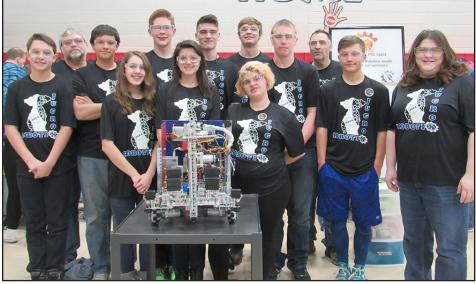
Martín County JOURNAL WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 27, 2017

Year 8, Issue 52

Eight pages

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Shoals Robotics

-Photo provided

The Shoals High School First Tech Challenge (FTC) robotics team competed at their first qualifying tournament of the season on December 16 at Greenwood Center Grove North school. The Jug Rox Robotix team ranked 4th out of 32 teams after five rounds of competition. Their ranking allowed them to compete in the final rounds of the tournament where they maintained their ranking of 4th. The first part of the tournament consisted of a judging interview at which the team presented the robot design and activities of the team during the design and build process. The Jug Rox were one of three finalists for the Rockwell Collins Innovate Award. This judged award is given to the Team that has the most innovative and creative Robot design solution to any specific component in the FIRST Tech Challenge game. Elements of this award include elegant design, robustness, and "out of the box" thinking related to design. They won first place in Community Outreach. The group would like to thank their sponsors, Shoals Community Schools, Kimball Electronics, Jasper Engines, USG, Me Wed design, NDEP, Crane Federal Credit Union, Loughmiller Machine Tool & Design, Baily Brothers, Martin County Community Foundation and Duke Energy. In the front row are Olivia Alcorn, Jocelyn Davis, Ivory Jackson. In the second row are Andrew Newland, Coach Dean Troutman, Tristan Peterson, Alan Cook, Aaron Lents, Evan Wagoner, Noah Stoll, Coach Brian Peterson, Jared Waggoner, and Coach Jennifer Mauntel.

Martin County's jobless rate stays at 3 percent for November

Martin County's unemployment remained unchanged from October to November, staying at 3 percent. The county had the 24th lowest jobless rate of the 92 Indiana counties for November, tied with seven other counties.

In November, the county had 4,990 residents in the workforce with 149 of them unemployed. In October, there were 4,967 residents in the workforce with 149 of the without jobs. In November of 2016, Martin County's unemployment rate was 3.7 percent with 5,106 residents in the workforce and 190 of them unemployed. Dubois County's unemployment rate moved a bit from 2.5 percent in October to 2.4 percent in November. The county had the lowest unemployment rate in the state for November.

In November, the county had 22,632 residents in the workforce with 550 of them unemployed. In October, there were 22,606 residents able to work and 561 of them without jobs. In November of last year, Dubois County's unemployment rate was 2.8 percent with 23,152 residents in the workforce and 647 of them without jobs.

Daviess County's unemployment rate went unchanged from October to November, standing at 2.8 percent. The county had the 11th lowest jobless rate in the state for November, tied with seven other counties. In November, the county had 15,535 residents in the workforce and 440 of (See 'RATE' continued on page 2)

Commissioners approve agreements, appointments

The Martin County Commissioners met Tuesday, December 19.

Community Corrections Director Kathy Collins submitted an agreement between the Shoals Community School Corporation and the Martin County Community Corrections Department. The agreement is for a PRIDE Coordinator, two days per month, for \$7,000 thru March 31, 2019. Commissioner Gregory made a motion to approve the agreement between the Shoals Community School Corporation and the Martin County Community Corrections Department for \$7,000. Commissioner Boyd made the second. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Andy Ringwald, EMA/civil defense, informed to the commissioners that there is a new state EMA Director.

Stacy Brown, extension educator, reminded the commissioners the deadline to enroll for 4-H is January 15, 2018. There are currently 64 kids enrolled.

President George submitted a Memorandum of Understanding between the Commander, Navy Region Mid-Atlantic (CNRMA) and the Martin County Sheriff's Department for County Attorney Dave Lett to review regarding 911 services.

County Attorney Lett had no legal objection to the Memorandum of Understanding between the Commander, Navy Region Mid-Atlantic (CNR-MA) and the Martin County Sheriff's Department. The agreement will route/ transfer only 911 calls received from the Crane NWCS to the sheriff's department in the event they are non-operational. Commissioner Gregory made a motion to approve the Memorandum of Understanding between the Commander, Navy Region Mid-Atlantic (CNRMA) and the Martin County Sheriff's Department. Commissioner Boyd made the second. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Sheriff Travis Roush was unable to attend meeting but informed President George of an inmate count of 72.

Julia Albright, public health nurse, submitted the Hoosier Uplands contract for approval. Commissioner Boyd made motion to approve the contract between the Martin County Health Board and Hoosier Uplands Economic Development Corporation for \$70,789 for 2018. Commissioner Gregory made the second. All were in favor and the motion passed. The Nalozone Rescue Kit grant paperwork is available for any unit interested in applying. Albright is also available for AED training. Commissioner Boyd made a motion to appoint Dr. Larry Sutton and Dr. James Poirier to the county health board for a four-year term. Commissioner Gregory made the second. All were in favor and the motion passed.

County Attorney Lett submitted an inter-local agreement between the City of Loogootee and the Martin County Sheriff's Department regarding an animal control officer for \$3,000. The commissioners had approved at a previous meeting therefore no motion was needed just signatures.

Commissioner Gregory made motion to appoint Pam Loughmiller to the Westgate Authority Board from January 1, 2018 thru December 31, 2019. Commissioner Boyd made the second. All were in favor the motion passed.

The commissioners appointed Kathy Collins to the Regional Mental Health Advisory Board in 2017 and she gave a brief update on board happenings.

The commissioners made the following annual appointments:

-Local Economic Development Commission-Dan Gregory

-EMA/Civil Defense Director-Cameron Wolf

-EMA/Civil Defense Deputy Directors-Andy Ringwald and Mike Ringwald,

-Southern Indiana Development Commission-Kevin Boyd

-Alcoholic Beverage Board-William "Bill" Shaw

-Redevelopment Commission-Paul George, Dan Gregory and Kevin Boyd

-Regional Mental Health Center Ad-

Happy New Year 2018

Thank you for supporting the Martin County Journal, year after year! With love, from The Hughett Family (Josh, Courtney, Wyatt & Alex)

Leo Padgett, highway superintendent, submitted his two-week work schedule. Commissioner Gregory made a motion to allow East Fork Water to run new water lines in a ditch on Brooks Bridge Road in order to reach a new treatment plant contingent upon the contract stating the county is not liable for any damage done during the ditching. Commissioner Boyd made the second. All were in favor and the motion passed. A lengthy discussion followed on several bridges. Commissioner Gregory made motion to accept \$3,128.72 as settlement from Rogers Group on the damage done to the rock shed. President George made the second. Commissioner Boyd abstained due to conflict of interest. Commissioner Gregory then made a motion to allow DC Metal to repair the rock shed. President George made the second. Commissioner Boyd abstained due to conflict of interest.

visory Council-Kathy Collins -County Attorney-J. David Lett -Veteran Service Officer-Linda Dillon

-Courthouse Custodian-John Jones -Highway Superintendent-Leo Padgett

-Highway Clerk-Terri Alcorn -District Oversight Planning Committee-Paul George

-Four Rivers RC&D Council-Kevin Boyd

-Disaster Planning Committee-Casey Dearwester

-South Central Region 8 Workforce Board-Paul George

The courthouse will be closed on Monday, December 25, 2017 for Christmas and Monday, January 1, 2018 for New Year's.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:28 p.m. The next commissioners' meeting will be held Tuesday, January 2 at 5:30 p.m.

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(Continued from page one)

them were unemployed. In October, there were 15,475 residents able to work and 430 of them were jobless. In November of 2016, Daviess County's unemployment rate was 3.2 percent with 15,811 residents in the workforce and 510 of them unemployed.

The top ten spots in the state for the highest unemployment for November went to Fayette County at 4.9 percent, Lake County at 4.8 percent, Vermillion County at 4.7 percent, Greene County at 4.4 percent, Delaware County at 4.3 percent, Crawford, LaPorte, Lawrence and Sullivan counties at 4.2 percent; and Newton, Starke and Vigo counties at 4.1 percent.

The top ten spots in the state for lowest unemployment for November went to Dubois County at 2.4 percent, LaGrange, Elkhart and Bartholomew counties at 2.5 percent; Decatur and

Martin County **Redevelopment Commission** 2018 Meeting Schedule

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L Each meeting begins at 5 p.m. in the commissioners' meeting room of the Martin County Courthouse, 129 Main Street, Shoals. Tuesday, January 30 Tuesday, April 24 Tuesday, July 31 Tuesday, October 23

Adams counties at 2.6 percent, and Tipton, Steuben, Kosciusko and Hamilton counties at 2.7 percent.

Indiana's unemployment rate stands at 3.7 percent for November and remains lower than the national rate of 4.1 percent. With the exception of one month when it was equal (October 2014), Indiana's unemployment rate now has been below the U.S. rate for more than four years. The monthly unemployment rate is a U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) indicator that reflects the number of unemployed people seeking employment within the prior four weeks as a percentage of the labor force. Indiana's labor force had a net decrease of 15,398 over the previous month, which was a result of 5,516 unemployed residents no longer seeking employment, and a 9,882 decrease in residents employed within the past four weeks. Indiana's total labor force stands at 3.32 million, and the state's 63.9 percent labor force participation rate remains above the national rate of 62.7 percent.

In addition, Indiana's initial and ongoing unemployment insurance claims are at historical lows.

Employment by Sector

Private sector employment has grown by more than 13,700 over the year, and has decreased by 4,200 over the previous month, primarily due to losses in the Trade, Transportation and Utilities (-2,900) and the Leisure and Hospitality (-2,500) sectors. Losses were partially offset by a gain in the Construction (4,900) sector. Total private employment stands at 2,690,600 and is 13,700 above the November 2016 peak.

Martin County Commissioners' 2018 Meeting Schedule

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Each meeting begins at 5:30 p.m. in the commissioners' meeting room of the Martin County Courthouse, 129 Main Street, Shoals.

Tuesday, January 2 Tuesday, January 16 Tuesday, January 30 Tuesday, February 13 Tuesday, February 27 Tuesday, March 13 Tuesday, March 27 Tuesday, April 10 Tuesday, April 24

Wednesday, May 9 Tuesday, May 22 Tuesday, June 5 Tuesday, June 19 Tuesday, July 3 Wednesday, July 18 Tuesday, July 31 Tuesday, August 14 Tuesday, August 28

Tuesday, September 11 Tuesday, September 25 | Tuesday, October 9 Tuesday, October 23 Wednesday, November 7 Tuesday, November 20 Tuesday, December 4 Tuesday, December 18

Martin County Council 2018 Meeting Schedule

Each meeting begins at 6 p.m. in the commissioners' meeting room of the Martin County Courthouse, 129 Main Street, Shoals. Monday, January 8 Monday, July 2

Filing for candidacy for the May 8, 2018 Primary Election begins January 10, 2018 and ends February 9, 2018 at noon in the Martin County Clerk's Office.

The following will appear on the May 8, 2018 Primary Ballot:

United States Senator

United States Representative District 8

State Senator District 39

State Representative District 62

State Representative District 63

Prosecuting Attorney Clerk of the Circuit Court

County Sheriff

County Assessor

County Commissioner District 2

County Council Member – Districts 1, 2, 3 & 4

All Township Trustees and Township **Board Members**

State Delegates

Democrat Precinct Committeemen for all precincts

Also, appearing on the Primary ballot will be the Towns of Crane and Shoals

Town Council for Crane- 3 members Clerk/Treasurer for Crane

Town Council for Shoals – 3 members

Clerk Treasurer for Shoals

Primary Election 2018

To register to vote in Indiana, visit www.IndianaVoters.com and have a valid Indiana Driver's License Number or Indiana State Identification Card Number available. In addition to registering to vote for the first time online, you can also update your voter registration with a new address or name change online.

Wednesday, December 27, 2017

If you do not have a valid Indiana Driver's License Number or Indiana State Identification Number available, you can download and print the Indiana Voter Registration Application (VRG-7) and register to vote by mail.

You have the right to vote in Indiana if you are both a U.S. citizen and a resident of Indiana, will be at least 18 years of age on or before the next General or Municipal Election, are not currently in prison after being convicted of a crime, will have lived in the precinct where you vote for at least 30 days prior to the election, and are registered to vote in Indiana.

It is not too early to check your voter registration status. Please call the Clerk's Office at 812-247-3651 to check status or with any questions regarding the upcoming election.



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- Meals, Housekeeping & Laundry Service

Monday, February 5 Monday, March 5 Monday, April 2 Monday, May 7 Monday, June 4

Monday, August 8 September (Budget Hearings) Monday, October 1 Tuesday, November 13 Monday, December 3

oogootee City Council 2018 Meeting Schedule

Each meeting begins at 5:30 p.m.* in the meeting room of the Loogootee Municipal Building, 401 JFK Avenue, Loogootee.

Monday, January 8 Monday, July 9 Monday, August 13 Monday, February 12 Monday, March 12 Monday, September 10 Monday, April 9 Tuesday, October 9 Monday, May 14 Tuesday, November 13 Monday, June 11 Monday, December 10

*Each month, the Board of Public Works & Safety meetings begin at 5:30 p.m. with the city council convening immediately after.

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Obituaries MARTIN COUNTY JOURNAL

MILES 'GENE' HORNING

Miles Eugene 'Gene' Horning departed this life, December 24, 2017 at



Daviess County Community Hospital. A resident of Odon, he was 87. He was born January 15, 1930 in Daviess County; the son of Paul Eugene and Manila (Neireemer) Horning.

He was a member

MILES 'GENE' HORNING

of Elnora Masonic Lodge #616 F&AM and was a charter member of the White River Valley Antique Association where he participated for many years with the club. He was a trader, collector, loved antiques, history and was a train enthusiast. He enjoyed talking to people and being out and about. He had worked as a carpenter by trade. He was a self-starter and worked from a young age hauling coal, to selling insurance. Gene went on to build over 55 homes and was a developer in Elnora, Odon and the surrounding communities. Gene and Eva Dee loved to travel to Arizona and Florida in their motor home.

He married Eva Dee (Pershing) and she survives. He leaves two daughters, Jill Clark of Odon; Millie Combess of Burns City; step-children: daughters, Debbie Durnil of Washington; Marsha Grafton of New Port Richey, Florida; son, Dennis Pruett of Odon; grandchildren, David Horning, Dana Hope Oliver, Nicole Baker, Erik Tosti, Nathan Tosti, Lyndsey Osmond, Ashley Pruett, Jake Durnil, Christy Pinkston, Justin Beasley, Sara Beasley and Daniel Combess; and several great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his sons, Jerry and Mark Horning; his brother, James Horning; a sister, Pauline Hardin; and grandson, Timmy Pruett.

Funeral services will be held at 1 p.m. Saturday, December 30 at Meng Family Funeral Home, 616 E Elnora St., Odon with Richard Smith officiating. Calling hours will be held from 9 a.m. until hour of service on Saturday. A Masonic Memorial service will be held at noon Saturday by Elnora Masonic Lodge #616 F&AM.

Memorial contributions may be made to any area Boy Scout Troop.

Arrangements have been entrusted to James W. Meng, Jr. and Meng Family Funeral Home in Odon. Online condolences may be sent to www.mengfuneralhome.com.

LYNN DREW

Lynn Drew passed away at 2:17 a.m. CST Friday, December 22, 2017 at St. Vincent Hospital in Evansville. A resident of Loogootee, she was 71.

She was born in Washington on December 23, 1945; daughter of Charles and Sena (Martin) Drew. She married Richard Misialek in Georgia, he preceded her in death in October of 2010.

She retired from Verizon as a Central Office Technician after many years of service. She enjoyed spending time with her dog, Sydni.

Surviving is one sister, Susan Weisman (David) of Jasper; one brother, Martin Drew of Lowell, Indiana; nieces and nephews, and her dear friend and caretaker, Sue Woodfork of Loogootee.

Preceding her in death beside her husband were her parents.

Private services for Lynn Drew will be held at a later date. Becher-Kluesner Funeral Homes in Jasper are in charge of the arrangements.

Memorial contributions may be made to the American Cancer Society. Condolences may be made at www.becherkluesner.com.

ROSE MARY WILCOXEN

Rose Mary Wilcoxen passed away at 12:49 a.m. Sunday, December 24, 2017

at Johnson Memorial Hospital in Franklin. A resident of Franklin, she was 77.

She was born March 18, 1940 in Daviess County; daughter of Lawrence and Anna (Clements) Bradley.

She was a member of the Catholic Faith. She married Leland Wilcoxen on November 30, 1957.

She is survived by her husband of 60 years, Leland Wilcoxen; her sons, Greg (Lori) Wilcoxen, Gary (LaNell) Wilcoxen, John Wilcoxen, Jeff Wilcoxen, Tim (Jennifer) Wilcoxen, Chris Wilcoxen, six grandchildren, three great grand-

Wednesday, December 27, 2017

children and her sister, Virginia Jacobs.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Lawrence and Anna; and her brothers, Charles (Oenone) Bradley, Larry Bradley, Ed Bradley, and Tony Bradley.

Funerals services were conducted this morning, Wednesday, December 27 at Blake Funeral Home in Loogootee officiated by Very Rev. J. Kenneth Walker.

Arrangements provided by Blake Funeral Home in Loogootee. Condolences can be made online www.blakefuneralhomes.com

Tourism spending continues to increase for Radius Indiana

The tourism economy continues to industry in the Radius Region. grow in the Radius Indiana region, according to a newly released study by market research firm Rockport Analytics. The study shows visitor spending totaling \$283.4 million, increasing \$11.8 million from the previous year and a regional economic impact of \$206.2 million. The study compared tourism data during a two-year period for Crawford, Daviess, Dubois, Greene, Lawrence, Martin, Orange and Washington counties and includes jobs in the industry directly supporting the visitor such as hotel accommodations, as well as in supply chain sectors like transportation.

"Tourism creates a broad variety of jobs in our region. Success in this industry is important to the people who live in our region and we believe it's important that they directly see the benefits," said Radius Indiana President and CEO Jeff Quyle. "It helps to relieve the tax burden of households in the region as well as benefit over 3,700 public school students." The Indiana Office of Tourism Development and Radius Indiana commissioned the study. It shows that the region's tourism employment growth was over five percent in 2016 and is the seventh largest

"This report shows how important tourism is as an economic driver for the State of Indiana and that its impact continues to grow," said Mark Newman, IOTD's executive director. "We're excited to see how tourism will continue to impact Indiana through future studies."

Radius Indiana facilitates a regional tourism advisory council, and the group will use the study to create new initiatives that will support this vital part of the local economy. The group is currently exploring a regional tourism branding initiative that could create an identity for the region and surrounding counties in Southern Indiana.

"The data shows us that 73 cents of every \$1 spent on tourism stayed in the local economy and saves our taxpayers about \$375 per year in taxes. This savings is money that can be directly put back into businesses right here in the Radius region," said Quyle.

Highlights of the study show Orange County had the largest amount of tourism spending for the region, as well as an increase in four of the five expenditure categories; Washington County recorded a 17 percent increase in retail sales during the study period.



Cops&Court MARTIN COUNTY JOURNAL

Wednesday, December 27, 2017

Martin County Sheriff's Department log 10:02 p.m. - Received a request for complaint north of Loogootee. Animal

MONDAY, DECEMBER 18

Page 4

12:22 a.m. - Received a request for welfare check in Loogootee. Loogootee Officer Norris responded. Everything checked out okay.

6:15 a.m. - Received a report of cardeer accident on US 50, west of Shoals. Deputy Reed responded.

9:44 a.m. - Received a report of controlled burn south of Loogootee.

12:10 p.m. - Received a report of accident in Loogootee. Loogootee Chief Rayhill responded.

12:25 p.m. - Received a report of domestic dispute involving intoxicated individual north of Loogootee. Sergeant Keller, Loogootee Chief Rayhill, and Martin County Ambulance responded. Martin County Ambulance transported one subject to Daviess Community Hospital.

1:42 p.m. - Sheriff Roush took one inmate to court.

2:02 p.m. - Received a report of domestic dispute in Loogootee. Loogootee Chief Rayhill and Sergeant Keller responded.

2:11 p.m. - Jail Commander Abel took one inmate to court.

3:30 p.m. - Received reports of a residential fire in Loogootee. Loogootee Chief Rayhill, Loogootee Fire Department, Martin County Civil Defense, Shoals Fire Department, Martin County Ambulance, and Cannelburg Fire Department responded.

6:05 p.m. - Received reports of suspicious individual south of Shoals. Sergeant Keller responded. Everything checked out okay.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 19

5:42 a.m. - Received a report of cardeer accident on US 50 in Shoals. Deputy Reed responded.

5:50 a.m. - Received a request for ambulance north of Loogootee. Martin County Ambulance responded and transported one subject to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

6:26 a.m. - Chief Deputy Greene assisted a motorist in Shoals.

7:23 a.m. - Received a report of disabled vehicle on US 50, west of Shoals. Chief Deputy Greene responded.

9:04 a.m. - Chief Deputy Greene took four inmates to court.

10:14 a.m. - Chief Deputy Greene took three inmates to court.

10:32 a.m. - Sheriff Roush assisted a motorist in Shoals.

11:00 a.m. - Chief Deputy Greene took two inmates to court.

11:59 a.m. - Loogootee Chief Rav-

ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Ambulance and Loogootee Fire Department responded.

11:04 p.m. - Received a request for ambulance in Loogootee. Loogootee Officer Floyd and Martin County Ambulance responded. Martin County Ambulance transported one subject to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 20

9:48 a.m. - Received a report of unsecure commercial building in Shoals. Sheriff Roush responded. Everything checked out okay.

9:52 a.m. - Received a request for ambulance east of Shoals. Martin County Ambulance, Shoals Fire Department, and Reserve Deputy Graves responded.

11:23 a.m. - Received a request for ambulance north of Loogootee. Martin County Ambulance and Reserve Deputy Graves responded. Martin County Ambulance transported one subject to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

12:44 p.m. - Received a report of accident in Loogootee. Loogootee Captain Hennette responded.

1:10 p.m. - Received a request for welfare check east of Shoals. Sheriff Roush and Major Burkhardt responded. Everything checked out okay.

3:50 p.m. - Received a report of vandalism in Loogootee. Loogootee Captain Hennette and Loogootee Officer McBeth responded.

4:13 p.m. - Received a request for ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Ambulance responded and transported one subject to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

5:30 p.m. - Received a request for ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Ambulance responded.

Thursday, December 21

12:23 a.m. - Received a request for welfare check in Loogootee. Loogootee Officer Floyd responded. Everything checked out okay.

3:09 a.m. - Received a request for welfare check in Loogootee. Deputy Wright and Loogootee Officer Floyd responded. Everything checked out okay.

6:37 a.m. - Received a report of cardeer accident north of Shoals. Chief Deputy Greene and Deputy Wright responded.

8:20 a.m. - Received a report of cardeer accident south of Loogootee. Loogootee Chief Rayhill responded.

8:53 a.m. - Received a request for welfare check in Loogootee. Loogootee Chief Rayhill responded. Everything checked out okay.

lift assistance in Loogootee. Martin County Ambulance responded. Coroners Franklin and Strawn were contacted and responded.

11:10 p.m. - Received a report of trespassing east of Loogootee. Deputy Wright responded.

11:22 p.m. - Received a report of accident south of Shoals. Deputy Reed, Deputy Shinn, ISP Trooper McBeth, and Martin County Ambulance responded.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 22

8:29 a.m. - Received a report of illegal hunting southwest of Shoals. Indiana Conservation Officer Doane responded.

8:54 a.m. - Received a report of accident in Shoals. Chief Deputy Greene responded.

9:31 a.m. - Received a report of threats being made in Shoals. Major Burkhardt, ISP Trooper Qualkenbush, ISP Trooper Miller, Martin County Ambulance, and Shoals Fire Department responded. Everything checked out okay.

10:17 a.m. - Received several reports of an accident east of Shoals. Chief Deputy Greene, Major Burkhardt, ISP Trooper Qualkenbush, Shoals Fire Department, and Martin County Ambulance responded. Martin County Ambulance transported one subject to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

6:39 p.m. - Received a report of cardeer accident south of Loogootee. Loogootee Officer Floyd responded.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 23

2:30 a.m. - Received a report of tree down on Windom Road in Shoals. Shoals Fire Department responded.

8:20 a.m. - Received an animal complaint in Loogootee. Animal Control Officer Hughett responded.

8:40 a.m. - Received a report of suspicious activity in Loogootee. Loogootee Officer Dant responded. Everything checked out okay.

12:19 p.m. - Loogootee Officer Dant assisted a motorist in Loogootee.

12:23 p.m. - Received a request for assistance with property exchange. Major Burkhardt responded.

12:55 p.m. - Major Burkhardt assisted a motorist in Shoals.

1:15 p.m. - Major Burkhardt assisted a motorist in Loogootee.

1:29 p.m. - Received a request for ambulance east of Loogootee. Martin County Ambulance and Loogootee Fire Department responded. Martin County Ambulance transported one subject to Jasper Memorial Hospital. 2:23 p.m. - Received a request for ambulance in Shoals. Martin County Ambulance responded.

Control Officer Hughett responded.

11:14 a.m. - Received a report of trespassing in Loogootee. Loogootee Captain Hennette responded.

12:57 p.m. - Received a request for ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Ambulance responded.

1:54 p.m. - Received a report of harassment south of Shoals. Reserve Deputies Gammon and Harmon responded.

2:02 p.m. - Received a request for ambulance in Shoals. Martin County Ambulance and Shoals Fire Department responded.

3:32 p.m. - Received a report of a fire in Loogootee. Loogootee Fire Department, Loogootee Captain Hennette, Reserve Deputy Gammon, and Reserve Deputy Harmon responded.

4:44 p.m. - Received a noise complaint south of Shoals. Reserve Deputy Gammon responded.

7:55 p.m. - Received a report of domestic dispute north of Loogootee. Deputy Reed, Loogootee Officer Mc-Beth, Crane Police Department, and Indiana State Police responded.

8:47 p.m. - Received a report of reckless driving near Loogootee. Deputy Reed, Loogootee Officer McBeth, and ISP Trooper Nolan responded.



MONDAY, DECEMBER 18

1:50 p.m. - Larry J. Jones, 46, of Mitchell, was arrested and charged with probation violation and is being held without bond. Jail Officer Emmick assisted with the arrest.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 19

12:11 p.m. - Stuart Cobb, 24, of Bloomfield, was arrested by the Greene County Sheriff's Department and charged with community corrections violation and probation violation. He is being held without bond.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 21

8:47 a.m. - Kyle Kelly, 26, of Montgomery, was arrested by ISP Trooper Lents and charged with probation violation and is being held without bond.

1:10 p.m. - Sherry Young, 53, of Loogootee, was arrested by ISP Trooper Lents on a Martin County warrant for theft and is being held without bond.

1:35 p.m. - Shelby Harder, 23, of Loogootee, was arrested on a Martin County warrant and is being held without bond.

7:41 p.m. - Nicholas Conrad, 39, of Mitchell, was arrested by Major Burkhardt and charged with disorderly conduct, battery on a police officer, and resisting law enforcement. He is being held without bond. Deputy Shinn, ISP Trooper Beaver, and Loogootee Officer Floyd assisted with the arrest.

hill completed vehicle identification check in Loogootee.

12:00 p.m. - ISP Trooper Qualkenbush assisted a motorist south of Shoals.

12:10 p.m. - Received an animal complaint in Shoals. Animal Control Officer Hughett responded.

1:54 p.m. - Chief Deputy Greene took three inmates to court.

3:05 p.m. - Received a report of impaired driver in Shoals. Reserve Deputy Harmon responded.

4:05 p.m. - Received a report of intoxicated individual north of Shoals. Reserve Deputies Harmon and Kidwell responded.

4:57 p.m. - Reserve Deputy Harmon completed vehicle identification check north of Shoals.

6:07 p.m. - Received a report of reckless driving on US 50, east of Shoals. Reserve Deputy Harmon responded. 8:30 p.m. - Received a request for

9:57 a.m. - Major Burkhardt took two inmates to court.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 21

12:40 p.m. - Received a report of cardeer accident east of Loogootee. Loogootee Chief Rayhill responded.

1:57 p.m. - Received a request for ambulance in Shoals. Major Burkhardt, ISP Trooper Miller, Martin County Ambulance, and Shoals Fire Department responded.

6:27 p.m. - Received a request for welfare check east of Shoals. Major Burkhardt, Deputy Shinn, ISP Trooper Beaver, Loogootee Officer Floyd, and Martin County Ambulance responded. 7:02 p.m. - Received a report of loose

cows on East River Road in Shoals.

9:01 p.m. - Received a request for welfare check in Shoals. Deputy Shinn responded. Everything checked out okay.

6:34 p.m. - Received a report of reckless driving east of Loogootee on US 50. Indiana State Police responded.

7:53 p.m. - Received a report of cardeer accident north of Shoals. Deputy Shinn responded.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24

1:20 a.m. - Received a request for welfare check in Loogootee. Deputy Wright and Loogootee Officer Norris responded. Everything checked out okay.

2:49 a.m. - Received a noise complaint east of Shoals. Deputy Wright responded.

5:11 a.m. - Received a noise complaint south of Shoals. Deputy Wright responded.

10:25 a.m. - Received an animal

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 22

12:46 p.m. - Phillip Babcock, Jr., 43, of French Lick, was arrested by Major Burkhardt and charged with driving under the influence and is being held on a \$25,000 10% bond.

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CRIMINAL CONVICTIONS & SENTENCING November 14

Kaelyn M. Baldwin, convicted of possession of chemical reagents or precursors with intent to manufacture a controlled substance, a Class A Misdemeanor amended from a Class 6 Felony and convicted of maintaining a common nuisance – controlled substances, a Class A Misdemeanor, reduced from a Class 6 Felony. Sentenced on first count to serve 365 days with 301 days suspended and credit for 32 actual days previously served plus 32 Class A credit days. Defendant received 7 months of probation. Sentenced on the second count to serve 365 days with 301 days suspended and credit for 32 actual days previously served plus 32 Class A credit days. Defendant received 7 months of probation.

Jeremy A. Brewer, convicted of operating while intoxicated, a Class A Misdemeanor. Sentenced to serve 1 year with 327 days suspended and credit for 19 actual days previously served plus 19 Class A credit days. Defendant received 11 months of probation.

November 16

Adam S. Gibson, convicted of invasion of privacy, a Class A Misdemeanor. Sentenced to serve 1 years with 279 days suspended and credit for 43 actual days previously served plus 43 Class A credit days. Defendant received 9 months of probation.

CRIMINAL CHARGES DISMISSED November 14

Kaelyn M. Baldwin, dealing in methamphetamine, a Class 2 Felony, dismissed; dealing in methamphetamine, a Class 4 Felony, dismissed; possession

of methamphetamine, a Class 6 Felony, dismissed; possession of marijuana, a Class B Misdemeanor, dismissed; possession of paraphernalia, a Class C Misdemeanor, dismissed.

CIVIL COURT New Suits Filed December 18

White River Cooperative, Inc. vs. Dustin Gilbert d/b/a Dustin Gilbert Farm, civil collection.

Heather L. Douglas vs. Robert J. Douglas, petition for dissolution of marriage.

December 19

White River Cooperative, Inc. vs. Matthew W. Hockman, civil collection.

White River Cooperative, Inc. vs. David R. Burton and David R. Burton Farms, LLC, civil tort.

Joshua E. Stoll vs. Cori L. Stoll, petition for dissolution of marriage.

CIVIL COURT JUDGMENTS

December 21 Judgment in favor of the plaintiff Jef-

ferson Capital Systems, Inc. and against the defendant Michael Spurgeon in the amount of \$712.47.

SMALL CLAIMS JUDGMENTS December 21

Judgment in favor of the plaintiff Crane Credit Union and against the defendant Jennifer M. Watson in the amount of \$3,517.58.

December 22

Judgment in favor of the plaintiff Medical of Dubois and against the defendant Jennifer D. Sparks in the amount of \$371.58.

Judgment in favor of the plaintiff Medical of Dubois and against the defendants Rickie L. Spurgeon and Tracy Spurgeon in the amount of \$889.38.

Manufacturing industry continues to lead in the Radius Indiana region

Radius Indiana released an update Tuesday to its Radius Manufacturing Index (RMI). The index shows that the manufacturing sector continues to see growth across the eight-county region.

RMI was developed by Radius Indiana and provides the organization an analytic tool that monitors several facets to gauge the strength of the manufacturing industry in the region in southern Indiana.

The RMI shows how the region is performing in comparison to the state of Indiana. Radius's overall index increased from 58.27 to 60.15 between quarter three and quarter four, while the state dropped from 55.65 to 54.87 between the same quarters. The index indicates that the state's economy may be growing more diversified, while the Radius region continues to see a growing manufacturing concentration. For the region, yearly wages increased by \$593 bringing the average manufacturing wage to \$45,414, and manufacturing GDP as a percent of total GDP also has increased. Between quarters, job growth is up nearly half a percent at 0.48. "This year has been extremely successful for the Radius region. Our manufacturers have created a positive work environment that has kept these jobs in our area," said Jeff Quyle, president and CEO of Radius. "Manufacturing has seen a constant increase in our region for all of 2017 and I have high hopes that will continue into the New Year." Earlier this year, Radius hosted the region's first economic development incentive seminar to educate area accountants and financial managers about business growth opportunities. After

the session, Radius reached out to the participants for feedback on the current status of their clients' businesses and the local economy.

Of the respondents, 50 percent report that Radius region businesses have hired employees in the past year, and predict that they will have to hire more in the next year. Radius believes this is indicative of further increases in the job growth for the region. In addition, the survey revealed that 75 percent of the financial managers expect no decrease in sales or production for 2018, and a majority are seeing new company formations.

The survey results support this quarter's RMI by showing that job growth has increased, and that the accountants and financial managers are continuing to see growth in key sectors across the Radius region.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 18

12:22 a.m. - Caller requested a welfare check on a male.

12:10 p.m. - Caller reported a property damage accident on Broadway Street.

12:25 p.m. - Caller reported a dispute on Mt. Calvary Road.

2:02 p.m. - Caller reported a domestic dispute. A male juvenile was charged with possession of marijuana.

3:30 p.m. - Loogootee Fire was paged out to a house fire on Pleasant View Lane.

9:45 p.m. - Caller reported a reckless vehicle on Hwy 50.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 19

11:00 a.m. - Caller reported a speeding vehicle on 550.

11:59 a.m. - Male requested a vehicle identification check.

4:27 p.m. - Caller reported someone hit their mailbox and left the scene.

5:35 p.m. - Female requested to speak with an officer regarding a child custody issue.

8:32 p.m. - First responders were requested on Queen Street for a medical call.

8:50 p.m. - Caller reported a traffic hazard behind the IGA.

9:01 p.m. - Male reported his vehicle was struck while parked at Los Bravos.

10:24 p.m. - Caller requested a welfare check on a male.

10:50 p.m. - Caller reported a dispute in Southwind Manor.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 20

10:06 a.m. - Caller reported a speeding vehicle on US 231.

4:35 p.m. - Caller reported a civil complaint.

6:20 p.m. - Caller reported a child custody issue.

8:19 p.m. - Caller reported a broken-down semi on US 231.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 21

12:23 a.m. - Caller requested a welfare check on a child.

8:20 a.m. - Caller reported striking a deer on US 231.

8:53 a.m. - Caller requested a welfare check on a child.

12:40 p.m. - Caller reported a dead

Real estate transfers Jeremiah M. Bower, of Monroe

County, Indiana and Joy E. Carman, a/k/a Joy Carman, of Lawrence County, Indiana to Robert S. Mosier, of Martin County, Indiana. Tract I: Part of the northeast quarter of the southeast quarter of Section 2, Township 4 North, Range 3 West, in Martin County, Indiana, containing 5.10 acres, more or less. Tract II: Part of the northeast quarter of the southeast quarter of Section 2, Township 4 North, Range 3 West, Mitcheltree Township, Martin Coun-ty, Indiana, containing 5 acres, more or less. Tract III: Part of the northeast quarter of the southeast quarter of Section 2, Township 4 North, Range 3 West, Mitcheltree Township, Martin County, Indiana, containing 5.11 acres, more or less. Tract IV: Part of the northeast quarter of the southeast quarter of Section 2, Township 4 North, Range 3 West, in Martin County, Indiana, containing 5 acres, more or less. Cletus Bauer and Linda Bauer, of Martin County, Indiana to Donald E. Witt and Phyllis M. Witt, of Martin County, Indiana, a part of the southwest quarter of the northeast quarter of Section 31, Township 4 North, Range 3 West, containing 3 acres, more or less. Hoosier Uplands Holdings, LLC, of Lawrence County, Indiana to Hoosier Uplands-Eagle Place, LLC, of Lawrence County, Indiana, property known as 510 Church Street and 505 E. Broadway Street, Loogootee, IN 47553.

deer near the White River Co-Op.

Loogootee Police log

4:39 p.m. - Caller reported a dispute on Sheridan Street.

7:01 p.m. - Received a report of a property damage accident on Butcher Boulevard.

8:56 p.m. - Caller requested a welfare check on a male.

9:06 p.m. - Caller reported a possible theft.

10:04 p.m. - First responders were requested on Abel Lane for a medical call. **FRIDAY, DECEMBER 22**

9:23 a.m. - Male requested a vehicle identification check.

2:15 p.m. - Caller reported a speeding vehicle on US 231.

8:39 p.m. - Caller reported a deer being stuck on US 231.

11:25 p.m. - Caller reported a traffic complaint.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 23

8:40 a.m. - Caller reported a suspicious vehicle on Dewey Street.

12:19 p.m. - Caller reported a property damage accident at Gasoline Alley.

12:29 p.m. - First responders were requested on Brooks Bridge Road for a medical call.

2:25 p.m. - Male requested a vehicle identification check.

6:35 p.m. - Male reported a child custody issue.

11:15 p.m. - Caller reported a speeding vehicle on Hwy 50.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24

1:02 a.m. - First responders were requested on JFK Avenue for a medical call.

1:20 a.m. - Caller requested a welfare check on a male.

11:14 a.m. - Caller requested an officer check on a male in the city park.

3:32 p.m. - Loogootee Fire was paged out to a brush fire on Fairview Street.

7:57 p.m. - Officer McBeth assisted the county with a domestic dispute.

10:39 p.m. - Officer McBeth stopped three vehicles for reckless driving in the high school parking lot.



Chief Executive Officer of the Bedford Chamber and Lawrence County Growth Council, Shance Sizemore added, "We are seeing activity and interest in manufacturing sites that could lead to more growth right here in Lawrence County. Our local manufacturers are reporting increased demand for products, and we believe this activity is a result of a healthy and growing economy that is providing a boost to the manufacturing sector overall--especially in our region."

The Radius Manufacturing Index uses statistics from publicly available sources to provide an estimate of the state of health of the manufacturing sector in the region. The Index is a backward looking tool that reflects conditions approximately six months in the past, based on the dates for some of the statistics used. 812-630-9606 OFFICE: 812-936-2900 http://realestate.richeverman.com

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Making A Difference MARTIN COUNTY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

-- SMALL COUNTY --

Did you know that Indiana has 92 counties? Did you also know that there are only four counties with a smaller population than Martin County? And how about that the five counties surrounding ours are anywhere from twice to more than four times our population? And did you know that when we have a need, our county can step up and meet it head-on?

-- CHRISTMAS HELP --

A recent need was for the less fortunate children in our county to have a happier Christmas. The MCCF was one of many in Martin County that helped the Christmas Toy Store meet that need this year. Another helping hand was the NSA Crane "Toys for Tots" program. Through that program, Crane employees donated almost 4,000 toys to its surrounding counties of Martin, Daviess, Greene and Lawrence, helping nearly 1,000 children.

The Martin County Christmas Toy Store helped 195 families get toys for over 520 children. We are the smallest county of our neighbors. But, when combined, those neighbors serve about the same number of children that we do with the "Toys for Tots" help. So, while we had great help from Crane, our smaller Martin County still had a much larger need to be satisfied, especially when considering our population.

-- BIG RESULTS --

Our community came through to make those 520 children's Christmas much brighter. With the help of donations from area businesses, churches, and individuals, we nearly doubled the number of toys provided by "Toys for Tots". What that meant is that instead of just 1-2 toys for each child, they received 2-4 toys, stocking stuffers and free gift wrapping. Our community saw this as a challenge that was eagerly met to help those in need.



-- BIG HEARTS --

Our small county came together in a big way with big hearts. The Toy Store had over 100 youth and adults from around the county volunteer their time Friday evening and all day Saturday, December 16th. Individuals, churches, and businesses collected toys for the event. Pictured are some of the businesses: Hawkins Health Care, Old National Bank, Crane Credit Union, German American Bank, Family Dollar and Dollar General.

And volunteering their time were 4-H Junior Leaders, LHS Beta students, Loogootee Jr High Girls Basketball team, and churches and their members. The churches represented were St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church, Loogootee United Methodist Church, St. John Lutheran Church, New Beginnings, Shoals United Methodist Church, Redemption Christian Church, and Maranatha Tabernacle.

-- COMMUNITY --

In another column I gave a simple definition of community: it is a group of people who live in the same area, or a group of people who have the same interests or characteristics. In Martin County, we have once again shown that we are more than just a group of people. We are family, friends, neighbors and concerned citizens that can come together and help each other in a time of need. So, keep helping. Continue making a difference.

-- MORE INFORMATION --

For more information about the MCCF, please contact the Executive Director, Curt Johnson, at 812-295-1022 or mccf@cfpartner.org.

You are also welcome to visit our website at www.cfpartner.org/mccf. htm, follow us on Twitter at www.twitter.com/MartinCountyCF, and "like" the MCCF Facebook page at www. facebook.com/mccommunityfoundation.



By Curt Johnson MCCF Executive Director









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Community & Entertainment MARTIN COUNTY JOURNAL Wednesday, December 27, 2017



If you want 2018 to be your year: Don't sit on the couch and wait for it. Go out.

Make a change.

Smile more.

Be excited.

Do new things.

Throw away clutter.

Unfollow negative people on social media.

Go to bed early.

Wake up early. Don't gossip. Show more gratitude. Do things that challenge you. Be brave.

SIGNS AROUND TOWN

*A sign in a shoe repair store in Vancouver reads: We will heel you, we will save your sole, we will even dye for you.

*A sign on a blinds and curtain truck: "Blind man driving."

*Sign over a Gynecologist's Office: "Dr. Jones, at your cervix."

*In a Podiatrist's office: "Time wounds all heels."

*On a Septic Tank Truck: Yesterday's Meals on Wheels

*At an Optometrist's Office: "If you don't see what you're looking for, You've come to the right place."

*On a Plumber's truck: "We repair what your husband fixed."

*On another Plumber's truck: "Don't sleep with a drip. Call your plumber."

*At a Tire Shop in Milwaukee: "Invite us to your next blowout."

*On an Electrician's truck: "Let us remove your shorts."

*In a Non-smoking Area: "If we see smoke, we will assume you are on fire and will take appropriate action."

*On a Maternity Room door: "Push. Push. Push."

*At a Car Dealership: "The best way to get back on your feet - miss a car payment."

*Outside a Muffler Shop: "No appointment necessary. We hear you coming."

*In a Veterinarian's waiting room: "Be back in 5 minutes. Sit! Stay!" *At the Electric Company: "We would be delighted if you send in your payment on time. However, if you don't, YOU will be de-lighted."

*In a Restaurant window: "Don't stand there and be hungry; come on in and get fed up."

*In the front yard of a Funeral Home: "Drive carefully. We'll wait."

*At a Propane Filling Station: "Thank Heaven for little grills."

*In a Chicago Radiator Shop: "Best place in town to take a leak."

*And the best one for last...

*Sign on the back of another Septic Tank Truck: "Caution - This Truck is full of Political Promises"

RANDOM THOUGHTS:

*I'm absolutely convinced the socks that go missing from the dryer turn into extra Tupperware lids.

*Weight loss tip of the day: No matter how hard you try, you can never really laugh your ass off.

Make someone smile today!

ANIMAL SHELTER Pet of the Week



SADIE is a female St. Bernard/ beagle mix, very sweet, large, weighs around 80 pounds. Knows how to "sit" and loves to play. She is spayed and up to date on shots. Adopton fee is \$80. The shelter is located at 507 N. Oak Street in Loogootee. To see all available animals, visit www.humanesocietyofmartincounty.org.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Food pantry hours

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

Free lunch for kids

New Beginnings Community Church will be offering a free lunch to all school-age children every Saturday from noon to 1 p.m. at the fellowship hall of the church, located at 200 West Main Street next to the post office. For more info, call 812-709-2525.

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!

Tourism meetings

The MCCC Tourism Committee meets on the third Wednesday of each month at 7 p.m. at Loughmiller Machine, 12851 E 150 N, Loogootee. The public is invited to attend.

Humane society meetings

The Martin County Humane Society meets on the third Friday of the month at the animal shelter at 507 N Oak Street in Loogootee, at 5:30 p.m. Members of the humane society are invited to attend.

Solid waste board

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

Soil and Water meetings

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

Attention Senior Citizens

The Loogootee Senior Citizen Center, located in the annex building attached to JFK Gym on JFK Avenue in Loogootee provides activities for seniors every Monday and Thursday from 8 a.m. to noon. For \$5 a year, seniors can participate in Euchre tournaments, games, puzzles, etc., with other local seniors. Anyone interested is welcome to stop by, there are no age or residency requirments to participate. Seniors are also offered lunch at the Loogootee Senior Center every Monday and Thursday. A freewill donation is requested. Call 812-295-3130 to make a reservation, so enough food is prepared.



4-H Enrollment ends January 15! Time is running out to enroll for 4-H

2018. Don't miss out on all of the fun! Did you know that 4-H is more than

agriculture and home economics? We have a robotics club open to grades 3-12, a tractor club, a shooting sports club, and so much more. If you have an interest in writing, cake decorating, teaching, home design, or baking, you need to join 4-H! Are you looking to do more community service in Martin County, then Junior Leaders is the club for you? Are you hoping to earn scholarships for college or present confidence at your first job interview? 4-H can help with that as well. You just need to join!

Enrolling is easy, just go to www.4honline.com and follow the prompts to re-enroll if you are renewing your membership as a 4Her. If you have any questions, please call the office. If you will be a new 4-Her, please call the Extension Office at (812) 295-2412 for assistance in enrolling. Currently enrolled volunteers must also re-enroll before the deadline on January 15. Enrolling early is important in receiving all the latest news and information from Purdue Extension. The workshop begins at 9 a.m. and runs until 4 p.m. Registration fee for youth not completely enrolled in 4-H before January 13 is \$15. This fee is waived for youth completely enrolled in 4-H.

Extension Office Offers Programs for Classrooms and Other Youth Organizations

The Martin County Extension Office offers programs for classrooms and other youth organizations in STEM subjects, the arts, and leadership. This year's National Youth Science Challenge is Incredible Wearables. Students get the chance to build a wearable fitness device that tracks heartrate, steps, and other functions. Other programs offered are Captain Cash, a grade school program focused on money management; Makers, activities related to science, technology, engineering, and math; and Arts Management, a high school program focused on the business side of working in the arts. If you are interested in bringing any of these programs to your classroom or group, please contact Stacy at (812) 295-2412.

Specials at The Lodge Wednesday: Tenderloin Plate Thursday: Roast Beef or Beef Manhattans Friday: Baked Chicken and Cheese Tortellini Friday night: Surf and Turf Saturday: Ham and Beans and Cornbread Saturday night: Bone-in Pork Steak Sunday: Beef and Noodles



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295-3636 www.thelodgeofloogootee.com Find us on facebook!

Hours: Wed. & Thurs. 7 am to 9 pm; Fri.-Sat. 7 am to 10 pm; Sun. 8 am to 2 pm; Closed Monday & Tuesday

Cooking Workshop

The Extension Office is offering a cooking workshop for any youth grades 3-12 on Saturday, January 13, 2018. This fun filled day will include creating dishes for breakfast, lunch, dinner, and dessert. Plus, every attendee will receive useful kitchenware! Join us to learn how to make easy, healthy, and tasty meals. Spots are limited so register early by calling (812) 295-2412.

Upcoming Events

4-H Council meeting - January 4 at
6:30 p.m. at the MC Learning Center Horse & Pony meeting - January 15
at 6 p.m. at the MC Learning Center
4-H Volunteer meeting - January 16
at 6 p.m. at the MC Learning Center Cooking Workshop - January 13,
9 a.m.-4 p.m. at the MC Community Building

Shooting Sports Club meeting - January 22 at 6 p.m. at the MC Community Building

Farming&Outdoors Wednesday, December 27, 2017

Page 8



A new year is just around the corner. The weather has taken a definite turn toward winter and gardening is far from the minds of most people. However, it is an important time for gardeners. Someone once asked me if I ever considered moving to someplace where I could garden 12 months of the year. My reply was that I already do garden year-round, but that I enjoy the change of seasons and appreciate this time of rest.

Seed and nursery catalogues have been arriving in the mailbox. There is no better way to spend a wintery day than to look through the catalogues and dream of the gardens that you will plant in the spring. I am a collector, and if finances permitted, I would order one of everything. Instead, I spend time evaluating the different plants to decide just which ones I really want to add at Sandhill Gardens.

I love to look at the pictures of new selections being offered, but one must understand that the plants one gets when ordering them will not look like the pictures, at least for the first few months. Annuals will mature through the first season, while most perennials take a couple of years to acclimate and actually mature into plants that look like they do in the catalogues. Those new selections tend to be a little pricey and that usually convinces me to wait. If the plant does well for those who do purchase them, they will remain in the catalogues in future years, and usually the price drops after the first couple of years. If one just has to have a new cultivar, I recommend waiting to see if local nurseries will be offering the same plant. Nursery stock tends to be more mature that mail-order stock and one can actually see the plant before splurging on the price of a premium specimen.

The Perennial Plant Association has announced this year's Plant of the Year. This year's selection is a variety

of allium called Millenium. The allium family includes onions, leeks, garlic, chives as well as what my grandmother called "society garlic". The latter are plants that are grown for their flowers rather than for the bulb. The plants in this family are generally avoided by deer and other animals and sometimes seem to repel deer. Interplanting alliums with daylilies or other deer favorites may help save some of them, and they look great in their own right. Millenium is hardy to zone three, so it should do well in southern Indiana. The grass-like foliage grows to 10 to15 inches, making it a mid-sized allium. The spherical rose-purple blooms appear in mid to late summer. Ornamental alliums are usually planted as bulbs in the fall, as this selection may be also. However, this allium is a clumping type and clumps may be transplanted at any time, so look for this to be offered as a potted nursery stock in the spring. Millenium will tolerate a wide variety of soil types, but it does especially well in sandy soil. In heavy clay, one should amend the soil with compost or grit in improve drainage. Like most alliums, it flowers best in full sun, but where summers are hottest, it will appreciate some afternoon shade. Once established, it will withstand drought. I like to do my own evaluations on the plant of the year selections, so I will definitely be on the look-out for this plant.

Even in winter, the gardener's shadow is the best thing for any garden. Whenever possible, take a stroll through your garden to look for problems and to evaluate what is there. Look for signs of frost heave and press the plants back into the ground when possible.

When outside, take precautions against the cold. Stay safe.

I wish each of my readers a Happy and prosperous new year and hope you have the best garden ever.

Nest-cam barn owl pair raising bonus round of chicks

The barn owl pair on a DNR nest cam in southern Indiana is raising a second brood of chicks unusually late into the nesting season.

The existence of a bonus round of chicks in 2017 is good news for barn owls because they are an endangered species in Indiana. In 2015, only 10 barn owl nests were reported statewide.

The mother owl laid this second clutch of eggs in late September, which is just within the standard barn owl breeding season from March to October. But this year was the first time this pair laid eggs that late while on the nest cam.

Five chicks hatched from the second clutch.

On December 5, DNR nongame bird biologists inspected the chicks while placing identification bands on their legs.

Three chicks were healthy, whereas two were much smaller. The healthy chicks will likely survive until fledging. The average number of chicks fledged per nest is two to three, so having three survive is normal, according to Allisyn Gillet, DNR Division of Fish & Wildlife nongame bird biologist.

"The survival of the chicks will depend on food availability over the next few weeks," Gillet said. "There must be enough prey to feed both adults and chicks in order to have a successful second nest."

This pair successfully raised and bit.ly/2j9hY0O.

fledged six chicks in late spring.

A barn owl pair has been living in this DNR-built nest box inside a metal pole barn in southern Indiana almost every year for the last eight years.

Barn owls were once common in the Midwest, living in hollow trees and wooden barns, and hunting for meadow voles in hayfields, idle grain fields, pastures and other grasslands. But many wooden barns are being torn down, and few modern farms offer the land a barn owl needs for hunting.

The goal of the webcam is to promote public interest in birds and raise awareness about efforts to support barn owls.

DNR's Wildlife Diversity Program has been placing nest boxes for barn owls since 1984. The nest boxes, like the one the webcam owls use, give owls a safe place to raise their young. More information is at wildlife.IN-.gov/3382.htm.

The barn owl webcam can be viewed anytime with an unlimited number of viewers at youtube.com/watch?v=d-Nc5f0Ohmfw&feature=youtu.be.

The barn owl is one of more than 750 animal species, including many rare and endangered animals, supported by the DNR's Wildlife Diversity Program. WDP depends on donations to the DNR Nongame Fund. You can donate at EndangeredWildlife.IN.gov.

For updates on Indiana's nongame wildlife, subscribe to an email list at

Spring Mill State Park to host book club, January 6

Avid readers and fans of space exploration can join a Spring Mill State Park book club this winter to discuss a biography of Mitchell astronaut Gus Grissom. The club plans on meeting January 6 and February 3. Both meetings will take place at 10 a.m. in the downstairs lobby of Spring Mill Inn.

The purpose of the club is to chat about "Calculated Risk: The Supersonic Life and Times of Gus Grissom," published in 2016 and written by George Leopold.

Participants do not need to have read the book before the first meeting.

Copies of the book are available for purchase in the park office.

At the second meeting, Leopold will discuss his book on a conference phone call with attendees.

For more information, contact interpretive naturalist Wyatt Williams at (812) 849-3534 or wwilliams1@ dnr.IN.gov. Park admission during the event is \$7 per vehicle for in-state residents and \$9 per vehicle for out-ofstate residents.

Spring Mill State Park (stateparks.IN-.gov/2968.htm) is at 3333 State Road 60 East, Mitchell, 47446.



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Gamebirds & Songbirds initiative gets

The DNR Division of Fish & Wildlife has landed funding that will contribute to a new grassland and pollinator habitat development program that will benefit private landowners.

The "Grasslands for Gamebirds & Songbirds" initiative, called GGS for short, will employ three full-time "grassland biologists" who will provide technical and financial assistance to private landowners hoping to improve their properties by developing grassland and pollinator habitat throughout focal regions of the state. This habitat development will benefit species such as bobwhite quail, ringnecked pheasant, Henslow's sparrow and loggerhead shrike.

The Indiana DNR was selected for the funding through the Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP), which is administered by the Natural Resource Conservation Service. Once implemented, it will total \$1 million. The total budget of the GGS initiative is \$1.83 million. The other funding for the initiative has been contributed from the initiative's 33 partners.

"Through the RCPP project, Indiana landowners will receive assistance to install practices such as native grasses, pollinators, prescribed burns, tree plantings and invasive species control that will increase declining bird populations," said Jane Hardisty, Indiana NRCS's state conservationist.

If you are a landowner interested in participating in the GGS initiative, or if you'd like to support the effort, please visit wildlife.IN.gov/ 9467.htm. For more information, contact Josh Griffin, private lands program manager with DNR Fish & Wildlife, at (317) 234-9737 or jgriffin@dnr.IN.gov.