



Above is a rendering of the new 22,087-square foot activities center Loogootee School plans to build, starting next year. The photo below is the new campus layout.

Loogootee School ready to request bids for new projects

BY COURTNEY HUGHETT
Martin County Journal Publisher

The Loogootee School Board met Thursday, December 21. The topic of discussion was the upcoming remodel and expansion projects the school has planned for 2024.

Plans for the new 22,087-square-foot activities center were presented to the board by architects from Myszak & Partners. The project will be put out for bids next month. The activities center will have an upper mezzanine level containing two classrooms/meeting rooms, a referee office, and restrooms. The lower level will have two basketball courts, retractable bleachers to seat 300-400 people, a storage room weight room, boys' and girls' locker rooms and two restrooms. The building would also have an elevator. The activities center will be placed behind the high school and connect to both Jack Butcher Arena and the elementary school.

Principal Dr. Nancy Harrison questioned whether the partition that will go on the upper mezzanine level, that allows views of the basketball courts below, would be high enough. She fears if it is too low, students will climb it and potentially fall. The architects said the standard height is 42 inches, with vertical slats. The board asked if it could be a glass partition but higher, such as 48 inches. The architects explained that this could be done, however, at a higher cost. The board agreed they would like to look into that change.

The board also decided to change the roofline of the activities center to be pitched instead of curved to save \$50,000. The board agreed that the pitched roof design would match up with the auditorium building and also save money.

The architects noted that the sewer

lines running under the back parking lot of the school, where the activities center will be located, will have to be re-routed. They will also be creating a new road around the backside of the building.

Plans were not yet available for the remodel of the middle school building. Superintendent Brian Harmon said he would like to have access to those as soon as possible so everyone has time to review them.

The goal is to start the activities center in the spring of 2024 with completion in the summer of 2025. The middle school remodel, new elementary playground and bus barn are scheduled to begin in the spring of 2024 with completion prior to the start of the 2024-25 school year.

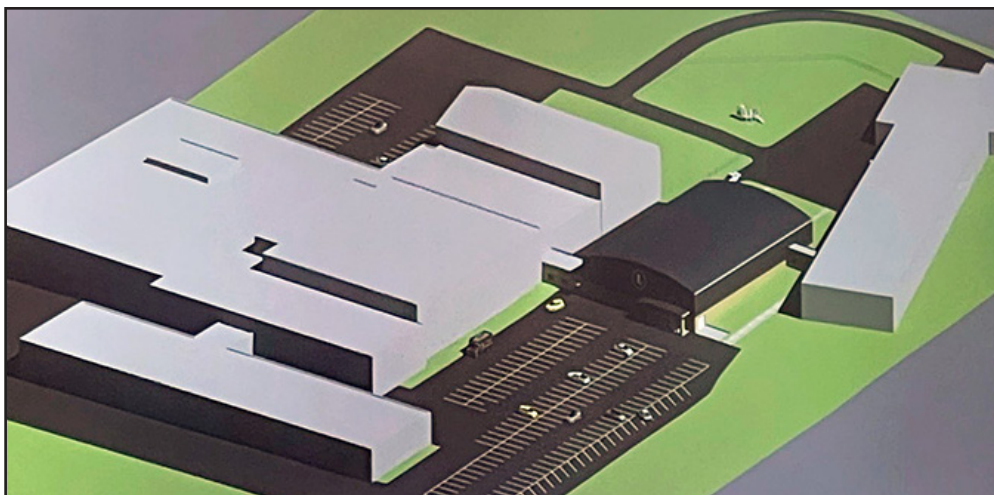
The school is estimating the projects to cost \$9.9 million with interest payments of \$7.1 million for a total cost of \$17 million. The repayment term is 19 years with a maximum annual payment by the school of \$917,000. This will increase the tax rate for those in the Loogootee School District by 0.3013 for a total of 1.0852 per \$100 of assessed property value. A home with an assessed value of \$100,000, with or without deductions, would pay an additional \$301.30 a year in property taxes.

In other business, the board approved the resignation of teacher Courtney Davis, effective December 11 and of teacher Audra McAtee effective December 22.

The board approved Alyssa Adams as fifth grade teacher, Kristin Lottes as middle school Lionettes sponsor, and Reed Wagler as part-time custodian.

The board approved the 2024-25 school calendar.

The board also discussed the need to change the sports moratorium periods, outside of what the state mandates. They will continue that discussion at the January 11 meeting.



Commissioners approve road work bid, sublease in short meeting

BY COURTNEY HUGHETT
Martin County Journal Publisher

The Martin County Commissioners held a quick 15-minute meeting Tuesday, December 26. Commissioner Cody Roush was not present. This was the commissioners' last meeting of the year.

The commissioners approved the contract with Hoosier Uplands for the health department with Attorney Dave Lett saying he made one change pertaining to proof of insurance.

Highway Superintendent Scott Seals reported they still have a Gradall they are trying to get running and a dump truck with issues that need to be repaired.

The commissioners approved the bid from Rejuvtec, opened at their last meeting for \$410,679.24. The company will be applying a product that will pro-

long the life of the asphalt on the roads paved so far with Community Crossings grant funds. The asphalt life can be extended for another 5-7 years without any new degrading. Seals said several other counties have used the company and are happy with the results.

Attorney Lett provided a sublease on behalf of Martin County Soil and Water for sharing space with the Martin Alliance in their new building at 404 JFK Avenue in Loogootee. The total rent for the building is \$1,000, with soil and water paying \$300 of that per month. The commissioners approved the sublease. It was noted that the Alliance has already moved into the new building.

The courthouse will be closed Friday, December 29 and Monday, January 1 in observance of New Years. The next commissioners' meeting is Tuesday, January 9 at 9 a.m.

Attorney General announces \$700 million settlement with Google over Play Store misconduct

Attorney General Todd Rokita today announced a \$700 million agreement with Google in a lawsuit over Google's anticompetitive conduct with the Google Play Store.

"When companies unlawfully monopolize markets, they cause real harm to Hoosiers," Attorney General Rokita said. "They rob consumers of the ability to choose from a wider array of product options that would otherwise be available, and they artificially inflate the prices of the choices that remain available. This settlement demonstrates our commitment to protect consumers and hold companies accountable."

A bipartisan group of 53 attorneys general sued Google in 2021 alleging that Google unlawfully monopolized the markets for Android app distribution and in-app payment processing. Specifically, the states claimed that Google signed anticompetitive contracts to prevent other app stores from being preloaded on Android devices, induced key app developers who might have launched rival app stores, and created technological barriers to deter consumers from directly downloading apps to their devices.

The states announced a settlement in principle on September 5, 2023, and today released the finalized terms of that deal.

Google will pay \$630 million in restitution, minus costs and fees, to consumers who made purchases on the Google Play Store between August 2016 and September 2023 and were harmed by Google's anticompetitive practices. Google will pay the states an additional \$70 million in penalties.

People eligible for restitution do not have to submit a claim. They will receive automatic payments through PayPal or Venmo, or they can elect to receive a check or ACH transfer. More details about that process will be forthcoming.

The agreement also requires Google to reform its business practices in the following ways:

-Give all developers the ability to al-

low users to pay through in-app billing systems other than Google Play Billing for at least five years.

-Allow developers to offer cheaper prices for their apps and in-app products for consumers who use alternative, non-Google billing systems for at least five years.

-Permit developers to steer consumers toward alternative, non-Google billing systems by advertising cheaper prices within their apps themselves for at least five years.

-Not enter contracts that require the Play Store to be the exclusive, pre-loaded app store on a device or home screen for at least five years.

-Allow the installation of third-party apps on Android phones from outside the Google Play Store for at least seven years.

-Revise and reduce the warnings that appear on an Android device if a user attempts to download a third-party app from outside the Google Play Store for at least 5 years.

-Maintain Android system support for third-party app stores, including allowing automatic updates, for four years.

-Not require developers to launch their app catalogs on the Play Store at the same time as they launch on other app stores for at least four years.

-Submit compliance reports to an independent monitor who will ensure that Google is not continuing its anticompetitive conduct for at least 5 years.

For much of this case, the attorneys general litigated alongside Epic Games and Match, two major app developers. Match announced a separate settlement earlier this year, while Epic Games took its case to trial. Early last week, a jury unanimously found that Google's anticompetitive conduct violated federal antitrust laws.

Attorneys general from all 50 states participated in this lawsuit — along with attorneys general from the District of Columbia and the territories of Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands.

Department of Insurance warns Hoosiers to be cautious of discount offers for insurance plans

The Indiana Department of Insurance is issuing a warning to Hoosiers seeking health insurance coverage through the Federal Marketplace. The department advises caution regarding websites offering rewards like debit or cash cards in exchange for signing up through them. These “lead generating” websites collect users’ personal information and may provide inaccurate information about insurance coverage. The department urges Indiana residents to exercise skepticism regarding third-party websites promoting marketplace health plans and incentives.

“Consumers should verify information directly through official marketplace resources before entering any personal details or selecting a plan,” stated Alexandria Peck, Indiana Department of Insurance Chief Deputy Commissioner of Compliance. If you suspect fraud, contact the Indiana Attorney General’s office at www.in.gov/attorneygeneral/consumer-protection-division.

“If you need assistance, an Indiana Navigator can assist you with the process of

signing up for marketplace coverage or you can contact an insurance agent,” Peck stated. You may work with an Indiana Navigator in any county in Indiana free of charge. Find a Navigator in your area.

The Indiana Department of Insurance provides a Marketplace Insurance Providers Map to help you determine what insurance providers are in your county. Hoosiers may be entitled to enhanced financial assistance and subsidies via the American Rescue Plan and the Inflation Reduction Act.

Visit Healthcare.gov to learn about the different types of plans offered through the marketplace.

Important Dates

December 15, 2023: Last day to enroll in or change plans and pay the first month’s premium for coverage to start January 1, 2023.

January 15, 2024: Last day to enroll in or change a 2024 health plan and pay the first month’s premium for coverage to start February 1, 2024. After January 15, 2024, you can enroll in or change plans only if you qualify for a Special Enrollment Period.

Daviess Hospital Acute Care Unit now open

Daviess Community Hospital is pleased to announce the opening of the DCH Acute Care Unit. Located on the second floor of the hospital, this latest in expansion of services for the organization combines the former Med Surg Unit with the Intensive Care Unit.

The new space offers patients and their loved ones a new level of comfort and care, with sixteen private patient rooms featuring the latest amenities and cutting-edge technology. Careful consideration was taken in the design of the new center, as the DCH staff took an active role in planning for patient accommodations.

Daviess Community Hospital is grateful for the generosity of donors who have already pledged to support the renovations for both the Acute Care Unit as well as, the Emergency Department. They include Chet & Pat Thompson, Tom and Marsha Boyd, First Federal Bank, Myers LP Gas, Jim and Sue Pearson, Jordan and Ashley Sherman, NASCO Industries, Joe Wagler, Dr. Thomas Waits, Dr. and Mrs. Greg Brown, Nancy Devine, Daviess Community Hospital Auxiliary, Dr. Suresh Lohano, True Scripts Management Services LLC, and to the many additional organizations and individuals who have given to the fundraising campaign but wish to remain anonymous.

Grant funds and proceeds from the 2022 and 2023 foundation events, including the golf outing, year-end employee appeal, 5k, and the Kentucky Derby event also



provided support for this project thus far. The Foundation Board at Daviess Community Hospital committed to raising \$1,000,000.00. They are confident that the goal will be reached within the next several months.

“At Daviess Community Hospital, we understand that healthcare is changing,” remarked Tracy Conroy, CEO. “It is our mission to provide patients with the most compassionate and advanced care in our region. With the support of our community, the newly renovated Acute Care Unit and the upcoming renovation of the Emergency Department will help us achieve just that. We are committed to providing the utmost comfort and convenience to our patients during their hospital experience.”

A blessing and two open houses took place on December 14 and December 15. The first patient was admitted to the new unit on Tuesday, December 19.

For more information about the DCH expansion and Foundation fundraising efforts, contact Angie Steiner at 812-254-8858.



Derek George
Owner & Funeral Director

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-Admiral Grace Hopper

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Martin County Commissioners’ 2024 Meeting Schedule

Each meeting begins at 9 a.m. in the commissioners’ meeting room of the Martin County Courthouse, 129 Main Street, Shoals.

Tuesday, January 9	Tuesday, May 14	Tuesday, September 3
Tuesday, January 23	Tuesday, May 28	Tuesday, September 17
Tuesday, February 6	Tuesday, June 11	Tuesday, October 1
Tuesday, February 20	Tuesday, June 25	Tuesday, October 15
Tuesday, March 5	Tuesday, July 9	Tuesday, October 29
Tuesday, March 19	Tuesday, July 23	Tuesday, November 12
Tuesday, April 2	Tuesday, August 6	Tuesday, November 26
Tuesday, April 16	Tuesday, August 20	Tuesday, December 10
Wednesday, April 30		Monday, December 23

Martin County Council 2024 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	August budget workshops to be determined
Monday, February 5	
Monday, March 4	Monday, September 9 (Budget public hearing)
Monday, April 1	Monday, October 7 (Budget adoption)
Monday, May 6	Monday, November 4
Monday, June 3	Monday, December 2
Monday, July 1	
Monday, August 5	

Shoals Town Council 2024 Meeting Schedule

Each meeting begins at 4 p.m. in the Shoals Town Hall, 221 Low Street, Shoals..

Tuesday, January 2	Monday, August 12
Monday, February 12	Monday, September 9
Monday, March 11	Monday, October 7
Monday, April 8	Monday, November 4
Monday, May 13	Monday, December 9
Monday, June 10	(The year-end meeting will be set at the December 9 meeting)
Monday, July 8	



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31
6:00 PM

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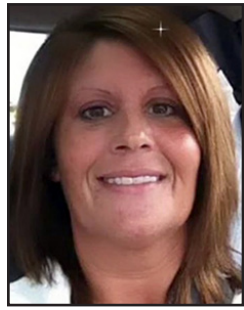
Page 3

MARTIN COUNTY JOURNAL

Wednesday, December 27, 2023

MELISSA KOONTZ

Melissa Koontz passed away at 1:14 p.m. Monday, December 18, 2023, at her home. A resident of Crane, she was 52.



MELISSA KOONTZ

She was born October 11, 1971, in Linton; daughter of Wyatt and Mary Jane (Doane) Quiller.

Melissa married William Koontz on December 30, 1989, and he sur-

vives.

She was employed as a laborer for Laborers' Local 741 for the last 19 years. Melissa was a member of the VFW – Post 9297 Ladies Auxiliary. She loved spending time with her family and grandchildren. Melissa also enjoyed traveling.

Melissa was preceded in death by her father, Wyatt Quiller; father-in-law, Eddie Koontz; and brother-in-law, Jimmy Koontz.

She is survived by her husband, William Koontz; children, Brandon Koontz (Mindy Rhoton), Marcy (John) McCue, Mara (Rene) Lerma, Mandy Koontz (Ryan Oder), and Marissa (Josh) McGuirk; mother, Mary Jane Quiller; grandchildren, Jersey, Jason, Kynzey, Emmalynn, Khloe, Edward, Kaedon, Stephanie, Bryson, Melody, Gavyn, Ventus, Magnolia, and Noah; siblings, Kristi (Eddie) Harris and Bill (Jessica) Quiller; mother-in-law, Delores Koontz; sisters-in-law, Tiana (John) Faith and Rachel Swaby.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastor Jeff Williams at 12:00 p.m. today,

Wednesday, December 27 at Harvest Community Church, Bloomfield. Burial followed in Dishman Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions can be made to the Martin County Humane Society.

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

Blake Funeral Home is honored to serve the family of Melissa Koontz.

TERRY SHAW

Terry "Teddy" Michael Shaw passed away Wednesday, December 20, 2023, at his home. A resident of Shoals, he was 69.



He was born September 16, 1954, in Washington; son of William "Bill" and Barbara Jean (Norris) Shaw.

Terry married Rheta Crowder on November 7, 1987, and she survives.

He graduated from Shoals High School with the class of 1972 and worked at United States Gypsum for 39 years where he retired in 2011.

Terry was a member of the Church of the Cross.

Terry loved hunting deer, squirrels, rabbits, birds, enjoyed gardening and sharing it with his neighbors, and traveling to Gatlinburg. He helped open Lark Valley Zip Lines in 2012 and helped operate the zip line and the Lark Ranch each fall. Terry enjoyed helping those in need in the community. He loved spending time with his grandchildren, watching them grow up and play sports.

Surviving are his father, William "Bill" Shaw; wife, Rheta; children, Eric (Jamie) Shaw, Snoop (Kellie) Shaw, Joby (Miranda Tillett) Shaw, and Jonah Shaw; grandchildren, Maggie Shaw, Gracie Shaw, Carson Shaw, Kenley Shaw, Kyra Shaw, Kamdyn Shaw, Kamryn Shaw, Makenli Evans, and Myla Evans; siblings, Sherri (Jerry) Braun and Larry (Annette) Shaw; his dog, Coco; special nieces and nephew, Summer Myers, Cassidy Shaw, and Herk Braun; and several cousins.

He was preceded in death by his mother, Barbara Jean Shaw; son, William Jacob Shaw; maternal grandparents, Virgil and Eva Norris; and paternal grandparents, Toby and Grace Shaw.

A funeral service was held Saturday, December 23 at the Shoals Christian Church with Dennis Cecil officiating. Burial followed in Spring Hill Cemetery.

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

TERRY QUINN

Terry G. Quinn passed away Saturday, December 23, 2023, at his home. A resident of Shoals, he was 70.

He was born December 3, 1953, in French Lick; son of Charles Cleo and Lillian (Jones) Quinn.

He married Michelle Keyes on January 5, 1995, in Shoals.

Terry graduated from Shoals High School with the class of 1971; worked as a Silver Smith for over 30 years and Kingdom Air for 10 years, where he retired in 2020.

Surviving are his children, Christopher (Kelsey) Janssen and Stephanie Janssen; grandchildren, Heidi, Eric, Tanner, and Sadie Janssen; siblings, Jack (Louise) Quinn, Gerald (Gay) Quinn, Carl (Janet) Quinn, and Irene Kyger; and several nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents; brothers, Gene, Cecil, Phillip, and Edgar Quinn; and sister, Janette Berry.

Funeral services will be at 4 p.m. Sunday, December 31, at the Queen-Lee Chapel of George Funeral Care, with Loren Quick officiating. Family burial will be in Emmons Ridge Cemetery.

Visitation will be from 2 p.m. until the

service hour on Sunday at the Queen-Lee Chapel, Shoals.

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

LYDIA RASCHE

Lydia K. Rasche-Buechlein passed away at 7:46 a.m. Saturday, December 23, 2023, at



home. A resident of Shoals, she was 40.

She was born in Huntingburg on March 28, 1983; daughter of Arthur and Pamela (Bush) Rasche. She married Blake R. Buechlein on December 22, 2006 in Shoals.

She worked as an engineer for OFS in Huntingburg. She was a member of Precious Blood Catholic Church in Jasper.

She enjoyed shopping, cooking, spending time at the beach, and spending time with friends, family, and her cats.

Surviving is her husband, Blake R. Buechlein of Shoals; one son, Arie Buechlein of Shoals; her parents, Arthur and Pamela Rasche of Jasper; mother-in-law, Judy Buechlein of Jasper; two sisters, Mandi Cloe (John) of Petersburg and Krystle Kunz (Ethan) of Winslow; one brother, Jeremiah Rasche of Jasper; and paternal grandmother, Doris Rasche of Dubois.

Preceding her in death were her maternal grandparents, John and Jo Ann Bush and her paternal grandfather, Cletus Rasche Sr.

Funeral services for Lydia K. Rasche-Buechlein will be held at 6 p.m. this evening, Wednesday, December 27 at the Becher-Kluesner Downtown Chapel in Jasper with burial to follow at a later date at Fairview Cemetery in Jasper.

A visitation will be held from 2 p.m. until the 6 p.m. service time on Wednesday December 27 at the Becher-Kluesner Downtown Chapel in Jasper.

Memorial contributions may be made to Precious Blood Catholic Church or a favorite charity.

Online condolences may be made at www.becherkluesner.com.

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Martin County Sheriff's Department log

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17

5:01 p.m. - Received a call reporting a hunting injury north of Shoals. Shoals Fire Department, Martin County Medic 1, Corporal Hawkins, and South Region DNR responded. Martin County Medic 1 transported one patient to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

5:20 p.m. - Received a call requesting to speak to an officer. Loogootee Officer Wagoner responded.

8:57 p.m. - Received a 911 call reporting a fire northeast of Shoals. Shoals Fire Department and Martin County Medic 1 responded.

8:59 p.m. - Received a call reporting the same fire. Advised caller units were enroute.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 18

1:13 a.m. - Received a 911 call reporting a possible verbal dispute in Shoals. Major Reed responded.

5:26 a.m. - Received a 911 call in Shoals. Major Reed responded.

8:00 a.m. - Received a 911 call east of Shoals. Sergeant Wells responded.

8:23 a.m. - Received a call requesting to speak with an officer. Chief Deputy Keller responded.

10:24 a.m. - Received a call from Marathon in Loogootee advising they would be testing their panic button.

10:25 a.m. - Received a 911 call from Marathon reference testing of alarm.

11:35 a.m. - Received a report of a tree down north of Shoals. Martin County Highway Department responded.

11:40 a.m. - Received a call reporting a disabled vehicle east of Shoals. Captain Gibson and Corporal Hawkins responded. Martin County Highway was notified sue to a sign missing.

12:26 p.m. - Received a 911 call requesting assistance north of Loogootee. Martin County Medic 1, Captain Gibson, Corporal Hawkins, Crane Fire Department and Martin County Coroner responded.

12:41 p.m. - Received a call reporting a power line down south of Loogootee. REMC was notified.

12:42 p.m. - Deputy Erwin transported one inmate to court.

12:51 p.m. - Received a call reporting a power line down south of Loogootee. Loogootee Fire Department responded. Frontier was also notified.

1:26 p.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Medic 2 and Loogootee Fire Department responded. Medic 2 transported one patient to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

2:57 p.m. - Received an accidental 911 call.

3:23 p.m. - Received an animal complaint in Crane. Deputy Doane responded.

4:02 p.m. - Received an accidental 911 call.

4:09 p.m. - Received an animal complaint south of Loogootee. Deputy Doane responded.

4:18 p.m. - Received a call requesting an officer in Loogootee. Loogootee Officer Davis responded.

6:26 p.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Medic 1, Loogootee Fire Department and Deputy Doane responded. Medic 1 transported one patient to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

6:40 p.m. - Received a call requesting to speak with an officer. Corporal Hawkins responded.

7:36 p.m. - Received an accidental 911 call.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 19

4:45 a.m. - Received an accidental 911 call.

4:55 a.m. - Received an accidental 911 call.

5:55 a.m. - Received a call reporting a truck-deer accident north of Shoals. Major Reed responded.

6:14 a.m. - Received a call requesting a vehicle unlock in Loogootee. Loogootee Chief Long responded.

8:46 p.m. - Received a 911 call requesting assistance in Loogootee. Martin County Medic 1, Loogootee Fire Department, Loogootee Chief Long and Martin County Coroner responded.

11:58 a.m. - Received a call reporting a disabled vehicle in Loogootee. Loogootee Chief Long and Big John's Towing responded.

1:00 p.m. - Corporal Hawkins transported one inmate to court.

1:51 p.m. - Corporal Hawkins transported two inmates to court.

2:16 p.m. - Deputy Erwin transported two inmates to court.

2:31 p.m. - Received a call requesting extra patrol northwest of Shoals. All officers were advised.

2:35 p.m. - Corporal Hawkins transported two inmates to court.

4:44 p.m. - Received multiple 911 calls reporting a hit and run in Loogootee. Loogootee Officer Davis, Captain Gibson and Ruxer's Towing responded.

5:48 p.m. - Received a call from Alarm Company advising of an alarm at the tech park in Crane. Greene County responded.

7:11 p.m. - Received a call reporting a neighbor dispute north of Loogootee. Corporal Hawkins and Deputy Doane responded.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 20

9:11 a.m. - Deputy Erwin transported one inmate to court.

10:46 a.m. - Received an animal complaint in Loogootee. Loogootee Chief Long responded.

11:10 a.m. - Received a call requesting to speak with an officer north of Loogootee. Corporal Hawkins responded.

13:38 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Shoals. Martin County Medic 1 responded and transported one patient to Daviess Community Hospital.

2:12 p.m. - Corporal Hawkins off station with Amanda Canary to Dubois County line to meet Dubois County deputy.

4:14 p.m. - Received a call requesting to speak with an officer in Shoals. Deputy Shields responded.

4:45 p.m. - Received a call requesting a vehicle identification number check north of Loogootee. Deputy Branham responded.

5:10 p.m. - Received a call reporting a water issue in Loogootee. Loogootee City Water was contacted.

5:15 p.m. - Received a report of a reckless driver in Shoals. All on duty officers were advised.

6:46 p.m. - Received a report of a possible trespasser northeast of Shoals. Deputy Doane responded.

7:45 p.m. - Received a report of a tree down south of Loogootee. Haysville Fire and Martin County Highway Department were notified.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 21

7:36 a.m. - Received a call reporting heavy smoke southeast of Loogootee. Shoals Fire Department responded.

8:50 a.m. - Deputy Erwin transported two inmates to court.

9:57 a.m. - Received a 911 call advising of a semi-deer accident north of Loogootee. Deputy Branham responded.

11:35 a.m. - Received an accidental 911 call.

11:46 a.m. - Received a call requesting to speak with a Loogootee officer. Loogootee Assistant Chief Rayhill responded.

12:44 p.m. - Deputy Branham transported one inmate to Daviess Community Hospital.

3:00 p.m. - Received a call requesting assistance from a deputy in Loogootee. Sergeant Wells responded.

4:50 p.m. - Received a 911 call reporting a fire in Loogootee. Loogootee Fire Department, Sergeant Wells and Deputy Shields responded.

6:35 p.m. - Received a call requesting assistance southeast of Shoals. Shoals Fire Department and Deputy Shields responded.

6:53 p.m. - Received a call requesting assistance for a Daviess County address. Daviess County was notified and responded.

9:52 p.m. - Received a call reporting a found license. Loogootee Officer Wagoner responded and returned the license to owner.

10:19 p.m. - Received a call requesting to speak to a deputy. Deputy Shields responded.

11:11 p.m. - Received a call reporting reckless driving in Shoals. Deputy Shields and Deputy Baumgart responded.

11:40 p.m. - Received a call reporting suspicious activity east of Shoals. Deputy Shields and Deputy Baumgart responded.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 22

4:48 a.m. - Received a call reporting a car-deer accident with vehicle damage. Deputy Baumgart responded.

4:55 a.m. - Received an accidental 911 call.

7:53 a.m. - Received a call reporting a reckless driver east of Loogootee. Loogootee Assistant Chief Rayhill responded.

10:10 a.m. - Received a call reporting an accident in Shoals. Deputy Branham responded.

10:18 a.m. - Received a call reporting a noise complaint north of Shoals. Chief Deputy Keller responded.

12:17 p.m. - Received an animal complaint south of Shoals. The owner was contacted.

12:53 p.m. - Received an accidental 911 call.

1:21 p.m. - Received a report of a brush fire southeast of Loogootee. Loogootee Fire Department, Loogootee Assistant Chief Rayhill, and Sergeant Wells responded.

2:39 p.m. - Received a call reporting a woodpile on fire southwest of Shoals. Shoals Fire Department responded.

2:57 p.m. - Received a call reporting a domestic dispute in Shoals. Chief Deputy Keller, Sergeant Wells, Deputy Shields, and Deputy Branham responded.

3:21 p.m. - Received a call requesting to speak to a deputy. Deputy Shields responded.

4:18 p.m. - Received a 911 call reporting a reckless driver in Loogootee. Deputy Shields responded.

6:40 p.m. - Received a call reporting an accident with no injuries in Loogootee. Loogootee Officer Wagoner responded.

7:50 p.m. - Received a call requesting to speak to an officer. Loogootee Officer Wagoner responded.

10:54 p.m. - Received a call reporting of a suspicious vehicle northwest of Shoals. Deputy Shields and Deputy Baumgart responded.

11:23 p.m. - Received a 911 call in regard to a medical question. Advised caller of Jasper Memorial Hospitals phone number.

11:31 p.m. - Received a call reporting a civil issue in Shoals. Deputy Shields responded.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 23

12:55 a.m. - Received a call requesting a vehicle unlock in Loogootee. Loogootee Officer Wagoner responded.

6:11 a.m. - Received an accidental 911 call.

7:19 a.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance south of Shoals. Martin County Medic 1, Lost River Fire Department, Deputy Branham responded.

7:39 a.m. - Received a call requesting a vehicle identification number check north of Shoals. Deputy Branham responded.

8:20 a.m. - Received a 911 call reporting stolen car keys in Loogootee. Loogootee Officer Davis responded.

9:40 a.m. - Received a 911 call reporting a possible dispute in Shoals. Deputy Branham responded.

9:45 a.m. - Received a call requesting to speak to a deputy. Deputy Branham responded.

10:32 a.m. - Received a call requesting to speak to a deputy. Deputy Branham responded.

12:11 p.m. - Received a 911 call reporting an accident east of Shoals. Deputy Branham, Martin County Medic 1, Shoals Fire Department, and Loogootee Officer Davis responded. No one was transported.

2:45 p.m. - Received a call reporting a truck stuck in a ditch south of Shoals. Deputy Branham responded.

4:39 p.m. - Received a call requesting to speak to a deputy. Deputy Shields responded.

4:51 p.m. - Received a call reporting a controlled burn south of Shoals. Advised Fire Chief Jim Hamby.

4:57 p.m. - Received a call reporting a possible theft in Shoals. Deputy Branham and Deputy Shields responded.

5:18 p.m. - Received a 911 call requesting to speak to a deputy. Deputy Branham and Deputy Shields responded.

6:27 p.m. - Deputy Shields is requesting an ambulance in Shoals. Martin County Medic 1 and Shoals Fire Department responded. Medic 1 transported one patient to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

7:03 p.m. - Received a call requesting to speak to an officer in regard to child custody. Loogootee Officer Wagoner and Deputy Baumgart responded.

8:38 p.m. - Deputy Shields requested an ambulance east of Loogootee. Martin County Medic 1 responded and transported one patient to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

8:48 p.m. - Received a call in regard to a dispute north of Loogootee. Loogootee Officer Wagoner, Deputy Shields, Deputy Baumgart, and Martin County Medic 1 responded. Medic 1 did not transport.

10:11 p.m. - Received a call wanting a report on a lost wallet. Loogootee Officer Wagoner responded.

10:24 p.m. - Received a call reporting of a possible break in north of Shoals. Deputy Baumgart responded.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24

2:10 a.m. - Received a report of some missing items in Loogootee. Loogootee Officer Wagoner responded.

10:08 a.m. - Received a call reporting a reckless driver on US 231 South, traveling north. Loogootee Officer Davis responded. Daviess County was also notified.

11:45 a.m. - Received an animal complaint northeast of Shoals. Deputy Branham responded.

12:17 p.m. - Received an accidental 911 call.

1:46 p.m. - Received a report of a disabled vehicle south of Loogootee. Loogootee Officer Davis responded.

(See 'SHERIFF'S LOG' on page 5)

COURT NEWS

Loogootee Police log

CRIMINAL CONVICTIONS AND SENTENCING

December 14

Joshua T. Rush, convicted of operating a vehicle with a schedule I or II controlled substance or its metabolite in the blood, a Class C Misdemeanor. Sentenced to serve 20 days with 0 days suspended and credit for 3 actual days previously served plus 3 Class A credit days and 50 actual days through Martin County Community Corrections Pre-Trial Release Program.

December 15
William E. Yarbrough, convicted of driving while suspended, a Class A Misdemeanor. Sentenced to serve 90 days with 0 days suspended and credit for 45 actual days previously served plus 45 Class A credit days.

CRIMINAL CHARGES DISMISSED

December 15

William E. Yarbrough, knowingly or intentionally operating a motor vehicle without ever receiving a license, a Class C Misdemeanor, dismissed.

December 18
Chadwick K. Funk, invasion of privacy, a Class A Misdemeanor, dismissed.

CIVIL COURT

New Suits Filed

December 13

Autumn Cronin vs. Jamie Cronin, petition for dissolution of marriage.

December 15
LVNV Funding, LLC vs. Sarah Van-Meter, civil collection.

December 18
Cavalry SPV I, LLC vs. Emily Walton, civil collection.

Kelley R. McCloskey vs. Brent A. McCloskey, petition for dissolution of marriage.

December 19
Cavalry SPV I, LLC vs. Megan Padgett, civil collection.

CIVIL COURT JUDGMENTS

December 13

ARRESTS

MONDAY, DECEMBER 18

1:16 p.m. - David Hert, 58, of Shoals, was arrested by Chief Deputy Keller on a Martin County warrant. He is being held without bond.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 19

5:48 p.m. - Henry Garza, 41, of Noblesville, was arrested by Loogootee Officer Davis and charged with leaving the scene of an accident and resisting law enforcement with a motor vehicle. He is being held on \$15,000 10% bond.

6:00 p.m. - Andrea Brinkworth, 30, of Shoals, was arrested by Corporal Hawkins on a Martin County warrant. She is being held without bond.

8:14 p.m. - Glendon Dixon, 34, of Loogootee, was arrested by Corporal Hawkins on a Martin County warrant. He is being held without bond.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 20

10:06 a.m. - Amanda Canary, 37, of Montgomery, was arrested by Deputy Erwin on a Dubois County warrant.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 21

11:47 a.m. - Christopher Bearden, 44, of Shoals, was arrested by Loogootee Reserve Officer Harmon and charged with driving while suspended, habitual traffic violator. He was released on a bond of \$15,000 10%.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 23

6:30 p.m. - Joseph Kindley, 41, of Shoals, was arrested by Deputy Branham and charged with residential entry and theft. He is being held on a \$15,000 10% bond.

10:24 p.m. - Brandon Lindsey, 26, of, Loogootee, was arrested by Deputy Baumgart and charged with intimidation with a deadly weapon, and criminal recklessness. He is being held on a \$15,000 10% bond.

Judgment in favor of the plaintiff Persolve Legal Group, LLP and against the defendant Nicholas Wathen in the amount of \$4,995.26.

Judgment in favor of the plaintiff Citibank and against the defendant Eric Thomas in the amount of \$7,063.84.

Judgment in favor of the plaintiff Synchro Bank and against the defendant Zachary Danielson in the amount of \$3,354.08.

CIVIL COURT DISMISSED

December 13

Westlake Financial Services, LLC vs. Dinessa Hawthorne, civil collection, dismissed.

Capital One vs. Trinity Benton, civil collection, dismissed.

SMALL CLAIMS COURT

New Suits Filed

December 13

Hoosier Accounts Service vs. Gale W. May, complaint.

December 15
Hoosier Accounts Service vs. Thomas G. Hudson, complaint.

Hoosier Accounts Service vs. Stephanie A. Cannon, complaint.

Hoosier Accounts Service vs. Renae G. Keller, complaint.

Hoosier Accounts Service vs. Steven C. Knox, complaint.

Hoosier Accounts Service vs. Robert J. Hawkins, complaint.

Martin County real estate transfers

Brittney A. Risher, of Martin County, Indiana to **Drenda Kendall**, of Daviess County, Indiana, a portion of the northwest quarter of Section 24, Township 3 North, Range 5 West, in the City of Loogootee, Indiana, Lot 16 in Country Court II.

Monty Gregory, of Martin County, Indiana to **KJB Properties, LLC**, of Martin County, Indiana. Tract I: Lots Numbered 17 and 18 in McCormick's Subdivision of Lot Number 103 in Chenoweth's Extension to the Town of West Shoals, Indiana and a part of Lot 41 in McCormick's Subdivision of Lot Number 103 in Chenoweth's Extension to the Town of West Shoals, Indiana, containing 0.64 of an acre, more or less. Tract II: Lot Number 16 in the subdivision of Lot Number 103 in Chenoweth's Extension to the Town of West Shoals, now Shoals, Indiana. Tract III: A tract of land 60 feet wide south of and adjacent to Lot Number 15 in McCormick's Subdivision of Lot Number 103 in Chenoweth's Extension to West Shoals and including a portion of Lot Number 41 in said McCormick's Subdivision. Tract IV: All that part of Lot Number 103 in Chenoweth's Extension to the Town of West Shoals, Indiana, now Shoals, Indiana.

Dwight Crane, of Martin County, Indiana to **Danielle Hoffman**, of Martin County, Indiana, part of the southeast quarter of the southwest quarter and part of the west half of the southwest quarter of the southeast quarter of Section 4,

MONDAY, DECEMBER 18

12:52 p.m. - Loogootee Fire Department responded to a report of a downed power line and pole on Brooks Bridge Road.

1:27 p.m. - Loogootee Fire Department responded to a medical call on Terrace Drive.

6:26 p.m. - Loogootee Fire Department responded to a medical call in Loogootee.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 19

6:14 a.m. - Chief Long performed a vehicle unlock at Marathon.

8:56 a.m. - Loogootee Fire Department responded to a medical call on Queen Street.

12:01 p.m. - Chief Long responded to a stranded motorist on JFK Avenue.

4:45 p.m. - Officer Davis responded to a report of a hit-and-run on US 231 and West Broadway Street, in front of Dollar General.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 20

10:49 a.m. - Chief Long responded to an animal complaint on Southeast First Street.

1:45 p.m. - Chief Long responded to an animal complaint on Sherman Street.

4:06 p.m. - Officer Davis investigated a report of vandalism to a vehicle on Church Street.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 21

10:30 a.m. - Officer Harmon per-

Township 3 North, Range 4 West, containing 0.762 acres, more or less. Situated in Perry Township, Martin County, Indiana.

Jonathan Wagler and Marie Wagler, of Daviess County, Indiana to **Jonathan Wagler and Marie Wagler**, of Daviess County, Indiana, part of the southwest quarter of the northwest quarter of Section 25, Township 3 North, Range 5 West, of the Second Principal Meridian, Perry Civil Township, Martin County, Indiana, containing 0.297 acres, more or less.

Linda G. Jones, of Martin County, Indiana to **Stephen D. Sorrells and Gaye E. Sorrells**, of Martin County, Indiana, a portion of the southeast quarter of the southeast quarter of Section 19, Township 3 North, Range 3 West, in Halbert Township, Martin County, Indiana, containing 8.06 acres, more or less.

Jonathan Wagler and Marie Wagler, of Daviess County, Indiana to **Jonathan Wagler and Marie Wagler**, of Daviess County, Indiana, part of the southwest quarter of the northwest quarter of Section 25, Township 3 North, Range 5 West, of the Second Principal Meridian, Perry Civil Township, Martin County, Indiana, containing 0.345 acre, more or less.

Deana L. Chambers, of Martin County, Indiana to **Lion Rock Properties, LLC**, of Martin County, Indiana. Tract I: Lot Number 13 in Section 25, Township 3 North, Range 5 West. Tract II: Lot Number 14 in Section 25, Township 3 North, Range 5 West.

formed a VIN check on Railroad Street.

4:05 p.m. - Loogootee Fire Department responded to a report of smoke on Scenic Hill Road.

7:22 p.m. - Officer Wagoner responded to a report of a person with mental health issues.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 22

7:53 a.m. - Assistant Chief Rayhill investigated a report of a possible impaired driver on US 50 East.

10:16 a.m. - Loogootee Fire Department responded to a report of a natural gas smell behind On The Fly gas station on West Broadway Street.

1:24 p.m. - Loogootee Fire Department responded to a report of a field fire on State Road 550.

4:21 p.m. - Loogootee Fire Department responded to a report of a brush fire on Mt. Pleasant Road.

6:40 p.m. - Officer Wagoner responded to a complaint on Ackerman Drive.

7:50 p.m. - Officer Wagoner assisted a motorist with changing a tire on Legion Avenue.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 23

12:55 a.m. - Officer Wagoner performed a vehicle unlock on Wood Street.

6:11 a.m. - Officer Davis responded to a 911 hangup at CVS.

8:20 a.m. - Officer Davis responded to a complaint on station.

10:09 a.m. - Officer Davis assisted with a funeral escort.

12:14 p.m. - Officer Davis assisted the Martin County Sheriff's Department with an accident on US 50 East.

1:02 p.m. - Officer Davis responded to an alarm on Mill Street.

7:03 p.m. - Officer Wagoner responded to a complaint on station.

8:48 p.m. - Officer Wagoner assisted the Martin County Sheriff's Department with a report of shots fired.

10:11 p.m. - Officer Wagoner responded to a complaint on station.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24

10:08 a.m. - Officer Davis responded to a report of an erratic driver on US 231 North.

1:46 p.m. - Officer Davis responded to a report of a disabled motorist on US 231 South.

7:32 p.m. - Officer Wagoner responded to a report of a possible impaired driver on US 231 North.

11:38 p.m. - Officer Harmon responded to a noise complaint on Sherman Street.

SHERIFF'S LOG

(Continued from page 4)

5:24 p.m. - Received a 911 call from a Daviess County address. Transferred call to Daviess County 911.

5:26 p.m. - Received a report of possible harassment in Shoals. Deputy Doane responded.

6:55 p.m. - Received a report of a car-deer accident in Loogootee. Deputy Doane responded.

7:32 p.m. - Received a call reporting a reckless driver on US 231 North, traveling south. Loogootee Officer Wagoner responded.

8:50 p.m. - Received a call requesting a welfare check north of Shoals. Deputy Doane, Shoals Fire Department and Martin County Medic 1 responded. Medic 1 transported one patient to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

10:10 p.m. - Received a report of a car-deer accident north of Shoals. Deputy Doane, Deputy Baumgart and Big John's Towing responded.

11:18 p.m. - Received a noise complaint in Loogootee. Loogootee Reserve Captain Harmon responded.

11:39 p.m. - Received a 911 call reporting a reckless driver on US 231S traveling south. Transferred call to Dubois County 911.



GORGEOUS LAKE HOME: Located on W Boggs Lake with amazing views! Updated home includes a large open dining & living area, kitchen w/breakfast nook, 3 BR, 2 baths, lakeside sunroom, 2 decks, & 24x40 garage. \$299,500. MLS#202337657

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Classic Realty

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Billy Walker, 812-296-1807
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COMMUNITY & EVENTS

Page 6

MARTIN COUNTY JOURNAL

Wednesday, December 27, 2023



Originally published December 27, 2007

With a new year starting next week, it is time for a reflection column on the past year. There are several things that quickly come to mind about 2007. I thought I would try and reflect on some of the happy moments and put a wrap on it.

Our family thrived in 2007 with everyone enjoying good health. Our two little grandkids are growing and learning more every day and contribute to our family's sense of contentment and satisfaction..... often without saying a word.

My new/old career back in agriculture is proving to be the right decision. While I acknowledge that change is certainly difficult.... especially when it comes to careers, I enjoy the challenges that make agriculture so special and important to our country and have no regrets.

Having said that, I certainly appreciated the opportunity to serve the community with the Martin County Community Foundation. That is an organization that people should learn more about, as it will continue to grow and impact our community more and more as time goes on.

Our community was very successful in applying and receiving grant funds for needed improvements in both Loogootee and Shoals from the Office of Community and Rural Affairs. I was honored to have been a small part of working to help them when I was still with the Community Foundation. I think that it was an excellent leverage of assets for our community, and we need to learn more about how to compete and be successful at it.

Barb and I traveled to Florida last January, and from what I observed, I would say it is a great place to visit.....but I wouldn't trade it for Southern Indiana or Martin County and its people. I guess it's true that

you can "take the boy out of the country, but you can't take the country out of the boy."

One of the organizations I currently am involved with is Saint Vincent De Paul. I had no aspirations to become involved until Don Bowling (yes, the mayor) spoke at one of the masses at St. John's and issued an "Invitation to Serve" in the SVDP. It came at a time when I was looking for a way to become involved in the church and the community in a way that I had not done before, and I must say it probably has changed my life. The SVDP has changed a lot of other lives too, and the opening of the new store in Loogootee in 2007 was a happy event for our community and SVDP. It is the ultimate recycling facility, and those less fortunate are the recipients of the dividends it earns.

Early in the year I had the opportunity to travel to Washington DC and visit the Halls of Congress for some lobbying efforts. While DC is an impressive place in general, the most poignant time I spent was at the war memorials that are in DC. Strolling through the WWII Memorial on a sunny February day made the sacrifices of the Greatest Generation very real. I am so happy that my dad got to live a long life and enjoy the freedoms he fought for.

All-in-all 2007 was a good year. What will happen next year is a guess for any and all of us. Hopefully there will be more good things to write about in 2008.

Happy New Year from Pure Country!

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

'I continue to urge all of us to continue voicing our facts'

To the editor of the *Martin County Journal*,

I saw in the latest issue of the Martin County Journal that Shoals Councilman Cary D. Albright has requested an appointment to the Martin County Mid-States Steering Committee. Perhaps this means Shoals can see the disadvantages to our area with Mid-States Corridor.

I recently received a call from Mr. David Bean. He's the Senior Legislative Assistant to Congressman Larry Bucshon, our Congressional Representative. When I asked what Congressman Bucshon's position was on the Mid-States Corridor, he said the Congressman has remained neutral. I then mentioned that Martin and Daviess counties were not part of the RDA pushing the Corridor, he said they were unaware of this. I urged him to become more aware, to which he said they would look into it. Perhaps it's the typical political double talk, but he did call me.

The Corridor project is not acceptable to vast majority of the folks in Martin, Daviess or Dubois counties. However, it is still being forced on our communities.

I continue to urge all of us to continue voicing our facts and opinions to anyone who will listen.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Jim Arvin
Rutherford Township
Martin County

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Free community meal

The Loogootee Christian Church, at 206 Sherman Street, is having their monthly free meal for the community to be held Thursday, January 4 from 6-8 p.m. This month they have soup, veggies, bread/rolls, desserts and drinks. All members of the community are invited to attend.

Cold weather gear drive

Alex Adams, Eagle Scout candidate from Loogootee, is conducting a "cold weather gear" drive. He's collecting coats, gloves, and other items that will help people stay warm. There is a collection bin at IGA in Loogootee. Contact 812-295-8138 for more information and additional locations. Final pick-up is January 2.

Celebrate Recovery meetings

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

Dog/cat Wellness Clinic

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

St. Vincent Food Pantry

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

Free lunch for kids

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

SOAR Tutoring

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

LUMC Food Pantry

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

Solid waste board

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

Soil and Water meetings

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

CLASSIFIED ADS

HELP WANTED



PROJECT COORDINATOR POSITION

As a private/public partnership for county-wide economic development, the Martin County Alliance for Economic Growth is working to improve the Quality of Life of Martin County citizens through activities that stimulate economic development. Martin County Alliances' mission is to facilitate and support economic activity, stimulate economic growth and well-being of the community by enhancing workforce development, expanding housing options, engaging with local businesses, and positively affecting tax revenues.

JOB DESCRIPTION

The Project Coordinator is a 32-40 hours a week position that reports to the Executive Director of Martin County Alliance for Economic Growth. This professional position is primarily responsible for managing quality of life, housing, and workforce development/skills efforts. Other activities include but are not limited to conducting Martin County Redevelopment Commission meetings monthly, assisting with Business, Retention and Expansion initiatives which may include business site visits, and database/website systems management. Salary range is \$35,000-\$50,000 based on experience.

Duties and Responsibilities:

- Schedule Redevelopment Commission meetings, plan the agenda, and guest speakers needed for these meetings.
- Responsible for coordinating quality of life, housing, and community development projects as identified by the Executive Director
- Preparation and drafting of various reports on the status of active or potential quality of life, housing, and community development projects at the discretion of the Executive Director.
- Preparation and drafting of community or economic-based grant applications, with grant research, writing and administration as a required skill set.
- Responsible for coordinating workforce development programs and activities as they pertain to the organization and partners.
- Responsible for the management and oversight of quality of life, housing and community development projects from inception to completion, and reporting projects status to multiple entities in multiple venues.
- Help coordinate Request for Information (RFI) responses
- Submit completed RFIs to Zoom Prospector
- Build relationships with realtors to obtain new commercial or industrial listings
- Assist with Annual Dinner by helping with print materials, A/V setup, decorations, and invites

This position is open until January 1, 2024.

All interested applicants should e-mail their resume to Jessica.Potts@martinalliance.org.

Live On Site 2 Day Auction

Saturday, December 30
@ 10:00 a.m.

Cast iron including #14, 12, & #8 Griswald, Vintage toys, crocks, tools, US anvil, Pyrex, furniture, coins, and more!

Sunday, December 31
@ 1:00 p.m.

70 plus guns, 50 plus pieces of Fenton, 5 porcelain signs, case xx, artifacts, tons of Gold & Silver coins.

ATM Auction
2563 State Road 37,
Mitchell, IN

Follow us on Auction Zip 37078
or ATM Auction on Facebook



Corner Cafe

201 N JFK Avenue, Loogootee
812-295-4243

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



I believe that January may be the most important month for the garden. Certainly, there is little labor required in most landscapes, but it is a time of looking back and looking forward.

January is a time to consider the garden of the last growing season and assess the successes and failures. The spring was cool, so many of the flowers were delayed. I was also late getting the vegetable garden planted, but it was generally a good year. I had tomatoes, peppers and squash late in the summer until frost, and am still able to pick some greens. I added a lot of compost to the planting beds in spring, giving me a wonderful planting medium. Some of the compost has settled, and more will be needed before I start planting in the spring. I made some progress in mulching the areas between the raised beds, but there is still plenty to do there, and that is a job I hope to tackle on some winter days when the weather allows.

The rose garden is another place in need of some work during the winter. I did get an antique bench to replace the plastic one that had been in the rose garden for several years. My sister sewed a beautiful red cushion of waterproof cloth for the bench. However, the rose garden was neglected somewhat this summer and there is a lot of work to do there. The big job is to find a way to build a trellis that will support the heavy canes of the climbing rose. I asked Santa for some large tower sections to be the base of a new trellis, but, alas, my position on the naughty list did not warrant such a present. I am open to suggestions for another way to support these heavy canes.

Problems with equipment led to many of the failures in the garden last year.

Funding available to reclaim long-abandoned mining land

In federal fiscal year 2023, Indiana Department of Natural Resources (DNR) received nearly \$24.7 million in federal funding to reclaim more former coal mines to their pre-mining status.

Hoosiers who own such property are encouraged to report it to the DNR — even if you don't want the work done right away.

This funding is part of \$377 million Indiana will receive over 15 years to reclaim former mine land and builds upon the historic funding Indiana received in fiscal year 2022.

Reclamation is the process by which adverse safety, health, and environmental effects of unregulated legacy mines are minimized and mined lands are returned to a beneficial end use. In Indiana, more than 2,000 reclamation projects have been completed since 1982 on both public and private lands.

“Over the last 41 years, Indiana has worked to actively reclaim thousands of acres of former mine land, opening this space for new uses,” said Kit Turpin, assistant director for the DNR Division of Reclamation's Abandoned Mine Land program (AML). “With this influx of

Most of the problems have been corrected or new tools have been purchased, so I should go into the season this year with the things needed to maintain the gardens. January is a good time to get mowers and other equipment serviced. Some mechanics have cheaper prices during the winter months.

The wildflower meadow was an area of great success last summer. It did not get mowed early, and that late mowing resulted in some late blooms, but the blooms were glorious when they came. I hope to be able to mow this spring when temperatures warm into the fifties. I also have some seeds to sow during the winter. If you are purchasing seeds for a wildflower plot, make sure that the provider is reputable and that the seeds are certified for southern Indiana. Some packaged seeds are wildflowers but may include seeds that are not native to this locale.

January is also a good month to catch up on reading those garden magazines and the garden books on my shelves. Seed and nursery catalogues have already begun to arrive, and I am sure I will spend some dreary winter days looking through them to see what new plants are available for my garden. I will want one of everything, but I know I can neither afford that nor will I have time for planting that much, so I will revise lists and order toward the end of the month.

October 1, 2024, will mark 100 years since my grandparents purchased and moved to what I now call Sandhill Gardens. I hope to have a celebration this fall, and much of my garden work this year will be aimed at getting the gardens ready for that occasion. Plan to come celebrate with me.

funding, we're continuing to reclaim more land across Indiana's coal country.”

Because reclamation funding is distributed based on need, the AML program is cataloging future projects. Indiana's eligibility for these federal grants depends upon the state's inventory of abandoned mine land. To qualify for funding, the land must have been mined and abandoned prior to 1977.

Owners of such land should email their information directly to the AML program at abandonedminesrestoration@dnr.IN.gov. They can also call 1-800-772-MINE (6463) or the Reclamation office number, 812-665-2207.

Once land is reported, an AML project manager and the landowner will review the site together to determine if the impact on the property was caused by unregulated mining. If it was, the project manager will talk with the landowner to determine what needs to be done and discuss accommodating other requests they may have to add to the reclamation design. After that, the project manager will work closely with the landowner during the design process to ensure the property's needs are met. If the landowner approves the design, the project is put up for bid through the state public works process.

The contractor who wins the bid then completes the work under the supervision of the AML program. When the project is complete, AML conducts a meeting to assess the work and make sure all requirements and agreements have been met. Most reclamation projects can be completed within a year.

State park properties offer First Day Hikes on New Year's Day

Usher in 2024 with other outdoor lovers at one of the many First Day Hikes offered January 1 at Indiana's state parks and lakes.

First Day Hikes are a healthy way to start the new year. They offer a chance to get outside, exercise, enjoy nature, and connect with friends. Find one near you at on.IN.gov/INStateParkEvents.

The hikes are organized by Indiana State Parks in cooperation with America's State Parks. They will take place in all 50 states. First Day Hikes originated more than 20 years ago at the Blue Hills Reservation, a state park in Milton, Massachusetts. The program was launched to foster healthy lifestyles and promote year-round recreation at state parks. For more information, visit America's State Parks website at stateparks.org.

In addition to the hikes, Indiana state park inns will be open for meals. Abe Martin Lodge at Brown County State Park, Clifty Inn at Clifty Falls State Park, Potawatomi Inn at Pokagon State Park, and Turkey Run Inn at Turkey Run State Park will have a brunch beginning at 10 a.m. The Garrison at Fort Harrison State Park and Canyon Inn at McCormick's Creek State Park invite hungry hikers to check out their great salad bars. More information is at IndianaInns.com.

Some of the hikes are listed below. More may be added, so check the website if your favorite place isn't listed. Make sure to wear sturdy, comfortable shoes on all hikes and dress for the weather.

-Brown County State Park. First Day hike and ride are available. The self-guided hike will be available from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Start at the Nature Center and walk or bike to the CCC Vista. There will be a fire and hot chocolate nearby. Horseback riders can enjoy a group ride at 11 a.m., meeting at the Green Horne Shelter.

-Clifty Falls State Park. Meet at Clifty Shelter at 10 a.m. The two-hour moderately rugged hike is along Trail 8, which meanders along the west side of Clifty Creek and provides scenic views of the canyon below. Refreshments will be provided after the hike.

Hardy Lake. Meet at the Main trailhead for a 3-mile moderate hike at 11 a.m. to learn about the land before the lake.

-Harmonie State Park. Meet at the campground overflow parking lot at 1 p.m. CT for a hike of Trail 5. Hot cocoa and cookies will be available afterward.

-Indiana Dunes State Park. Meet at the Nature Center for a hike along Trail 7 from 10 a.m. to noon CT. See the park landscapes and learn about park history. Enjoy snacks and a cozy campfire provided by Friends of the Indiana Dunes.

-Interlake Off-road State Recreation Area. Participants are encouraged to festively decorate their ORVs for a parade through the park. The ride will leave Big Kate Shelter in the main parking lot at 10 a.m. CT and will conclude with a group photo. Participants must provide their own ORV. All ORV rules and regulations apply.

-Lincoln State Park. Meet at the Nature Center at noon CT for a 2-mile hike around Lake Lincoln.

-McCormick's Creek State Park. Two hikes, one rugged and one moderate, will be offered. Meet at Canyon Inn at 11 a.m. for a hike of Trail 4 (rugged). Meet at Canyon Inn at 2 p.m. for a moderate hike to the waterfall. There will also be a photo contest from 10:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Multiple age categories will be judged anonymously by a volunteer panel. Each winner will receive a 2024 annual entrance pass. Registration card will

include submission instructions.

-Mississinewa Lake. Join Upper Wabash Interpretive Services staff at 10 a.m. at the Blue Heron Trail in Miami State Recreation Area for a 1-mile stroll through the woods. Dress for the weather. Friendly dogs on leashes are welcome, too. Advance registration is requested by calling 260-468-2127.

-Monroe Lake. Meet at the Bay View Shelter in Fairfax State Recreation Area for the annual First Day Trail Run/Walk. Registration/check-in runs from 2:15 to 3:15 p.m., and the untimed run/walk starts at 3:30 p.m. Participants can choose from a 1.3-, 2.9-, or 3.7-mile course. Advance registration is available through December 30 for \$15. At bit.ly/monroefirstday and includes a hot foods station, event patch for the first 300 registrants, and an entry to the prize drawing. Same-day registration is \$20, cash or check only.

-Mounds State Park. Meet at the Nature Center at 5:30 p.m. The naturalist will lead a hike to the Great Mound. The hike is easy to moderate and will last approximately 45 minutes. The Nature Center will open at 4:30 p.m. to welcome hikers.

-Patoka Lake. Meet at the Nature Center at noon for a hike of Trail 4, along which you will learn about prescribed burns. Hot chocolate will be available afterward, and a drawing for a 2024 annual entrance pass will take place.

-Shakamak State Park. Meet at the Group Camp Mess Hall at 1 p.m. for a hike on Trail 2. Hot chocolate and cookies will be provided afterward.

-Spring Mill State Park. Two hikes, one long and one short, will be available. The long hike begins at 9 a.m. at the Donaldson Cave parking lot. It is moderately rugged and should take about 90 minutes to complete. The short option is a 30-minute hike on the paved Trail 6 and begins at 9:30 a.m. Meet at the Grissom Memorial. Hot chocolate and cookies will be served at the activity center after both hikes.

-Turkey Run State Park. Meet at the nature center at 2 p.m. for a guided hike on the “Best Trail in the Midwest” (Trail 3). Learn about some of Turkey Run's geology along the way on this very rugged trail. Bundle up and bring plenty of water.

Hoosier National Forest 2024 trail use permits now available

Visitors ages 17 and older, who wish to ride a bike or horse on the Hoosier National Forest are required to have a trail use permit. Permits are available for daily use at \$5 per person, or annual use at \$35 per person. There are a variety of options to purchase a trail use permit — at Forest offices, at local vendors, order by phone or mail, or online at Recreation.gov. To purchase in person, visit your local Forest office at 811 Constitution Avenue in Bedford, or 248 15th Street in Tell City.

Visitors may purchase digital trail use permits for day or annual use online at Recreation.gov/activitypass/hoosier-trails via a mobile device at the site or in advance. Established in 2021, this public service allows for mobile transactions on site, if cell service is available, or in advance if service is unavailable. 95 percent of the income from these permits is used to maintain trails, enhance trailheads, and improve visitor services on the Hoosier National Forest. Visit <https://go.usa.gov/xeuV7> for more information.

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