a new set of classes. In the works are more computer applications courses, résumé classes, Microsoft programs classes, fitness/aerobics classes, music, and more. Keep an eye on the newspapers and website for further updates. The learning center is here to serve the community; call and let us know how we can best serve you!

Contact

Kathy Kerr, Coordinator, 812-295-2674 or email kkerr8@ivytech.edu

Office hours

Monday through Thursday 1 p.m. to 9 p.m. and Friday 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

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A Creating Wellness Center

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www.BowlingChiropractic.com

Remember your pets as the weather turns colder

Cold weather can be hard on pets, just like it can be hard on people. Sometimes owners forget that their pets are just as accustomed to the warm shelter of the indoors as they are. Some owners will leave their animals outside for extended periods of time, thinking that all animals are adapted to live outdoors. This can put their pets in danger of serious illness. There are things you can do to keep your animal warm and safe.

Take your animals for a winter check-up before winter kicks in. Your veterinarian can check to make sure they don't have any medical problems that will make them more vulnerable to the cold.

Keep your pets inside as much as you can when the mercury drops. If you have to take them out, stay outside with them. When you're cold enough to go inside, they probably are too. If you absolutely must leave them outside for a significant length of time, make sure they have a warm, solid shelter against the wind, thick bedding (hay is a great insulator that they can snuggle down in), and plenty of non-frozen water. Try leaving out a hot water bottle, wrapped in a towel so it won't burn your pet's skin.

Some animals can remain outside safely longer in the winter than others. In some cases, it's just common sense: long-haired breeds like Huskies will do better in cold weather than short-haired breeds like Dachshunds. Cats and small dogs that have to wade shoulder-deep in the snow will feel the cold sooner than larger animals. Your pet's health will also affect how long she can stay out. Conditions like diabetes, heart disease, kidney disease, and hormonal imbalances can compromise a pet's ability to regulate her own body heat. Animals that are not generally in good health shouldn't be exposed to winter weather for a long period of time. Very young and very old animals are vulnerable to the cold as well. Regardless of their health, though, no pets should stay outside for unlimited amounts of time in freezing cold weather. If you have any questions about how long your pet should be out this winter, ask your veterinarian.

Cats will curl up against almost anything to stay warm—including car engines. Cats caught in moving engine parts can be seriously hurt or killed. Before you turn your engine on, check beneath the car or make a lot of noise by honking the horn or rapping on the hood.

If you live near a pond or lake, be very cautious about letting your dog off the leash. Animals can easily fall through the ice, and it is very difficult for them to escape on their own. If you must let your dogs loose near open water, stay with them at all times.

If you light a fire or plug in a space heater to keep your home toasty warm, remember that the heat will be as attractive to your pets as to you. As your dog or cat snuggles up to the warmth, keep an eye out to make sure that no tails or paws come in contact with flames, heating coils, or hot surfaces. Pets can either burn themselves or knock a heat source over and put the entire household in danger.

It's a good idea to have your furnace checked for carbon monoxide leakage before you turn it on, both for your pets' health and your own. Carbon monoxide is odorless and invisible, but it can cause problems ranging from headaches and fatigue to trouble breathing. Pets generally spend more time in the home than owners, particularly in the winter, so they are more vulnerable to carbon monoxide poisoning than the rest of the family.

Pets that go outside can pick up rock salt, ice, and chemical ice melts in their foot pads. To keep your pet's pads from getting chapped and raw, wipe her feet with a washcloth when she comes inside. If your canine friend will tolerate it there are special booties that can help protect their paws from the winter elements and any chemicals or salts that art put out. This will also keep her from licking the salt off her feet, which could cause an inflammation of her digestive tract.

If left alone outside, dogs and cats can be

very resourceful in their search for warm shelter. They can dig into snow banks or hide under porches or in dumpsters, window wells, or cellars, and they can occasionally get trapped. Watch them closely when they are loose outdoors, and provide them with quality, easily accessible shelter.

Keep an eye on your pet's water. Sometimes owners don't realize that a water bowl has frozen and their pet can't get anything to drink. Animals that don't have access to clean, unfrozen water are more likely to drink out of puddles or gutters, which can be polluted with oil, antifreeze, household cleaners, and other chemicals.

Be particularly gentle with elderly and arthritic pets during the winter. The cold can leave their joints extremely stiff and tender, and they may become more awkward than usual. Stay directly below these pets when they are climbing stairs or jumping onto furniture; consider modifying their environment to make it easier for them to get around. Make sure they have a thick, soft bed in a warm room for the chilly nights. Also, watch stiff and arthritic pets if you walk them outside; a bad slip on the ice could be very painful and cause a significant injury.

Go ahead and put that sweater on Princess, if she'll put up with it. It will help a little, but you can't depend on it entirely to keep her warm. Pets lose most of their body heat from the pads of their feet, their ears, and their respiratory tract. The best way to guard your animals against the cold is keeping a close eye on them to make sure they're comfortable.

When you're outside with your pets during the winter, you can watch them for signs of discomfort with the cold. If they whine, shiver, seem anxious, slow down or stop moving, or start to look for warm places to burrow, they're saying they want to get back someplace warm.

You can also keep an eye out for two serious conditions caused by cold weather. The first and less common of the two is frostbite. Frostbite happens when an animal's (or a person's) body gets cold and pulls all the blood from the extremities to the center of the body to stay warm. The animal's ears, paws, or tail can get cold enough that ice crystals can form in the tissue and damage it. The tricky thing about frostbite is that it's not immediately obvious. The tissue doesn't show signs of the damage to it for several days.

If you suspect your pet may have frostbite, bring her into a warm environment right away. You can soak her extremities in warm water for about 20 minutes to melt the ice crystals and restore circulation. It's important that you don't rub the frostbitten tissue, however—the ice crystals can do a lot of damage to the tissue. Once your pet is warm, wrap her up in some blankets and take her to the veterinarian. Your veterinarian can assess the damage and treat your pet for pain or infection if necessary.

Hypothermia, or a body temperature that is below normal, is a condition that occurs when an animal is not able to keep her body temperature from falling below normal. It happens when animals spend too much time in cold temperatures, or when animals with poor health or circulation are exposed to cold. In mild cases, animals will shiver and show signs of depression, lethargy, and weakness. As the condition progresses, an animal's muscles will stiffen, her heart and breathing rates will slow down, and she will stop responding to stimuli.

If you notice these symptoms, you need to get your pet warm and take her to your veterinarian. You can wrap her in blankets, possibly with a hot water bottle or an electric blanket. As always, remember to wrap hot items in fabric to prevent against burning the skin. In severe cases, your veterinarian can monitor her heart rate and blood pressure and give warm fluids through an IV.

Winter can be a beautiful time of year. It can be a dangerous time as well, but it certainly doesn't have to be. If you take some precautions, you and your pet can have a fabulous time.

Commissioners lift burn ban, open supply bids

Meeting minutes provided by Martin County Auditor Nancy Steiner

The Martin County Commissioners met Tuesday, November 16.

Civil Defense/EMA Director Wolf recommended lifting the burn ban for Martin County and the commissioners unanimously voted to approve the recommendation.

Wolf reported Martin County helped in fighting the fire in Paoli.

The Loogootee Fire Department will be getting a new fire chief as the current one is resigning.

A discussion was held concerning the generator at the Community Building. Commissioner Gregory said it is large enough to handle both the community building and fire station. More information will be needed.

The department will be receiving the mass casualty trailer on November 20. Wolf said he will let Auditor Steiner know the amount needed for insurance purposes.

Highway Superintendent Jim Williams presented his two-week's work schedule. Bids for supplies were opened and will be taken under advisement. Fuel bids were received from Jones Oil and White River Co-Op. Stone and/or blacktop bids were received from Cave Quarries, Inc., Rogers Group, Arvin Crushed Stone, Heritage Aggregates, J.H. Rudolph, Tri-County Paving, and Asphalt Material.

The county road signs ordered are in and will be in place shortly. County Road 45 was discussed whether it was a vacated road or an unimproved county road. County Attorney Lett stated that since it is on the state's map and our county map, that the county does not have to improve it, but it can be used by the public. Neither Superintendent Williams, nor Auditor Steiner, could find where it was vacated. Superintendent Williams will check into it further.

County Educator Stevens reported thirty-seven participated in the pesticide recertification program held recently.

President George announced there will be a public hearing on December 14 at 6 p.m. for the Lost River Township Fire Station Project.

The commissioners approved to accept and sign the paperwork changing the Housing Rehabilitation grant from the Disaster Recovery to the Community Development Block Grant.

County Attorney Lett is working on the Animal Control Ordinance and hopes to have it take effect by January 1, 2011.

An inspection from Certified Fire System Consultants showed corrections need to be made to the sprinklers in the basement where remodeling was completed this past spring. Auditor Steiner will get estimates to whether the work will need to be advertised and bids required.

Classified ADS

FOR SALE

1995 MOBILE HOME, 16' by 80', 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, will have to be moved \$ 7,000 obo. Call 812-709-0719.

MAYTAG portable dishwasher for sale. \$75. 296-0510.

PHILIPS PORTABLE DVD player for sale. Like new. \$50. 296-0510.

FREE ITEM

FREE PIANO - needs some work - you haul. 296-7158

HELP WANTED

PERDUE FARMS

HAPPY THANKSGIVING



Plant Production Positions (All Shifts)

5 a.m. - 1 p.m.
8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
1 p.m. - 10 p.m.
4:30 p.m. - 1:30 a.m.
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Calendar of Events

Democrats Christmas Dinner

The Martin County Democrats will hold their annual Christmas Dinner Party Thursday, December 9, at Sandy's Restaurant, on Main Street in Shoals. The dinner will start at 6 p.m. The public is welcome to attend.

WIC Office closing

The Martin County WIC Office will close at 4:30pm on Tuesday, November 30. Please call 247-3303 for questions.

Walking for fitness at LUMC

Walking for fitness is held each Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday at the Loogootee United Methodist Church in the Family Center. The program will follow school weather closings. If there is a school delay, or during

the week before Thanksgiving and the week before Christmas, there will not be organized walking. Come "follow the blue line". All ages are invited, and it is free. Call Sandy Haseman at 295-9822 with any questions.

Humane society meetings

The Martin County Humane Society meets on the third Tuesday of the month at Loogootee Municipal Building, at 7 p.m. To become a member, contact Martin County Humane Society, P. O. Box 537, Shoals, Indiana 47581, call Don at 296-0952.

Recovery support group

The Overcomers Recovery Support Group meets every Tuesday night at 6 p.m. at the Martin County Community Learning Center.

~Letters from the readers~



little boys, and the grey tabby and black kittens are little girls. Dr. Wallace estimates them at about four months old and in good condition. I have attached photos of the kittens for you to decide which one you wish to adopt!

Respectfully,
Kathy Burns
Martin County

'I'd like to thank everyone involved'

To the editor of the *Martin County Journal*,

I'd like to thank everyone involved for graciously welcoming me into the Community Foundation's Legacy Society at the recent annual dinner. I'm grateful to Jason Jones and all the board and sponsors for their work in making it so easy to support good causes. Whether from schools, churches or other organizations and institutions, we all receive support during our formative years and, thanks to the foundation, it doesn't take much money or time to pay back in perpetuity.

Anne Jones Johnson
Bedford (former Loogootee resident)

'United Way campaign Raise the Red'

To the editor of the *Martin County Journal*,

"Help us raise the red!" This year's campaign motto to advance our community has been the same for years of advancing Daviess County. This year, we celebrate bonding together as a community to help each other. Back in the 1970's, a small group of citizens banded together to begin

what would become a very meaningful movement that would remain strong for years. I'm sure they didn't realize what they were starting. But thank goodness for their community commitment and foresight.

Now, in 2010, we have the same "great" opportunity to unite as a community for the same worthwhile cause "community." While some things have changed with the United Way over the years, one thing has remained solid and strong: a focus on Advancing the Common Good by Creating Opportunities for a Better Life for All. That is the key goal of the United Way - to give a hand up to those in need, whether it be our family, friends or neighbors.

Did you know that the United Way of Daviess-Martin County supports 22 various social agencies which nurture children, promote health, insure basic needs are met, strengthen families, and increase self-sufficiency? Did you know that one in every four people in Daviess County benefit from the dollars raised by the United Way Campaign?

That one person could be you.

I am committed to making a positive difference in our community and I ask you to join me. Together we are mighty and can improve the lives of many.

This year, we have established a campaign goal of \$225,000 dollars. That is quite a goal but I have great faith and confidence that we can do it. We are a generous community filled with people who care and share from the heart.

Be a part of the movement. "Raise the Red"

With sincere gratitude,
Noah Trueblood
2010 United Way Campaign Chair

My Point of
VIEW
By Courtney Hughett
Owner,
Martin County Journal

I don't have a lot of room left this week for my column so I am just going to take this time to ask you to read the ad at the bottom of this page and join me in helping the humane society build an animal shelter.

On December 22, the *Martin County Journal* will be running Christmas Greeting ads and I am giving 50 percent of everything made to the Martin County Humane Society.

I am a huge animal lover and since living back in Loogootee I have seen far too many stray cats and dogs. I have taken in so many cats I have lost count, but living here on the highway has proven to not be such a safe area to have any kind of pet. An animal shelter is something that has been needed in this county for a very long time.

Several people have stepped up lately to help the humane society. Roy and Nancy Pannell donated money from their inflatables auction, Pizza & More in Loogootee donated a portion of one night's sales and tips, and Mr. Walton's third grade class at Elementary West raised over \$1,600 in one short week - all to help. It's my turn - or our turn to help. Together we can raise enough money, which society President Don Greene said is around \$150,000.

If you have any questions please feel free to email me at courtney@martincountyjournal.com.

The Martin County Journal needs your help!



As many of you are aware, Martin County is in desperate need of an animal shelter. Without one, there are many neglected and starving stray cats and dogs in need of food and shelter in our community.

The Martin County Journal is asking for your help! We will donate 50% off all proceeds from Christmas Greetings to the Martin County Humane Society. The greetings will be published December 22nd. Anyone is welcome to place a greeting - individuals, businesses, churches, clubs, etc.

Fill out the form below or contact Courtney at 812-259-4309 or email courtney@martincountyjournal.com or Ernie at 812-709-0258 or ernie@martincountyjournal.com. Let's make a difference!

Sample Ad

Merry Christmas Grandma Everman!
We love you very much!

Love, Josh, Courtney, Wyatt and Alex

I WANT TO HELP!

Mail this form along with your payment to Martin County Journal, PO Box 148 Loogootee, IN 47553. Please include a photo if you wish or email it to courtney@martincountyjournal.com. Any size ad is available, call or email for pricing or check one below.

- 2x2 (\$13) 2x3 (\$19.50) 2x4 (\$26)
 2x5 (\$32.50) 2x6 (\$39) Other (Call or email for pricing)

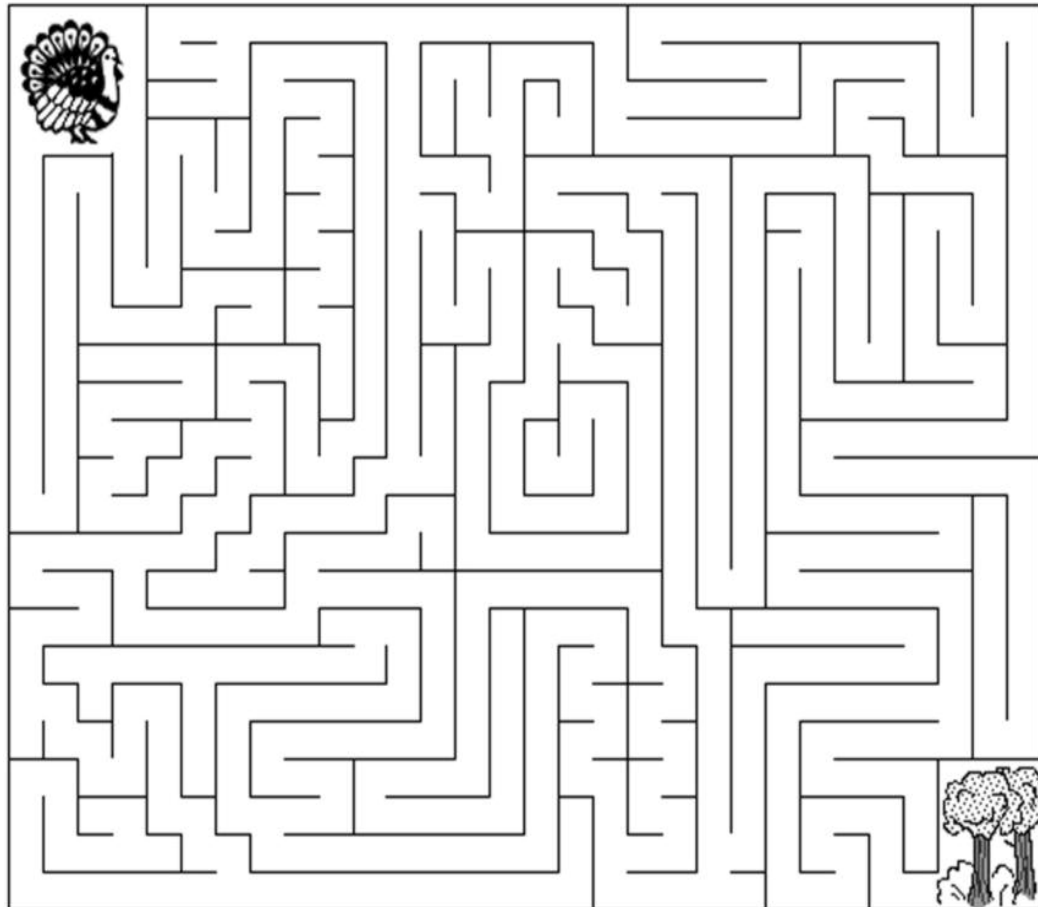
Name _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Message for ad _____

For more information or to place your ad by phone call 812-259-4309. You can also email the above information to courtney@martincountyjournal.com and you will be emailed a bill.

Happy Thanksgiving

Thanksgiving Word Search



A G N I V I G S K N A H T G O
 R A E Y R R T I C U R O A D A
 L L T F E A S T E L S T M I T
 N P U M P K I N Y M H I K R R
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|---------------|------------------|
| 1. Carve | 11. Holiday |
| 2. Celebrate | 12. November |
| 3. Colonist | 13. Pilgrim |
| 4. Cornucopia | 14. Platter |
| 5. Cranberry | 15. Pumpkin |
| 6. Dessert | 16. Thanksgiving |
| 7. Farmer | 17. Tradition |
| 8. Feast | 18. Turkey |
| 9. Gather | 19. Vegetable |
| 10. Harvest | 20. Worship |



The US States and Presidents

Those of you who saw the kids' page last week may have noticed that I had the Indiana flag which included the state's motto and nickname. I also had the first president of the United States George Washington. Every week there will be a new state and a new president until we work our way through all of them.

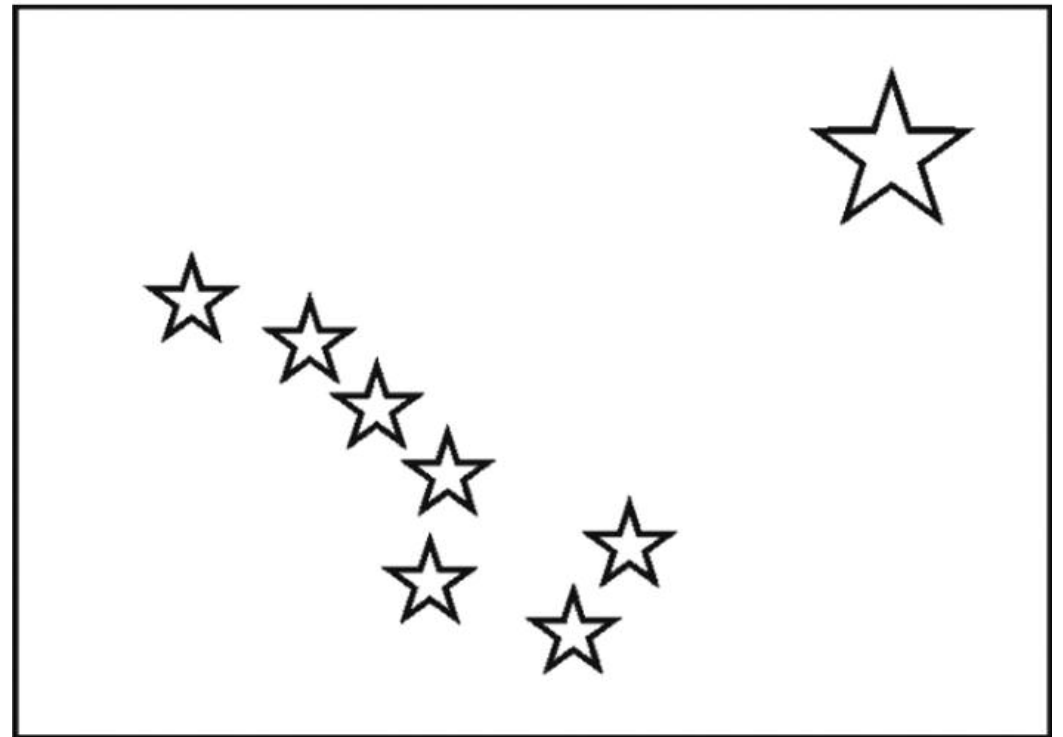
The states will now go from A to Z while

the presidents will be in order of their presidency.

Any child out there who would like to see something on the kids' page, please feel free to contact me through email at courtney@martincountyjournal.com. Let me know what you enjoy doing so I know what to include on this page.

Happy Thanksgiving!

ALASKA



Motto: **North to the Future**

Nickname: **The Last Frontier**



2. John Adams 1797-1801