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VOLUME #1- EDITION #1

# LOOGOOTEE BIG L

WEDNESDAY

## TIMES

APRIL 16, 2025

Welcome to the first of many editions of The Loogootee Big-L Times newsletter, known as The Beat.

In this edition, we will cover the latest news from the last week, and more!

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### LOOGOOTEE CITY COUNCIL DISCUSSES NEW STORMWATER PROPOSAL & PILOT AGREEMENT

by Braydyn Lents  
Times Editor-in-Chief

The Loogootee City Council met on Monday, April 14, 2025, for a combined City Council and City Board of Works meeting at the Loogootee Municipal Building.

City Clerk-Treasurer Brandon Carrico, Mark McAtee, Attorney Steven Teverbaugh, and Dana Strange attended the Board of Works meeting. Mayor Brian Ader was initially absent but joined the meeting later that day.

Following the Board of Works meeting, attendees included Mayor Brian Ader, Mike Engleman, Carroll Rayhill, Mark McAtee, Jeremy Holland, Attorney Steven Teverbaugh, and Dave Smith.

The Board first approved new personnel recommendations discussed during the March 10 meeting. These included new positions in the police and utility departments and retaining Mitch Harder, Casey Taylor, and Jameson Wagner for new full-time and part-time job agreements within their respective city organizations. The Board of Works conducted interviews the previous week, and the recommendations were presented and accepted with a motion during this meeting.

Reflecting on the last meeting in February, the discussions at this meeting were extensive and smooth, covering various issues. One major topic was a stormwater proposal titled the "Behind the Wire" Project, which involves replacing a 12-inch storm sewer before pouring new concrete. The total cost for this project is estimated at \$60,550, with \$16,200 allocated explicitly for the storm sewer replacement. A board member noted, "They have replaced about 40 feet of that... 40 to 50 feet of that already where they poured our concrete drive."

A member raised a concern about the project's success, suggesting that without funding to hire an electrician, critical issues may go unnoticed, to which someone jokingly responded, "If you catch something before its failure." Another member highlighted the benefits of a baseline system, stating, "You can always add to the system... We don't necessarily design anything that can't be scaled. We can throttle back a little on the initial install, see the benefits,



*cont.d*

, and then add to it later if we want. Low station monitoring can also be integrated in later phases, which may be helpful."

The conversation shifted toward the frequency of visits and the importance of having real-time data broadcast back to the plant to assist operators effectively. The council agreed to proceed with the project if the nonprofit agreed to the terms.

The total estimated cost of the broader project is \$298,000, with additional design costs to be finalized soon. The board also discussed a wastewater treatment plant proposal to assess the current situation and identify the next best steps. This proposal includes a design package with specifications and drawings for competitive bidding to centralize plant process information. It aims to give operators a clear overview of the plant's processes while keeping them alerted to failures in real time.

Additionally, the council approved a PILOT agreement for Oak Street Village, a \$14 million affordable housing project that the city initially developed in 2024 and revisited this February. The project, which includes adding 50 units of affordable housing and a 4,500-square-foot daycare facility, was the subject of extensive discussion during the meeting. The PILOT payments are set at \$5,000 annually for 15 years.

The board approved the ordinance after a motion and a second, with the city executive authorized to finalize the execution of the pilot agreement. The project is expected to break ground in July, with financing secured and site work progressing well.

They also discussed a comprehensive economic development plan with a budget of \$12,000 and safeguards for city expenses. Joe White, the program director, stated,

They also discussed a comprehensive economic development plan with a budget of \$12,000 and safeguards for city expenses. Joe White, the program director, stated, "We're proposing 50 units of affordable workforce housing for the citizens of Loogootee. We've discussed our policies and plans to ensure this project is excellent." He added, "As part of this project, we are also proposing community amenities like a park, playground, pavilion, and pickleball courts to enhance the quality of life for the residents of Loogootee."

The plan emphasized the importance of community engagement and collaboration with residents, property owners, business owners, nonprofits, and elected officials. The council discussed the necessity of updating the comprehensive plan and highlighted the need for safeguards in the contract to ensure the plan's success.

The proposal was accepted after a motion was made and seconded, and the safeguards will be included in the contract. Additionally, payment applications for various projects were approved, and updates on essential business projects were provided.

Another topic discussed during the meeting was funding the new pavilion and infrastructure projects. These pay applications were presented and approved after further discussion.

The council also talked about the installation of digital speed limit signs. They noted the need for speed limit signs on Park Street and other areas and plan to address these issues.

Furthermore, the council reviewed the weight limit on Country Court Road and considered the traffic diversion back to the original Country Court Road.

Before the meeting adjourned, the council emphasized the importance of completing the pavilion project by June 1 and mentioned that another meeting would be scheduled soon.

For more updates, follow The City of Loogootee on Facebook and check our social media for information on future government meetings.

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## we are hiring

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for more information.**

# Loogootee Big L-Times BEATS

## ACMI ANNOUNCES 16 COMPANIES THAT WILL OPERATE AT MUNITIONS CAMPUS

*CONTRIBUTED SOURCE*

BLOOMFIELD, Ind. – The American Center for Manufacturing and Innovation (ACMI) has announced the initial cohort of 16 companies that will make up its munitions campus in Bloomfield. These companies represent a wide range of advanced capabilities and specialties with defense applications including aerospace engineering, materials science, propellants, energetics, advanced manufacturing, uncrewed systems, artificial intelligence and logistics.

According to a press release, the following companies have executed agreements to operate at the campus:

Alaris  
\* Athena  
\* Canopy Aerospace  
\* Deterrence  
\* Elementum 3D  
\* Exos Aerospace  
\* Freemelt  
\* Hybron  
\* Kratos  
\* Prometheus  
\* Raven  
\* RMSL  
\* Spinner  
\* Supernova  
\* Sustainment  
\* Voyager Technologies

The munitions campus is being built on a portion of ACMI's National Security Industrial Hub (NSIH),

a new 1,141-acre development adjacent to Crane Army Ammunition Activity and Naval Surface Warfare Center – Crane in Bloomfield. Prometheus, a U.S.-based merchant supplier of solid rocket motors, will build its headquarters and solid rocket motor production facility on 550 acres of the site. The construction and operation of the NSIH is expected to create thousands of high-quality private-sector jobs.

“It’s exciting to see so many companies working on different parts of the defense industrial base investing in one location,” said John Burer, founder and CEO of ACMI. “By bringing this range of capabilities and specialties together we are enabling a more resilient, efficient, and innovative industrial base that benefits both the defense and commercial sectors. The success of this approach, leveraging private capital to develop facilities critical to the defense industrial base, signals a new era for rebuilding America’s manufacturing capabilities.”

The \$75 million Munitions Campus Program was awarded to ACMI by the Department of Defense to strengthen the munitions supply chain by stimulating private capital for shared-use facilities to scale up domestic munitions production capabilities and capacity. This initial munitions campus award catalyzed the creation of the NSIH, which will stimulate an estimated \$600 million in private investment – multiplying the impact of the committed government funding by eight times.



This announcement marks a critical milestone in fulfilling the strategic vision of the Office of the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Industrial Base Resilience (ODASD(IBM)) via its Manufacturing Capability Expansion and Investment Prioritization (MCEIP) Directorate, which oversees the DOD’s munitions campus.

“These innovative companies help enable DOD’s efforts to modernize our military and the defense industrial base while increasing resilience and ensuring deterrence,” said Dr. Christine Michienzi, former senior technology advisor for the Undersecretary of Defense for Acquisition and Sustainment. “Through this pioneering engagement between the government and commercial industry, ACMI is bringing the best of private sector innovation to every branch of the U.S. military, ensuring that we put the best possible equipment in the hands of our warfighters.”

Munitions campus is purpose-built to lower barriers to entry for emerging defense firms and drive efficiencies in the subcomponent supply chain to support advanced manufacturing techniques, energetic materials, munitions, and hardware with defense applications. ACMI will deploy funding from the program to build common infrastructure as well as shared access facilities to support the rapid transition of new technologies from advanced R&D to scaled production.

“Having an advanced ecosystem of private companies just minutes away will be a major complement to the broad spectrum of advanced capabilities available at Crane,” said Anthony Fabrizio, deputy commander, Crane Army Ammunition Activity. “This groundbreaking innovation ecosystem will catalyze R&D and production, allowing us to rapidly scale proven munitions and new technology alike, at the speed of relevance.”

Strategically located next to Crane, one of the largest naval installations in the world, the campus facilitates collaboration among private and government defense entities to ensure efficient production and distribution of munitions. Crane Army and ACMI Federal signed a memorandum of understanding in 2024 to enhance cooperation between government agencies, researchers, and private industry to address these critical national security challenges. ACMI has selected Johns Hopkins University –

## BIBLE QUOTES FOR THIS EASTER SEASON

- **JOHN 11:25:**  
**"JESUS SAID UNTO HER, I AM THE RESURRECTION AND THE LIFE: HE THAT BELIEVETH IN ME, THOUGH HE WERE DEAD, YET SHALL HE LIVE."**
- **ROMANS 10:9:**  
**"IF YOU DECLARE WITH YOUR MOUTH, 'JESUS IS LORD,' AND BELIEVE IN YOUR HEART THAT GOD RAISED HIM FROM THE DEAD, YOU WILL BE SAVED."**
- **1 CORINTHIANS 15:4:**  
**"AND THAT HE WAS BURIED, THAT HE WAS RAISED ON THE THIRD DAY ACCORDING TO THE SCRIPTURES".**
- **LUKE 24:34:**  
**"THE LORD IS RISEN INDEED! HE HAS APPEARED TO SIMON."**
- **1 PETER 1:3:**  
**"PRAISE BE TO THE GOD AND FATHER OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST! IN HIS GREAT MERCY HE HAS GIVEN US NEW BIRTH INTO A LIVING HOPE THROUGH THE RESURRECTION OF JESUS CHRIST FROM THE DEAD."**



Whiting School of Engineering to provide overarching safety support for the Munitions Campus Program at the National Security Industrial Hub. “Safety is of paramount importance in a project of this nature,” said Pete Zeender, executive director of the Energetics Research Group. “Our decades of experience and access to experts in different disciplines gives us the unique ability to support an effort at this scale and complexity. Munitions campus will incorporate state-of-the-art performers, and we will ensure shared services are designed and built with world-class safety from the blueprints up.”

Design and construction activities are expected to begin in the second quarter of 2025 with the facility opening in phases beginning in 2027.



# INSPIRATIONAL PIECES OF THE WEEK

## DCH FOUNDATION ANNOUNCES 2025 HEALTH CAREERS SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

WASHINGTON, Ind.- The Daviess Community Hospital Foundation has announced recipients of its annual Health Careers Scholarships, recognizing 12 area students for their academic accomplishments. This year's awards total \$16,250 from the Health Careers Scholarship Fund.

Additionally, one student received a \$1,000 scholarship from the DCH Auxiliary, and one nursing student was awarded \$750 through the Helen Arthur Memorial Scholarship.

### Scholarship Recipients:

- **Xander Howard** received a \$1,500 scholarship from the DCH Foundation. Howard, the son of Joe and Angie Howard, graduated from Washington Catholic High School in 2023 and continues to pursue a degree in social work at Indiana University.
- **Audrey Jerger** received a \$1,500 scholarship from the DCH Foundation. Jerger, the daughter of Jeremy and Jennifer Jerger, will graduate from Washington Catholic High School in 2024 and is pursuing a nursing degree at the University of Southern Indiana.
- **Lindsey Nolan** received a \$1,500 scholarship from the DCH Foundation. Nolan, the daughter of Steve and Amanda Nolan, graduated from Loogootee High School in 2023 and is studying exercise science and physical

- therapy at the University of Evansville.
- **Kennedy Sinnott** received a \$1,500 scholarship from the DCH Foundation. Sinnott, the daughter of Pat and Tara Sinnott, will graduate from Barr-Reeve High School in 2024 and is pursuing a nursing degree at the University of Southern Indiana.
- **Taylor Ferguson** received a \$1,000 scholarship from the DCH Auxiliary. Ferguson, the daughter of Kelly and Kristin Ferguson, will graduate from North Daviess High School in 2025 and plans to pursue a degree in applied medicine/occupational therapy at Indiana State University.
- **Karter Burris** received a \$750 scholarship from the DCH Foundation. Burris, the daughter of Jarrod and Amy Burris, will graduate from Barr-Reeve High School in 2025 and plans to pursue a nursing degree at the University of Southern Indiana.
- **Olivia Emmons** received a \$750 scholarship from the DCH Foundation. Emmons, the daughter of Brian and Kiersten Emmons, will graduate from Barr-Reeve High School in 2025 and plans to pursue a nursing degree at Indiana University.
- **Kasey Freed** received a \$750 scholarship from the DCH Foundation. Freed, the daughter of Ty and Gena Freed,

will graduate from North Daviess High School in 2025 and will pursue a nursing degree at the University of Southern Indiana.

Luke Guy received a \$750 scholarship from the DCH Foundation. Guy, the son of Trevor and Leslie Guy, graduated from Loogootee High School in 2015 and will pursue a degree in physics/pre-med at Indiana University.

**Amaya McBride** received a \$750 scholarship from the DCH Foundation. McBride, the daughter of Ross and Crystal McBride, will graduate from North Daviess High School in 2025 and plans to pursue a degree in medical imaging at Ivy Tech.

**Kenley Shaw** received a \$750 scholarship from the DCH Foundation. Shaw, the daughter of Benjamin and Kellie Shaw, will graduate from Shoals High School in 2025 and plans to pursue a degree in radiologic imaging sciences at the University of Southern Indiana.

**Hannah Yoder** received a \$750 scholarship from the DCH Foundation. Yoder, the daughter of Travis and Marsha Yoder, will graduate from North Daviess High School in 2025 and plans to pursue a degree in sonography at the University of Southern Indiana.

**Katie Sites** received a \$750 Helen Arthur Memorial Scholarship from the DCH Foundation. Sites, the daughter of Chris and Amy Sites, will graduate from



# DCH SCHOLARSHIP CONT.D

Bedford North

Lawrence High

School in 2025 and is  
pursuing a nursing  
degree at Vincennes  
University.

## EASTER REMINDERS



Message from the Mt. Zion Wesleyan  
Church (via Facebook):

Just a reminder  
Easter Drive Sunday  
April 13th: Palm Sunday- FILL a pew  
April 20th:  
EASTER sunrise & regular service  
(breakfast between services)  
Saturday April 12th-  
Easter egg hunt & cookout @ 12 pm

ODON BUSINESS ALLIANCE

INVITES YOU TO

ODON'S

# EASTER Egg Hunt & Breakfast

SATURDAY  
APRIL 19, 2025

BREAKFAST IN COMMUNITY  
BUILDING 9:00-10:00  
WHILE SUPPLIES LAST

EGG HUNT BEGINS AT 10:00 AM  
AT THE ODON PARK

EASTER BUNNY, GOLDEN EGGS,  
PRIZE EGGS & MORE

Breakfast sponsored by The Odon Locker

Egg hunt sponsored by The Odon Lions Club

Age Groups:  
Toddlers  
Pre-K  
K-1st  
2nd-3rd  
4th-6th



INVITES YOU TO OUR ANNUAL  
**EASTER  
EGG HUNT**

AGE GROUPS  
1 - 2  
3 - 4  
5 - 7  
8 - 12

**SATURDAY APRIL 19TH**  
**11:00 AM SHARP**

**CONSERVATION CLUB  
350 W 150 S  
WASHINGTON, IN 47501**

**GOLDEN EGG PRIZES  
PICTURES WITH THE EASTER  
BUNNY**



# MOST POPULAR STORY OF THE WEEK

## Loogootee Post Office Mail Will Temporarily Redirect Postage to Washington

BY BRAYDYN LENTS  
TIMES EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

The United States Postal Service location in Loogootee has just announced a new way to get your mail as crew begin to clean up storm damage at the office.

Starting this Monday, if you receive mail at the Loogootee Post Office branch in Martin County, your mail will be transferred from the Loogootee branch to the Washington, Indiana Post Office branch until further notice.

In a poster sent by Kari Williams on Facebook, the post on the office wall reads, “After 1:00 each day (except Saturdays), everything will be brought back to [the] Washington Post Office and can be picked up until they close at 5 pm.”

The poster also said, for right now until Monday, you can pick up your mail at the front of the Post Office using a massive Post Office mail truck dubbed the ProMaster van until all mail is moved to the Washington branch until further notice.

The poster also reads, if you have a PO Box and your mail is being delivered to your address, this service will discontinue bringing mail to your address starting on Monday.

You can pick up all postage, small and large packages, mail, checks, and postage this week starting in Loogootee, Monday through Friday 9:30 am-12:30 pm and Saturdays from 9 am-12 pm.

Once the mail transitions to Washington after 1 pm you can pick up your mail until the store closes at 5 pm until further instruction is given to come back to the Loogootee office.

This closure is due to store being damaged due to an EF1 tornado that struck in Loogootee a week ago today (March 15).

No deaths or injuries were reported from the storm as the Loogootee area is still cleaning up after the tornado struck town.

WAMW reported, “Postal officials emphasize that this is a temporary situation, and they appreciate the patience of customers as they work through the challenges.”



# LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

40 Days  
of  
Practice



by Braydyn Bear-Lents

THIS LENT HAS FELT LIKE A LENGTHY JOURNEY THAT RESONATES DEEPLY WITHIN ME AND THE ENTIRE LOOGOOTEE COMMUNITY. IT'S BEEN AN EMOTIONAL ROLLERCOASTER, WHERE EACH DAY HAS REVEALED A BLEND OF JOYOUS PEAKS AND SORROWFUL VALLEYS. I'VE GENUINELY SAVORED THE THRILL OF THE NCAA TOURNAMENT, WHERE EXCITEMENT FILLED THE AIR, AND IMMENSE PRIDE WASHED OVER ME AS I GRADUATED. THESE MOMENTS WERE BURSTING WITH LAUGHTER AND CELEBRATION, ILLUMINATING MY SPIRIT. HOWEVER, THEY STARKLY CONTRAST WITH THE DEEP HEARTBREAK WE ENDURED DURING THE DEVASTATING TORNADO OUTBREAK ON MARCH 14-15, FOLLOWED BY THE RELENTLESS FLOODS IN SHOALS IN APRIL. THESE CALAMITIES OVERSHADOW OUR LENTEN JOURNEY, BRINGING IT TO A PROBLEMATIC STANDSTILL.

AMIDST THIS WHIRLWIND OF CONTRASTING EXPERIENCES, I ENGAGE IN PROFOUND REFLECTION. THERE IS MUCH TO BE GRATEFUL FOR, EVEN WHEN FACED WITH ADVERSITY. I AM IMMENSELY THANKFUL FOR THIS RESILIENT COMMUNITY; WE HAVE COME TOGETHER IN JOYOUS CELEBRATION AND COLLECTIVE HEALING. CALLING THIS PLACE HOME FILLS MY HEART WITH PRIDE AND APPRECIATION, A COMFORTING ANCHOR IN TURBULENT TIMES.

AS LENT ENCOURAGES DEEPER INTROSPECTION, I RECOGNIZE IT AS A SACRED TIME FOR PROFESSION AND PROTECTION IN OUR DEVOTION TO OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST. HIS ULTIMATE SACRIFICE ON THE CROSS, BEARING THE WEIGHT OF OUR SINS, IS A POWERFUL REMINDER OF LOVE AND HOPE. FAITH REMAINS OUR STEADY ANCHOR THROUGH EVERY HIGH AND LOW, GUIDING US TOWARD RENEWAL AND RESILIENCE.

RENEWAL IS A PROFOUND CONCEPT, ESPECIALLY AS WE APPROACH GOOD FRIDAY, HOLY SATURDAY, AND EASTER SUNDAY. ENDURING 40 DAYS OF LENT CAN BE CHALLENGING FOR MANY, BUT IT TESTS OUR ABILITY TO CHANGE. THE TEMPTATION TO STRAY AWAY FROM SIN CAN LOOM LARGE FOR MANY SINNERS, PARTICULARLY AFTER EXPERIENCING SUCH TRAGEDY.

THIS LENT HAS BEEN PARTICULARLY ROUGH FOR ME, BUT I FEEL A SENSE OF TRANSFORMATION WITH EASTER ON THE HORIZON. I SENSE THAT I AM EMERGING FROM THIS SEASON, JUST LIKE THE REST OF US AS WE RECOVER FROM STORMS, FLOODS, AND TORNADOES, IT CANNOT BE UNDERSTATED THAT THERE HAS BEEN A LOT OF CHANGE, BUT INFUSED WITH A NEW LIGHT WE SEE PURPOSE ON THE HORIZON. PURPOSE IS THE WORD THAT I USE TO DESCRIBE LIFE, AND THE PURSUIT OF CHASING OUR GOALS AFTER THIS LENT AND THROUGH THIS SUMMER. AS THE CELEBRATION OF EASTER APPROACHES, WE CARRY WITH OUR TRUE FAITH, THANK GOD FOR THE HOPE THAT SPRINGS OF ENDURING TRIALS WHILE PRACTICING FAITH AND THE PROMISE OF RENEWAL STARTS TODAY.

X or



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