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YEAR 2 EDITION 29 LOOGOOTE, INDIANA'S TOP NEWSPAPER. WEEKLY EDITION. WEDNESDAY JULY 15, 2026 • FREE

LOOGOOTE CITY BOARDS CONVENE TO ADDRESS INFRASTRUCTURE, PLANNING, AND TIF RESOLUTIONS



On July 13, Loogootee city leaders gathered at City Hall on Monday evening for a series of consecutive public meetings aimed at managing the city's infrastructure development, public works, and long-term economic planning. Three separate local entities—the Redevelopment Commission, the Board of Public Works and Safety, and the Common Council—convened back-to-back inside the City Council Meeting Room at 401 JFK Ave. The municipal block began at 5:00 p.m. with the City

of Loogootee Redevelopment Commission. The commission's new business centered heavily on financial strategies for regional growth, featuring a formal public hearing alongside the introduction of new Tax Increment Financing (TIF) resolutions. Following at 6:00 p.m., the Board of Works opened its session to handle immediate operational concerns. Led by Mayor Brian T. Ader, the board reviewed municipal utility adjustments and received updates through a series of standard department

head reports. Public works initiatives remained the primary focal point of the brief session. The evening concluded with a meeting of the Loogootee Common Council, which commenced at 6:15 p.m. immediately following the Board of Works adjournment. Council President Dave Smith and the elected members addressed a broader legislative agenda that bridged administrative tasks with city planning. Under new business, the council voted on

standard financial claims and revisited public works agenda items forwarded from the prior hour. Most notably, the council reviewed the city's overarching Comprehensive Plan and evaluated a new Pay App submission to handle ongoing project expenditures. All three sessions were broadcast live to the public via the city's official YouTube channel. The specific municipal proposals and approved financial claims will be filed at the Clerk-Treasurer's office for public inspection.

CONVERSATION WITH
MCCF DIRECTOR MRS.
MEGAN HAWKINS (ON
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MARTIN COUNTY
POLICE & EMT
REPORTS PROVIDED
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COUNTY SHERIFF'S
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MID-STATES
CORRIDOR SECTION
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(PAGE 11)

OBITUARIES
WEEKLY OBITUARIES
BROUGHT TO YOU BY
THE BLAKE FUNERAL
HOME (PG. 18)

MEGAN HAWKINS STEPS INTO DIRECTOR ROLE AT MARTIN COUNTY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION



LOOGOOTEE, Ind. — When Megan Hawkins took the stage at Loogootee Summerfest last month, she was introduced to a crowd eager to meet the new director of the Martin County Community Foundation. Hawkins, who succeeded longtime director Kurt Johnson, is approaching her new role with humility, gratitude, and a commitment to listening. “I do have big shoes to fill, and Kurt Johnson and Dan Gregory both have been a huge asset and to help with that transition,” Hawkins said in a recent interview. She credits Johnson’s thorough preparation and the ongoing support of Hope Flores, CEO of the Community Foundation Partnership, for easing her way into the job. “When Kurt had left, he had created this nice size binder with the information needed and almost like a checklist. I know that took a lot of time, and I appreciate his guidance with that.” Hawkins, a Shoals native, is no stranger to Martin County. Her background as an educator and her prior work at the Purdue Extension office have given her deep ties to the community. “I grew up in Shoals, but through different projects and experiences during my lifetime, I definitely am a Martin County resident for sure,” she said. “It’s been great just to meet people and talk about the community foundation, or just get to

know people through conversation.” Her first month on the job has been a whirlwind of introductions, planning, and learning. Hawkins has embraced the opportunity to meet community members face-to-face, even hand-delivering annual dinner invitations. “It’s just been great to meet people,” she said. “Each fund that we have here has a story, and Kurt Johnson and Dan Gregory and the other community foundation directors have helped build those stories. If there’s some that don’t have a story, well, I’ll help create those as well.” Stepping into the public eye at Summerfest was a milestone. Hawkins was introduced by Greg Bateman and, despite the crowd, found herself more at ease on stage than in smaller, more personal interview settings. “I wasn’t nervous at that time,” she said. “I still have a lot of improvement for public speaking, but I didn’t feel too much pressure or maybe a little nerves, but I was able to do that and appreciate the opportunity to introduce myself in front of the Loogootee community.” With regional dynamics shifting across towns like Loogootee, Shoals, and Crane, Hawkins is keenly aware of the need to listen before acting. “That’s going to take time over the next year,” she said. “The community foundation is built by our donors. We can’t do anything... without the people that are currently giving and or setting up to give for future, and that’s going to play a big role.”

Hawkins’s approach is methodical and collaborative. Grant applications are reviewed by committee, and she sees her role as a listener and note-taker, ensuring that community needs are heard and addressed. “Through our open grant cycles, the nonprofits come forward... and they’re requesting needs. So through that, we’re seeing what some of the needs are in the community.” The foundation has already supported initiatives at Crane, a major local employer, and Hawkins sees such collaborations as vital. “Crane has applied for some of our recent grants in through the open grant cycle, and we were excited to be able to fund some of those and be able to support Crane since they are a big aspect in our county.” Transitioning from education to philanthropy wasn’t easy, Hawkins admits, but she finds the mission similar: helping people. “At school it was just primarily helping our students... but here at the Community Foundation, it’s helping all people, whether you’re youth or you’re at the age of being a senior citizen.” Looking ahead, Hawkins wants to focus on raising the foundation’s profile. “I feel like there’s probably a lot of people that still need to know about the community foundation and who we are and how it works and how important our donors are in making it ha

ppen,” she said.

As she settles into her position, Hawkins is grateful for the network of support around her, from the Bedford office to her local colleagues. “There’s been a lot of communication through phone call, email, and it’s just neat to have a group of people that truly care about the foundation,” she said. “All the staff within our organization truly love the mission.”

For Hawkins, the next few months are about listening, learning and storytelling. “These first initial conversations have just been: how are you connected or tied, or what do you know about the community foundation? What do you see as needs in the community?” she said. “Each fund... has a story.”

At the core of her mission is a simple but vital goal: to ensure that Martin County’s legacy of giving and community spirit continues to grow, one story at a time.

Insert

Here’s a 700-word AP-style news story about Megan Hawkins and her new role as director of the Martin County Community Foundation, featuring quotes from your interview and shaping the narrative around her transition, philosophy, and early experiences.

SHOALS SCHOOL BOARD DISCUSSES FACILITY UPGRADES, FEMA SHELTERS, MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT



SHOALS, Ind. — The Shoals Community School Corporation (SCSC) Board convened Friday morning to discuss a sweeping agenda including a proposed \$9 million bond for capital projects, campus security upgrades, student mental health initiatives, and a host of personnel changes as the district prepares for the 2026-27 school year. The meeting, held at the district office, drew a crowd of parents, staff, and community members, many of whom voiced questions and concerns about school finances, safety, and student support. At the center of the meeting was a public hearing on the corporation's preliminary plan to propose issue \$9 million in bonds aimed at a series of building repairs and upgrades. The Shoals School superintendent, addressing the public at the outset, emphasized that the hearing marked the first step in a lengthy legal and public engagement process required by Indiana law for major school construction or lease projects. "Over the past several months, we have been working to create a possible list of building projects," the superintendent said. "These are not set in stone. This is very early in the preliminary process, but the plan is to come back and talk to teachers and staff as well." The bond, if ultimately approved, would fund repairs to exterior maintenance, improved security at both

the high school and elementary entrances, renovations to the high school technology and trades education wing, upgrades to the culinary and industrial arts areas, media center improvements, expanded STEM and early college space, ADA-compliant restroom renovations, and new floors in the multipurpose room. HVAC upgrades and other infrastructure improvements are also included in the initial proposal. "These are some of the pieces we are looking at," the superintendent explained. "Some of the grout between on some of the brick walls is coming loose, so we need to repair that. We're also looking at high school secured entrance, elementary school security, and renovations for several educational spaces." School board members and administrators fielded several pointed questions from the public about the district's debt service and the impact of the new bond on property taxes. Board member Ethan clarified that a recent increase in property taxes was primarily due to a short-term bond with a rapid payoff, which was necessary to "front-load" funding for coming projects. "That has set our debt service rate to the point that when we borrow this money, your tax rate won't be affected," he said. "The additional amount that we're borrowing here will not affect your taxes anymore." The Superintendent added, "These numbers are conservative in nature. We are not taking any legal action tonight. These numbers

are for information only. The next tax increase over 2026 debt service funds is zero."

Some residents expressed concern about transparency around the process. Steve Sorrels, a local resident, asked whether meeting agendas could be posted more consistently on the school corporation's website. The board acknowledged the request and committed to improving communication. The superintendent presented a detailed report on the district's various funds, including the education, operations, debt service, and rainy day funds. The education fund, primarily used for teacher salaries and classroom expenses, is "based on enrollment and funded mostly by state tuition support." "Our operations fund is used for facilities, maintenance, transportation, utilities, and technology," the superintendent said. "It's funded through local property tax, and it is constrained by some tax gaps." The superintendent was candid about budget challenges, noting, "We've used almost 51% of our appropriations. This is one of the funds that we've talked about that we are overspending, and we have been very transparent about that." A recent transfer of nearly \$30,000 from the rainy day fund to support cafeteria operations was highlighted. "Every kid here gets a free

breakfast and a free lunch," the superintendent said. "We only get 80% return on that food. So, being a CEP [Community Eligibility Provision] school, this is actually really good. Amy Money has done a great job of conserving, but we will always spend approximately \$30,000."

During public comment, a resident asked whether SCSC had compared its salary and operations budgets with similar-sized districts such as Loogootee. The superintendent replied, "A lot of the budgets we really look at is the basic fund grants, which is the education budget, and we do look at them because it's based on enrollment," adding, "I'm pretty new to that, but I am learning what I can defend."

The meeting also addressed ongoing teacher vacancies, particularly in areas such as band, engineering, construction trades, and welding. The superintendent explained, "We have some special ed teacher assistant positions open in the elementary, but we're building quite a few. If anybody knows a speech pathologist, we would love to have an in-person speech pathologist."

A discussion followed about requirements for career and technical education instructors. "Our goal is that in every area of our CTE, our teachers will be able to teach something that will give our kids a credential of value," the superintendent said. "If they can get that when they leave here, it's going to give those kids a leg up when they go to apply for a job."

An Elementary principal and middle school principal, Miss Hubank, reported on summer professional development, curriculum mapping, and student achievements, including several students placing in national Beta Club competitions and the Catfish Festival.

A major topic was the introduction of "Team Peace," a trauma-informed, neuroscience-based program designed to help teachers and students better navigate stress, anxiety, and emotional health. The board celebrated the award of a \$14,500 grant to support the initiative.

Kara Schmidt, executive director and founder of Team Peace, addressed the board: "Pretty much every educator that I talk to, and I've talked to a lot of them because we've been in schools a lot over the last seven years, they tell me the same thing: that students are carrying more stress, anxiety, emotional dysregulation, and trauma than ever before. The question is how do we do it and provide it in a way that is practical and sustainable and supports teachers and students, instead of just adding one more thing to teachers' plates." Team Peace will provide training, lesson plans, and videos for staff and students, aiming to build skills in emotional regulation and resilience. "We teach them why their brains and bodies respond the way that they do," Schmidt said. "When we learn these simple skills to regulate our bodies and emotions, we're just better able to focus, to solve problems, to collaborate, and to learn."

A lengthy series of personnel actions was approved, including resignations of teachers and coaches, contract updates, new hires for both certified and non-certified positions, and substitute approvals for the coming school year. The board also approved public meeting protocols, revisions to the middle school handbook, and an application for free and reduced-price lunch eligibility. The board discussed the district's involvement in the Cosmos strategic planning partnership with regional schools and organizations, aiming to "move from a collection of programs to a more aligned, sustainable system to meet the needs of our workforce."

A recurring theme throughout the meeting was the ongoing challenge of finalizing an operations plan for the district's newly completed FEMA-funded tornado shelter. Several residents expressed concern about access to the shelter during severe weather outside school hours.

The board acknowledged the complexity: "Right now, the only way to get into those FEMA shelters is with a lock, a door key. Some of them have one. We have not fully completed that volunteer team, but more importantly, I have contacted Andy, our EMA director, to try to help us determine or figure out how we can create or obtain an automated system."

Board members agreed that automation and coordination with emergency management authorities are key. "We don't want someone on the road trying to get out here to unlock a door. That's the scary part," the superintendent said.

Looking ahead, the board concluded the meeting by approving claims and setting the next meeting for August 13. The board president thanked community members for their engagement: "Thanks, everybody, for coming out and for the questions."

As SCSC heads into the new school year, the district faces crucial decisions on facility upgrades, fiscal stewardship, student and staff well-being, and community engagement. The July board meeting underscored the complexity—and community interest—in getting those decisions right.

CANNELBURG FIRE DEPARTMENT TESTS NEW LOCALLY MADE FLOATING STRAINER FOR RURAL WATER ACCESS



CANNELBURG, Ind. — The Cannelburg Fire Department is expanding its firefighting capabilities through a new partnership with a local business, testing equipment that will allow crews to draw water from natural sources during emergencies.

Firefighters gathered Tuesday night to field-test a newly acquired floating strainer, a specialized device designed to draft water from shallow or untraditional water sources. The equipment was custom-built by a local welding shop, marking a collaborative effort to enhance community safety.

According to department officials, the tool will significantly alter how the volunteer agency combats fires in rural areas lacking municipal hydrant systems.

"This will allow us to use ponds, streams, and other similar water sources for our water supply," the department said in a statement.

During the Tuesday night exercise, members deployed the strainer into a local water source to test its functionality and flow rate. Department officials reported the trial was an overwhelming success, noting that the fabricated equipment "works wonderfully" under operational conditions.

In rural firefighting, securing a continuous water supply is often the most challenging aspect of a firefight. Standard fire engines carry a limited amount of water, meaning crews must rely on either a network of tanker trucks hauling water from the nearest hydrant or "drafting" water directly from the environment.

Traditional strainers can easily become clogged with mud, leaves, or debris if they sink to the bottom of a pond or creek bed. The floating design ensures the intake remains just below the surface, pulling clean water while avoiding suction loss. The successful test means the Cannelburg Fire Department will immediately integrate the floating strainer into its active response inventory, providing a vital resource for the rural community moving forward.

RSVP OF DAVIESS AND MARTIN COUNTIES LAUNCHES FREE TECH TUESDAY EDUCATION SERIES

WASHINGTON, Ind. — The Retired Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) of Daviess & Martin Counties has announced the launch of a new community education initiative, "Tech Tuesday," designed to help local residents navigate modern technology.

The inaugural session, titled "Learn. Save. Stay Safe.," will take place at 2 p.m. on Tuesday, July 21, at the Community Building at Eastside Park, located at 501 Burkhart Drive in Washington. The educational event is free and open to the public, with no pre-registration required. The July program will feature the INTELECYN team from RTC Communications, who will lead presentations on practical, everyday technology topics affecting local households. The curriculum focuses heavily on maximizing cost savings and digital security.

Key topics scheduled for the session include analyzing how digital streaming services can reduce monthly entertainment costs compared to traditional cable packages. Representatives will also discuss the practical advantages of fiber internet, focusing on its reliability, speed, and capability to support smart home technology.

Additionally, a significant portion of the presentation will cover crucial internet safety protocols. Attendees will learn techniques to identify online scams, protect sensitive personal information, and browse the web more securely.

While organizers developed the "Tech Tuesday" series with older adult volunteers in mind, community members of all ages are encouraged to attend. The series aligns with RSVP's ongoing mission to provide lifelong learning opportunities that foster independence and community engagement.

For more information regarding the upcoming event or future technology sessions, residents can contact the RSVP of Daviess & Martin Counties at 812-254-1996 or visit the organization's official website at www.rsvpvolunteercenter.org.

INDIANA GATORS FISHER 10U SOFTBALL TEAM HOSTS TRYOUTS IN LOOGOOTEE

LOOGOOTEE, Ind. — The Indiana Gators Fisher 10U travel softball team is hosting open tryouts this week for its upcoming season, offering young local athletes a chance to compete at a highly organized regional level.

The evaluation sessions are split across two dates to accommodate prospective players. The first tryout block took place on Sunday, July 12, from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. A second, final evaluation window is scheduled for Wednesday evening, July 15, from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Coaches have structured the sessions to dedicate specific time for specialized positions. According to team organizers, pitchers and catchers will be evaluated exclusively during the final 30 minutes of each designated time block.

All tryout sessions are being held at the Lions Baseball and Softball Complex, located at 201 Brooks Ave. on Field 1.

The Indiana Gators organization focuses on developing fundamental skills, sportsmanship, and competitive drive in young athletes. The Fisher 10U division represents a crucial developmental tier for players looking to transition into rigorous travel softball schedules.

Prospective players are encouraged to arrive early to register and warm up prior to the formal evaluation windows. Attendees should bring standard softball gear, including gloves, helmets, bats, and appropriate footwear for dirt and grass fields. Families seeking additional information regarding team commitments, seasonal schedules, or specific tryout requirements are directed to contact the coaching staff. Inquiries can be made directly to Coach Barrett Fisher at (812) 598-8480 or Ashly Fisher at (812) 345-3398.

LOOGOOTEE 12U BASEBALL TEAM CAPTURES WASHINGTON TOURNAMENT CHAMPIONSHIP

WASHINGTON, Ind. — The Loogootee 12U baseball team secured a dominant tournament championship this weekend, stringing together three consecutive victories to claim the top spot at the Washington Tournament.

The youth squad put on an impressive offensive display throughout the event, culminating in a decisive championship run on Sunday. The team secured the tournament title by defeating three regional opponents back-to-back, showcasing both depth on the mound and power at the plate.

Loogootee opened its tournament run with a commanding performance against Huntingburg, routing the opposition in a 14-5 victory. The explosive offensive momentum carried directly into the second matchup of the weekend against a local rival. Facing off against Barr-Reeve, the Loogootee lineup maintained its discipline while the pitching staff stifled opposing hitters, resulting in a comfortable 9-2 win.

The team capped off the weekend by securing the championship trophy in a high-scoring finale against Forest Park. Loogootee outlasted the Forest Park lineup in a 13-7 slugfest to officially clinch the tournament title. Over the course of the three-game stretch, the local team outscored its opponents by a combined total of 36-14.

Team officials and local supporters extended formal congratulations to all of the players and the coaching staff following the final victory. The tournament win highlights the ongoing development and competitive success of youth baseball programs in the southern Indiana area.

Roster details, upcoming regular-season schedules, and future tournament placements for the 12U squad will be managed through the local youth baseball league organizers as the summer season progresses.

Gators

INDIANA

INDIANA GATORS FISHER 10U TRYOUTS

SUNDAY, JULY 12TH 3-5PM
WEDNESDAY, JULY 15TH 6-8PM

PITCHERS AND CATCHERS ONLY FOR THE LAST 30
MINUTES OF TIMES LISTED

LIONS BASEBALL AND SOFTBALL COMPLEX
FIELD 1
201 BROOKS AVE
LOOGOOTEE, IN 47553

COACH: BARRETT FISHER (812) 598.8480
ASHLY FISHER (812) 345.3398





LOOGOOTEE SCHOOLS PARTNER WITH THE MVMT INSTITUTE FOR SUMMER STRENGTH AND CONDITIONING SESSIONS

LOOGOOTEE, Ind. — Local high school athletes are continuing their off-season athletic preparation this week through a structured summer conditioning program hosted at Loogootee schools.

The athletic department released its training schedule for the week of July 13th, detailing an ongoing partnership with The MVMT Institute. The program is designed to provide high school students with specialized movement training and weightlifting instruction to build strength, improve flexibility, and reduce the risk of injury ahead of the upcoming fall sports seasons.

According to the published schedule, the high school movement and weights sessions are split across three designated days this week. The training block commenced on Monday, July 13th, and continues with a mid-week session today, Wednesday, July 15th. The final conditioning block for the weekly cycle is scheduled to take place tomorrow, Thursday, July 16th.

To maintain consistency for the participating student-athletes, all three scheduled training days utilize an identical time frame. The high school sessions run for exactly one hour, beginning at 3:30 p.m. and concluding at 4:30 p.m.

All training activities are centrally located on the school campus, taking place inside the Activity Center facility. The indoor venue provides the student-athletes and coaches with direct access to weightlifting platforms, resistance equipment, and open turf space required to execute the institute's specialized movement curriculum.

Athletic directors emphasize that consistent participation in off-season conditioning programs plays a critical role in team preparation and individual player development.

Parents, guardians, and student-athletes looking for updates regarding potential scheduling adjustments, weather notices, or upcoming training blocks can monitor the athletic department's digital platforms. Complete details are regularly updated online at loogooteesports.com, and daily announcements are broadcasted via social media on Instagram at [@loogooteesports](https://www.instagram.com/loogooteesports).

MARTIN COUNTY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION ANNOUNCES JULY 31 GRANT APPLICATION DEADLINE

LOOGOOTEE, Ind. — Local non-profit organizations, schools, and government agencies have until the end of the month to submit funding proposals for the next active review cycle, according to an announcement from the Martin County Community Foundation.

The organization is issuing a call for area non-profits to submit their formal grant applications for pending community initiatives. The upcoming evaluation deadline is set for Friday, July 31, 2026.

While the foundation maintains an open submission policy that allows organizations to upload applications year-round, proposals must be finalized and submitted before the quarterly cutoff to be considered in the impending round of allocations. Administrators confirmed that all digital files will be formally pulled from the online portal on July 31 for immediate board evaluation.

The grant program is structured to fund local projects that align with the community development theme, "Charting a Course for Martin County." Eligible entities serving the county can utilize the funds to execute programs that address critical community needs, improve regional public infrastructure, or expand public services.

The rolling review protocol splits applications into multiple operational windows throughout the fiscal year. Following the July cycle, remaining distribution reviews are scheduled to take place at designated seasonal intervals.

Area organizers and administrators can access the official online grant application portal, complete eligibility questionnaires, and view specialized training videos directly through the foundation's dedicated regional resource page at WASHINGTON, Ind. — The Loogootee 12U baseball team secured a dominant tournament championship this weekend, stringing together three consecutive victories to claim the top spot at the Washington Tournament.

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. The foundation encourages applicants to review all guidelines before final submission to ensure conformity with local funding bylaws.

SMALL TOWN SIPS LAUNCHES 'LET'S SUPPORT OUR TEACHERS' CLASSROOM SUPPLY DRIVE

LOOGOOTEE, Ind. — A local beverage business has launched a community-driven initiative aimed at fulfilling the classroom needs of area educators ahead of the upcoming school year. Small Town Sips announced the start of its "Let's Support Our Teachers" campaign, leveraging social media to directly connect local educators with community members who want to donate supplies. The drive is built around the philosophy that teachers shape the future, making the support of their classrooms a collective community responsibility.

The campaign utilizes a simple, interactive digital format to coordinate the donations. Local teachers and school staff are being asked to find the promotional post on the business's social media page and drop links to their specific classroom wishlists directly into the comment section.

Once the wishlists are posted, community members are encouraged to review the comments, select a classroom, and purchase items to help fulfill the requests. Organizers state the goal is to "bless a classroom" by removing the financial burden often placed on educators, who frequently pay for supplemental school supplies out of their own pockets.

"Our teachers. Our community. Our future," the campaign promotional material reads, emphasizing the local impact of the initiative. "Let's show our teachers some love!"

Small Town Sips expressed immediate gratitude to the patrons and residents who have already begun participating in the drive, issuing a formal "thank you" for supporting local educators. Area teachers are encouraged to share their wishlists as soon as possible to maximize visibility before the back-to-school shopping season concludes. Community members looking to fulfill a list can visit the Small Town Sips social media pages to view current classroom requests.

COMMUNITY CENTER INVITES RESIDENTS TO JULY 23 POTLUCK LUNCH AND BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION



LOOGOOTEE, Ind. — Local residents and community center members are invited to gather for a day of food, fellowship, and celebration later this month.

The Center is hosting a community potluck lunch on Thursday, July 23, with the event scheduled to begin at 11:30 a.m.. Organizers are encouraging area individuals to join the gathering for what promises to be a great meal and an excellent opportunity for socializing with friends.

To help coordinate the logistics of the event, organizers ask that participants stop by the Center ahead of time to formally sign up for the luncheon. The advance registration ensures an accurate headcount for the main courses, seating arrangements, and provided amenities.

The event features a coordinated menu where the Center will provide several staple items for the crowd. Fried chicken will serve as the main entrée, and the Center will also supply all drinks and full table service for the attendees.

In addition to the shared meal, the gathering will double as a monthly celebration. A special birthday cake will be served to honor all Center members who are celebrating their birthdays during the month of July.

While the Center is providing the primary components of the luncheon, attendees traditionally bring complementary side dishes, salads, or desserts to share with the group, creating a diverse, community-style spread. The promotional materials for the gathering emphasize a welcoming atmosphere, noting that "good food" and "great company" are the core focuses of the day, and explicitly stating that all are welcome to attend.

For more information regarding the upcoming potluck, to check on recommended side dishes, or to sign up for the July 23 event, individuals can visit the Center's main office.

BURTON REACTS TO IURC ENERGY AFFORDABILITY REPORT RELEASE

INDIANAPOLIS – State Rep. Alex Burton (D-Evansville), a member of the House Committee on Utilities, Energy and Telecommunications, released the following statement in response to the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission publishing its [IURC Energy Affordability Report](#) this morning:

"Hoosier households cannot wait for another legislative session holding our breath and keep our fingers crossed for potential actions. There needs to be swift, yet responsible actions that directly relieve wallets and pocketbooks now. The Braun administration says that it wants to lower utility costs. It's time for the rubber to meet the road.

"We're in a moment that must be met with more than words, plans or promises. For nearly a year, Hoosiers have been consistently vocal in advocating for energy relief, but very little has been done to put ratepayers first. This time around, Hoosiers are refusing to be lulled and distracted away from addressing our energy cost burden. This inequity has festered long enough.

"My aim and focus are on delivering responsible policies for Hoosiers that directly lead to more money in wallets and pocketbooks. I was encouraged to see some of my proposals and suggestions included on the list of action items. We must get there and I will continue to do all I can to improve outcomes for households. Specifically, Southwest Indiana has been overburdened for more than a decade. This remains an urgent matter. Hoosiers are ready for the state to deliver affordable energy to Hoosier households, maintain a strong (and reliable) grid and responsibly bring all forms of energy online."

MARTIN STATE FOREST SEEKS INTERMITTENT CLERK FOR SHOALS PROPERTY OFFICE

SHOALS, Ind. — The Indiana Department of Natural Resources is hiring a Seasonal Natural Resources Worker to serve as an intermittent clerk at Martin State Forest. The position offers local job seekers an opportunity to support public land management while launching a potential career with the State of Indiana. The state posted the opening under Requisition ID 471155. Duties for the clerical role include managing inventory, stocking supplies, compiling reports, budgeting, and performing other administrative tasks to support the property office and existing staff.

Hourly wages for seasonal state employment vary, starting at \$12.25 per hour. The position does not offer state benefits and is strictly limited to 180 working days within an 11-month continuous period. Candidates must possess a high school diploma, a GED, or at least one year of work experience to qualify. Applicants must also be prepared to work flexible schedules, including afternoons, evenings, weekends, and holidays. The role may require wearing a state-provided uniform, traveling to different state properties, or maintaining a valid driver's license. While primarily an office-based role, seasonal workers must be comfortable occasionally working around heavy equipment or in varying weather conditions.

Established in 1932 with just 1,205 acres, Martin State Forest has expanded to 7,863 acres of restored, healthy woodland. The property features camping, fishing, hiking, and hunting, and sits adjacent to the Hoosier Woodland Arboretum. Interested applicants living in the Shoals area can learn more by contacting the Martin State Forest office directly at 812-247-3491. Digital applications are being accepted online through the state's hiring portal at LOOGOOTEE, Ind. — The Loogootee Public Library has finalized arrangements for its upcoming youth activity program, launching a creative community event designed to encourage teamwork and interactive problem-solving among local children.

The special event, titled "Save Spike," will take place on Thursday, July 9. The library's main programming room will host the interactive mission during normal operational hours, running from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

The story-driven event centers around a playful adventure scenario where participants must work together to complete tasks to help a cartoon dinosaur character named Spike the Stegosaurus navigate a journey across the ocean. Organizers have tailored the nautical-themed dinosaur mystery specifically for young readers and student groups, incorporating age-appropriate logic puzzles and literacy skills into the overarching mission itinerary.

Library staff are encouraging local parents and child care providers to enroll children ahead of time to ensure adequate materials are available for all participants throughout the day. The facility has introduced multiple accessible methods for families to secure entry slots.

Interested participants can complete their enrollment digitally by scanning the quick-response code provided on the official event announcement. Alternatively, families can coordinate registration forms or make specific logistical inquiries by contacting the library's main administrative office directly at 812-295-3713.

The interactive initiative is part of the library's ongoing commitment to providing structured, educational entertainment options for area families during the summer season. Organizers expect a strong turnout for the day-long event, noting that the program provides an excellent opportunity to keep young minds active and engaged within a supportive, community-centered environment. . The State of Indiana operates as an equal opportunity employer.

MARTIN COUNTY ALLIANCE TO HOST FREE GRANT WRITING WORKSHOP IN AUGUST

LOOGOOTEE, Ind. — The Martin County Alliance for Economic Growth has announced its upcoming August "Lunch & Learn" event, featuring a specialized workshop designed to assist local businesses and civic organizations with navigating the complexities of funding procurement.

The professional development seminar, structured as a Grant Writing Workshop, is scheduled for Wednesday, August 12, 2026. The hour-long session will run from 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. at Bowling Manufacturing, located at 99 W. Washington St. in Loogootee. Admission to the networking and educational gathering is completely free to the public, and a complimentary lunch will be provided to all registered attendees.

The workshop features Bridget Anderson, the Indiana director for Patronicity, as the guest presenter. Anderson will lead the instructional session, sharing industry tips, strategies, and practical frameworks intended to streamline the grant application process. The curriculum is tailored to help both independent small business owners and non-profit administrators identify available funding pipelines, structure compelling narratives, and ultimately make the writing process significantly easier and more effective.

Alliance coordinators are encouraging local entrepreneurs, community organizers, and regional development stakeholders to attend the midday session. Because a catered lunch is included in the program, advanced registration is required to ensure an accurate headcount for the facility space and seating arrangements.

Area residents who wish to secure a seat, submit an RSVP, or obtain additional logistical details regarding the event can get in touch with the economic development agency directly. Inquiries can be made by calling the administrative office at 812-295-4800 or by sending an electronic mail request to assistant@martinalliance.org.



AUGUST LUNCH & LEARN

Grant Writing Workshop

Join us at Bowling Manufacturing to learn tips and tricks to make grant writing for your business or organization much easier!

Free Event! Lunch Provided



FEATURED PRESENTER:

Bridget Anderson
Indiana Director
Patronicity



WEDNESDAY
August 12th, 2026



FROM
12:00 PM- 1:00 PM



Bowling Manufacturing: 99 W
Washington St. Loogootee IN



Questions or to RSVP:
(812)-295-4800
assistant@martinalliance.org

UPLANDS REGIONAL LAND BANK ANNOUNCES NEW CONSTRUCTION HOME COMING TO SHOALS

SHOALS, Ind. — A new affordable housing option will soon be available in Martin County as the Uplands Regional Land Bank prepares to bring a newly constructed single-family home to the market.

The residential property, located at 310 Maple St. in Shoals, is currently under construction and is scheduled for completion in early fall. The initiative aims to provide high-quality housing options for individuals and families looking to put down roots in the southern Indiana region.

According to specifications released by the land bank, the modern, ranch-style home spans 1,291 square feet. The floor plan features a three-bedroom, two-bathroom layout designed to maximize space and functionality. Architectural renderings indicate the property will also include an attached garage, a covered front entryway, and a contemporary dark siding package with classic white trim.

While construction remains underway, officials noted that the final listing price for the property has not yet been set. The purchase price will be officially determined upon the structural completion of the building later this year.

The project is spearheaded by the Uplands Regional Land Bank, an organization dedicated to addressing housing needs, restoring properties, and fostering community development across regional neighborhoods. By managing the development of vacant or underutilized parcels, the land bank works to strengthen local tax bases and expand residential opportunities.

Prospective homebuyers, real estate professionals, and interested community members are encouraged to monitor local listings and the land bank's official portal as the project nears its autumn completion. Detailed property tracking and future availability updates can be viewed online through the regional land bank public access site at LOOGOOTEE, Ind. — Applications have officially opened for the 2026-2027 cohort of Legacy – Martin County Leadership, a professional development initiative designed to cultivate civic engagement and strengthen local leadership networks. Refer to the accompanying graphic detailing this program below.

The dynamic training curriculum is structured to accommodate both emerging and established leaders, including business professionals, nonprofit organizers, educators, public servants, and community volunteers. Organizers emphasized that the initiative provides a comprehensive framework to enhance personal leadership abilities while connecting participants who share a passion for the long-term trajectory of Martin County.

The interactive program spans a multi-month schedule, running from October 2026 through April 2027. According to the published enrollment guidelines, participants will meet for one full seminar day per month, with instructional sessions scheduled on Fridays from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Tuition for the upcoming civic leadership cycle is set at \$350 per person to cover material and operational expenses. Throughout the program, members of the cohort will explore a diverse range of class topics structured around local infrastructure and professional development. The syllabus includes a foundational overview of Martin County, local government fundamentals, and communicative strategies for leading locally. Additional modules will cover conflict resolution, community planning, economic growth, and workforce development, culminating in hands-on civic projects and a formal graduation ceremony.

Organizers noted that enrollment space in the upcoming leadership class remains strictly limited to maintain small-group dynamics and optimize peer networking. Interested individuals who wish to grow professionally while contributing a tangible impact to the county are encouraged to apply early. The formal submission portal can be accessed online via the Southern Indiana Development Commission formstack database.

LOOGOOTEE FIRE DEPARTMENT TO HOST 5TH ANNUAL FIRE RUN THIS JULY

LOOGOOTEE, Ind. — The Loogootee Fire Department has announced the return of its annual summer community fundraiser, bringing local motorists and residents together for a day of food and entertainment.

The 5th Annual Fire Run, presented by the fire department's Ladies Auxiliary, is officially scheduled for Saturday, July 25, 2026. According to a promotional flyer released for the event, identified as image_1a83da.jpg, the day's activities will be centered at the Southside Fire Station, located at 417 Heritage Hill Street in Loogootee.

The event kicks off bright and early with registration opening at 8:00 a.m. Simultaneously, volunteers will host a pancake and sausage breakfast from 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. to welcome attendees. For participants hitting the road and spectators staying behind, lunch, refreshments, and various prize giveaways will be served throughout the remainder of the day.

While the run itself spotlights a variety of vehicles—with image_1a83da.jpg showcasing illustrated classic trucks, Jeeps, and motorcycles on the road—the overarching goal remains local community support. Organizers emphasize that all proceeds directly benefit the fire department's continuous efforts to protect and serve the region.

Community members planning to participate in the run are encouraged to secure their spots early. Pre-registration is currently open online at the department's official website, www.loogooteefire.org. Alternatively, individuals can scan the QR code located on the event's promotional materials to access the sign-up form directly. Additional inquiries regarding the run, volunteering, or donation opportunities can be processed through the department's online portal.

LOOGOOTEE YOUNG DEMOCRATS GROUP TO MEET ON JULY 30 AT CITY HALL

LOOGOOTEE, Ind. — Municipal officials are inviting residents to take an active role in local government by attending the upcoming community public meeting scheduled for late July at City Hall.

The gathering is slated for Thursday, July 30, with proceedings officially calling to order at 5:30 p.m. The session will be hosted inside the main council chambers at Loogootee City Hall, located at 200 West Main Street.

Organizers emphasized that the meeting is open to all members of the general public, business owners, and regional stakeholders who are interested in getting involved in civic matters and making their voices heard on local issues. The forum is designed to provide an accessible platform for community members to review ongoing municipal projects, discuss neighborhood developments, and interact directly with elected city representatives and department heads.

An agenda detailing specific discussion topics, ordinance readings, and dedicated public comment windows will be made available at the administrative offices prior to the session. City administrators encourage robust attendance, noting that direct resident input is vital for shaping municipal policy and directing future community development initiatives.

VINCENNES HOSTS 21ST ANNUAL RED SKELTON FESTIVAL AND PARADE THIS WEEKEND

VINCENNES, Ind. — The Red Skelton Museum Foundation will host the 21st Annual Red Skelton Festival and Parade this weekend, combining a celebration of the legendary comedian's legacy with a patriotic tribute to America's upcoming semiquincentennial.

The two-day community festival, themed "Celebrate America's 250th with Red!", is scheduled for Friday, July 17, and Saturday, July 18. Attendees can purchase a souvenir festival button, which grants free admission to the museum on both days.

Festivities kick off Friday at 5 p.m. with the "Red Skelton Sites Tour" led by Doug Carroll, visiting local landmarks tied to the entertainer's life, birthplace, and inspiration. Friday's schedule also features a 6 p.m. presentation on Red Skelton's Pledge of Allegiance and patriotism, followed by "Jazz on the Grass" with Wade Baker at 6:30 p.m., and a "Night at the Museum" interactive event at 7:30 p.m.

Saturday's itinerary opens with an additional historical sites tour at 9:30 a.m., followed by the signature Red Skelton Shrine and Clown Parade, which moves down Main Street in downtown Vincennes at 11 p.m.

After the parade, programming shifts back toward the museum, starting with the 12:30 p.m. talk "Holy Clown Prince!" by Mark Kratzer, celebrating the 60th anniversary of the Batman television show by highlighting the legendary villains who guest-starred with Red Skelton. Saturday afternoon options include another sites tour at 2 p.m., a presentation on a proposed Japanese Garden at 3:30 p.m., a special "Dinner with Mrs. Skelton" at 5:30 p.m., and a Red Skelton Tribute Show featuring Brian Hoffman at 7 p.m. Free classic film screenings will also run in the REDucation Room throughout Saturday.

Certain events require a separate ticket cost and advance registration. For complete festival registration or event inquiries, residents can call 812-888-4184 or visit RedSkeltonMuseum.org.

KNOX COUNTY FAIR RETURNS TO BICKNELL FEATURING NEW CARNIVAL AND TICKET DISCOUNTS

BICKNELL, Ind. — Regional organizers are finalizing preparations for the annual Knox County Fair, introducing a brand-new amusement partner and early-bird ticketing discounts for this year's summer festivities.

The fair is scheduled to run from July 27 through August 1 in Bicknell. While the fairgrounds open on Monday, the highly anticipated carnival rides and midway attractions will officially operate from Tuesday, July 28, through Saturday, August 1.

Fair officials announced they are partnering with Luehrs Ideal Rides as the event's new carnival company. The midway will feature a completely updated lineup of attractions, including high-speed rides for thrill-seekers, family-friendly options, and specialized rides designed for young children. To help families manage attendance costs, organizers have launched a presale discount program for carnival rides. Attendees can purchase presale ride vouchers online for \$20, offering a \$10 savings compared to the \$30 price at the fair gates. The discounted vouchers are currently available through the official portal at LOOGOOTEE, Ind. — The Martin County 4-H Fair has finalized the event schedule for its annual Baby Show, which is set to return to the local fairgrounds this month.

The family-oriented competition will take place on Sunday, July 12, 2026. According to the event itinerary, the showcase is scheduled to begin at 4:30 p.m. at the Martin County 4-H Fairgrounds, serving as a prominent afternoon attraction during the fair's multi-day summer run.

The contest is organized into four distinct age divisions to accommodate infants and toddlers up to two years old. The entry groups are split into categories for infants aged 0 to 6 months, 7 to 12 months, 13 to 18 months, and 19 to 24 months. Judges will evaluate the young participants within their respective brackets, awarding special prizes across three distinct categories: Best Dressed, Cutest, and Happiest.

Fair officials have structured the entry process to maximize convenience for participating families. There is no requirement for advance mail-in applications or digital pre-registration; instead, parents and guardians can register their children entirely on-site on the day of the event.

The entry fee to participate in the competition is \$10 per child. The event features a patriotic theme, decorated with red, white, and blue imagery, balloons, and fireworks iconography, reflecting the mid-summer holiday season. Community members seeking additional details regarding the competition rules, judging criteria, or specific facility locations within the fairgrounds can reach out to event management directly. Inquiries can be directed to coordinator Jenny Hembree, who can be reached via phone at 812-631-0231. Additional scheduling information for concurrent 4-H exhibitions and grandstand events will be available at the main gate throughout the fair week.

In addition to the updated midway, the weeklong community celebration will feature a traditional lineup of agricultural and entertainment programming. The event showcases award-winning 4-H livestock competitions and static youth exhibits, alongside classic fair food vendors and nightly entertainment. The grandstand arena will host a series of action-packed events throughout the week.

Organizers are marketing the fair as a primary summer destination for the broader southwestern Indiana region, drawing visitors from surrounding communities including Vincennes, Washington, Jasper, Terre Haute, Sullivan, Linton, and Princeton.

Gate details, daily grandstand schedules, and specific arena event times will be released by the fair board as the opening date approaches.

LOOGOOTEE TACO BELL LAUNCHES RECRUITMENT DRIVE OFFERING DAILY PAY AND IMMEDIATE HIRING

LOOGOOTEE, Ind. — The local Taco Bell franchise has launched a major recruitment initiative, opening up applications for multiple positions across all operational shifts to bolster its restaurant team.

The fast-food establishment, located at 704 W. Broadway St. in Loogootee, is seeking area applicants for its new hiring push. To attract candidates in a competitive employment market, the restaurant is advertising a modern flexible compensation structure, highlighting the availability of a "Daily Pay" option that allows team members to access their earned wages more rapidly.

According to promotional recruitment materials, the franchise is offering competitive compensation alongside a comprehensive list of corporate perks. Employment benefits for the available positions include access to health and medical benefits packages, scholarship opportunities for qualifying student employees, and clear internal advancement programs designed to transition hourly crew members into management tracks.

Additionally, the establishment is offering immediate on-the-job incentives, including free tacos and complimentary meals provided to employees during their scheduled shifts. The hiring coordinators emphasized that the restaurant operates as a fast-paced, fun environment built around "great people, great vibes, and great tacos."

The open positions feature flexible scheduling arrangements, allowing the restaurant to accommodate applicants seeking full-time careers or part-time shifts around existing personal schedules.

Local job seekers can utilize a simplified text-to-apply mobile system to begin the application protocol immediately. Interested applicants are instructed to text the keyword "TACO" to 35966 to receive a digital application link and connect directly with the hiring team at the Loogootee location. Candidates can also visit the restaurant property during normal operating hours to request further hiring details.

KIWANIS INDIANA BALLOON FEST 2026 RETURNS TO WEST BOGGS PARK

LOOGOOTEE, Ind. — Hot air balloons will soon fill the skies over southern Indiana as the Kiwanis Indiana Balloon Fest returns late this summer. The regional event is scheduled to take place Friday, Aug. 28 and Saturday, Aug. 29, 2026, at West Boggs Park, located at 16117 US-231 in Loogootee.

According to a promotional flyer released for the event, identified as image_19881c.jpg, this year's festival will feature an array of traditional hot air balloons along with several unique special shapes. Visuals from the flyer highlight large, whimsical character balloons styled after a gray elephant, Tweety Bird, and Sylvester the Cat.

Beyond the main aerial attractions, the two-day festival promises a wide variety of ground-level entertainment for visitors of all ages. Family-friendly activities listed include pony rides, a trackless train, a bungee trampoline, live entertainment, and interactive robotics demonstrations. For automotive and sports enthusiasts, the weekend lineup boasts a Jeep Show & Shine, a professional woodcarver exhibition, and a "Golf Scramble for Riley" charity event.

The festival will also host two distinct novelty activities: the Wilkes Concessions Adult Fun Egg Hunt and the Maelyn Wilkes Youth Fun Egg Hunt. A diverse selection of food and commercial vendors will be stationed throughout the park grounds, and a fireworks display is scheduled to cap off the weekend's festivities. Visit Daviess County is serving as the presenting sponsor for the event. Additional corporate and community support is provided by IU Health, Loughmiller Machine Tool & Design, Wagler Pyrotechnics LLC, Murphy Truss LLC, IU Credit Union, Propane Direct Inc., and Old National Bank.

Organizers encourage the public to follow the official Facebook page at @Kiwanis Indiana Balloon Fest for direct ticket links, scheduling updates, and weather-related announcements.

THIS AD SPACE COULD BE YOURS!

CONTACT US AT (812) 361-8635 FOR MORE INFORMATION

LOOGOOTEE SCHOOL BOARD CANDIDATE TOMMY FLYNN CENTERS ON POTENTIAL FOUR-DAY SCHOOL WEEK DEBATE

SHOULD LOOGOOTEE SCHOOLS CONSIDER A FOUR-DAY SCHOOL WEEK?
A New Option Under Indiana Law

TRADITIONAL 5-DAY WEEK
MON TUE WED THU FRI
✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓

VS.

FOUR-DAY WEEK
MON TUE WED THU FRI
✓ ✓ ✓ ✓

SAME INSTRUCTIONAL HOURS. DIFFERENT SCHEDULE.
Longer school days Monday-Thursday mean students still receive the instruction they need.

TO BE ELIGIBLE, A DISTRICT MUST:

- A** EARN AN "A" ACCOUNTABILITY RATING UNDER INDIANA'S SCHOOL ACCOUNTABILITY SYSTEM
- MEET INDIANA'S MINIMUM TEACHER SALARY REQUIREMENT: **\$45,000** FOR FULL-TIME TEACHERS
- CONTINUE PROVIDING THE REQUIRED INSTRUCTIONAL HOURS BY EXTENDING THE REMAINING FOUR DAYS
- PROVIDE FREE REMEDIATION PROGRAMMING FOR STUDENTS ON THE NON-INSTRUCTIONAL DAY
- PROVIDE TRANSPORTATION FOR STUDENTS WHO CHOOSE TO ATTEND A COMPARABLE FIVE-DAY SCHOOL

Let's have a conversation.
What's best for our students, teachers, and community?

TOMMY FLYNN
FOR LOOGOOTEE SCHOOL BOARD

LOOGOOTEE, Ind. — A local school board candidate has ignited a community conversation regarding the future structure of the academic calendar, urging residents to weigh the potential impacts of a four-day school week.

The proposal comes in response to recent updates in Indiana education law, which allow eligible school districts across the state to formally apply for a shortened, four-day instructional schedule. However, state guidelines mandate that local corporations must satisfy a strict list of academic and financial prerequisites before transitioning away from the traditional five-day system. To qualify for a state waiver, a school corporation must currently maintain an "A" accountability rating under Indiana's official school performance metrics. Additionally, participating districts must meet the state's minimum teacher salary threshold, which is currently set at \$45,000 for full-time educators.

Under the proposed model, a four-day week would not reduce total student learning hours. Instead, districts must maintain standard statutory instructional requirements by extending the length of the remaining four school days.

Furthermore, the district would be required to provide free remediation programming for students on the designated non-instructional day and supply transportation for any local students choosing to attend a comparable five-day school nearby.

Supporters of the alternative schedule argue the framework helps rural districts recruit and retain high-quality teachers, reduces student absenteeism, lowers administrative operating costs, and creates dedicated windows for targeted tutoring and professional development. Conversely, community critics raise concerns regarding the physical toll of longer academic days on younger students, childcare logistical hurdles for working families, and maintaining equitable student support structures.

The ongoing evaluation remains a focal point for upcoming school board policy discussions, with leadership emphasizing that student impact, data, and thorough community feedback must guide any final decision.

LOOGOOTEE HOSTS FOOD TRUCK FRIDAY FEATURING CAR CRUISE-IN AND JURASSIC PARK MOVIE NIGHT

LOOGOOTEE, Ind. — Community organizers have finalized the lineup for a massive, multi-attraction summer festival later this week, combining a regional food truck gather, an automotive showcase, and family entertainment. The Food Truck Friday event is scheduled for Friday, July 17, with activities officially kicking off at 4 p.m. The festivities will take place along Railroad Street, located just north of the Loogootee Pavilion.

The core culinary attraction, operating from 4 p.m. to 9 p.m., will feature a diverse selection of local and regional mobile vendors. Attending food trucks and vendors include Spill The Tea With Mama Z, Creations by Crystal, Mimi's Sugar Shack, Whitey's BBQ, Java J's, Momma's Sourdough, Portia's Pastries, Bad Brad's BBQ, and The Open Shelf.

Simultaneously, automotive enthusiasts can participate in a public Car Cruise-In starting at 4 p.m. The vehicle showcase is being formally sponsored by Double D Motor Cars.

As the evening progresses, the event will transition into themed youth and family programming. A specialized DJ and Dino Dance Party will commence at 7 p.m. The high-energy dance session is sponsored by the Loogootee Public Library, tying into the community's broader summer youth initiatives.

The night will conclude with an outdoor community cinema experience. A public screening of the classic blockbuster film "Jurassic Park" will begin at dusk. The movie presentation is sponsored by Nick Kidwell and Swank Motion Pictures.

Organizers encourage attendees to bring lawn chairs and blankets for the evening movie portion of the evening. Admission to the festival grounds, the car cruise-in, the dance party, and the film screening remains free to the public, with individual vendors managing their own menu pricing.

LOOGOOTEE GATHERING PAVILION HOSTS FREE FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT FEATURING 'NATIONAL TREASURE'



LOOGOOTEE, Ind. — Community members are invited to gather for a free outdoor cinema experience tonight as local organizers host a Free Family Movie Night.

The community event will take place at the Loogootee Gathering Pavilion. The featured presentation for the evening is the Disney adventure film "National Treasure," starring Nicolas Cage. The movie is licensed through Swank Motion Pictures, Inc.

Festivities are scheduled to begin ahead of the film screening, with local food vendors setting up on the property starting at 5:00 p.m. Patrons can purchase baked goods and treats from Mama's Sourdough and Portia's Pastries, who will be on-site for the duration of the event. Additional standard concessions will also be available for purchase, and attendees are encouraged to arrive early to secure their spots and grab refreshments before the film begins. The main feature is scheduled to start rolling at sunset, with the movie officially beginning at dusk.

Due to recent precipitation in the area today, event organizers issued a practical advisory for attending families. Because the lawn received a light amount of rain this afternoon, staff noted that the ground may remain damp through the evening. While the standard checklist recommends bringing lawn chairs, blankets, friends, and family, organizers specifically suggested that lawn chairs may be a superior seating option over blankets if the grass does not dry out entirely before showtime.

Admission to the movie night is entirely free to the public, made possible by local sponsors and community supporters. Organizers expressed excitement for the turnout, noting they cannot wait to see everyone for the outdoor epic quest adventure.

LOOGOOTEE TENNIS PLAYERS SAMMI NELSON AND NICK BRAMES SECURE SECOND PLACE IN WASHINGTON TOURNAMENT

WASHINGTON, Ind. — Local tennis players Sammi Nelson and Nick Brames earned a podium finish at a regional doubles tournament Wednesday, capturing second place in the highly competitive 4.0 mixed doubles division. The duo put together a strong performance throughout the day, navigating a challenging bracket of regional competitors. Facing off against some of the area's top-rated players, Nelson and Brames showcased excellent chemistry, strategic baseline play, and consistent net coverage to advance deep into the tournament field.

The 4.0 division represents an advanced level of competitive recreational tennis, characterized by players who have dependable strokes, can control directional shots, and possess a thorough understanding of match strategy and positioning. Throughout the afternoon matches, the pairing demonstrated their experience, executing sharp volleys and tactical court positioning to outlast their opponents in multiple close sets.

While the pair ultimately fell just short of the division title in a hard-fought championship match, their runner-up finish marks a significant achievement for local athletics. The tournament showcase highlights the ongoing engagement and competitive success of adult and recreational tennis programs across the southern Indiana area.

Following the conclusion of the final match, local supporters and regional tennis enthusiasts extended formal congratulations to both Nelson and Brames for their dedication and impressive athletic display on the courts. Information regarding final tournament brackets, complete division scores, and upcoming regional tennis mixers will be published through local athletic coordinators as the summer recreational sports season continues.

LOOGOOTEE COMMUNITY SCHOOLS ANNOUNCES ANNUAL BACK TO SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE FOR AUGUST 3



LOOGOOTEE, Ind. — School administrators have finalized preparations for the upcoming academic year, announcing the official date for the district's annual Back to School Open House.

The community event is scheduled for Monday, August 3rd, offering local families, returning students, and incoming personnel a dedicated opportunity to prepare for the fast-approaching fall semester.

According to guidelines released by Loogootee Community Schools, the open house will utilize a condensed, one-hour format. The evening activities will officially commence at 5:00 p.m. and conclude promptly at 6:00 p.m.

The annual event serves as a critical transition window for student success, allowing attendees to tour campus buildings, locate their designated classrooms, and familiarize themselves with daily school layouts. Parents and guardians will have the chance to meet with building principals, classroom teachers, and support staff to discuss curriculum expectations, safety protocols, and supply requirements before the official first day of instruction.

District personnel will also be stationed throughout the facilities to assist families with essential administrative duties, including verifying student registration paperwork, updating transportation schedules, and processing school lunch program documentation.

The open house acts as a central hub for school spirit, featuring the district's classic "L" branding and coordinating with local youth sports and extracurricular groups. School officials encourage all families to attend the brief window to help minimize first-day anxieties and ensure a smooth operational start for the student body. Additional information regarding grade-specific school supply lists, registration portals, and individual school building maps can be accessed through the main office or via the official Loogootee Community Schools digital platform.

MARTIN COUNTY 4-H FAIR CONCLUDES SUCCESSFUL SIX-DAY RUN IN LOOGOOTEE

LOOGOOTEE, Ind. — The Martin County 4-H Fair officially concluded its annual six-day run Tuesday night at the county fairgrounds near Loogootee, capping off a week of agricultural showcases, family entertainment, and youth achievement.

The community landmark event, which opened July 9, brought together area families, volunteers, and visitors to support local youth development. The fair serves as the culmination of months of preparation for hundreds of regional 4-H members who entered project evaluations and livestock exhibitions. The final days of the fair featured high-energy grandstand and arena programming that drew large crowds. On Monday evening, the popular Bar MC Rodeo made its return to the main arena, immediately following a competitive 4-H Swine Show.

The entire festival schedule provided an array of daily activities designed for all ages. Early highlights from the week included the annual Queen Contest, the Junior Leaders Euchre Tournament, Health and Safety Night interactives, and daily bounce houses on the lawn. Livestock arenas hosted dedicated competitions for poultry, beef, dairy, sheep, and goats, while static exhibits remained on display inside the Community Building throughout the week. The fair concluded Tuesday evening with its hallmark event, the annual 4-H Livestock Auction. Local businesses and community supporters gathered in the auction arena to bid on the youth projects, providing direct financial support and scholarships to the participating 4-H members for their seasonal efforts. Following the final gavel, agricultural projects and static exhibits were officially released to the public. Qualifying projects will now advance to represent Martin County at the Indiana State Fair, which is scheduled to take place next month in Indianapolis.



EVENT PLANNER

JULY 12-19

The Loogootee Senior Center provides a vibrant schedule of wellness activities, nutritious meals, and social gatherings designed to foster health and independence among local older adults. The Center continues to serve as an active community hub throughout the summer season.

Located at 406 NW 1st St. in Loogootee, the Center offers a diverse range of activities and programs each week.

The following is a list of events happening during the week of July 13th–17th:

- Monday, July 13th - Exercise with Yoga on Main: 10:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.
- Tuesday, July 14th - Sponsored Lunch: 11:30 a.m. / Game Day: 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. Enjoy a mid-day meal sponsored by Odon Locker, followed by an afternoon of board games, cards, and socializing with friends.
- Wednesday, July 15th - Vision Screening: 11:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. / Book Club: 1:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. Take advantage of free health services with a professional vision screening provided by the Bosmo Center for Visionary Solutions. Later in the afternoon, gather with fellow readers to discuss the latest monthly book selection.
- Thursday, July 16th - Lunch and Bingo: 11:30 a.m. Join the Center for a community lunch and a lively round of afternoon bingo hosted in partnership with the Martin County Council on Aging.
- Friday, July 17th - Chair Exercise: 10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. Wrap up the week with a low-impact, accessible chair exercise class structured to improve mobility, strength, and balance.



EVENT PLANNER

JULY 12-19

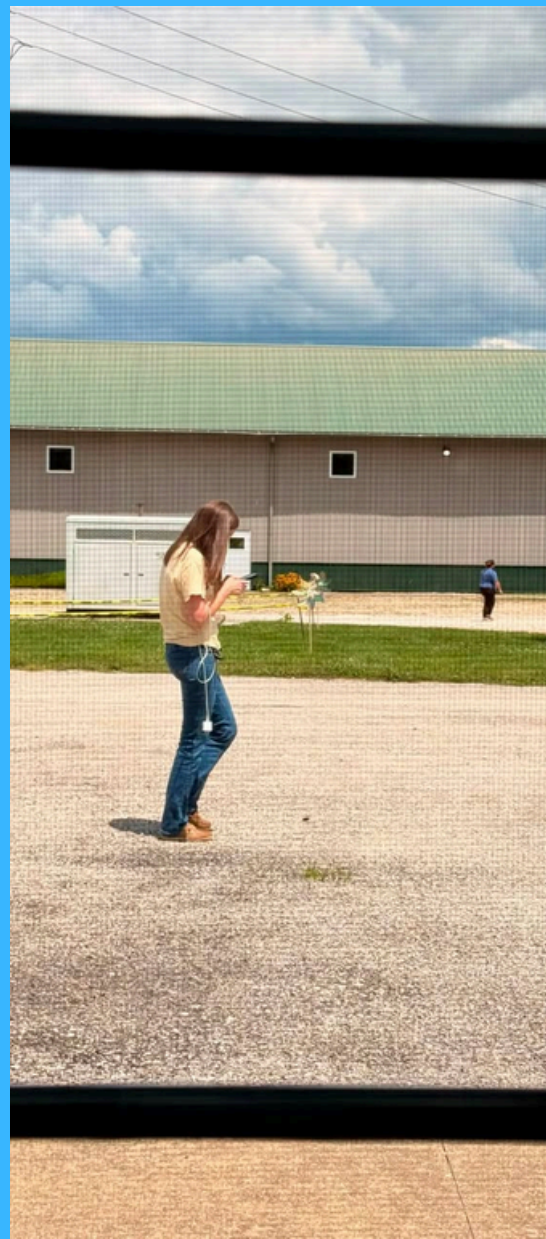
The Loogootee Public Library is currently running its "Unearth a Story" Summer Reading Program, designed to inspire a love of reading in children from ages 4-12. The Library will continue hosting events for the program throughout July. If you would like to support the Library, you can submit a donation to their Venmo (@loogooteelibrary) or purchase supplies from their Amazon wish list viewable here.

Located at 504 Park Street in Loogootee, the Library offers a range of events for all ages each week.

The following is a list of events happening in the next week:

- Monday, July 13th - Library Board Meeting: 4:00 p.m.
- Closed on Wednesday, July 15th • Thursday, July 16th
- Catapult Competition: DIY at the Library from 10:00 a.m. - 4:45 p.m.,
 - Launch Time at 5:00 p.m. Engineering fun with simple materials! Test your building skills and compete for the best launch. Registration forms can be found by scanning the event QR code or by calling (812) 295-3713.
 - Friday, July 17th - Loogootee Women's Club Meeting: 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. / Dino Dance Party: 7:00 p.m. at the Pavilion Join us for a Jurassic Jam for the whole family! Bring your best dance moves for an evening of music and prehistoric fun.

4H FAIR WRAPPED UP YESTERDAY, MOMENTS & PHOTOS TO REMEMBER



4H FAIR WRAPPED UP YESTERDAY, MOMENTS & PHOTOS TO REMEMBER



Information Regarding the 2026 Loogootee Schools Alumni Celebration for Loogootee & St. John's High School

THE 2026 LOOGOOTEE SCHOOLS ALUMNI CELEBRATION FOR LOOGOOTEE HIGH SCHOOL

&

ST. JOHN HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES AND THEIR GUESTS

SATURDAY, JULY 25TH, 2026

ST. JOHN CENTER LOWER LEVEL IN LOOGOOTEE

SOCIAL HOUR AT 6PM FOLLOWED BY A MEAL

CATERED BY WITTMER'S CATERING AT 7:00pm

There will be a cash bar provided by Red Bones!

The 50 year (1976) and 25 year (2001) honored classes will be introduced,
followed by a presentation that promises to be entertaining.

Various classes from both schools have chosen to celebrate their special years with us over these many years. The alumni celebration provides a simple solution for your class to reminisce together without the hassle of finding a venue, food, drinks and décor. So, bring a friend, gather your classmates and join us for this special evening.

Please send your reservation with your year of graduation and school along with

\$30 per person to:

Loogootee Schools Alumni, P.O Box 78 Loogootee, IN 47553

If you prefer to pay by Venmo, you can do so @Gregory-Bateman-1 with the following information.

Alumnus name, School and Graduation Year

- Guest name (Maiden name and Graduation Year ONLY if LHS or St. John alum)
- Alumnus Contact info: phone or e-mail

Please note: we will reserve tables for the honored classes, however we can not take requests as to who you may wish to sit with.

Feel free to e-mail Greg Bateman at gbateman8159@gmail.com with any questions you may have.

Name(s) (Please include maiden name *only* if alum of LHS or St. John)

Names attending:

School and year of Graduation (only if alum)

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
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Total Amount Enclosed \$ _____

PLEASE RESPOND BY SATURDAY, JULY 18TH, 2026!

**Festivities For The Event Begin on July 25, 2026 Honoring The
Classes of 1976 & 2001. Respond by July 18**

**THE CLASS OF 1976 & 2001 CLASS
REUNION COMMEMORATIVE
EDITION NEWSPAPER WILL BE
AVAILABLE TO PURCHASE ON JULY
21**

MID-STATES CORRIDOR SECTION

Published Weekly by Mr. Jim Arvin



To the Editor,

Is the Huntingburg Redevelopment Commission a part of the Menke-Braun Cabal? I hope not; but, to see that Bill Kaiser was able to convince them to set the "stage for a roughly \$3.9 million bond issue to help fund construction of two new facilities totaling 120,000 square feet on the north side of Plant 18," gives that appearance. "A key point the commissioners noted is that the city bears no financial liability under the arrangement. OFS itself will purchase the bonds, meaning the company essentially pays property taxes into the TIF allocation fund and receives a portion back to cover its own debt service."

If the county really has no "financial liability" why are they going to give OFS "a portion back to cover its own debt service." Why is OFS even asking for this? Isn't OFS a profitable business? They aren't a new start-up so why can't Hank Menke use his own money? Sounds a lot like why Menke and the Cabal want the public to pay for a highway just for them. Once again, there is the appearance of collusion

and corruption.

"The resolution now moves to the Economic Development Commission, which is scheduled to meet on July 13, 2026 and will then be reviewed by the Huntingburg Common Council." Perhaps Mayor Elkins and the City Council will see the light that this is just another attempt by the Mid-States Corridor Cabal to get us, we the people, to pay for their personal enrichment.

If a 4-lane, high speed Mid-States Corridor is what is needed to reduce the traffic "congestion" in Huntingburg and Jasper, why is INDOT right-sizing Highway 64? They will change the 4-lane highway to a 3-lane road. Is it just me or does this sound a bit fishy. Reducing the number lanes will move more traffic faster than adding more lanes? Who would have thought that would be the answer?

Here we are electing our neighbors to help run the governments only to have them vote to spend our hard earned money so a wealthy businessman can save his money. Why are the

tax payers paying Hank Menke to increase his business? I know a lot of farmers, and other businessmen, who would like to get the same sweet deal as Hank Menke. I wonder if the Braun family is cooking up a similar scheme.

Is it not enough to try and force the unneeded, unwanted and over priced Mid-States Corridor onto us, that now they want us to build them new plants? If I didn't know better I would swear we are in the old USSR or Cuba, where the oligarchs get everything they want. It's time for this insanity to stop.

There was an item on the Huntingburg City Council's agenda, July 14, 2026 meeting, to hold a vote to withdraw from the Mid-States Corridor RDA. What happened? Why was the vote not taken? Who put the kibosh on it? Is this more of the Cabal's influence?

The Jasper City Council is suppose to hold the same vote on July 15, 2026. Will they? Or, is the Cabal's influence once again spreading? Where are the good men and women we voted for? Why are they not doing what

their constituents want? What has happened to government of the people, by the people and for the people? No, it's not a political party thing, it's good people not doing the right thing.

It's Summer and that means we must stay vigilant, even in the Summer's heat. Remember, our founding fathers suffered through the Philadelphia summer heat in 1776. It was worth it then and it's worth it now. At every event this Summer we all must tell our elected officials, our neighbors, our families and our friends to do the right thing.

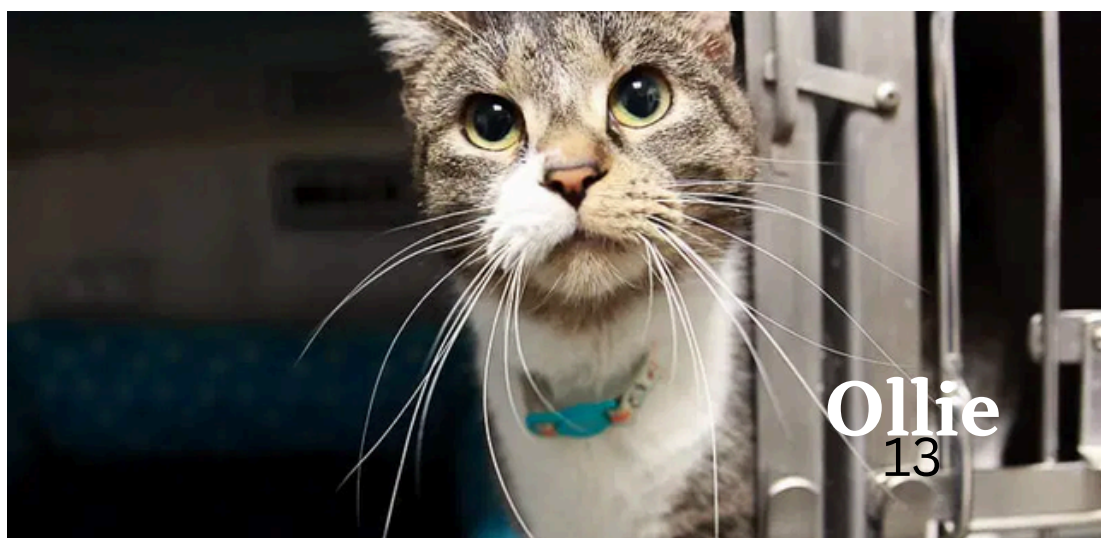
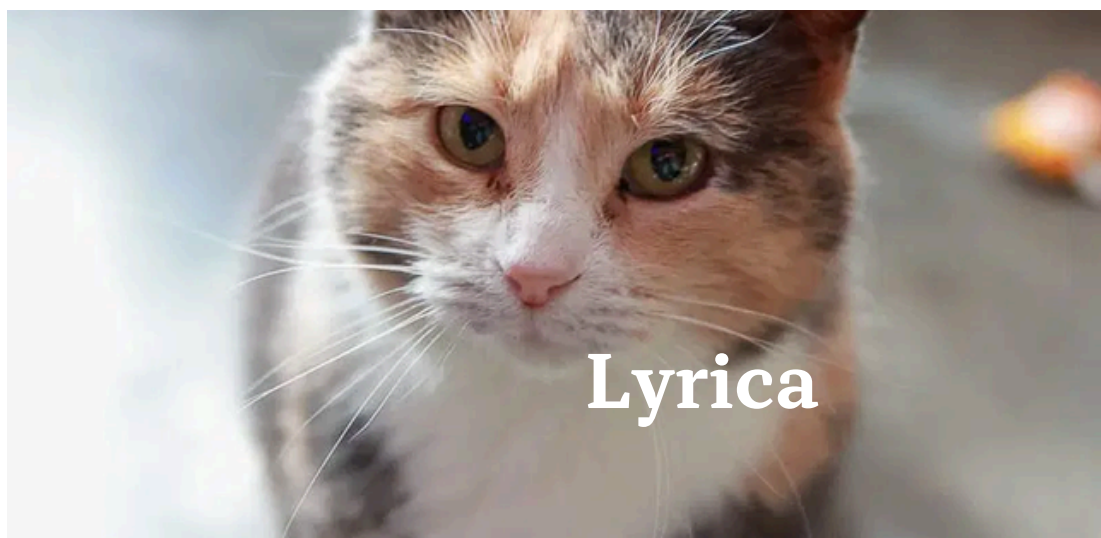
End the Mid-States Corridor RDA and the project once and for all; and, do it now.

Jim Arvin
Rutherford Township
Martin County

PETS

Section by The Martin County Humane Society

ADOPTABLE CATS



PETS

Section by The Martin County Humane Society

ADOPTABLE DOGS



Diesel



ADOPTED
Harley



Diesel



Sienna



Ranger



Barney



Fred



Arwin



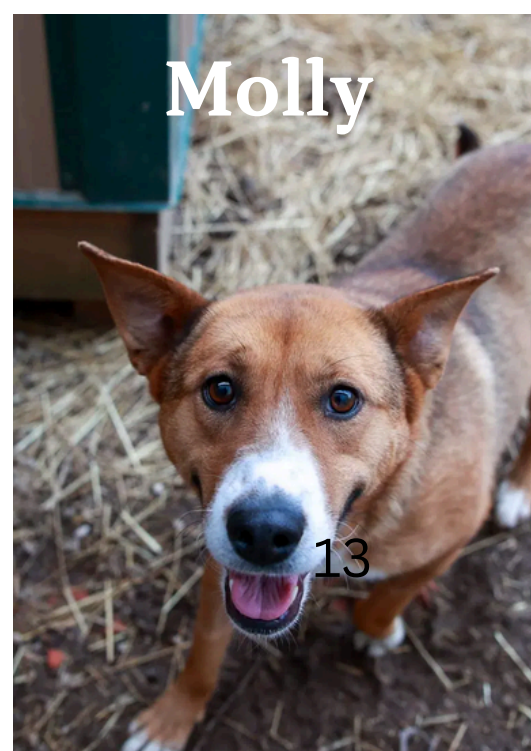
Tater



Knox



Biscuit



Molly

Martin County & Courts 14

Monday, July 6, 2026

12:18 a.m.- Received a call requesting an ambulance South of Shoals. Orange County EMS and Lost River Fire Department responded. No one was transported.

8:49 a.m.- Received a report of a car-deer accident East of Shoals. Sergeant Hawkins responded.

9:24 a.m.- Received a 911 call on Crane Naval Base. Transferred the call to Crane 911.

11:39 a.m.- Received an accidental 911 call.

12:09 p.m.- Received a call requesting to speak with a deputy. Sergeant Hawkins responded.

12:18 p.m.- Received a call requesting an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Medic 1 and Loogootee Fire Department responded. Medic 1 transported one patient to Deaconess Memorial Medical Center. 2:47 p.m.- Received a report of a possible break-in North of Loogootee. LPD Chief Cummings, LPD Assistant Chief Stuckey, Sergeant Hawkins, Deputy Clark and ISP Master Trooper Lents responded.

3:08 p.m.- Received a report of a controlled burn South of Loogootee.

3:41 p.m.- Received a call from Daviess County requesting mutual aid West of Loogootee. Loogootee Fire Department responded.

4:58 p.m.- Received an animal complaint Northeast of Shoals. Sergeant Hawkins responded.

7:06 p.m.- Received a call from Daviess County requesting mutual aid West of Loogootee. Loogootee Fire Department responded. 7:17 p.m.- Received a call requesting an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Medic 1 responded and transported one patient to Deaconess Memorial Medical Center.

7:54 p.m.- Marshal Copeland on station with James Vanderveer, a 43-year-old male from Clay City, arrested by Sergeant Hawkins for Possession of marijuana, Possession of a controlled substance, and Possession of a firearm by a felon. He is being held on \$45,000 10% bond.

8:08 p.m.- Received an accidental 911 call.

9:24 p.m.- ISP Trooper Guzman on station with Benjamin Mason, a 48-year-old male from Loogootee, arrested for Possession of marijuana, Operating a vehicle while intoxicated-controlled substance, and Operating a vehicle while intoxicated-refusal.

He is being held on \$10,000 10% bond.

10:11 p.m.- Received a report of a car-deer accident West of Shoals. Marshal Copeland responded.

Tuesday, July 7, 2026

3:28 a.m.- Received a call requesting an ambulance East of Shoals. Martin County Medic 1 and Shoals Fire Department responded. Medic 1 transported one patient to Deaconess Memorial Medical Center.

6:37 a.m.- Received a report of a car speeding East of Shoals. Advised all on-duty units.

8:21 a.m.- Received a call from WH International advising of a commercial burglar alarm East of Loogootee. Sergeant Hawkins responded.

8:56 a.m.- Received an animal complaint in Loogootee. LPD Assistant Chief Stuckey responded.

9:16 a.m.- Received an accidental 911 call.

10:11 a.m.- Received a call requesting a Vehicle Identification Number check in Shoals. Sergeant Hawkins responded.

10:27 a.m.- Received a 911 call reporting an accident with no injuries in Loogootee. LPD Assistant Chief Stuckey and Loogootee Fire Department responded.

10:45 a.m.- Received a 911 call with no one on the line East of Loogootee. Martin County Medic 1, Sergeant Hawkins and Deputy Droke responded. No one was transported.

11:40 a.m.- Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance South of Shoals. Martin County Medic 1, Shoals Fire Department and Sergeant Hawkins responded. Medic 1 transported one patient to Daviess Community Hospital.

11:43 a.m.- Received an accidental 911 call.

1:01 p.m.- Received a call requesting an ambulance and deputy Southwest of Shoals. Martin County Medic 2, Sergeant Hawkins and Deputy Clark responded. No one was transported.

3:03 p.m.- Received a 911 call with no one on the line in Loogootee. Deputy Clark responded.

3:18 p.m.- Received a 911 call on Crane Naval Base. Transferred the call to Crane 911.

4:03 p.m.- Received a report of an accident with no injuries West of Loogootee. LPD Assistant Chief Stuckey, Deputy Clark and Big John's Towing responded. Daviess County was notified.

4:23 p.m.- Received a 911 call reporting a reckless driver Southwest of Shoals. Advised all on-duty units.

4:18 p.m.- Received a request for mutual aid West of Loogootee. LPD Assistant Chief Stuckey responded.

6:16 p.m.- Marshal Copeland on station with Lillian White, a 26-year-old female from Oolitic, arrested for Driving while suspended-prior and Possession of marijuana. She is being held on \$10,000 10% bond.

7:10 p.m.- Received a report of a possible traffic hazard in Shoals. Marshal Copeland responded.

9:12 p.m.- Received a 911 call reporting a domestic dispute in Crane Village. Deputy Clark, Greene County deputy and ISP Trooper responded.

9:27 p.m.- Received a report of a reckless driver in Loogootee. All on-duty units were advised.

Wednesday, July 8, 2026

2:13 a.m.- Received a report of a vehicle repossession in Loogootee.

9:24 a.m.- Received a request for a deputy South of Shoals. Captain Gibson responded.

9:46 a.m.- Received a 911 call reporting a tree down North of Shoals. Martin County Highway Department responded.

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

10:08 a.m.- Chief Deputy Keller transported one inmate to court.

10:12 a.m.- Received a call requesting a deputy in Shoals. Captain Gibson responded.

10:49 a.m.- Received a report of a possible theft in Shoals. Captain Gibson and Sergeant Hawkins responded.

11:02 a.m.- Received a report of an accident with no injuries North of Shoals. Captain Gibson responded.

12:20 p.m.- Received a 911 call from a Daviess County address. Transferred the call to Daviess County 911.

1:09 p.m.- Received a 911 call reporting an accident with no injuries Southwest of Shoals. Captain Gibson, Sergeant Hawkins, Deputy Branham and Big John's Towing responded.

2:37 p.m.- Received a 911 call reporting possible vandalism in Loogootee. LPD Chief Cummings and LPD Assistant Chief Stuckey responded.

2:48 p.m.- Received a 911 call reporting a reckless driver on US 231N going into Daviess County. Transferred the call to Daviess County 911.

3:14 p.m.- Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance North of Loogootee. Martin County Medic 1

and Loogootee Fire Department responded. Medic 1 transported one patient to IU Bloomington.

5:04 p.m.- Received a call requesting extra patrol in Loogootee. Advised all on-duty units.

8:02 p.m.- Received a 911 call reporting an accident with no injuries in Loogootee. Deputy Nash responded. Daviess County was also notified.

9:08 p.m.- Received a report of a possible traffic hazard in Shoals. Deputy Nash responded.

9:51 p.m.- Received an accidental 911 call.

11:05 p.m.- Received a report of a suspicious vehicle in Crane Village. Major Reed responded.

Thursday, July 9, 2026

12:06 a.m.- Received an accidental 911 call.

12:32 a.m.- Received a 911 call reporting a car-deer accident North of Loogootee. Major Reed and Big John's Towing responded.

8:37 a.m.- Received a report of a gas line being hit in Shoals. Shoals Fire Department, Centerpoint, Chief Deputy Keller and Captain Gibson responded.

9:55 a.m.- Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance North of Loogootee. Martin County Medic 1 and Loogootee Fire Department responded. Medic 1 transported one patient to Deaconess Memorial Medical Center.

10:53 a.m.- Received a report of a controlled burn North of Loogootee.

11:26 a.m.- Received an accidental 911 call.

11:34 a.m.- Received a 911 call from a Daviess County address. Notified Daviess County.

12:38 p.m.- Received a 911 call on Crane Naval Base. Transferred the call to Crane 911.

12:59 p.m.- Jail Officer Bills escorted one inmate to remote court.

1:59 p.m.- Corporal Erwin on station with Nicholas Guy, a 47-year-old male from Shoals, arrested for Possession of marijuana and on a Martin County warrant. He is being held without bond.

2:38 p.m.- Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Medic 1 and Loogootee Fire Department responded. Medic 1 transported one patient to Daviess Community Hospital.

4:09 p.m.- Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance North of Loogootee. Martin County Medic 1 and Loogootee Fire

Department responded. Medic 1 transported one patient to Deaconess Memorial Medical Center.

5:04 p.m.- Received a report of a possible traffic hazard North of Loogootee. Advised all on-duty units.

5:07 p.m.- Received a report of a reckless driver on US 50 traveling East. Corporal Erwin, Marshal Copeland and Deputy Branham responded.

5:41 p.m.- Received a call requesting an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Medic 1 responded and transported one patient to Deaconess Memorial Medical Center.

6:11 p.m.- Received a call requesting extra patrol Southwest of Shoals. Advised all on-duty units.

8:53 p.m.- Received a report of a medical alarm push in Loogootee. Martin County Medic 1 responded but did not transport.

9:14 p.m.- Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Medic 1 and Medic 3 responded. Medic 1 transported one patient to Deaconess Memorial Medical Center.

Friday, July 10, 2026

10:32 a.m.- Received an accidental 911 call.

10:40 a.m.- Received a report of a controlled burn South of Shoals.

10:44 a.m.- Received a report of a controlled burn North of Shoals.

11:55 a.m.- Received a 911 call with no one on the line in Loogootee. LPD Assistant Chief Stuckey responded. 12:27 p.m.- Received an accidental 911 call.

2:27 p.m.- LPD Assistant Chief Stuckey on station with Shania Simpson, a 29-year-old female from Scotland, arrested for Theft and Possession of a stolen firearm. She is being held without bond.

2:27 p.m.- Corporal Erwin on station with Pauline Simpson, a 28-year-old female from Scotland, arrested for Theft and Possession of a stolen firearm. She is being held without bond.

3:01 p.m.- Received a report of a possible traffic hazard East of Shoals. INDOT was notified.

3:43 p.m.- Received a report of a controlled burn South of Loogootee.

6:47 p.m.- Received a 911 call on US 231S traveling South, almost to Haysville. Transferred the call to Dubois County 911.

6:55 p.m.- Received a call requesting an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Medic 1, Medic 3

and Loogootee Fire Department responded. Medic 1 transported one patient to Deaconess Memorial Medical Center.

9:03 p.m.- Received a call requesting an ambulance in Shoals. Martin County Medic 1, Shoals Fire Department, Marshal Copeland and Deputy Nash responded. Medic 1 transported one patient to Deaconess Memorial Medical Center.

10:09 p.m.- Received a call requesting extra patrol in Loogootee. Advised all on-duty units.

10:12 p.m.- Received a report of a suspicious male in Loogootee. Deputy Nash responded.

Saturday, July 11, 2026

4:58 a.m.- Received a call from Life Alert requesting an ambulance Northeast of Shoals. Martin County Medic 1, Shoals Fire Department and Deputy Nash responded. Medic 1 transported one patient to Deaconess Memorial Medical Center.

6:52 a.m.- Received a report of a tree down North of Shoals. Shoals Fire Department and Corporal Erwin responded.

8:51 a.m.- Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance North of Loogootee. Martin County Medic 1, Medic 3, Loogootee Fire Department and Corporal Erwin responded. Medic 1 transported one patient to Deaconess Memorial Medical Center.

9:41 a.m.- Received a report of a property damage accident East of Shoals. Corporal Erwin responded.

11:03 a.m.- Received an accidental 911 call.

1:21 p.m.- Received a call requesting to speak with a deputy. Corporal Erwin responded.

2:35 p.m.- Received a 911 call reporting a car-deer accident North of Loogootee. Corporal Erwin responded.

3:15 p.m.- Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Medic 1, Loogootee Fire Department, LPD Reserve Captain Hunt and Corporal Erwin responded. No one was transported.

4:40 p.m.- Received a report of a pole down on the railroad tracks in Loogootee. Advised CSX.

6:56 p.m.- Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance North of Loogootee. Martin County Medic 1, Loogootee Fire Department, Corporal Erwin and Deputy Nash responded. Medic 1 transported one patient to Daviess Community Hospital.

7:07 p.m.- Received a 911 call from a Daviess County address. Transferred the call to Daviess County 911.

8:50 p.m.- Received a 911 call with no one on the line in Loogootee. Deputy Nash responded.

MARTIN COUNTY LOG

LOOGOOTEE POLICE LOG

Sunday, July 12, 2026

- 11:14 a.m.- Received a report of a possible traffic hazard Northeast of Shoals. Sergeant Hawkins responded.
- 1:49 p.m.- Received a call requesting an ambulance Northeast of Loogootee. Martin County Medic 1 responded and transported one patient to Deaconess Memorial Medical Center.
- 2:19 p.m.- Received a call reporting an injured animal. Advised the caller of DNR South Region phone number.
- 3:35 p.m.- Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Medic 1 and Loogootee Fire Department responded. Medic 1 transported one patient to Deaconess Memorial Medical Center.
- 3:55 p.m.- Received a call from WH International advising of a commercial burglar alarm. Keyholder advised to disregard.
- 4:00 p.m.- Received a report of a suspicious male East of Loogootee. Sergeant Hawkins responded.
- 6:00 p.m.- Received a call advising that the temporary stop light on US 50 is malfunctioning. Sergeant Hawkins responded. INDOT was notified.
- 6:08 p.m.- Received multiple landline and 911 calls reporting the stop light. INDOT responded.
- 7:32 p.m.- Received a call requesting extra patrol East of Loogootee. Advised all on-duty units.
- 7:55 p.m.- Received a call requesting an ambulance South of Shoals. Martin County Medic 1 and Lost River Fire Department responded. Medic 1 transported one patient to Deaconess Memorial Medical Center.
- 8:42 p.m.- Received an accidental 911 call.
- 8:53 p.m.- Received a report of a tree down North of Shoals. Shoals Fire Department responded.
- 9:07 p.m.- Received a report of possible harassment in Loogootee. Advised LPD Chief Cummings.
- 9:14 p.m.- Received a report of power outages North of Shoals due to tree down. REMC was notified.

- Monday, July 6, 2026**
- 8:33 am- A caller reported a large hole in the roadway at Church St. and SE 3rd St.
 - 12:20 pm- The Loogootee Fire Department responded to a medical call on Queen St.
 - 2:48 pm- A caller advised of a controlled burn on Arvin Lane.
 - 2:50 pm- Asst. Chief Stuckey and K-9 Ripp responded to a report of a residential door standing open on St. Joseph Rd.
 - 3:42 pm- The Loogootee Fire Department responded to assist Daviess Co. EMS on a medical call on E US 50.

- Tuesday, July 7, 2026**
- 10:28 am- Asst. Chief Stuckey and the Loogootee Fire Department responded to an accident on W. Broadway.
 - 11:45 am- Asst. Chief Stuckey assisted with a funeral procession.
 - 2:22 pm- A caller advised of an extremely loud vehicle routinely speeding in town in the mornings.
 - 3:15 pm- Asst. Chief Stuckey responded to a report of a possible domestic involving a juvenile.
 - 3:51 pm-Asst. Chief Stuckey completed a vehicle inspection on N. JFK Ave.
 - 4:03 pm- Asst. Chief Stuckey responded to assist Daviess Co. Sheriff’s Dept. with an accident on US 50W.
 - 4:18 pm- Asst. Chief Stuckey and K-9 Ripp responded to assist Daviess Co. Sheriff’s Dept. with a welfare check on E. 75N

- Wednesday, July 8, 2026**
- 11:45 am- Chief Cummings completed several vehicle inspections at a local business.
 - 2:07 pm- Chief Cummings and Asst. Chief Stuckey spoke with a complainant regarding the process in getting someone to leave a residence.
 - 2:39 pm- Chief Cummings and Asst. Chief Stuckey responded to a behavioral health issue on Church St.
 - 4:18 pm-Chief Cummings, Asst. Chief Stuckey, and K-9 Ripp responded to a domestic dispute on North Line St.

- Thursday, July 9, 2026**
- 9:57 am- The Loogootee Fire Department responded to a medical call on SR 645.
 - 2:39 pm- The Loogootee Fire Department responded to a medical call on Park St.

- Friday, July 10, 2026**
- 9:39 am- Asst. Chief Stuckey responded to an alarm at the Loogootee School System.
 - 11:58 am- Asst. Chief Stuckey responded to a dropped 911 call.
 - 1:55 pm- Asst. Chief Stuckey arrested Shania Simpson, a 29-year-old female from Lyons, In, and Pauline Simpson, a 28-year-old female from Lyons, In. Both were charged with Possession of a Stolen Firearm and Theft.
 - 6:55 pm- The Loogootee Fire Department responded to a medical call on Mulberry St.

- Saturday, July 11, 2026**
- 8:51 am- The Loogootee Fire Department responded to a medical call on E 700N.
 - 3:15 pm- The Loogootee Fire Department responded to a medical call on SW 3rd St.
 - 6:56 pm- The Loogootee Fire Department responded to a medical call at West Boggs Park Campground.

- Sunday, July 12, 2026**
- 3:35 pm- The Loogootee Fire Department responded to a medical call on Park St.

Property Records

Transfers July 8-15

***NO TRANSFER
RECORDS THIS
WEEK***

Courts Report

*Brought to You By The Martin
County Clerk's Office*

***NO COURT
NEWS THIS
WEEK***

Obituaries

Brought to You By Blake Funeral Home

Located at 300 Church St, Loogootee, IN 47553

Andre Gregory Stoll

July 1, 2002 – July 10, 2026



Andre Gregory Stoll, 24, of Montgomery, Indiana passed away on Friday July 10, 2026, in Bourbon, Missouri.

He was born on July 1, 2002, in Durham, North Carolina to Gregory and Valarie (Graber) Stoll.

He attended Berea Mennonite Church, where his faith remained a guiding light throughout his life. Andre was a happy soul and had a smile that could brighten any room. He was known for always having a funny little joke to share, bringing laughter and comfort to those around him. More than anything, he cherished the time he spent with his family and friends, creating memories that will be treasured forever.

Andre shared a special bond with his beloved fur baby and constant companion, Loona, whose unwavering companionship brought him endless happiness. He found joy in life's simple pleasures, whether he was baking something delicious in the kitchen, collecting cans for a little extra spending money, or enjoying a friendly game of Rook with those he loved. He was an avid video game enthusiast and took pride in his collection of Funko Pop figures and knives. Andre was very spirited, warm-hearted and his gentle love for others will be deeply missed, but his laughter, faith, and the love he shared will live on in the hearts of all who knew him. Andre fought for his health every day but his will to live and love for his family, friends and his fur baby helped him live life to the fullest for 24 years.

He is preceded in death by his brother, Cole Dillan Stoll.

Andre is survived by his parents, Greg and Valarie Stoll, his grandparents, Eddie (Judy) Graber, and Darrell (Sue) Stoll, his uncles, Jarod (Kendra) Stoll, and Kyle (Jessica) Stoll, his cousins, Emmalyn Stoll, Ainslie Stoll, Raelynn Stoll, Elias Stoll, Ivory Stoll, Onyx Stoll, and countless friends and extended family.

A funeral service will be held on Tuesday July 14, 2026, at 10:00 A.M at Berea Mennonite Church in Cannelburg, Indiana. Burial will follow in Bethel Mennonite Cemetery in Odon, Indiana.

Visitation will be held on Monday July 13, 2026, from 2:00 P.M until 4:00 P.M and then resume from 5:00 P.M until 8:00 P.M at Berea Mennonite Church. Friends may also visit on Tuesday morning from 9:00 A.M until the time of service at Berea Mennonite Church. Online condolences can be made at www.blakefuneralhomes.com

Blake & Wagler Funeral Home is honored to serve the family of Andre Stoll.

To send flowers or plant a [memorial tree](#) in memory, please visit our [flower store](#).

Ruth Ann Greenwell

May 19, 1935 – July 2, 2026



ife.

Ruth was preceded in death by her parents, Alphonse and Hilda Stemle; brothers, Ernie Stemle and Eugene Stemle; mother-and father-in-law Patrick and Monica (Williams) Greenwell; sisters-in-law, Judith Stemle and Carolyn Greenwell.

Ruth will be lovingly remembered by her husband, her children, and grandchildren; sister Louise (Maher) Wissa; brothers James (Barbara) Stemle; Wilfred Stemle; sisters-in-law, Sue (Ed) David and Janet (Terry) Pielemeier; brothers-in-law, Keith (JoAnn) Greenwell and Kevin (Beth) Greenwell.

The Greenwell Family will host Celebration of Life Events in Winter Haven during August or September.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated by Very Rev. J. Kenneth Walker at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, July 18, 2026 at St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church in Loogootee, Ind., with burial to follow at St. John Catholic Cemetery. Visitation will be held on Friday, July 17, 2026 from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the church and again from 9:00 a.m. to 9:45 a.m. on Saturday July 18, 2026 before the Mass.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church or Martin County Community Foundation Kenny and Ruth Greenwell Fund for the good of Martin County.

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

Blake Funeral Home is honored to serve the family of Ruth Ann Greenwell.

To send flowers or plant a [memorial tree](#) in memory, please visit our [flower store](#).

Ruth Ann (Stemle) Greenwell, 72, of Winter Haven, FL and Loogootee, IN, passed away on Monday, July 13, 2026, at the Winter Haven Hospital in Florida. She was born on July 14, 1953, in Jasper, IN to the late Alphonse and Hilda Stemle. She married Kenneth Greenwell on August 12, 1972, starting their 53 years of blessed marriage.

She had many talents and was often a close confidant to people in need. Ruth graduated from Jasper High School, St. Mary-of-the-Woods and earned a master's degree in social work at Indiana University. She held many jobs during her career, most notably as a Health Care Facility Administrator and State Inspector. In later years, she volunteered as a Red Cross Worker and for Polk County, FL Library Services.

Ruth and Kenny were blessed with three boys, Kent (Tamar) Greenwell, a son Earnest who died at birth and Scot (Zack) Greenwell. She was a loving and wonderful Mother raising successful men. She was a great Mother-in-Law. She was the proud grandmother of three granddaughters, Acatia Rose (Luke), Sarah Ann (Glen), and Sophia Marie Greenwell.

Even though Ruth and Kenny lived away from Loogootee, they maintained their devotion as lifelong members of St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church. Ruth was a former Eucharistic Minister, Daughters of Isabella member and served as a court appointed advocate for Martin County Children.

In 2003 Ruth was diagnosed with Follicular Lymphoma. She was able to beat cancer. After 23 years it returned to take her l

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Sudoku.com 07/15/2026

Download the original **Sudoku.com** mobile application and play thousands of Sudoku puzzles anytime, anywhere!



 Google Play

 App Store

Sudoku Daily Game #53

Easy

7	2	8	5	9	4	6	1	3
9	4	6	8	1	3	2	5	7
1	3	5	6	2	7	9	8	4
3	5	7	2	4	8	1	9	6
8	1	2	3	6	9	7	4	5
6	9	4	1	7	5	8	3	2
2	6	9	4	5	1	3	7	8
4	7	3	9	8	2	5	6	1
5	8	1	7	3	6	4	2	9

Medium

6	2	7	5	3	1	9	4	8
8	1	3	6	4	9	2	7	5
5	9	4	8	2	7	6	3	1
1	7	5	4	9	6	8	2	3
3	6	9	2	1	8	7	5	4
2	4	8	7	5	3	1	6	9
7	3	6	1	8	5	4	9	2
9	8	2	3	7	4	5	1	6
4	5	1	9	6	2	3	8	7

Hard

1	7	4	9	3	5	8	2	6
9	8	2	6	7	4	1	5	3
3	5	6	8	2	1	4	9	7
5	6	7	3	8	2	9	1	4
8	3	1	4	5	9	6	7	2
4	2	9	1	6	7	3	8	5
7	4	8	2	9	6	5	3	1
6	9	5	7	1	3	2	4	8
2	1	3	5	4	8	7	6	9

Expert

1	3	2	6	8	5	9	7	4
7	6	4	2	1	9	8	3	5
5	9	8	7	3	4	2	6	1
2	5	6	4	7	3	1	9	8
3	4	9	8	5	1	6	2	7
8	7	1	9	2	6	5	4	3
4	2	7	5	6	8	3	1	9
9	1	5	3	4	2	7	8	6
6	8	3	1	9	7	4	5	2

Master

9	7	8	1	3	4	2	6	5
1	5	4	2	7	6	9	8	3
6	2	3	9	5	8	1	4	7
3	4	6	7	2	1	5	9	8
5	9	1	6	8	3	4	7	2
7	8	2	5	4	9	3	1	6
8	1	7	3	9	5	6	2	4
4	6	5	8	1	2	7	3	9
2	3	9	4	6	7	8	5	1

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 Google Play

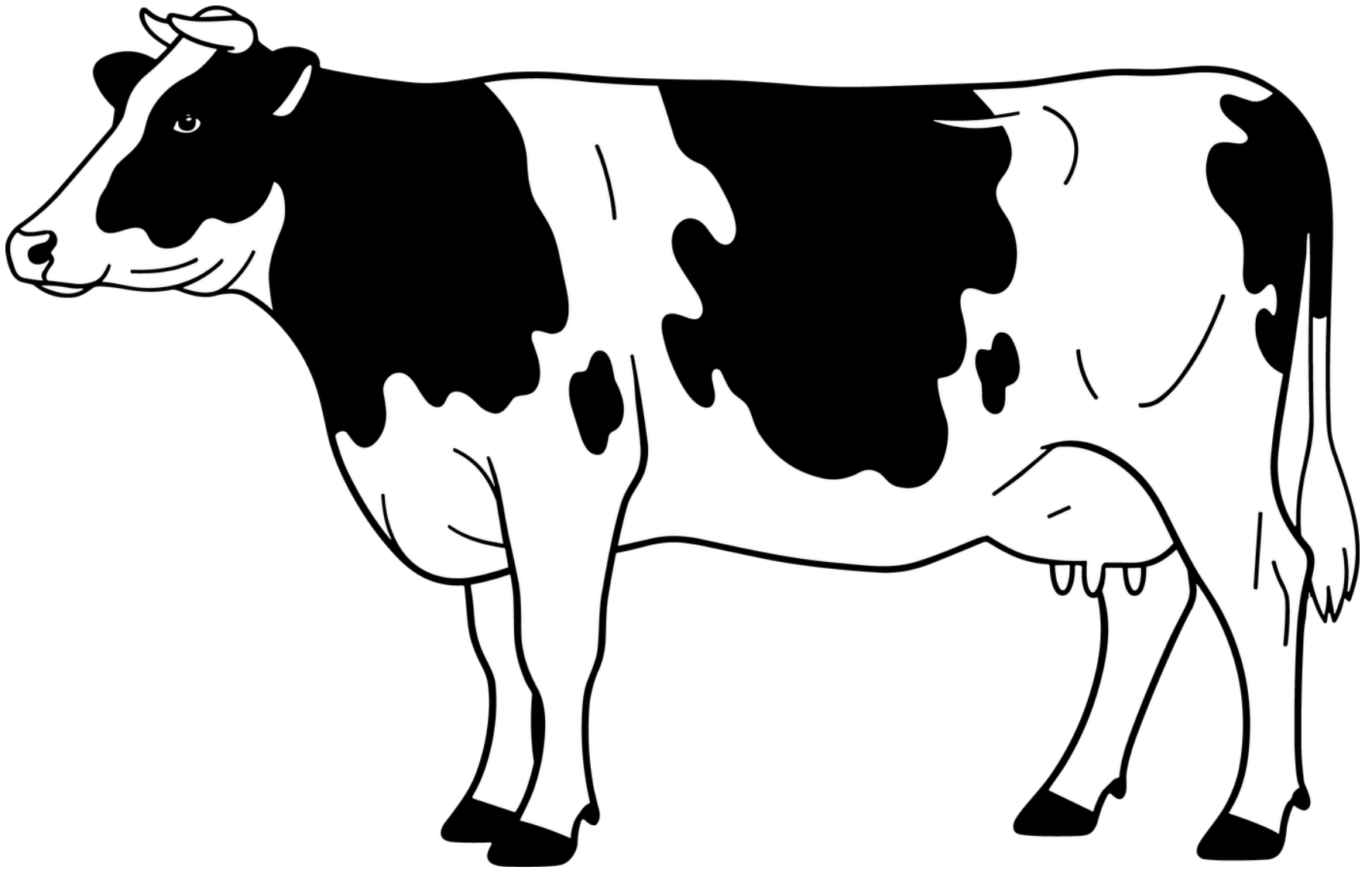
 App Store

Sudoku Daily Game #53

SOLUTIONS

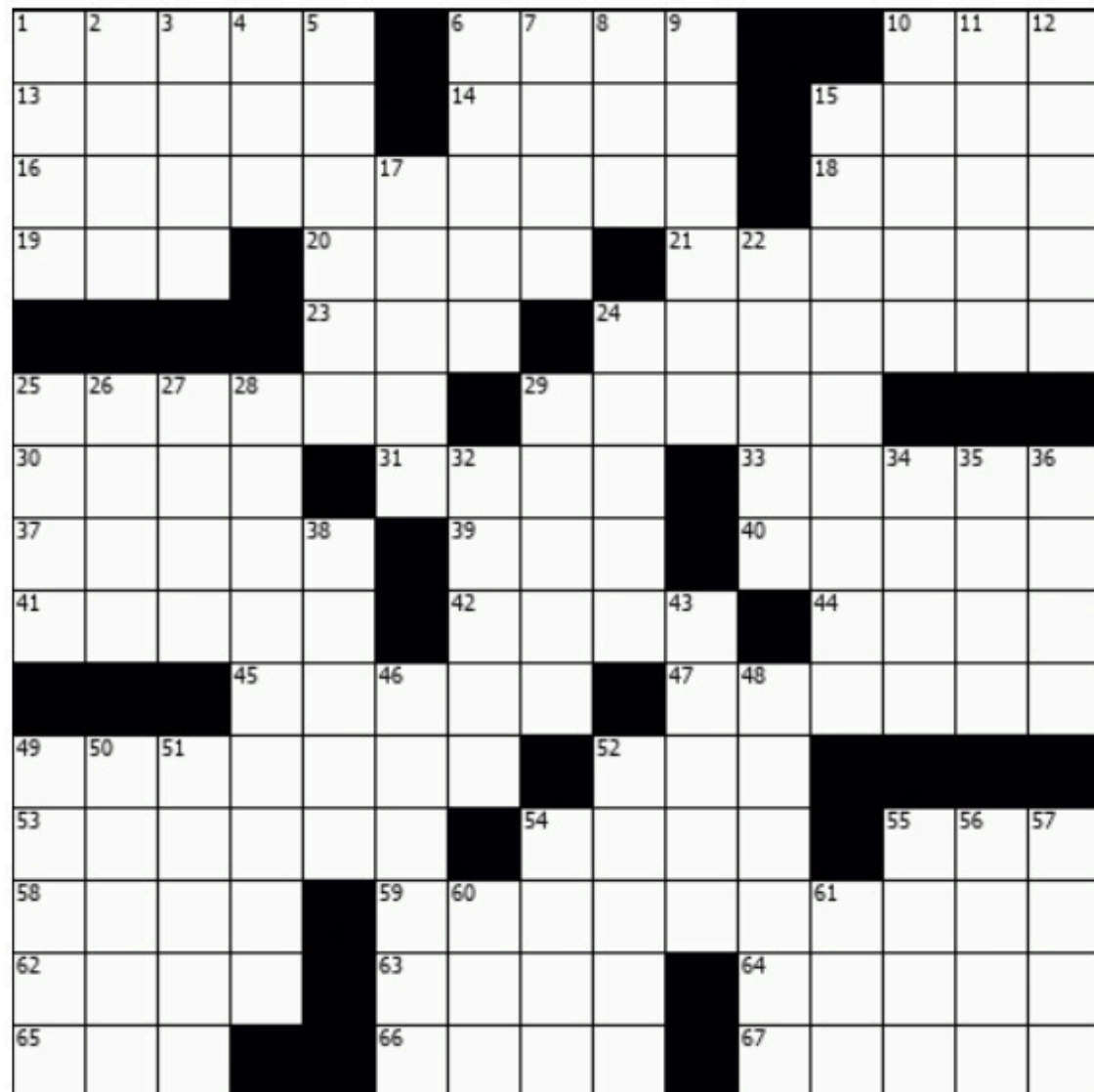
Coloring Sheet

COWABUNGA!



Across

1. Gauchos' weapons
 6. "Beg pardon . . ."
 10. Calendar pgs.
 13. Circus site
 14. Russian legislature
 15. Lend support to
 16. Dhaka's land
 18. Wise about
 19. Cockpit fig.
 20. Comrade in arms
 21. Sarges' superiors
 23. A Stooge
 24. '60s elementary-school innovation
 25. "Cat's in the Cradle" singer
 29. Held up
 30. Flight word form
 31. Sprang up
 33. Wear away
 37. Whole bunches
 39. Will Smith title role
 40. Had the nerve
 41. Earth mover
 42. Stupefy
 44. Have to have
 45. Provide funding for
 47. Merchant ship
 49. Not as dense
 52. Entrepreneur-aiding org.
 53. 2005 coin with a bison
 54. Urban renewal target
 55. Part of TGIF
 58. In the past
 59. Census figure
 62. Swedish tennis great
 63. Rainbow array
 64. Perry's aide
 65. RR stop
 66. Allergy symptom
 67. Burns' partner

**Down**

1. Rum cake
 2. Paperless test
 3. Fat Tuesday follower
 4. Director Lee
 5. Pepperoni relative
 6. Discombobulate
 7. Nephew of Donald
 8. Printer's widths
 9. German composer
 10. Craze
 11. Largish combo
 12. Smidgen
 15. Aussie missile
 17. "Moving right __ . . ."
 22. Had title to
 24. Like some situations
 25.
 26. Pitch in
 27. Square footage
 28. Explosive situation
 29. Beneath the deck
 32. Stubble remover
 34. Creme-filled cookie
 35. GPA spoilers
 36. Whirling water
 38. Touch or taste
 43. Afghan capital
 46. Oracle site
 48. Holiday rival
 49. Snooty sorts
 50. Wine grape
 51. Ghanian capital
 52. Winter annoyance
 54. Job detail, briefly
 55. "__ 'er up!"
 56. Part to play
 57. __ uproar
 60. At lunch, maybe
 61. Business card abbr.

Crossword Puzzle #53

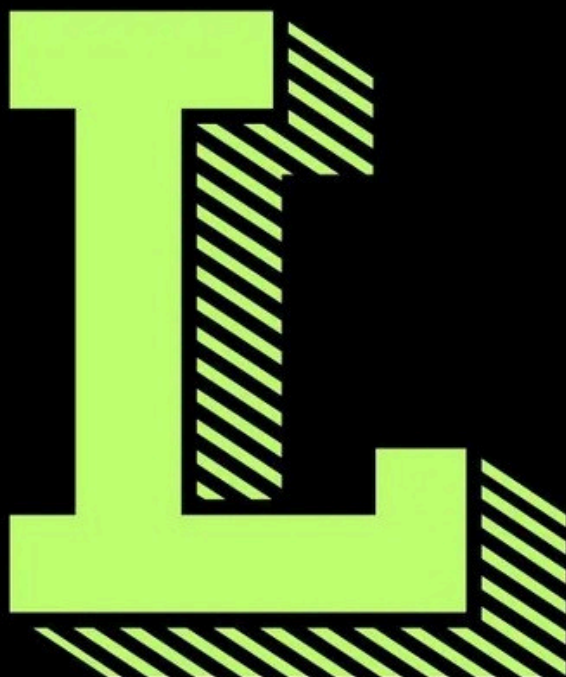
B	O	L	A	S		A	H	E	M			M	O	S
A	R	E	N	A		D	U	M	A		B	A	C	K
B	A	N	G	L	A	D	E	S	H		O	N	T	O
A	L	T		A	L	L	Y		L	O	O	I	E	S
				M	O	E		N	E	W	M	A	T	H
C	H	A	P	I	N		B	O	R	N	E			
A	E	R	O		G	R	E	W		E	R	O	D	E
S	L	E	W	S		A	L	I		D	A	R	E	D
S	P	A	D	E		Z	O	N	K		N	E	E	D
			E	N	D	O	W		A	R	G	O	S	Y
S	P	A	R	S	E	R		S	B	A				
N	I	C	K	E	L		S	L	U	M		F	R	I
O	N	C	E		P	O	P	U	L	A	T	I	O	N
B	O	R	G		H	U	E	S		D	E	L	L	A
S	T	A			I	T	C	H		A	L	L	E	N

Crossword Puzzle Solutions #53

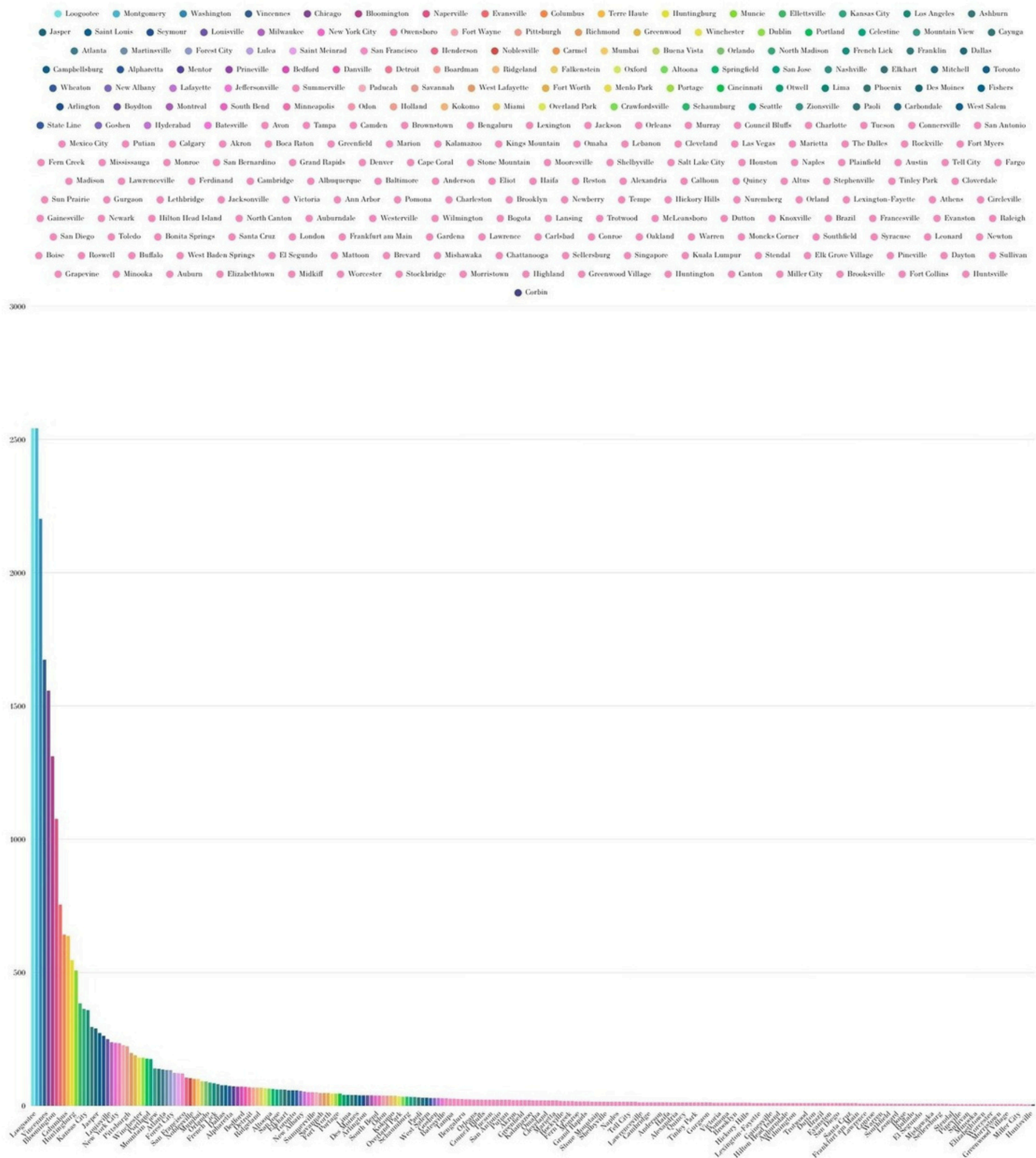
**HEY YOU!
YES YOU!**

**DO YOU WANT YOUR BUSINESS TO ADVERTISE
WITH US?**

**WE CAN HELP YOU TODAY! THE NEXT FEW PAGES
WILL OUTLINE OUR NEW ADVERTISING POLICY AND
STRATEGY THAT MIGHT WORK FOR YOU. FLIP TO
THE NEXT PAGE TO SEE MORE. IF INTERESTED
CONTACT THE EDITOR AT
BRAYDYN_BEARLENTS@LOOGOOTEETIMES.COM**



Martin County, Indiana's #1 Local Newspaper by Readers Since 2024



Online Advertisement Rates

To air on
www.loogooteetimes.com

Tier List

**Banner Size Online Ad
Placement
\$15 per week**

**Small Online Ad Placement
\$20 per week**

**Full Size Online Ad Placement
\$30 per week**

**Medium Size Online Ad
Placement
\$25 per week**

The Bronze Tier
*Side Bar Ad and
Brand Recognition
for 52 Weeks*
\$275

The Silver Tier
*Small Size Ad Airing
Online for 52 Weeks*
\$500

The Golden Tier
*Medium Size Ad
Placement Online for
52 Weeks*
\$1,800

The Platinum Tier
*Large Size Ad
Placement for 52
Weeks*
\$3,500

Loogootee Times Advertisement Rates

Annual Contributing Sponsors
(Business Name on Our Tier List
Recognition is Completely Optional)

Banner/Strip Ad Placement

\$10 per week

10.5 x 3 inches

Small Size Ad Placement

\$15 per week

3.5 x 4.75 inches

11 x 17 inches

Large Size Ad Placement

\$25 per week

Medium Size Ad Placement

\$20 per week *10 x 7 inches*

Printed on Tabloid Style Newspaper 11.4" × 15.0"

The Bronze Tier

*Banner Ad and
Brand Recognition
for 52 Weeks*

\$250

The Silver Tier

*Small Ad Placement
for 52 Weeks*

\$450

The Golden Tier

*Medium Size Ad
Placement for 52 Total
Weeks*

\$1,500

The Platinum Tier

*Large Size Ad
Placement for 52
Weeks*

\$3,000

DEADLINES FOR ADS

Milestone	Deadline
Space Reservation	Wednesday at 3:45 PM (1 week prior to publication)
Ad Copy & Design Requests	Tuesday by 3:00 PM (1 week prior to publication)
Final Proof Approval	Wednesday by 12:00 PM
Publication Day	Wednesday Afternoon at 4 p.m.

The Loogootee Times Ad Information

This document is designed to be the "fine print" of your media kit. It protects The Loogootee Times legally while ensuring your advertisers know exactly what is expected of them.

You can add this as a final tab in your Google Sheet or a standalone page in your PDF Media Kit.

The Loogootee Times | Terms & Advertising Policies

1. GENERAL RATE POLICY

Rate Adjustments: The Loogootee Times reserves the right to revise advertising rates with 30 days' notice. Existing contracts will be honored at the original rate until the contract expiration date.

Payment Terms: All first-time advertisers must prepay for their first three (3) insertions. Established accounts are billed monthly with terms of Net 30.

Late Fees: Accounts 30 days past due are subject to a 1.5% monthly finance charge.

Taxes: All rates are gross; any applicable local or state taxes are the responsibility of the advertiser.

Charitable Rates: To qualify for the Community Rate, organizations must provide proof of 501(c)3 status or be a registered local school/government entity.

2. CONTRACT AND COPY REGULATIONS

Right of Refusal: We reserve the right to edit, reject, or cancel any advertisement that we deem objectionable in phrase, text, or illustration, or that is detrimental to the public interest.

Positioning: While we try to honor "Request for Position" (e.g., Top of Page 3), specific placement is not guaranteed unless a Premium Placement Fee has been paid.

Errors and Omissions: The Loogootee Times is not responsible for errors in ads provided by the advertiser. For ads built by us, our liability for an error is limited to a "make-good" (re-running the corrected ad in the next issue) or a credit for the space occupied by the error.

Political Advertising: All political ads must be paid in advance and must clearly state "Paid for by [Committee Name]" as per state law.

Indemnification: Advertisers assume all liability for the content of their ads and agree to indemnify The Loogootee Times against any claims arising from their advertisements.

3. PRESS-READY AD SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

To ensure your ad looks professional and sharp on newsprint, please follow these technical standards:

Deadline: All files must be received by Wednesday at 3:00 PM (one week prior to publication).

File Formats: * Preferred: Press-Optimized PDF.

Accepted: High-Resolution JPEG or TIFF (300 DPI minimum).

Note: We do not accept Microsoft Word or Publisher files as final "press-ready" art.

Color & Ink:

B&W Ads: Must be submitted in Grayscale.

Color Ads: Must be submitted in CMYK color mode. (RGB files from websites will be converted and colors may shift).

Resolution: All images within the ad must be at least 300 DPI. Photos pulled from the internet (usually 72 DPI) will appear "blurry" or "pixelated" in print.

Fonts: All fonts must be embedded in the PDF or converted to outlines/curves to prevent printing errors.

How to Use This in Your Media Kit

Transparency: Keep this on your website so there are no surprises regarding late fees or "make-goods."

Signature Line: At the bottom of your Google Sheet or PDF, add a line that says: "By submitting an advertisement, the advertiser agrees to the terms and regulations listed above."

Would you like me to help you draft a "New Advertiser Onboarding" email that includes these policies and a request for their first payment?



NEWSPAPER ADVERTISING SIZES

Tabloid: 289 x 380 mm

NEWSPAPER ADVERTISING DEADLINES

PUBLICATION DAY DEADLINE

Every Tuesday by 5 P.M. for Your Ad To Premiere on Wednesday's Print Edition.

ONLINE: Every weekday by 5 P.M. to Premiere on Our Website.

ENTERTAINMENT SECTION

TV Guide 5pm Thursday
1 week prior to publishing

DIGEST-SIZED ADVERTISING SIZES

Full Page 5"x8"

Half Page (horizontal) 5"x4"

Half Page (vertical) 2.5"x8"

Quarter Page 2.5"x4"