

Martin County JOURNAL

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WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2021

Eight pages

Local businessman to pay for deputy raises council denied

BY COURTNEY HUGHETT
Martin County Journal Publisher

Sheriff Travis Roush asked the Martin County Council at their meeting Monday night, December 6, for a \$2.64 raise for deputies which would cost an additional \$54,912. Council Member Adam Greene quickly made a motion to approve the increase with Council Member Randy Winger making the second. The motion died due to only having Council Member Keith Gibson raise his hand in approval.

Council Member Barb McFeaters said she talked to the financial advisor the county hired and he suggested waiting until the first of the year to see where the county stands, due to already increasing the salaries for the jail officers, dispatchers and cooks along with the decrease in revenue from out-of-county inmates. "I do want to say once again, this council, overall, has been supportive of you for every single thing," McFeaters said to the sheriff. She said it's difficult to increase salaries \$92,000 for the other positions when they had to cut revenue for next year's budget. She said she thought it was a "help-help" situation between the sheriff's department and the council. She said the council approved the sheriff purchasing more beds to house more inmates and then the sheriff decided to reduce the inmates to 15.

Sheriff Roush said he was confused because he is giving checks for housing out-of-county inmates and showed them a copy of the most recent one for \$130,000. He said as of August 31, they have brought in \$406,389 to the county

this year. He said he doesn't understand McFeaters' statement about the lack of revenue the sheriff's department has been providing.

McFeaters replied that she is referring to next year's budget.

The sheriff said that he committed to housing 15 inmates at a time, from the very beginning, and is currently holding 20. McFeaters said that was decided after the budget hearings this year. Council Member Warren Albright agreed saying that the sheriff has been keeping 30-35 inmates but that was suddenly reduced for some reason after the budget was set for next year.

The sheriff replied that he ran into staffing issues.

Council Member Albright asked how many more staff members the sheriff has now compared to when he started.

The sheriff didn't reply but instead said he always committed to having 15 inmates. He said since 2018, he has brought in \$1.1 million to the county. He said that is well beyond what he committed to bring in and therefore is confused by what they are saying. "You're accusing me of not holding up to my end," he said.

"We're not accusing you of anything," said Council Member Albright.

Council Member Sherri Bowling asked if those numbers were based on housing 30-plus inmates. Sheriff Roush replied by saying he wanted to keep his portion of the meeting short and asked for a motion to approve the \$2.64 raises for deputies.

Council Member Albright replied that the motion died due to not having the votes. He added that if the sheriff would

look at his budget, he would see that the council gives the sheriff's department more than he takes in for housing out-of-county inmates.

Sheriff Roush said public safety is the issue because they lose deputies due to the low wages.

Albright said that a few meetings ago, the sheriff said the deputies would be fine if wages were raised for the jail officers and not them.

Roush replied that this was already pointed out and he made a mistake saying that and admits he was wrong.

Albright said they hired a financial advisor to help them out and then things started changing after the budget was put in place for next year.

Roush said that his chief deputy makes less money than a starting patrolman at the Loogootee Police Department. "How does that make sense when he is a 15-year vet?" asked the sheriff.

A member of the audience said the financial advisor needs to run for county council if he's the one making the decisions.

Jacki Dant, who was in the audience, asked what the contingency plan is when half the deputies go to work for the Loogootee Police Department because they make more money. "We need to be in front of the eight ball and not behind it and we are behind it," she said. She said Loogootee recently opened up their application pool to include anyone in the county and not just Loogootee residents.

Council Member McFeaters asked if the retention bonuses went out the first week of November to the long-time employees. The sheriff replied that he believes a few checks went out. McFeaters replied that she realizes that has nothing to do with the raises being requested but it is an example of how they are trying to increase compensation. She added that a lack of deputies isn't just a Martin County problem, other counties are having that problem too.

McFeaters said that with the help of the financial advisor, they planned to do two percent raises for all county employees over the next three years. She said adding in all of these raises that were unexpected, messes up that plan.

Dant, from the audience, said the financial advisor wasn't elected by Martin County residents. She said if the council cannot make a decision without him, then their seats are pointless.

McFeaters said they hired the financial advisor to guide them because they didn't want to raise taxes anymore. It was noted that the county is only a quarter of a percent away from maxing out the income tax rate and McFeaters said they don't want to get there.

Dant then asked the council to address the laughing and snickering going on in the back of the room by the treasurer and recorder. She said it's unprofessional and asked if the financial advisor was also needed to hold decorum in a public meeting.

Treasurer Lori Carrico apologized for her behavior.

(See 'COUNCIL' on page 2)

Regional COVID testing site still open

Friendly reminder, the Dubois County Regional Testing Site is still available for anyone needing/wanting COVID-19 testing. The site has recently changed labs. With the switch, they are anticipating faster return times and the introduction of a less invasive PCR swab as two added benefits. The site is located at the former Ruxer's golf course building at 400 South Clay St. Jasper, IN 47546. The phone number is 812-675-5084. Hours are Sunday and Monday: Closed; Tuesday and Wednesday 10 a.m.-6 p.m.; Thursday, Friday, and Saturday 8 a.m.-4 p.m.

The site is closed from 1-2 p.m. for lunch.

Rapid COVID-19 tests (BinaxNOW COVID-19 Ag Cards) are available by appointment at the Dubois County Regional COVID Testing Site during business hours. Results should be available about 30 minutes after test. To schedule an appointment for a rapid test, please register at DuboisCountyTesting.as.me

To register for an appointment to obtain a PCR COVID-19 test, please visit <https://scheduling.coronavirus.in.gov/>. You will have to click "I don't have an invitation code". If you do not have internet, you can call the phone number above, if no one answers please leave a message and they will call you back. Results should be available within 2-3 business days.

If you have questions, you can contact 812-675-5084 or the Dubois County Health Department at 812-481-7050.



The Martin County Primary Election will be held May 3, 2022. The following local offices will appear on the ballot:

- County Assessor
- County Clerk
- County Council Districts 1, 2, 3 and 4
- County Commissioner District 2
- Circuit Court Judge
- County Prosecutor
- County Sheriff
- All Township Trustees
- All Township Board Members
- Shoals Town Council – 3 members
- Shoals Clerk/Treasurer
- Crane Town Council – 3 members
- Crane Clerk/Treasurer
- Democrat Precinct Committeemen (only on ballot if there is a contest)
- Democrat and Republican State Convention Delegates (only on ballot if there is a contest)

The first day to file for candidacy is January 5, 2022 and the last day to file is February 4, 2022 at noon. You can pick up necessary paperwork at the Martin County Clerk's Office any time after December 17, 2021. If you have any questions about filing for candidacy or any other election questions, please contact the clerk's office at 812-247-3651.



-Photo provided

LHS Beta donations

The Loogootee High School Beta Club presented \$2,000 checks to the Martin County Toy Store and the Martin County Humane Society on Tuesday. The money came from a cookie dough fundraiser the club did this fall. Shown are the LHS Beta officers presenting the checks. In the photo above, from left to right, are, Abbey Fischer (Beta Club Historian), Rory Tippery (Beta Club Secretary), Curt Johnson and Pam Loughmiller (Martin County Toy Store), Reece Tippery (Beta President), and Chantel Greene (Beta Vice President). In the photo below, from left to right, are Abbey Fischer, Rory Tippery, Courtney Hughett (Martin County Humane Society), Reece Tippery, and Chantel Greene. Not pictured was Grace Gingerich (Beta Treasurer).



COUNCIL

(Continued from page one)

Dant said it will continue once there is more discussion about the deputy prosecutor and deputy surveyor positions.

Council Member Buck Stiles said they already discussed those positions, since August, and have explained why those positions are needed. "If that's the only two things you are worried about you probably ought to think of something else," said Stiles. He added that the budget was completed in August and all the questions about the deputy positions have been after the budget was done for next year.

Stiles asked the sheriff if his department has a drone. Sheriff Roush replied that one of the deputies does. He added that they have one that was inherited from the former sheriff. "What's the relevance of that?" asked Roush.

"Who is flying that drone?" asked Stiles.

Roush interrupted and said he is at the meeting to request raises, not discuss this other stuff.

Stiles said the sheriff asked them questions and wants to know why they are not allowed to ask him questions.

The sheriff replied that this isn't the forum to ask those questions. Stiles replied that it is.

Stiles asked who gave the okay for the sheriff's department to purchase a \$5,000 electric bicycle. He asked if the commissioners approved it and what they are doing with it. "What are you doing with the drone, are you flying it around on anybody that may be suspect?" asked Stiles.

Roush replied that they got the drone seven years ago. He said he approved the purchase of the bicycle out of commissary funds, not taxpayer funds.

Stiles said there was security detail provided privately by deputies. He asked who did the paperwork and scheduling for that. He asked who collected the money and how it was being tracked. He asked how many county vehicles and deputies were used and if any of that money came back to the county. He said he's not opposed to the deputies making extra money outside of the sheriff's department but wants to know who is tracking it.

The sheriff replied that the paperwork and scheduling was done outside of sheriff's department hours.

Stiles asked why they were using county vehicles then and wearing county uniforms. "How come it wasn't talked about?" he asked.

"You are essentially accusing me of corruption," said the sheriff. "I have bled for this county for the last seven years."

"So have we," said Stiles.

"You are so out of line it's unreal," said Sheriff Roush.

"That's right, I'm out of line. So are you," replied Stiles.

"How so! Because I am asking for a raise for . . ." said Roush before Stiles cut him off by saying, "Because it's personal."

"It's personal to you!" said Roush with a raised voice.

"That's right, it's damn personal to me," said Stiles.

"And you should be professional, not personal," said the sheriff.

"Then you need to look in the mirror," replied Stiles and asked why there are deputies leaving. "Maybe it's not the money, maybe it's you. Maybe they don't want to work for YOU."

"That's a personal attack," said the sheriff. "I'm baffled."

Roush said that Stiles is welcome to come to the jail anytime and ask questions. He said he's not trying to hide anything. He added that Stiles chooses to ask him these questions in a public meeting to try and make him look bad. He said Stiles asked about the electric bike when they are very common throughout other departments for different patrol platforms, such as the Catfish Festival and Summer-

fest. "There's nothing shady about that," said Roush.

Stiles said he's not trying to make the sheriff look bad.

Roush said he is simply asking for raises for his staff who are underpaid. He said they are the first line of defense for life and death. "All I asked for is a raise and you personally attacked me," said Roush.

"I didn't personally attack you," said Stiles. He said he asked about things that people in the community don't know anything about.

Council Member McFeaters asked how many staff members the sheriff is lacking. The sheriff replied that he is down one dispatcher, and he has a jailer that hasn't given his two-week notice yet but will be going to work for Loogootee. He is also losing a deputy to Loogootee in a few weeks and noted he has three applications so far for deputies.

Commissioner Cody Roush, who was in the audience, asked what they are going to do when they start losing highway employees due to low pay too. He said this is a problem the council is going to have to address somehow, and they are going to have to come up with some money. Commissioner Roush said every other surrounding county has increased their wages and Martin County isn't doing anything.

Commissioner Paul George asked if any of the American Recovery Plan money can be used to pay salaries. Auditor Bobbie Abel said it would be a temporary fix because that money is limited. She said it could be used, however, but the county would have to figure out what to do after that money is gone.

Commissioner George said they may be able to finance a few years of the raise and then come up with another solution.

Business owner Jason Loughmiller, from the audience, said he would just pay for the \$54,912 for the raises from his personal funds if the council would agree to keep it going next year. After a standing ovation for Loughmiller, the sheriff asked the council to vote again for the raises.

Council Member Albright said they would have to make sure a donation could be accepted. Commissioner Paul George went out to try and call the county attorney but was unable to reach him.

The sheriff again asked the council to re-vote for the raises and said he has received a donation to purchase a truck in the past.

Council Member Adam Greene made a motion to approve the \$2.64 per hour increase for deputies. Council Member Winger made the second and the motion passed unanimously.

"I've seen a lot of things, but I've never seen anything like that," said Council Member Albright referring to Loughmiller's donation.

"One of the best things I've ever seen done," said Council Member Winger.

It was decided that the second year of raises, in 2023, would be paid for by ARP funds. The council will then decide what to do after that.

Clerk Gerald Montgomery said the sheriff's department isn't the only office to bring in an income. He said his office does too and they don't get any of their money back.

Sheriff Roush replied that his department is 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year and is not 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. so there isn't a comparison.

Council Member McFeaters wanted it noted that the council has approved adding three deputies, three jailers and two dispatchers since the sheriff started taking in out-of-county inmates. She said again that they have done what they can to give the sheriff what he requests.

Commissioner Paul George talked to the council about the contracts from Core Facilities to upgrade the doors and communication system and the boiler room

in the jail. They will be using American Recovery Plan funds. They plan to do air conditioner upgrades in the courthouse too. Another ARP meeting will be held in January. Commissioner Roush said the plan is to do more infrastructure work to

alleviate using taxpayer money down the road. Council Member Albright said they have nothing against non-profits however they don't plan to use the ARP money outside of the county government. Commissioner George agreed.

CLASSIFIED ADS

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Office Manager - Located in Martin County. Must have computer skills including Microsoft Office, Proficient in Quickbooks, Communication and Reception skills, and ability to manage clients and employees.

Send resume to:
Kenneth Woods 528 Dogwood Hill,
Loogootee, Indiana 47581

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Meal Program Manager - Located in Martin County. Duties include order and inventory of food supplies, create menus, manage and direct kitchen staff. Must have basic knowledge of Microsoft Office and be willing to do food safety certification.

Send resume to:
Kenneth Woods 528 Dogwood Hill,
Loogootee, Indiana 47581



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The Martin County Sheriff's Office is currently accepting applications for the following positions:

- Full-Time Jail Officers - \$17.00 per hour
- Part-Time Jail Officers - \$15.00 per hour
- Part-Time Dispatchers - \$15.00 per hour
- Part-Time Cooks - \$13.00 per hour

Minimum Requirements:

- High School Diploma or GED
- Be at least 18 years of age
- Citizen of the United States
- Must not have any Felony or Misdemeanor Battery or Domestic Violence Convictions
- Be willing to submit to pre-employment drug screening
- Ability to work a variety of shifts, including evenings, weekends and some holidays

To be considered for an open position, interested candidates are encouraged to pick-up an application at the Martin County Sheriff's Office: 318 Capital Avenue, Shoals, IN 47581 (812) 247-3726. Applications will be accepted until all positions are filled.

OBITUARIES

WILLIAM ADAMS

William L. "Yacky" Adams passed away Thursday, December 2, 2021, at the Linda E. White Hospice House in Evansville. A resident of Loogootee, he was 64.

He was born April 16, 1957, in Washington; son of the late Dolathe and Iva (Day) Adams.

Bill was preceded in death by his parents, siblings, Robert Adams, Betty Burris, and Michael Wayne Adams.

He is survived by his sister, Mary Beth Adams of Loogootee; nieces, Shannon Burris and Christie (Scott) Wilcoxon, both of Loogootee and Mark Adams of Evansville; and sister-in-law, Patricia Adams of Evansville.

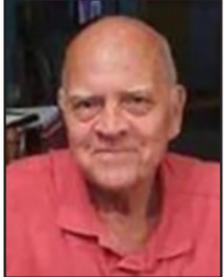
A private graveside service will be held at a later date.

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

Blake Funeral Home in Loogootee is honored to serve the family of William "Yacky" Adams.

EARL BOYD JR.

Ernest Earl Boyd, Jr. passed away December 1, 2021, at Daviess Community Hospital in Washington. A resident of Shoals, he was 78.



He was born August 29, 1943, in Martin County; son of Ernest Earl Sr. and Mary Louise (McCauley) Boyd.

He married Barbara J. Chattin on June 22, 1963, in Shoals, and she preceded him in death on December 3, 2020.

Jr. was a lifelong business owner, auctioneer, and former Town Marshal. He was a member of the St. Mary's Catholic Church; the Eagles #2442 where he was a past president; past Chairman of the Martin County Republicans; appointed KY Colonel in 2001; and was the Grand Marshall of the 2021 Catfish Festival. Jr. was also a former Town of Shoals Council Member.

Surviving are his daughter, Rebecca (Tim) Taylor of Montgomery; four sons, Wesley Boyd of Shoals, Kevin (Riza) Boyd of Shoals, Brian (Aletha) Boyd of Loogootee, and Kevin Lee (Sarah) Cornett of South Carolina; special caregiver and granddaughter, Kecia Taylor; as well as many grandchildren, great-grandchildren, nieces, and nephews; and one sister, Carol Spears.

He was preceded in death by his parents; wife; one daughter, Theresa Ervin; and great-granddaughters, Hope Day and McKenzie Salmon.

A funeral service will be at 1 p.m. Friday, December 10 at the Queen-Lee Chapel of Thorne-George Family Funeral Homes, with Pastor John Ziegler and Pastor Mark Hamaker officiating. Burial will follow in the Albright Cemetery.

Visitation will be from 3-7 p.m. on Thursday, December 9 at the funeral chapel.

DORLISA QUINN

Dorlisa Ann Quinn passed away at 11:20 p.m. Wednesday, December 1, 2021, at her home. A resident of Loogootee, she was 66.

She was born February 14, 1955, in Washington; daughter of the late Charles and Bertha (Day) Bruner.

Ann married Roger Quinn on April 7, 1995, and he survives.

She was a member of St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church, where she was active in the quilters group. She also was a member of the Right to Life. She loved to do hair and visit the French Lick Casino.

Ann was preceded in death by her par-

ents, Charles and Bertha Bruner; brothers, Richard and John Bruner; and sister-in-law, Patricia Bruner.

She is survived by her husband, Roger Quinn of Loogootee; children, Sharon (Darren) Harmon of Loogootee, David Ramsey of Louisville, Danielle (Josh) Moya of Jasper, Allison (Jeremy) Braun of Loogootee and Amy Quinn of Shoals; 11 grandchildren; siblings, Margaret (Joe) Shaffer of Poseyville, Andy Bruner of Loogootee, Donnie (Sandy) Bruner of Loogootee and Leroy (Helen) Bruner of Loogootee; sister-in-law, Debbie Bruner of Kansas; and many nieces and nephews.

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated Monday, December 6 at St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church in Loogootee, officiated by Very Rev. J. Kenneth Walker.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions can be to St. John Catholic Church Cemetery Fund.

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

Blake Funeral Home in Loogootee is honored to serve the family of Dorlisa Ann Quinn.

DEBBIE FIELDS

Debra "Debbie" Fields passed away Tuesday, November 30, 2021, at Daviess Community Hospital. A resident of Loogootee, she was 67.

She was born July 19, 1954, in Washington; daughter of the late David Martin and Nancy Ellen (Babb) Souerdike.

Debbie loved to read books written by Stephen King and watching Harry Potter movies. She enjoyed riding in the semi with Jim, her husband. She loved to bake, needle work, crocheting, mushroom hunting and fishing.

She was preceded in death by her parents, David and Nancy Souerdike; brothers, David "Randy" Souerdike and Douglas "Scott" Souerdike; niece, Candy Souerdike; nephew, Jeremy Osborne; and mother-in-law, Anna Fields.

Debbie is survived by her husband, Charles J. Fields of Loogootee; sister, Sherry (Wayne) Evans of Bloomfield; nieces and nephews, Waylon Souerdike, Kelli (James) Floyd, Ryan Souerdike, Josie Souerdike and Erin (Travis) Hasler; and father-in-law, Charles T. Fields.

A memorial service was held Friday, December 3 at Blake Funeral Home in Loogootee.

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

Blake Funeral Home in Loogootee is honored to serve the family of Debra Fields.

CALVIN GIBSON

Calvin Gibson passed away Tues-



day, November 30, 2021, at his home. A resident of Shoals, he was 65.

He was born February 1, 1956, in Pine Top, Kentucky; son of Robert Gibson and Polly Craft.

He married Sherry Lett and she survives. Calvin worked as a truck driver for many years.

Surviving is his wife, Sherry; children, Donnie Lee Gibson, Adam Gibson, Brandon Stone, Julie Lents, Nicholas Lett, and India Arvin; 13 grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; one brother, Monroe Gibson; and several nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents; one son, Kevin Dean Gibson Phillips; and two brothers, James Gibson and Samuel Gibson.

Committal followed visitation on Tuesday, December 7 at the Spring Hill Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Queen-Lee Chapel to assist the family with expenses.

Online condolences may be sent to the family at www.queenlee.com.

JERRY SCHNARR

Jerry D. Schnarr passed away at 2:55 p.m. Sunday, December 5, 2021, surrounded by family at Memorial Hospital and Health Care Campus in Jasper. A resident of Shoals, he was 57.



He was born in Jasper on July 23, 1964; son of Albert and Shirley May (Freyberger) Schnarr. He married his wife of 15 years, Patti on April Fool's Day in 2006.

Jerry was a Jasper High School graduate. He then served in the United States Air Force from 1983 until 1989. There he worked overseas as a warning radar repairman. He later became an Air Force Sargent. He was awarded the AFCOM, GCM, MK, HSM, and the OS medals. After the Air Force, he went on to receive his associates in electrical engineering at Vincennes University where he graduated with Magna Cum Laude.

Jerry was a lifelong farmer. He retired from Crane as an electronic technician.

He was an active member of the Gideons, the Via De Cristo, Walk to Emmaus, Thrivent, St. John's Lutheran Church in Boone Township, Calvary Lutheran Church in Bedford, Right to Life Activist and prayed outside many abortion clinics, donated gallons of his blood to the Red Cross, he was a bell ringer for the Salvation Army and for over 20 years met Wednesday mornings with a men's prayer group.

He enjoyed bringing people to the Lord, fishing, going on vacations, movies, traveling, motorcycle riding, farming and being with his family.

Surviving is his wife, Patti Schnarr of Shoals; one daughter, Joanna Schnarr of Huntingburg; two sons, John (Michelle) Schnarr of Loogootee and Anthony Schnarr of Shoals; one sister, Cheryl (Terry) Stemle of Jasper; and three grandchildren, Michael, Kyle and Scarlett Schnarr.

Preceding him in death are his parents. A funeral service will be held at 10 a.m. Monday, December 13 at St. John's Lutheran Church in Boone Township with burial to follow in the church cemetery. Pastor Gary Zakian will officiate. The American Legion Post #147 will perform military graveside rites.

A visitation will be held from 12 p.m. until 5 p.m. at the Becher-Kluesner North Chapel on Sunday, December 12 and from 9 a.m. until the 10 a.m. service time at the church on Monday December 13.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the American Red Cross, Right to Life, and the Salvation Army.

Neat Feet Clinic at senior center

Daviess Community Hospital announces the schedule for the 2021 DCH Neat Feet Clinic. This service is provided once per month at Senior & Family Services in Washington from 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

A Registered Nurse from Daviess Community Hospital will trim toenails, file toenails, assess feet for any abnormalities, and apply lotion to groomed feet. The Registered Nurse will also instruct each client on proper foot care.

The fee is only \$25. Appointments are necessary. To set up an appointment for the DCH Neat Feet Clinic, please call 812-254-8950.

2022 Dates are: January 13, February 10, March 10, April 14, May 12, June 2, July 14, August 11, September 8, October 6, November 10, December 8.

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Martin County Sheriff's Department log

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 29

5:14 a.m. - Received a report of a medical alarm in Loogootee. Loogootee Officer Wells and Martin County Ambulance responded but did not transport.

5:36 a.m. - Received a report of a deer in roadway south of Loogootee. Captain Reed responded.

5:59 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Shoals. Martin County Ambulance responded. The patient was transported to Daviess County Hospital.

7:41 a.m. - Received a report of a fire north of Loogootee. Crane Fire Department, Loogootee Fire Department and Martin County Ambulance responded but did not transport.

7:43 a.m. - Received a request for a welfare check north of Loogootee. Major Keller was notified.

9:06 a.m. - Received a report of suspicious person south of Loogootee. Loogootee Chief Means and Martin County Ambulance responded. The patient was transported to Good Samaritan.

2:00 p.m. - Sergeant Gibson assisted a motorist in Shoals with a vehicle unlock.

4:00 p.m. - Received a dog complaint in Shoals. Sergeant Gibson responded.

7:24 p.m. - Received a report of a suspicious person in Shoals. Sergeant Gibson responded.

7:25 p.m. - Received an accidental 911 call.

7:39 p.m. - Received a request for a welfare check in Shoals. Sergeant Gibson responded.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 30

11:15 a.m. - Received a report of an accident east of Loogootee. Major Keller, Sergeant Gibson, Loogootee Fire Department, Martin County Ambulance responded but did not transport.

151 p.m. - Corporal Seymour took one inmate to court.

5:30 p.m. - Received a dog complaint in Shoals. Animal Control Officer Hughett was notified.

6:34 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Shoals. Shoals Fire Department and Martin County Ambulance responded but did not transport.

6:36 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance north of Loogootee. Martin County Ambulance responded. The patient was transported to Daviess Community Hospital.

9:13 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance east of Shoals. Chief Deputy Greene, Sergeant Gibson, Shoals Fire Department, Martin County Ambulance responded.

9:55 p.m. - Received a report of a dog complaint in Loogootee. Animal Control Officer Hughett was notified.

10:42 p.m. - Received a report of a suspicious person northwest of Shoals. Captain Reed responded.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 1

5:55 a.m. - Received a report of a dog complaint in Loogootee. Animal Control Officer Hughett was notified.

8:38 a.m. - Received a report of a reckless driver south of Loogootee. All Martin County law enforcement were notified.

10:00 a.m. - Corporal Seymour took two inmates to court.

10:34 a.m. - Corporal Seymour took one inmate to court.

ARRESTS

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 4

5:17 p.m. - Curtis Brown, 50, of Loogootee was arrested by Deputy Wells and charged with driving while suspended with a prior. He is being held on a \$10,000 10% bond with no driving.

12:19 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance north of Loogootee. Crane Fire Department, Loogootee Fire Department, Martin County Ambulance responded. The patient was transported to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

2:00 p.m. - Received a report of a dog complaint south of Shoals. Animal Control Officer Hughett was notified.

2:46 p.m. - Sergeant Gibson assisted a motorist in Loogootee with a vehicle identification check.

7:50 p.m. - Received a report of a suspicious person in Shoals. Sergeant Gibson responded.

8:33 p.m. - Received a report of a domestic dispute in Shoals. Sergeant Gibson responded.

11:35 p.m. - Received a report a burglar alarm north of Shoals. Captain Reed responded.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 2

3:15 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance north of Loogootee. Loogootee Fire Department and Martin County Ambulance responded but did not transport.

7:20 a.m. - Received a report of an accident south of Loogootee. Major Keller responded.

10:25 a.m. - Corporal Seymour took one inmate to court.

11:00 a.m. - Received a report of a burglar alarm in Shoals. Homeowner was notified.

11:45 a.m. - Corporal Seymour took one inmate to court.

12:30 p.m. - Received a report of a reckless driver in Loogootee. Loogootee Police were notified.

1:22 p.m. - Corporal Seymour took two inmates to court.

3:56 p.m. - Received a report of vehicle disregarding a school bus stop arm. Captain Reed responded.

8:04 p.m. - Received a report of an accident south of Loogootee. Deputy Wells responded.

8:41 p.m. - Received a report of suspicious person south of Loogootee. Deputy Wells responded.

9:00 p.m. - Received a report of a car-deer accident north of Loogootee. Deputy Wells responded.

9:35 p.m. - Received a report of burnt-out traffic light in Loogootee. INDOT was notified.

10:06 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. Deputy Wells and Martin County Ambulance responded but did not transport.

10:29 p.m. - Received a report of a domestic dispute in Loogootee. Loogootee Chief Means, Deputy Wells, Martin County Ambulance responded but did not transport.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 3

3:05 a.m. - Received an accidental 911 call.

6:22 a.m. - Received a report of a domestic dispute east of Shoals. Deputy Hawkins responded.

8:17 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. Loogootee Fire Department and Martin County Ambulance responded. The patient was transported to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

8:28 a.m. - Received a report of a pig complaint south of Loogootee. Animal Control Officer Hughett was notified.

9:26 a.m. - Corporal Seymour took one inmate to court.

10:13 a.m. - Received a report of an accident in Shoals. Shoals Fire Department, Major Keller, Chief Deputy Greene, Sheriff Roush and ISP Beaver responded.

12:56 p.m. - Received an accidental 911 call.

4:05 p.m. - Received a report of a domestic dispute in Shoals. Corporal Seymour, Deputy Wells, Chief Deputy Greene, Loogootee Chief Means and Martin County Ambulance responded but did not transport.

4:59 p.m. - Received a report of an accident north of Shoals. Shoals Fire Department, Chief Deputy Greene, Deputy Wells and Martin County Ambulance responded but did not transport.

6:09 p.m. - Received a request for a welfare check in Shoals. Deputy Wells responded.

6:30 p.m. - Received an accidental 911 call.

6:46 p.m. - Received a report of a controlled burn south of Shoals.

6:55 p.m. - Received a report of a domestic dispute in Shoals. Deputy Wells responded.

7:55 p.m. - Received a report of a controlled burn east of Loogootee.

9:08 p.m. - Received a request for a welfare check north of Loogootee. Deputy Wells, ISP Trooper Watson and ISP Trooper Henning responded.

9:51 p.m. - Received a request for a welfare check in Shoals. Deputy Wells responded.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 4

8:49 a.m. - Deputy Wells assisted a motorist in Shoals with a vehicle unlock.

9:20 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Shoals. Shoals Fire Department and Martin County Ambulance responded. The patient was transported to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

9:47 a.m. - Received an accidental 911 call.

10:40 a.m. - Received a report of a suspicious person in Shoals. Deputy Wells responded.

Martin County real estate transfers

Jean Chappell, of Martin County, Indiana to **Paul D. Howell**, of Martin County, Indiana. Parcel One: the west part of the southwest quarter of the southeast quarter of Section 4, Township 1 North, Range 3 West, containing 33 acres, more or less. Also, the southeast part of the southeast quarter of the southwest quarter of Section 4, Township 1 North, Range 3 West, containing 26.50 acres, more or less. Parcel Two: Part of the southeast quarter of the southeast quarter of Section 4, Township 1 North, Range 3 West, containing 6 acres, more or less. Parcel Three: A part of the southeast quarter of the southeast quarter of Section 4, Township 1 North, Range 3 West, containing 41 acres, more or less, except a section containing 12.63 acres, more or less.

Michael J. McAtee, of Martin County, Indiana to **Hiram Sanders and Patricia S. Sanders**, of Martin County, Indiana, Lots Numbered 23 and 26 in Summers, Cannon and Crane Addition to the City of Loogootee, Indiana.

Rex A. Apsley, of Martin County, Indiana to **The Revocable Trust Agreement of Rita J. Apsley**, of Jennings County, Indiana, a part of the southeast quarter

12:35 p.m. - Received an accidental 911 call.

2:26 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Shoals. Shoals Fire Department and Martin County Ambulance responded. The patient was transported to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

6:10 p.m. - Received a report of a suspicious person north of Loogootee. Deputy Wells responded.

10:16 p.m. - Received a report of a reckless driver west of Shoals. Deputy Hawkins responded.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 5

2:05 a.m. - Received a report of a car-deer accident southeast of Shoals. Deputy Hawkins responded.

2:11 a.m. - Received a request for a welfare check in Loogootee. Deputy Hawkins responded.

10:48 a.m. - Received a report of a domestic dispute. Deputy Wells and ISP Trooper Beaver responded.

10:53 a.m. - Received a report of an accident southeast of Shoals. Deputy Wells responded.

1:36 p.m. - Received a report of a theft south of Shoals. Deputy Wells was notified.

2:25 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance southeast of Shoals. Shoals Fire Department, Deputy Wells and Martin County Ambulance responded but did not transport.

3:50 p.m. - Received an accidental 911 call.

8:02 p.m. - Received a report of a domestic dispute in Loogootee. Loogootee Officer Sims, Loogootee Officer Wells, and Sergeant Gibson responded.

11:03 p.m. - Received a report of a power outage in Loogootee. Captain Reed was notified.

of Section 28, Township 4 North, Range 3 West, containing 3.03 acres, more or less.

Doris M. Jones, of Martin County, Indiana to **Abigail Helen Marie Barker**, of Martin County, Indiana, a parcel of land in the City of Loogootee, Indiana.

Nathan Hoffman and Katherine Hoffman, of Martin County, Indiana to **Equity Trust Company Custodian FBO Delmar W. Wagler IRA**, of Daviess County, Indiana, a part of the south half of Section 3, Township 3 North, Range 3 West, Martin County, Indiana, containing 5.49 acres, more or less.

Loren G. Wagler Construction, LLC, of Daviess County, Indiana to **Austin M. England**, of Martin County, Indiana, a portion of the southeast quarter of the northeast quarter of Section 24, Township 3 North, Range 5 West, in the City of Loogootee, Indiana, containing 0.79 acre.

James A. Bruner to JoAnn F. Masterson, a part of the northeast quarter of the northeast quarter of Section 1, Township 1 North, Range 5 West, Rutherford Township, Martin County, Indiana, containing 1.016 acres, more or less.

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Sullivan (812) 268-5252	Martinsville (765) 342-6623	Linton (812) 847-4494	
Jasonville (812) 665-3969	Bicknell (812) 735-3545	Bloomfield (812) 384-4453	

COURT NEWS

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

CRIMINAL COURT

New Charges Filed

November 1

Jacob P. Friede, possession of marijuana, a Level 6 Felony; possession of paraphernalia, a Class C Misdemeanor.

Aaron L. Johnson, operating a vehicle while intoxicated endangering a person, a Level 6 Felony; operating a vehicle with an ACE of .08 or more, a Level 6 Felony; reckless driving, a Class C Misdemeanor.

Taylor Alan Kavanaugh, escape, a Level 6 Felony.

November 2

Travis A. Arvin, driving while suspended, a Class A Misdemeanor.

November 8

Christopher R. Earley, resisting law enforcement, a Class A Misdemeanor; obstructing traffic, a Class B Misdemeanor.

Chase H. Hembree, minor consuming alcohol, a Class C Misdemeanor.

Brandon A. Crowder, domestic battery resulting in serious bodily injury, a Level 5 Felony; kidnapping with serious bodily injury, a Level 3 Felony; intimidation, a Level 5 Felony; strangulation, a Level 6 Felony; three counts of domestic battery committed in the presence of a child less than 16 years old, Level 6 Felonies.

November 12

Charles T. Kline, operating a vehicle while intoxicated endangering a person, a Class A Misdemeanor.

Lindsey L. Hawkins, driving while suspended, a Class A Misdemeanor; possession of marijuana, a Class B Misdemeanor; false informing, a Class B Misdemeanor.

Marty G. Peek, possession of methamphetamine, a Level 5 Felony; operating a vehicle while intoxicated, a Level 6 Felony; criminal recklessness, a Class B Misdemeanor.

November 22

Brandon A. Crowder, possession of marijuana, a Class B Misdemeanor; possession of paraphernalia, a Class C Misdemeanor.

Jennifer N. Butler, driving while suspended, a Class A Misdemeanor; possession of paraphernalia, a Class C Misdemeanor.

Leroy D. Taylor, possession of methamphetamine, a Level 6 Felony; possession of paraphernalia, a Class C Misdemeanor.

November 23

John Eric Thorman, public intoxication, a Class B Misdemeanor.

Billie J. Groff, operating a vehicle while intoxicated prior conviction within 7 years, a Level 6 Felony; operating a vehicle with an ACE of .08 or more, a Level 6 Felony.

November 30

Nicholas R. Wathen, resisting law enforcement, a Class A Misdemeanor; disorderly conduct, a Class B Misdemeanor.

Frank T. Winger, operating a vehicle while intoxicated endangering a person,

a Class B Misdemeanor; possession of marijuana, a Class B Misdemeanor.

CRIMINAL CONVICTIONS AND SENTENCINGS

November 24

Michael T. Kline, convicted of dealing in methamphetamine, a Level 2 Felony. Sentenced to serve 12 years with the Indiana Department of Corrections with 0 days suspended.

David Kennedy, convicted of check deception, a Level 6 Felony. Sentenced to serve 180 days with 180 days suspended. Defendant received 90 days of probation.

November 29

James E. Rothrock, convicted of reckless driving, a Class C Misdemeanor. Sentenced to serve 30 days with 0 days suspended.

November 30

Mark A. Parker, convicted of resisting law enforcement, a Class A Misdemeanor and possession of marijuana, a Class B Misdemeanor. Sentenced to serve 180 days with 0 days suspended. Defendant shall serve the 180 days through Martin County Community Corrections Home Detention Program as a direct commitment.

Crystal C. Trambaugh, convicted of neglect of a dependent, a Level 6 Felony and possession of paraphernalia, a Class A Misdemeanor. Sentenced to serve 365 days with 361 days suspended and credit for 2 actual days previously served plus 2 Class A credit days. Defendant received 12 months of probation.

CRIMINAL CHARGES DISMISSED

November 24

Michael T. Kline, three counts of dealing in methamphetamine, Level 2 Felonies, dismissed; two counts of dealing in methamphetamine, Level 3 Felonies, dismissed.

David Kennedy, check deception, a Level 6 Felony, dismissed.

November 29

James E. Rothrock, operating a vehicle with a schedule I or II controlled substance or its metabolite in the body, a Class C Misdemeanor, dismissed.

November 30

Mark A. Parker, driving while suspended, a Class A Misdemeanor, dismissed; leaving the scene of an accident, a Class B Misdemeanor, dismissed; false informing, a Class B Misdemeanor, dismissed.

Crystal C. Trambaugh, maintaining a common nuisance – controlled substances, a Level 6 Felony, dismissed; dealing in marijuana, a Level 6 Felony, dismissed; possession of marijuana, a Level 6 Felony, dismissed.

CIVIL COURT

New Suits Filed

November 24

Bridgecrest Acceptance Corp. vs. Jeremy Sanders, civil collection.

November 30

James E. Wilson vs. Melanie Wilson, petition for dissolution of marriage.

MARRIAGE LICENSES

November 22

Lee T. Mayo of Loogootee and Olivia Noel Bell of Loogootee.

Loogootee Police log

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 29

7:41 a.m. - Loogootee Fire Department was dispatched to a house fire on East 700 North.

8:48 a.m. - Chief Means took a report from a complainant regarding harassment and possible theft.

8:20 a.m. - A caller reported an erratic driver on US 231 North.

9:00 a.m. - First responders were dispatched to a medical call on JFK Avenue.

3:08 p.m. - A local business reported a theft.

9:40 p.m. - Assistant Chief McBeth and Officer Sims responded to a report of a possible residential break in.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 30

11:15 a.m. - Loogootee Fire Department with first responders were dispatched to an accident on US 50 East.

8:20 p.m. - Assistant Chief McBeth and Officer Sims completed a vehicle check.

8:57 p.m. - Assistant Chief McBeth and Officer Sims checked on a suspicious vehicle at a local business.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 1

11:12 a.m. - Chief Means assisted with a funeral procession.

12:22 p.m. - First responders were dispatched to a medical call on Bramble Road.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 2

11:48 a.m. - Chief Means responded to

a report of a semi broken down at US 231 and US 50.

12:20 p.m. - Caller reported an erratic driver nearing Loogootee on US 50 East.

7:15 p.m. - Caller reported a noise complaint near Mulberry Street.

10:18 p.m. - Assistant Chief McBeth assisted Martin County Ambulance with a medical call on Cedar Street.

10:31 p.m. - Assistant Chief McBeth responded to a domestic dispute on Queen Street.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 3

8:04 a.m. - Chief Means took a report of possible illegal drug activity.

8:20 a.m. - First responders were dispatched to a medical call on Northwest First Street.

3:38 p.m. - Caller reported an erratic driver on US 50 westbound toward Loogootee.

4:05 p.m. - Chief Means responded to assist the Martin County Sheriff's Department with checking on a subject involved in a domestic dispute in Shoals.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 4

7:33 p.m. - A caller reported a noise complaint.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 5

8:02 p.m. - Officer Sims and Officer Wells responded to a report of a domestic dispute on North Line Street.

Consumer alert: Products recalled in October and November

The Office of Indiana Attorney General Todd Rokita is encouraging all Hoosiers who purchased consumer products that were recalled in October and November to take advantage of the remedies available to them.

"With the holiday season approaching, Hoosiers want to ensure that their hard-earned money is being spent on gifts that are safe and work correctly," Scott Barnhart, director and chief counsel for consumer protection, said. "If you purchased a faulty good or item in October and November that has been recalled, then you should immediately see what forms of reimbursement the company that sold or manufactured the product is offering."

According to the Consumer Product Safety Commission, the following consumer products were recalled in October and November:

Olympic Dumbbell Handles from Impex Fitness

AmazonBasics Memory Foam Mattresses from AmazonBasics

Honda Pioneer and Talon ROVs from Honda

VidaXL Steel Pool Ladders from VIDAXL

Hart 18-Gauge 2" Brad Nailers from Hart Consumer

ABUS MountZ Youth Helmets from ABUS

Turbo Racer, Cloud Racer, Captain's Fort and Fort Highlander Outdoor Playsets from Backyard Play Systems

Lambeth Outdoor Metal Torches from RH

White Wood Stools from Hobby Lobby

Glass Cabinet Knobs from Liberty Hardware

MyCharge Powerbanks from MyCharge

Zoom 360 Ultralight jogging strollers from Joovy

Husqvarna and GASGAS Off-Road Closed Course Competition Motorcycles from KTM

Lightform Projectors from Lightform

Specialized Tarmac SL7 Bicycles and Framesets from Specialized

If you believe you recently purchased a recalled product, stop using it, and check its recall notice (linked above for all aforementioned products). Then follow the notice's instructions, including where to return the product, how to get the product fixed, how to dis-

pose of the product, how to receive a refund for the product, or what steps must be taken to receive a replacement product.

To view recalls, visit the Consumer Protection Safety Commission website at www.cpsc.gov/Recalls.

~LETTER TO THE EDITOR~

'Everyone should commend them when they see them'

To the editor of the *Martin County Journal*,

I attended the county council meeting on 12/6/2021 because I wanted to show my support for our sheriff's deputies, who are grossly underpaid, especially considering the kind of work they do. I understand that all of our county employees are underpaid, but only the deputies are working 24/7/365, and risking their lives.

Jason and Pam Loughmiller's spontaneous donation of approximately \$54,000 to cover a raise for the sheriff's deputies for 2022 was incredible, and even though I know they don't desire praise, everyone in this county should commend them when they see them. The two present commissioners' pledge to fund this raise through 2023 is also to be commended. The county council's decision not to approve a \$2.64 an hour pay raise for the deputies was just as disappointing as the Loughmiller's donation was amazing. The sheriff brings a lot of money into this county by housing out-of-county inmates. Far, far more money than is needed to fund this modest raise. Since the council failed to approve a raise for the deputies, I would immediately stop housing out of county inmates if I was the sheriff. Luckily, his personality and level of patience isn't the same as mine.

A lowlight of the meeting was Councilman Stiles' personal attack on the sheriff. This continuing behavior is obviously part of a personal agenda on his part. The giggling, unprofessional behavior of other audience members, one of whom I believe is an elected official, was also ridiculous. I encourage everyone to remember these actions and behaviors by some of our elected officials when election time rolls around.

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NEW PRICE!!

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

More Neat Stuff



By Ann Ackerman



TWO LITTLE OLD LADIES....

Two little old ladies, Niamh and Tara, were sitting on a park bench outside the local town hall in Limerick, Ireland where a flower show was in progress.

The short one, Niamh, leaned over and said, "Life is so boring. We never have any fun anymore."

"For €10, I'd take my clothes off and streak through that stupid, boring flower show!"

"You're on!" said Tara, holding up a €10 bill.

So, Niamh slowly fumbled her way out of her clothes. She grabbed a dried flower from a nearby display and held it between her teeth.

Then, completely naked, she streaked (as fast as an old lady can) through the front door of the flower show.

Waiting outside, her friend soon heard a huge commotion inside the hall, followed by loud applause and shrill whistling.

Finally, the smiling Niamh came through the exit door surrounded by a cheering, clapping crowd.

"What happened?" asked Tara?

"I won €100 as 1st prize for 'Best Dried Arrangement'!"

THOUGHTS

*Don't wear headphones while vacuuming. I just finished the whole house before realizing the vacuum wasn't plugged in.

*When you stop believing in Santa Claus, you get underwear.

*I'm not a morning person or a night person. There are a few minutes in the afternoon where I'm decent and that's about it.

*I miss the 90s when bread was still good for you, and nobody knew what kale was.

*You know that thing inside your head that keeps you from saying stuff you probably shouldn't? Yeah, mine's broken.

*When your "Mom Voice" is so loud that even your neighbors brush their teeth and get dressed.

63 AND PREGNANT

A woman went to the emergency room, where she was seen by a young new doctor. After about three minutes in the examination room, the doctor told her she was pregnant.

She burst out of the room and ran down the corridor screaming.

An older doctor stopped her and asked what the problem was. After listening to her story, he calmed her down and sat her in another room.

Then the doctor marched down the hallway to the first doctor's room.

"What wrong with you?" he demanded. "This woman is 63 years old, she has two grown children and several grandchildren, and you told her she was pregnant?!"

The new doctor continued to write on his clipboard and without looking up said: "Does she still have the hiccups?"

Make someone smile today!

Public meeting for superintendent contract

Indiana Code 20-26-5-4.3 requires that the board of school trustees publish a notice of the superintendent's proposed contract. The Board of School Trustees of the Shoals Community School Corporation will meet Thursday, December 9, 2021, at 5:45 p.m. in the central administration office located at 11741 Ironton Road, Shoals, to discuss and hear public comment for a proposed employment contract between the Board of School Trustees of the Shoals Community School Corporation and school superintendent. A copy of the draft contract is available on the school district's website. At such public meeting, all persons interested shall have a right to comment on the proposed contract.

St. Vincent Food Pantry

The St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry, on Park Street in Loogootee, is open the fourth Thursday of the month except November and December when they are open the third Thursday. The hours are 8 a.m.-noon and 1-4 p.m.

LUMC Food Pantry

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

Mental Health Task Force

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

Celebrate Recovery meetings

Celebrate Recovery meetings will be held every Tuesday at 6:30 p.m. at Redemption Church in Loogootee. This is a

Christ-centered recovery program and anyone is welcome to attend.

Local recovery meetings

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

Free lunch for kids

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

SOAR Tutoring

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

Solid waste board

The Martin County Solid Waste Board holds their monthly meetings on the third Wednesday of each month at 5:30 p.m. at the recycling center located at 500 Industrial Park Drive in Loogootee. The meetings are open to the public and anyone is invited to attend.

Soil and Water meetings

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

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Learn what the HumanaChoice® PPO offers. Humana—and your local, licensed sales agent—get to know you, to help with your coverage decisions. Humana goes above and beyond to ease your health journey—for example, helping you find a new doctor. That's called human care. Say hello to human care. And the HumanaChoice® PPO.

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Making A Difference

MARTIN COUNTY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

By Curt Johnson
MCCF Director

'TIS THE SEASON FOR GIVING!

It seems like the Christmas season is a time when people become more aware of the needs of others. If you want to help but aren't sure where or how to donate, the Martin County Community Foundation is a good place to start. By donating to the MCCF, you are creating a positive impact that makes Martin County better, and your gift will keep giving forever. Now is a great time for giving for another reason too - when you make a donation by December 31st to the MCCF, you are also creating a tax break for yourself. Here are some ways to make the most of your year-end giving.

GIVE EARLY

A gift by check is complete when mailed (postmarked) by December 31st. If you plan to hand-deliver a check or cash to the MCCF, do it plenty early to be sure we're available to accept the donation by the end of the year.

The MCCF also has the option of donating online at www.cfpartner.org. Unless a specific fund is requested in a note (Paypal has this option), online credit card gifts go toward our general unrestricted fund. Online gifts can be donated up until 11:59 p.m. on December 31st.

REVIEW YOUR STOCKS

Consider a year-end gift of appreciated stock. If you donate stock, you will receive a charitable deduction for the current market value of the stock, which can provide significant savings in capital gains tax. Contact the MCCF for more information about how you can maximize your tax savings with gifts of stock.

YOUR RETIREMENT PLAN

If you're receiving taxable income from an IRA, you can make a Qualified Charitable Distribution if you are age 72 or if you reached 70 ½ before January 2, 2020. You can donate up to \$100,000 from your IRA without counting the distribution as income. Learn more about using your Required Minimum Distributions (RMD) to support the causes you care about most. The MCCF can provide some information about IRA charitable rollovers. If you are interested in an IRA rollover gift for the current tax year, you should contact your financial advisor soon to take advantage of this benefit by December 31st.

GIVE NOW, DECIDE LATER

If you need a charitable tax deduction this year but are undecided about which nonprofits to support, consider opening a donor-advised fund at the MCCF. You can claim a deduction for contributions to your fund now even though distributions from the fund would be made in future years. Contact the MCCF for details.

LET US DO THE LEGWORK

Working with us gives you access to our knowledge of the local nonprofit community and the needs of our county. We're here to help you achieve your charitable goals. Contact the MCCF Director, Curt Johnson, at 812-295-1022 or mccf@cfpartner.org to get started.

Make your giving count before 2021 ends!

-- MORE INFORMATION --

You are also welcome to visit our webpage at www.cfpartner.org and "like" the MCCF Facebook page at www.facebook.com/mcccommunityfoundation.

National unemployment dips to 4.2 percent in November

Total nonfarm payroll employment rose by 210,000 in November, and the unemployment rate fell by 0.4 percentage point to 4.2 percent, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported last week. Notable job gains occurred in professional and business services, transportation and warehousing, construction, and manufacturing. Employment in retail trade declined over the month.

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

Household Survey Data

The unemployment rate fell by 0.4 percentage point to 4.2 percent in November. The number of unemployed persons fell by 542,000 to 6.9 million. Both measures are down considerably from their highs at the end of the February-April 2020 recession. However, they remain above their levels prior to the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic (3.5 percent and 5.7 million, respectively, in February 2020).

Among the major worker groups, the unemployment rates for adult men (4.0 percent), adult women (4.0 percent), Whites (3.7 percent), Blacks (6.7 percent), and Hispanics (5.2 percent) declined in November. The jobless rates for teenagers (11.2 percent) and Asians (3.8 percent) showed little change over the month.

Among the unemployed, the number of permanent job losers declined by 205,000 to 1.9 million in November but is 623,000 higher than in February 2020. The number of persons on temporary layoff decreased by 255,000 to 801,000 in November. This measure is down from the high of 18.0 million in April 2020 and has nearly returned to its February 2020 level of 750,000.

The number of long-term unemployed (those jobless for 27 weeks or more), at 2.2 million, changed little in November but is 1.1 million higher than in February 2020. The long-term unemployed accounted for 32.1 percent of the total unemployed in November.

The labor force participation rate edged up to 61.8 percent in November. The participation rate is 1.5 percentage points lower than in February 2020. The employ-

ment-population ratio increased by 0.4 percentage point to 59.2 percent in November. This measure is up from its low of 51.3 percent in April 2020 but remains below the figure of 61.1 percent in February 2020.

The number of persons employed part time for economic reasons, at 4.3 million, changed little in November. These individuals, who would have preferred full-time employment, were working part time because their hours had been reduced or they were unable to find full-time jobs. This figure was about the same as in February 2020.

The number of persons not in the labor force who currently want a job was 5.9 million in November, little changed over the month but up by 849,000 since February 2020. These individuals were not counted as unemployed because they were not actively looking for work during the 4 weeks preceding the survey or were unavailable to take a job.

Among those not in the labor force who wanted a job, the number of persons marginally attached to the labor force was little changed at 1.6 million in November. These individuals wanted and were available for work and had looked for a job sometime in the prior 12 months but had not looked for work in the 4 weeks preceding the survey. The number of discouraged workers, a subset of the marginally attached who believed that no jobs were available for them, was essentially unchanged over the month at 450,000.

Household Survey Supplemental Data

In November, the share of employed persons who teleworked because of the coronavirus pandemic declined by 0.3 percentage point to 11.3 percent. These data refer to employed persons who teleworked or worked at home for pay at some point in the 4 weeks preceding the survey specifically because of the pandemic.

In November, 3.6 million persons reported that they had been unable to work because their employer closed or lost business due to the pandemic--that is, they did not work at all or worked fewer hours at some point in the 4 weeks preceding the survey due to the pandemic. This measure was little different from the level of 3.8 million in October. Among those who reported in November that they were un-

able to work because of pandemic-related closures or lost business, 15.8 percent received at least some pay from their employer for the hours not worked, little changed from the prior month.

Among those not in the labor force in November, 1.2 million persons were prevented from looking for work due to the pandemic, little changed from October. (To be counted as unemployed, by definition, individuals must be either actively looking for work or on temporary layoff.)

These supplemental data come from questions added to the household survey beginning in May 2020 to help gauge the effects of the pandemic on the labor market. The data are not seasonally adjusted. Tables with estimates from the supplemental questions for all months are available online at www.bls.gov/cps/effects-of-the-coronavirus-covid-19-pandemic.htm.

Establishment Survey Data

Total nonfarm payroll employment rose by 210,000 in November. Thus far this year, monthly job growth has averaged 555,000. Nonfarm employment has increased by 18.5 million since April 2020 but is down by 3.9 million, or 2.6 percent, from its pre-pandemic level in February 2020. In November, notable job gains occurred in professional and business services, transportation and warehousing, construction, and manufacturing. Employment in retail trade declined over the month.

Professional and business services added 90,000 jobs in November. Job gains continued in administrative and waste services (+42,000), although employment in its temporary help services component changed little (+6,000). Job growth also continued in management and technical consulting services (+12,000) and in computer system design and related services (+10,000). Employment in professional and business services overall is 69,000 below its level in February 2020.

Employment in transportation and warehousing increased by 50,000 in November and is 210,000 above its February 2020 level. In November, job gains occurred in couriers and messengers (+27,000) and in warehousing and storage (+9,000).

Construction employment rose by 31,000 in November, following gains of a

similar magnitude in the prior 2 months. In November, employment continued to trend up in specialty trade contractors (+13,000), construction of buildings (+10,000), and heavy and civil engineering construction (+8,000). Construction employment is 115,000 below its February 2020 level.

Manufacturing added 31,000 jobs in November. Job gains occurred in miscellaneous durable goods manufacturing (+10,000) and fabricated metal products (+8,000), while motor vehicles and parts lost jobs (-10,000). Employment in machinery declined by 6,000, largely reflecting a strike. Manufacturing employment is down by 253,000 since February 2020.

Employment in financial activities continued to trend up in November (+13,000) and is 30,000 above its February 2020 level. Job growth occurred in securities, commodity contracts, and investments in November (+9,000).

Employment in retail trade declined by 20,000 in November, with job losses in general merchandise stores (-20,000); clothing and clothing accessories stores (-18,000); and sporting goods, hobby, book, and music stores (-9,000). These losses were partially offset by job gains in food and beverage stores (+9,000) and in building material and garden supply stores (+7,000). Retail trade employment is 176,000 lower than in February 2020.

Employment in leisure and hospitality changed little in November (+23,000), following large gains earlier in the year. Leisure and hospitality has added 2.4 million jobs thus far in 2021, but employment in the industry is down by 1.3 million, or 7.9 percent, since February 2020.

Health care employment was about unchanged in November (+2,000). Within the industry, employment in ambulatory health care services continued to trend up (+17,000), while nursing and residential care facilities lost 11,000 jobs. Employment in health care is down by 450,000 since February 2020, with nursing and residential care facilities accounting for nearly all of the loss.

In November, employment showed little change in other major industries, including mining, wholesale trade, information, other services, and public and private education.

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In the Garden

By Ralph Purkhiser,
Purdue University Master Gardener

If you have your fall clean-up completed and are looking for a reason to spend some time outdoors, check out the 122nd annual Christmas Bird Count. The Audubon Society conducts this count to gather information about birds in more than 20 countries. Information gleaned from this count is shared with universities, independent researchers and other non-profit agencies that have an interest in birds.

The Christmas Bird Count is a very structured event. Counts are completed in 15-mile diameter circles, each with a volunteer compiler. Many of these compilers have participated for decades and are experienced birdwatchers. However, you do not have to be an expert to participate. The compilers oversee a group of counters, who travel specific areas within the circle, counting every bird they see or hear during the day. The compiler then collects the information, assembles it on specific forms and submits it to Audubon.

If you wish to participate, you must do it through the existing structure. You need to access the Audubon website and go to the Christmas Count tab. You can then find a circle near you and get the contact information for the compiler. Compilers are responsible for training their counters and some compilers simply do not want to add new counters.

The Christmas Bird Count runs from December 14 through January 5, so there certainly is no chance of beginning a new circle for this year. New circles in Indiana are rare, because most of the state is already covered with circles and they do not usually allow over-lapping territory. The best way to get involved is to join an existing circle. In time, you may become the compiler of that group. Prior to 2012,

there was a fee for participants, but since then, Audubon relies on donations and counters are only responsible for their own equipment.

If this sounds a little too specific for your tastes, a less-formal bird census takes place over President's Day weekend in February each year. Known as the Great Backyard Bird Count, that enumeration is exactly as it says, a count of the birds that visit your own yard. Participants may do the count in their own yards, in parks or virtually any place where they see and hear birds. A counter simply keeps records of the number and type of birds seen and enters the information on the count website. The Great Backyard Bird Count is program of the Audubon Society, the Cornell University Lab of Ornithology and Birds Canada.

Whether you participate in a formal count or just watch the birds from your window, birdwatching can become a fulfilling hobby. Many birdwatchers morph into nature photographers or even artists, who specialize in drawings and paintings of our feathered friends. Buy yourself a good field guide or check one out from your local library. Getting to know the specific foods a species enjoys will help you to attract the birds you wish to see. Most birders maintain a list of the birds they have seen and try to add a new species or two every year. Some become so serious that they plan vacations around bird migrations and travel to areas where specific birds can be seen.

Even if you do not become a serious birder, you can enjoy the beauty of the visitors to your feeders and your yard. The music they provide is like no other. You will find yourself watching and listening for hours.



Grazing Bites

By Victor Shelton
NRCS State Agronomist/Grazing Specialist

I've enjoyed several good autumn days and quirked, "it can just stay this way and then turn nice," but, winter is coming. I do enjoy the different seasons with each providing some traditional features, but my least favorite season is probably winter. Don't get me wrong, there are some beautiful winter days – pristine, clean looking landscapes monotonously all covered white, hiding the scars of prior days and sometimes poor decisions.

My wife and her sister quite often refer to and compare winters to the "winter of '78." To them, it's not only noteworthy weather wise, but also a bit of an age factor indicator. I've certainly not forgotten that winter. Literally mountains of snow that had to be dug through, not plowed, and multiple tractors gelling up, creating the need to feed silage completely by hand. No other winter since has dared to compare – that's a good thing.

Lots of things have changed since then – winter weather is one of them. I'll leave it up to you to decide if it is a trend or a direction. Either way, winter is still challenging. Winters in the past almost always blessed us with extended frozen soil conditions - that is usually not the case now. The past couple of winters it seems I could count the length of frozen soil in days, not weeks. There is a lot of benefit to having some of that free concrete. You could graze or move hay around and even place hay on fields where you might want to feed it, with no or little worries about rutting or excessive compaction.

When winters are mild and especially when they are also wet, soil conditions just are not as compatible for a lot of winter use. If you want to graze under these types of winter conditions, then you're going to have to be very careful how you do it.

One of the first things that you're going to have to pay attention to is the amount of forage that is available in that pasture. If you don't have enough cover, residual or a decent heavy stand of forage, then your potential to cause damage grazing on the site increases.

Ideally, you really need a total of about 3,000 pounds of dry matter per acre to be able to graze under wet soil conditions without causing some potentially long-lasting damage to the forage stand and the soil. That sounds like a lot, but it's only about ten inches of dense forage, sometimes slightly less. A good healthy grass/legume stand can easily produce 250 to 300 pounds of dry matter per acre inch.

When forages have been allowed to regrow and are stockpiled for later use, not only has the above ground biomass increased, but also the below ground system. It is not a failproof system, but certainly does provide some resiliency over pastures or systems that have been continuously grazed closer than ideal and thus lacking the additional underground supportive structure.

That said, there are also benefits to having that much growth on the surface. First, it is winter feed that can be utilized and allocated in such a manner to be very efficient without the need to get a tractor out or worry about relocating manure the next season – it's automated. Second, what isn't consumed is usually laid down upon the soil surface to become litter or residue to protect the soil surface, provide some nutrients for the next seasons growth, improve infiltration of winter precipitation and buffer some of the hoof action under wet conditions.

If you don't have this cover and the associated root mass created from the good cover, then the pasture will not fair nearly as well if grazed under wet conditions – expect excessive pugging, soil disturbance, forage stand reduction and potentially long-lasting compaction. None of that is good, and depending on site conditions, the winter weather and a few other factors, it's a toss up of which one will be worse.

Quite often the one that is noticed the

most is increased weed presence and pressure the following season. That is primarily due to soil disturbance, then loss of forage stand integrity, and lastly cover. You might have thought you fared well over winter until spring comes when suddenly, where did all these weeds come from?! Early successional annual weed species are expected, especially foxtails and crabgrass, but more aggravating species such as spiny pigweed and cockleburs like to bounce back from old seed banks to try and reestablish themselves with some vengeance. These seedbanks are only held hostage from persistent maintenance of cover and competition or mechanical and/or chemical treatment after the fact.

Feeding hay on pasture can absolutely reduce time in winter feeding areas and can also boost organic matter and nutrients to sites that need it. Rolling out those bales to feed them helps to more evenly distribute hay and livestock waste across a larger area. It also reduces the impact and time spent on any specific area. A large round bale fed within a ring or on a wet site can quickly turn the area around the bale to a soupy mess. Soil structure is heavily damaged. This is a good reason to try and feed either on frozen or dry soils or on a feed pad.

Feed pads can be built of rock or concrete. They should always be placed a good distance from any water body, yet convenient for access and ideally where wind protection is available for the livestock. Rows of large hay bales, a solid fence, a building, trees or topography can all provide a decent wind-break.

Occasionally, a pasture is damaged from hoof action on wet soils no matter how much we try to prevent it. An unexpected rain during the grazing allocation or, more likely, more rain than expected for any given time frame can quickly compromise the integrity of the stand. It has certainly happened to me – especially when setting up areas to be grazed for a few days while I'm away. The plan can fail. The light drizzle that was predicted can turn into two or more inches of hard rain and the perfect allocation quickly was not enough.

If this has happened, make sure you assess pastures, paddocks, or areas of either, as they might be good candidates for some winter dormant overseeding. Assess the damage. How much bare ground do you see? If you have 80 percent or more live plant cover, then I wouldn't get concerned because most of the spaces will be filled in by spring. If the live plants cover 60 percent or more of the stand, then the addition of some more legumes such as clover will quickly fill in the void areas. If there is over 40 percent bare ground, then additional seed is normally needed.

Broadcasting some seed during the dormant period on these thin areas will increase the chances of better stands and perhaps some more control of spontaneous weeds the next spring. Clovers are pretty easy – just make sure they are inoculated appropriately with the correct rhizobium for the species. Smooth, small-seeded grasses usually do best for overseeding. I don't recommend doing an entire replanting at this time, but I'd rather risk a little seed to fill in some gaps than wrestle with feisty weeds. Timothy, perennial ryegrass, Italian ryegrass, redtop and bluegrass are probably good choices for such purpose.

Things change over time. The format of Grazing Bites has also changed. It will be mailed from two different email addresses. For most, it will come from grazingbites@gmail.com which you may respond to.

May your roots grow deep, and your soils be rich – Merry Christmas!

Remember, it's not about maximizing a grazing event, but maximizing a grazing season! May the grass grow deep roots under your feet and your soil be rich. Keep on grazing!



-Photo provided

Scout trip

On November 13, the Scouts of Troop 484 went to Vincennes to visit the Indiana Military Museum and the George Rogers Clark Memorial. The boys, and accompanying adults, enjoyed the trip, and by coincidence were able to attend a ceremony dedicating the plane shown in the picture. They also enjoyed a lunch of pizza and breadsticks between the two sites. If anyone is interested in joining Scouts (open to boys and girls from kindergarten to age 18), they can contact Julinda Adams via Facebook.



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