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The Loogootee Times

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CITY OF LOOGOOTEE APPROVES MUNICIPAL REPAIRS AMID LEGAL TENSIONS



LOOGOOTEE, Ind. — Equipment dilemmas, infrastructure rehabilitation, and legal discussions over special event permits dominated back-to-back meetings of the Loogootee Board of Public Works and Safety and Common Council on Monday.

Fleet breakdowns prompt emergency expenditures

Public works officials presented a list of mechanical failures across municipal vehicles. The board approved $14,963.87 to repair electrical harnesses, control modules, and hydraulic switches on the city's 2018 vacuum truck, which has been out of service in Evansville for a month.

Utility leaders also outlined severe hazards with the street department's 1994 GMC Kodiak dump truck, which has blown wheel seals repeatedly and poses fire risks during hauling runs. Because its discontinued driveshaft parking brake requires manual wheel chocking, the board approved buying a 2027 Ford F-650 chassis cab from Ruxer for $96,025. The truck will have a gross vehicle weight rating under 26,000 pounds, allowing staff without commercial driver's licenses to operate it. Water and wastewater utility funds will cover the purchase.

The board tabled a proposal to replace a 2009 street sweeper to compare financing options between new and certified pre-owned units.

Wastewater lines and traffic proposals

The board ratified an emergency contract with Walker & Sons Excavating for $15,000 to replace and concrete-encase 75 linear feet of crumbling 1960s sewer pipe suspended over a creek bed near the city park bridge.

Engineering bids to reline more than 2,600 linear feet of sewer mains along U.S. 231 from McDonald's were taken under advisement for 90 days. Bids included:

- Temple & Temple Excavating and Paving: $394,985
- SAK Construction / Subsurface Technologies: $468,661.39
- Robinson Pipe Cleaning Co.: $495,764
- Insituform Technologies: $581,070

City engineers have completed site walks along Williams Street, Walker Street, East Main Street, Bloomfield Road, and Crane Street for the upcoming Community Crossings grant cycle. Safety officials also proposed turning West Main Street into a one-way westbound street from U.S. 231 toward the post office to reduce intersection crashes near the Corner Cafe.

Public safety updates

The board approved $835.58 from opioid settlement funds to complete retraining for a replacement police canine through Shallow Creek Kennels after police dog Rip developed severe environmental phobias. The council expanded that authorization up to $2,000

SHOALS APPROVES ENGINEERING AGREEMENT TO ADDRESS STATE WASTEWATER VIOLATIONS

MARTIN COUNTY POLICE & EMT REPORTS PROVIDED BY THE MARTIN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

MID-STATES CORRIDOR SECTION MENTIONED WEEKLY BY MR. JIM ARVIN

LADY LIONS VICTORIOUS IN 5-SET THRILLER WITH FOREST PARK

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SHOALS APPROVES ENGINEERING AGREEMENT TO ADDRESS STATE WASTEWATER VIOLATIONS

SSHOALS, Ind. — Facing regulatory pressure over its municipal wastewater operations, the Shoals Town Council approved an engineering agreement Monday to address state environmental violations while moving to protect utility infrastructure and enforce ordinances on blighted properties.

During the regular session, council members approved a memorandum of agreement not to exceed $30,000 with HWC Engineering to prepare for an Oct. 7 formal consultation with the Indiana Department of Environmental Management. The town faces active state compliance issues concerning its wastewater operations.

"We're currently under violation with IDEM on our wastewater systems," council officials said. "In order to prepare for that meeting and prepare for our side so that we can ask for an extension and hopefully avoid violations, we need to have a memorandum of agreement with our engineering company and not exceed $30,000 of engineering costs".

The conference with state regulators is scheduled for Oct. 7 at 2 p.m. via Microsoft Teams.

The council also adopted Ordinance 2026-02, establishing regulatory standards for cross-contamination control on the municipal water distribution system to align with state drinking water guidelines.

Members voted to create a dedicated restricted municipal fund to receive residual money returned from a 2021 wastewater initiative.

"We've also reached agreements with several parties that has to do with the funding that's left over from the wastewater program back in '21," officials stated. "And we're going to have that money sent to the town of Shoals. And I'm requesting that an account restricted fund account be set up for that for wastewater only—wastewater and maintenance".

The board approved naming the account the Wastewater Restricted Fund. The money will support planned upgrades at the town lagoon treatment facility, which is undergoing engineering review after administrative delays with the state.

Utility safety and park staffing

Utility protection took another step forward following concerns over a vulnerable fire hydrant near the Shoals United Methodist Church. Officials reported vehicles had repeatedly backed into the hydrant, a breakaway design requiring complete replacement once struck.

"It's a town fire hydrant. I would recommend that the town absorb the cost because it's protecting the town's fire hydrant," council members agreed.

The council authorized crews to install protective steel pipe bollards around the unit. The barrier will consist of 4-inch steel casing set in concrete arranged in a minimum 30-inch radius, ensuring sufficient clearance for fire hoses.

Addressing park operations, the council declined to approve a year-end bonus for seasonal caretaker John Haulk. The ballpark board had asked the council to review Haulk's compensation after his contract had already been executed.

"The contract was made and it's about to end anyway, so let's just wait till the next contract and they can raise the price if they want to," council members said. "John did a good job. No real question there. Contract's about to end anyway".

A motion to let the contract expire without an added bonus carried unanimously.

Fall cleanup, paving and public events

The council evaluated an appeal from organizers seeking to host a 5K road race along Spout Springs Road. Council members reaffirmed their opposition to closing thoroughfares, noting Spout Springs Road transitions into Martin County highway jurisdiction past the local grain bins. Members advised organizers to utilize the route established during the Shoals Catfish Festival, which operates alongside moving traffic. Local police noted that while officers cannot close county roads without commissioner approval, extra patrols could monitor driver speeds.

The annual town fall cleanup was set for early next month. Roll-off dumpsters will sit behind Town Hall from Friday, Oct. 2, through Sunday, Oct. 4, with final pickup set for Monday, Oct. 5. Security cameras will monitor the area to deter illegal dumping of motor oil, fluids, and tires.

Town trick-or-treat hours were shifted to Friday, Oct. 30, from 6 to 8 p.m. to avoid conflicting with school festival events on Oct. 31.

Street crews will begin paving Second Street and Capitol Avenue on Tuesday morning following recent asphalt milling. Motorists should expect delays during three days of work.

Property maintenance and ordinance enforcement

The council discussed neglected structures, overgrown lots, and trash complaints throughout the town. Members highlighted problem sites along Second Street, High Street, near the local funeral home, and the vacant commercial lot tied to the former JC's grocery store.

Town legal counsel advised that the existing property maintenance ordinance allows direct municipal remediation if owners disregard certified warnings. Under town code, the municipality can hire contractors to mow or clear debris, place liens on property tax rolls to recover expenses, and levy fines of up to $50 a day. Staff and police will assemble updated photo documentation for active parcels.

Resident Theresa approached the council requesting that downtown holiday lights not go up until after Veterans Day to prevent the premature removal of memorial flags honoring military service members. Officials agreed to review the third-party installation contract to protect displays prior to Nov. 11.

Plainville resident Tiffany Arthur introduced herself during public comments, stating she is running for the Indiana House District 63 seat.

Shoals Town Hall will be closed Monday, Oct. 12, for Columbus Day. The next regular council meeting and 2027 budget hearing is scheduled for Monday, Oct. 5, at 4:30 p.m.

Martin County Council advances 2027 budget, funds emergency gear

SHOALS, Ind. — Martin County fiscal leaders advanced the proposed 2027 county budget, approved emergency appropriations for volunteer emergency communications, and confronted mounting real estate assessment appeals during a public hearing and regular monthly council session Monday.

The council opened its 2027 fiscal review with public hearings for county civil government and the Martin County Solid Waste Management District. According to advertised figures, the county’s estimated 2027 civil maximum levy is $3,179,380, alongside an estimated $145,000 in property tax cap credit reductions.

During the regular meeting, council members approved $25,000 for emergency 800 MHz radios for two volunteer fire departments, financed storm repairs on county roads, covered flood insurance deductibles for community corrections, and standardized hourly pay for dispatchers and jailers.

Public hearing details 2027 tax projections

Tax-supported funds advertised for the county's 2027 fiscal year include:

- General Fund: Advertised budget of $4,780,613. The maximum estimated levy is $2.5 million against a current levy of $2,210,487, a 13.1% increase.
- Reassessment Fund: Budget of $281,825, with maximum estimated tax collections of $175,000, up 9.6% from $159,693.
- Cumulative Bridge Fund: Budgeted at $236,663, with estimated tax collections of $220,000, up 18.2% from $186,108.
- County Health Fund: Advertised budget of $90,485, with maximum collections of $80,000, up 14.9% from $69,641.
- Cumulative Capital Development Fund: Operating estimate of $188,000, with maximum taxes to be raised at $230,000, up 15.1% from $199,916.

The Martin County Solid Waste Management District’s estimated 2027 operating budget was advertised at $739,241. Officials noted the district is supported by user fees rather than property tax levies. Final budget adoption is scheduled for Monday, Oct. 5, at 6:30 p.m.

Assessed value increases and tax cap losses

Council members reviewed state estimates from the Department of Local Government Finance detailing projected circuit breaker tax cap losses across local taxing units:

to cover future canine nutrition. The department also opened recruitment for two full-time patrol officers ahead of the January academy cohort.

Fire command warned council members that the department's aerial ladder truck is limited to stationary water operations due to hydraulic cylinder leaks that allow the ladder to sink slowly. Replacement parts will not arrive until December. Fire leaders urged the city to set up an equipment replacement fund over the next five years to prepare for ladder and pumper replacements that now exceed $1 million each.

Special event permitting dispute

City legal counsel confirmed an active federal court injunction bars Loogootee from enforcing its recently enacted special events ordinance. Counsel advised that the city can still require organizers to carry liability insurance holding the municipality harmless.

Under that framework, the board approved an application from New Beginnings Church to close a block of the square Oct. 9-10 from 5 to 9 p.m.

During public comments, an organizer associated with a previously litigated Pride event objected to statements questioning the group's safety protocols, asserting that organizers held liability insurance and made repeated attempts to coordinate barricades with the city. Elected officials responded that last-minute federal court filings on holiday weekends undermine municipal logistics and safety planning.

SHOALS

- Martin County (Civil Unit): Estimated maximum levy of $2,983,534; circuit breaker deductions of $145,000 (a 16% increase).

- Loogootee Community School Corp.: Maximum levy of $1,976,088; circuit breaker deductions of $188,310 (a 10% increase).

- Shoals Community School Corp.: Maximum levy of $1,943,857; circuit breaker deductions of $154,200 (a 42% increase).

- City of Loogootee: Civil maximum levy of $832,597; tax cap losses of $53,400 (a 7% increase).

- Town of Shoals: Civil maximum levy of $297,115; tax cap reductions of $63,930 (a 59% increase).

- Town of Crane: Civil maximum levy of $65,560; tax cap deductions of $19,280 (a 194% increase).

- Loogootee Public Library: Maximum levy of $204,682; circuit breaker reductions of $10,690 (a 13% increase).

- Shoals Public Library: Maximum levy of $133,915; tax cap losses of $6,210 (a 29% increase).

Assessor staff noted surging real estate values have generated an influx of property tax assessment appeals from local landowners.

Emergency radios and departmental allocations

The council approved $25,000 from the Local Income Tax Public Safety Fund to purchase 10 new emergency radios, split evenly between the Lost River and Shoals volunteer fire departments. Command personnel noted volunteers had been relying on 20-year-old units that can no longer be serviced.

Other approved actions included:

- Community Corrections: The council transferred $5,000 within the CTP Fund to satisfy an insurance deductible following an office water pipe break that destroyed a commercial printer. The board also appropriated $2,500 from the Riverboat Fund for road crew supervision wages, added a temporary training line item for an incoming case manager, and allocated $8,121.52 within the Drug Free Community Fund.

- Health Department: Secured $26,000 from reserve funds to maintain staffing and clinic operations through year's end following earlier state funding cuts.

- Highway Department: Approved $100,000 from Restricted MVH funds, splitting the amount evenly between road stone and culvert replacements following severe storm washouts.

- Building Maintenance: Authorized $2,000 to inspect and replace fasteners on a county storage facility experiencing roof leaks.

- Wages and Operations: Raised part-time correctional officer wages to $23 an hour to match 911 dispatcher pay, appropriated $12,700 for a recurring voting machine lease, and provided modest supply funds to Purdue Extension ($1,000) and Veteran Services ($500).

The council will reconvene for final 2027 budget adoption on Monday, Oct. 5, at 6:30 p.m.

Loogootee counters CSX lease terms, weighs endowment options
LOOGOOTEE, Ind. — City leaders are pushing back against a proposed rail corridor lease while considering long-term endowment options for municipal land proceeds and business incubator spaces.

Meeting in regular session, the Loogootee Redevelopment Commission voted unanimously to reject a ground-lease proposal from CSX Transportation, directing legal counsel to present alternatives to purchase or lease-to-own downtown railroad property.

CSX offered the city an annual ground lease of $10,000 for parking use on two downtown parcels near the American Legion and across from the Methodist church. The offer barred permanent monuments, required extensive engineering reviews, and omitted adjacent rail properties.

Commissioners objected to the annual fee, noting city crews have mowed and maintained the rail corridor without charge since at least 1996. The city's counterproposal will seek an outright purchase or a lease-purchase agreement that guarantees CSX perpetual operational staging access while asking the carrier to clear trees and grade gravel on the parcels.

Community Foundation investment debate

The commission debated how to handle approximately $350,000 generated from the sale of property in the city's former industrial park.

Leadership suggested placing the proceeds with the Martin County Community Foundation to build a permanent municipal endowment. Under the preliminary concept, the capital would remain invested for three years at an estimated 4% annual return, funneling interest back to redevelopment projects or equipment purchases.

Commissioners expressed reluctance to commit the full sum, advocating to keep at least $100,000 liquid for local grant matches and architectural evaluations. The board agreed to invite community foundation representatives to its next meeting to detail fund management, fee schedules, and yield expectations.

Storefront incubator proposals

The commission also reviewed plans to launch a retail incubator program to address downtown commercial vacancies. Working alongside local economic development coordinators, the city is evaluating rent subsidies to help emerging small businesses lease vacant storefronts.

Under the framework, the commission would cover half of a tenant's rent for six months to a year, an estimated public investment of $3,000 per tenant during a six-month trial. Formal guidelines will be drafted before the new fiscal year.

COSTELLO FIELD RENOVATIONS COMPLETED IN LOOGOOTEE

LOOGOOTEE, Ind. — Renovations at Costello Field are complete, providing an upgraded home for the Loogootee Lady Lions softball team while opening doors for regional youth sports tournaments.

The project was funded by a grant from the Martin County Community Foundation, with contractor TenBarge directing field construction.

"This was not a $20 renovation, but an investment into our school, our community and our kids," project coordinators said.

Athletic officials noted that weekend youth tournaments regularly draw 500 to 700 visitors to Loogootee, supporting local dining, lodging, and retail. Athletic Director Josh Thompson, the Loogootee School Board, and coordinator John Neidifer were recognized for overseeing project planning and construction.

LOOGOOTEE SENIOR CENTER TO HOST VACCINE CLINIC OCT. 7

Loogootee Senior Center to host vaccine clinic Oct. 7
LOOGOOTEE, Ind. — The Loogootee Senior Center has partnered with CVS Pharmacy to host an on-site vaccination clinic Wednesday, Oct. 7.

The clinic will run from 1 to 3 p.m. at 406 NW First St. In addition to standard flu shots, vaccines for pneumonia, shingles, RSV, and COVID-19 will be available. Attendees can receive up to two shots during their visit.

CVS requires at least 15 scheduled vaccinations to hold the clinic, counted by total doses rather than individual patients. Participants must register in advance at cvs.com and bring health insurance cards and identification. Those needing help with registration can call the center directly.

FREE MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID COURSE SCHEDULED IN MARTIN COUNTY

LOOGOOTEE, Ind. — Area residents, employers, and civic leaders can learn crisis response strategies during a free Mental Health First Aid course Monday, Sept. 21, in Loogootee.

The workshop runs from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Martin County Fairgrounds and Event Center inside the Purdue Extension Office, 2666 U.S. Highway 50.

The course provides training to identify and assist individuals experiencing mental health or substance use challenges. The program is funded through a partnership among Deaconess Wellness Solutions - Jasper, the Dubois County Community Foundation, and the Memorial Medical Center Foundation. A light lunch will be provided.

Registration is limited to 30 people. Attendees can register online at deaconess.com under the "Classes & Events" tab. Workplaces seeking private group sessions can contact communityeducation@deaconess.com.

MARTIN COUNTY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION AWARDS $500 TO LOOGOOTEE GIRLS GOLF

LOOGOOTEE, Ind. — The Loogootee High School girls golf program received a $500 grant from the Martin County Community Foundation to assist with fall operations.

Foundation representative Mike Arvin presented the check to team members and coaches. The funds will assist with seasonal travel, equipment, and match fees.

"I would like to thank Mike Arvin, Megan Hawkins, and Martin County Foundation for their support of the Loogootee girls golf team," head coach Tyler Walton said.

LOOGOOTEE BEAUTIFICATION BOARD HOSTS OUTDOOR MOVIE NIGHT SATURDAY

LOOGOOTEE, Ind. — The Loogootee Beautification Board will host a free outdoor screening of Disney's "Freakier Friday" on Saturday, Sept. 19, at the Loogootee Pavilion.

The movie begins at dusk. Attendees should bring lawn chairs or blankets. Concessions will be available for purchase.

The event is sponsored by Duke Energy under its "Good Movies, Brighter Communities" program, with public performance licensing provided by Swank Motion Pictures. Admission is free.



SENIOR CENTER HOSTS COMMUNITY COOKOUT AND CASINO NIGHT FRIDAY

LOOGOOTEE, Ind. — The Loogootee Senior Center will host a cookout and casino night for adults Friday, Sept. 18, beginning at 6 p.m.

The gathering takes place at 406 NW First St. The event features grilled burgers, hot dogs, and barbecue fare alongside casino-style card games and table activities.

The event is open to adults of all ages to promote community connection and raise awareness of center programs.

MARTIN STATE FOREST SCHEDULES PUBLIC OPEN HOUSE AND HIKE FOR SEPT. 30

SHOALS, Ind. — The Indiana Department of Natural Resources will host its annual public open house at Martin State Forest on Wednesday, Sept. 30.

The open house runs from 4 to 7 p.m. at the forest property office, located off U.S. 50 northeast of Shoals. Foresters will lead a guided nature walk along woodland trails starting at 5 p.m. to discuss local timber management, tree identification, and wildlife habitats.

The open house is free and open to all ages. Hikers are encouraged to wear sturdy walking shoes. For details, call 812-247-3491.

BO-MAC’S DRIVE IN TO HOST AUTUMN BARBECUE DAY SATURDAY

LOOGOOTEE, Ind. — Bo-Mac’s Drive In will host its seasonal BBQ Day on Saturday, Sept. 19, serving smoked meats alongside its standard diner menu.

Ribs will be available from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., or until sold out. Pulled pork, brisket, barbecue platters, and barbecue nachos will be served from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m., or until supplies run out.

The drive-in’s normal soft-serve and dining menu will remain available.

PAINTING WORKSHOPS PLANNED AT WEST BOGGS PARK, BLOOMFIELD

LOOGOOTEE, Ind. — Traveling art studio Artist Within will host two fall-themed canvas painting sessions in the area over the coming week.

- West Boggs Park: A "Fall Forest" landscape session is set for Saturday, Sept. 19, from 2 to 4 p.m. at the park, 16117 U.S. Highway 231 in Loogootee.
- From the Hart Studio (Bloomfield): A "Hootiful Harvest" session featuring an owl and pumpkin composition is set for Thursday, Sept. 24, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at 18 W. Main St. in Bloomfield.

Registration is $35 per class, which includes all materials, canvases, and step-by-step guidance. Reservations can be made at artistwithinparties.com or by calling 512-202-7122.

FIRST LAKEVIEW FALL FESTIVAL SET FOR SATURDAY AT STOLL’S

LOOGOOTEE, Ind. — Stoll’s Lakeview Restaurant will host its first Lakeview Fall Festival on Saturday, Sept. 19, along the lakefront.

The restaurant will maintain normal dining hours from 7:30 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. Festival grounds will feature outdoor concessions, including lemon shake-ups, kettle corn, coffee, and a community bake sale.

Attendees can shop craft vendor booths, purchase mums and pumpkins, and participate in lawn games. Admission details will be posted on-site.

MARTIN COUNTY DEMOCRATS ANNOUNCE ONLINE SILENT AUCTION

SHOALS, Ind. — The Martin County Democratic Party will host an online silent auction from Sept. 21 through Sept. 25 to support party outreach and civic operations.

The auction will feature donated items, gift packages, and specialty services from area supporters. Proceeds support county party activities in Shoals, Loogootee, and Crane. Catalog listings and bidding links will be posted on the party's social media pages ahead of opening day.

THIS AD SPACE COULD BE YOURS!

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

LOOGOOTEE BEAUTIFICATION BOARD HOSTS FOOD TRUCK FRIDAY DATE NIGHT SEPT. 18

LOOGOOTEE, Ind. — Couples and community members looking for an evening out can head to the Loogootee Pavilion for a special “Date Night Under the Stars” edition of Food Truck Friday.

The community event, organized by the Loogootee Beautification Board, will run from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. on Friday, Sept. 18.

Designed to offer a relaxing night filled with food, film, and fellowship, the gathering will feature an outdoor screening of the romantic drama “The Notebook” at dusk. The film presentation is sponsored by Duke Energy. Attendees are encouraged to bring blankets and lawn chairs to set up on the pavilion grounds.

Visitors will have access to a variety of local mobile vendors, with a lineup featuring featured lineup that includes Big Boys Burgers, Creations by Crystal, and Maggie’s Sweet Creations. Additional event concessions will be provided on-site directly by the Loogootee Beautification Board.

To help local parents enjoy an uninterrupted evening, organizers are providing free child care during the festivities. Parents can drop off their children at City Hall inside the Council Room before heading over to the pavilion. While the adults watch “The Notebook,” children will be treated to a screening of Disney’s “Zootopia 2,” sponsored by Richer Farms LLC.

The initiative aims to support local businesses while offering Martin County families and couples a cost-effective, community-centered evening out.

Admission to the movie and child care area is free, with food and refreshments available for independent purchase throughout the evening. Residents can find further event information and local updates through municipal community channels.

MARTIN COUNTY COMMUNITY ORGANIZERS SEEK LOCAL LANDLORD CONTACTS FOR HOUSING RESOURCE GUIDE

SHOALS, Ind. — Community organizers in Martin County are calling on local property owners and residents to help compile an updated directory of residential landlords across the county, aiming to expand available housing resources for area families.

The initiative seeks to build a comprehensive, up-to-date housing contact directory designed to connect prospective tenants, case managers, and local support agencies with available rental properties in Shoals, Loogootee, and surrounding rural communities.

Organizers are requesting that property owners who manage apartments, single-family rental homes, or mobile home spaces reach out directly with their contact details. Friends, family, and community members who rent locally or know area property managers are also encouraged to share names and contact numbers to ensure the listing is as thorough as possible.

Rural housing availability and navigation remain critical focal points across Southern Indiana. A consolidated landlord guide simplifies the search process for individuals relocating for work, young adults seeking independent housing, and families in need of stable accommodations. In addition, having verified landlord contacts on file enables local community assistance groups to coordinate directly with housing providers when assisting clients with housing navigation.

Residents and landlords can contribute to the initiative by responding directly to the organizers' community callout on social media or by submitting their contact information to regional outreach coordinators. Once finalized, the directory will serve as a permanent community resource for housing assistance throughout Martin County.

THIS AD SPACE COULD BE YOURS!

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

MARTIN COUNTY ALLIANCE HOSTS ‘CONNECT OVER COFFEE’ BUSINESS NETWORKING EVENT IN SHOALS

LOOGOOTEE, Ind. — The Loogootee Beautification Board and the City of Loogootee are inviting area businesses and organizations to participate in the Trick-or-Treat Safe Stop during the annual Loogootee Fall Festival on Saturday, Oct. 31.

The community event will run from 6 to 8 p.m. at the Loogootee Pavilion. Designed to offer a secure environment for local children and peace of mind for parents, the initiative also serves as an outreach opportunity for area merchants to connect with local families and showcase community spirit.

Organizers have outlined three ways for businesses and civic leaders to get involved:

- Donate candy: Contribute wrapped treats to help volunteers keep bags filled throughout the evening.
- Donate a prize: Provide gift certificates, merchandise, or branded promotional items to be given away during drawings.
- Set up a booth: Reserve space at the Loogootee Pavilion to decorate, hand out candy directly to trick-or-treaters, and promote local products and services.

Festivities will continue past the trick-or-treat window. Beginning at 8 p.m., a live DJ will take over entertainment at the pavilion alongside a lineup of additional fall festival activities.

Civic leaders emphasized that participation from local businesses helps ensure a safer, memorable Halloween night for Martin County youth while fostering community camaraderie.

Business owners, community groups, or volunteers interested in participating or seeking more details can contact Tracy Stoll by phone at 812-709-0498.

MARTIN COUNTY DEMS COMBINE PUBLIC MEETING AND TRASH CLEANUP AT HINDOSTAN SHELTER HOUSE

HINDOSTAN FALLS, Ind. — The Martin County Democratic Party will blend civic discussion with local beautification during its upcoming public gathering at the Hindostan Shelter House later this month.

The event, which combines a regular public meeting with a roadside trash pickup, is scheduled for Thursday, Sept. 24, beginning at 6 p.m.

In addition to conducting official party business and discussing regional concerns, volunteers will clean up litter along the roadway leading to the shelter house. The cleanup effort is planned specifically to help prepare the grounds for upcoming community events scheduled to take place at the facility over the following weekend.

Organizers are promoting the dual-purpose event under the motto “Let’s keep Martin County clean!” emphasizing civic pride and hands-on environmental stewardship. Members of the Martin County Young Dems are particularly encouraged to attend and take part in both the political discussions and the service initiative.

Party leaders stressed that the gathering is open to the general public regardless of background, operating under the principles that "your voice matters" and "your community matters."

Participants planning to assist with the roadside cleanup are advised to wear comfortable, sturdy walking shoes suitable for outdoor labor along the roadway. Organizers recommend dressing appropriately for the weather and potential uneven terrain around the park area.

Grassroots events combining volunteer service with local party organization have become an increasingly popular way for county committees to engage residents and demonstrate community investment ahead of election seasons.

The meeting and cleanup will proceed rain or shine at the shelter house site. Area residents seeking additional information or wanting to volunteer can connect through local Martin County Democratic Party announcements and outreach channels.

LOOGOOTEE OUTLINES PACKED SLATE OF LATE SEPTEMBER COMMUNITY EVENTS

LOOGOOTEE, Ind. — Downtown Loogootee and surrounding Martin County venues are preparing for a bustling final stretch of September, featuring open-air movies, food trucks, family festivals, and outdoor recreation.

The weekend kicks off Friday, Sept. 18, with an evening of local food trucks and artisan vendors serving from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. In tandem with the vendor market, the city will host an outdoor screening of "The Notebook" at the Loogootee Pavilion from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Parents attending the pavilion film can take advantage of free babysitting hosted at Loogootee City Hall, where children will be treated to an indoor screening of "Zootopia 2" during the same 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. window.

Activities expand across the county on Saturday, Sept. 19. Lark Ranch opens its gates for the 2026 fall season, welcoming families for corn mazes, pumpkin picking, and farm attractions from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Simultaneously, vintage recreation enthusiasts can head to West Boggs Park for the Boggs Bash Vintage Camper Rally, which begins welcoming public visitors at 10 a.m. to view restored classic travel trailers and campers.

The monthly festivities will conclude Wednesday, Sept. 30, with the Martin State Forest Open House, running from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. and highlighted by a guided nature hike at 5 p.m.

All events are open to the public, offering options for families, couples, and visitors across Martin County.

BO-MAC’S DRIVE IN TO HOST FALL BBQ DAY FEATURING RIBS AND BRISKET

LOOGOOTEE, Ind. — Bo-Mac’s Drive In is gearing up for a community-wide barbecue feast, hosting its popular "BBQ Day" this Saturday with slow-smoked meats and signature sides.

The special culinary event will take place on-site at the local drive-in eatery, renowned across Martin County for its classic ice cream treats, milkshakes, and traditional diner menu.

BBQ Day will spotlight slow-cooked specialties prepared specifically for the event. Ribs will be available starting at 11 a.m. until 4 p.m., or until supplies run out. In addition, Bo-Mac’s will serve slow-smoked brisket and pulled pork beginning at 11 a.m. and continuing through 9 p.m., or until sold out.

Diners can order meats piled high on specialty sandwiches, loaded plates, barbecue platters, and loaded barbecue nachos topped with melted cheese and jalapeños.

Because smoked meats will be prepared in limited batches, owners encourage patrons to arrive early in the day, noting that popular cuts frequently sell out before scheduled closing times. The drive-in’s standard menu of sandwiches, sundaes, soft-serve cones, and root beer will also remain available throughout the day.

Customers can visit the drive-in directly this Saturday to order at the window or take barbecue meals to go.

SPORTS

LOOGOOTEE SPORTS SCHEDULE

TENNIS (BOYS JH) - VINCENNES RIVET JR/SR. HIGH SCHOOL (A)
9/17/2026 5:00 PM

TENNIS (BOYS V & JV) - EVANSVILLE NORTH HIGH SCHOOL (H)
9/17/2026 5:30 PM

VOLLEYBALL (GIRLS 7 & 8) - SOUTH KNOX HIGH SCHOOL (A)
9/17/2026 6:00 PM

VOLLEYBALL (GIRLS V) - NORTH KNOX JR-SR HIGH SCHOOL (H)
9/17/2026 6:00 PM

VOLLEYBALL (GIRLS 6) - SOUTH KNOX (A)
9/17/2026 6:00 PM

TENNIS (BOYS JH) - JASPER MIDDLE SCHOOL (A)
9/18/2026 5:30 PM

VOLLEYBALL (GIRLS V) - SHOALS JR/SR HIGH SCHOOL (A)
9/18/2026 6:00 PM

VOLLEYBALL (GIRLS 7 & 8) - LOOGOOTEE MS INVITATIONAL (8TH GRADE) (H)
9/19/2026 TBD

VOLLEYBALL (GIRLS 6) - LOOGOOTEE MS INVITATIONAL (6TH GRADE) (H)
9/19/2026 TBD

VOLLEYBALL (GIRLS 7 & 8) - LOOGOOTEE MS INVITATIONAL (7TH GRADE) (H)
9/19/2026 TBD

9/19/2026 9:00 AM

CROSS COUNTRY (CO-ED V) - SOUTH KNOX CROSS COUNTRY INVITE (A)
9/19/2026 10:00 AM

TENNIS (BOYS V & JV) - FLOYD CENTRAL JR-SR HIGH SCHOOL (A)
9/19/2026 10:00 AM

TENNIS (BOYS JH) - EVANSVILLE NORTH (H)
9/19/2026 10:30 AM

TENNIS (BOYS V & JV) - LANESVILLE JR-SR HIGH SCHOOL (A)
9/19/2026 2:00 PM

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LOOGOOTEE SWEEPS VINCENNES RIVET FOR CONFERENCE VICTORY



The Loogootee Lady Lions picked up another conference victory Tuesday night at home, sweeping the Vincennes Rivet Lady Patriots 25-9, 25-22, 25-20. The win moves Loogootee to 10-5 on the season. The Lady Lions could not have asked for a much better start. Behind the serving of senior Aubrey Gilbert, Loogootee raced out to a 10-0 lead before Rivet scored its first point. The opening run featured several Rivet errors, four kills from senior Alaina Diamond, and three consecutive aces from Gilbert. Rivet never seriously threatened in the opening set. Senior Jocelynn Sims later added a four-point service rally, while sophomore Lydia Hawkins put together a three-point rally. A Rivet error eventually closed out a dominant 25-9 first-set victory. The opening set, however, was not indicative of how competitive the rest of the match would be. Rivet responded by jumping ahead 3-0 in the second set before a Sims pass led to a Hawkins set and a kill from freshman Taryn Brown to get Loogootee on the board. The Lady Patriots extended their advantage to 7-2, but an athletic serve receive from Hawkins kept a rally alive, allowing Gilbert to set up Diamond for a kill that helped turn the momentum. Junior Savannah Green then took over at the service line. Green put together a seven-point rally, including a pair of aces, to turn the five-point deficit into a 9-7 Loogootee lead. The teams traded points and were tied again at 11 before Hawkins delivered another big run from the service line. Her seven straight service points pushed the Lady Lions ahead 17-11. Hawkins also recorded assists to Karmen Wilson and Green during the stretch. Rivet refused to go away, eventually battling back to tie the set at 19-19 and again at 20-20. A Diamond kill off a Hawkins assist put Loogootee back in front, and a four-point Gilbert service rally helped build a 23-20 advantage. Back-to-back Rivet errors finished the set, 25-22, putting the Lady Lions one set away from the sweep. The third set proved to be just as competitive. After several early errors by both sides, a Gilbert-to-Diamond connection tied the set at three. The teams continued trading points until a solo block by Diamond made it 7-7. Loogootee edged ahead 12-10, only for Rivet to tie it again at 12. A setter-to-setter connection from Gilbert to Hawkins gave the Lady Lions a 14-12 lead, but the Lady Patriots responded with three straight points and eventually built an 18-15 advantage. Loogootee answered with big back-to-back kills from Wilson and Hawkins, and the teams found themselves tied once again at 19-19. That was when the Lady Lions made their final push. Over the next five points, Loogootee recorded four kills, with Hawkins handing out three assists and Diamond putting down three kills. With Loogootee leading 23-20, a Rivet error brought up match point. The seniors finished it. Gilbert set Diamond for the final kill, completing the 25-20 third-set victory and 3-0 conference sweep. Diamond led the Loogootee attack with 15 kills, while Hawkins finished with five and Green added four. The Lady Lions' two-setter offense was nearly even in assists, with Gilbert recording 15 and Hawkins adding 14. Gilbert also led Loogootee from the service line with 17 service points and four aces. Wilson recorded 10 service points, while Hawkins and Lauren Nolan each added eight. Nolan finished with two aces. Defensively, Sims led the way with 19 digs. Gilbert added nine, while Nolan and Haylo Harmon each recorded seven. JV Lady Lions Earn Straight-Set Win The JV Lady Lions also had a successful night, defeating Vincennes Rivet in straight sets, 25-12, 25-19. Addison Moore led the team with seven service points and tied Fara Fisher for the team lead with four aces. Harmon added four service points. Taryn Brown led the defense with seven digs, while Rollins and Moore each recorded six. Brylee Bateman led the attack with five kills, followed by Kensleigh Carrico with four. Fisher handed out a team-high seven assists, Carrico finished with six, and Moore added five as the JV Lady Lions completed the two-set victory.

LADY LIONS VICTORIOUS IN 5-SET THRILLER WITH FOREST PARK



The Loogootee Lady Lions battled through a night full of momentum swings Thursday at JBA, rallying multiple times to defeat Forest Park in an exciting five-set match, 25-23, 23-25, 27-25, 17-25, 15-13. The victory improved Loogootee to 8-3 on the season. The C-Team opened the night with a one-set loss, 25-13. JV followed with a three-set battle, winning the opener before falling 17-25, 25-16, 15-12. The loss moved the JV Lady Lions to 6-2. With the earlier matches running long, varsity did not take the floor until after 7:30, and the Lady Lions got off to a slow start. Forest Park jumped out to a 10-1 lead in the opening set. Loogootee never produced one huge run, but continued to chip away. A Forest Park mishit cut the deficit to 13-9, but the Lady Rangers stretched their advantage back to 18-11 and later 20-14. The Lady Lions kept battling, and back-to-back aces from junior Savannah Green eventually gave Loogootee its first lead at 23-22. Forest Park tied it at 23, setting up two of the biggest points of the set. Freshman Taryn Brown put down a kill off an assist from senior Jocelynn Sims to give Loogootee set point. On the next rally, Karmen Wilson came up with a huge dig, sophomore setter Lydia Hawkins put the ball up, and senior Alaina Diamond finished it to complete the comeback, 25-23. The second set had a nearly opposite feel. Loogootee held a 19-15 advantage after a block from Wilson and Green, but this time it was Forest Park that rallied late.

The Lady Rangers came back to take the set 25-23, evening the match at one set apiece. Forest Park carried that momentum into the third, building leads of 8-3 and 11-5. Once again, Loogootee had to play from behind. Trailing 18-15, Hawkins stepped to the service line and helped completely change the set. Her service rally pushed Loogootee in front 21-18, capped by a Wilson kill off a Hawkins assist. Forest Park responded, eventually tying the set at 24-24, but the Lady Lions prevailed in another pressure-filled finish. Green's kill off a set from senior Aubrey Gilbert finished off a 27-25 victory and put Loogootee ahead 2-1. The fourth set stayed tight early, with neither team gaining much separation until Forest Park went ahead 11-9. From there, the Lady Rangers took control, extending the lead to 16-9 before winning 25-17 and forcing a decisive fifth set. With the match on the line, Loogootee came out strong. A perfect pass from Sims set up Hawkins for a quick dink that gave the Lady Lions a 6-3 advantage. Forest Park immediately answered with four straight points to take the lead before an error evened the score at seven. The Lady Rangers eventually moved ahead 11-8, but a Hawkins-to-Wilson kill brought the energy back to Loogootee's side. Forest Park still held a 13-11 lead, leaving the Lady Lions just two points away from defeat. They never got them. A soft Diamond kill off Gilbert's set started a decisive 4-0 Loogootee run.

The Lady Lions completed the comeback behind Lauren Nolan's rally, with an all-senior connection on match point: Sims with the pass, Gilbert with the set, and Diamond with the kill, giving Loogootee a dramatic 15-13 fifth-set victory, right as the clock struck 10:00 PM. Diamond led the offense with 21 kills and added a team-high four blocks. Wilson finished with 11 kills, while Hawkins added eight. Hawkins recorded 23 assists and Gilbert added 17. Green had a huge night from the service line, finishing with 17 service points and six aces, while Hawkins recorded 14 service points and Lauren Nolan added nine. Green also contributed three blocks. Defensively, Sims continued her strong senior season with a team-high 32 digs. Nolan added 16 digs and Gilbert finished with 11. After twice rallying from significant deficits and scoring the final four points of the deciding set, the Lady Lions walked away from JBA with a memorable 3-2 victory and an 8-3 record. From a program note, 216 combined points scored appears to be the 5th highest in program history. The highest was 231 points at JBA in 2022, in a 5-set loss to Jasper.

JUNIOR HIGH VOLLEYBALL ROLLS THE LADY HATCHETS

Last Thursday night the Middle School Lady Lions Volleyball teams hosted the Washington Lady Hatchets in the AC and swept the nights in 6 sets. The 8th grade Lady Lions move to 8-2, the 7th 11-3, and the 6th grade 7-4 on the season.

MIDDLE SCHOOL VOLLEYBALL GETS WINS OVER SOUTHRIDGE AND FOREST PARK

Last Tuesday night, the middle school Volleyball teams split up. The JH teams played Forest Park in JBA and the 6th graders played an A and a B game against Southridge. The Lady Lions swept every set of the night from 6th-8th grade, and their records are as follows following this match: 8th 7-2, 7th 10-3, and 6th 6-4.

LOOGOOTEE TENNIS TAKES DOWN MINERS



The Loogootee Lions tennis team moved to 9-2 on the season Monday night when they topped Linton 5-0. #1 Singles player Cooper VanHoy beat Owen Smith 6-0, 6-1. At #2 Singles Grayson Kluesner beat Banx Mathis 6-0, 6-0 and Knox Jeffers beat Xander Kenworthy 6-0, 6-0 at the #3 Singles spot. In doubles action Emmet Graber and Gabe Walton beat Ian Mauder and Silas Nagy 6-3, 6-3 at #1 Doubles. At #2 Doubles Reed Brittain and Carter Downey won 6-0, 6-2 over Landon Tharp and Conner Hall. The Lions will be back in action on Thursday when they host Evansville North at the Rick Graves Tennis Complex.

VARSITY XC TEAMS RUN WELL AT WASHINGTON INVITE



The Loogootee Lions Cross Country Team ran in the Washington Invitational this past Saturday. The boys team finished in fifth place and were led by Mosby Jones, who was credited with an 11th place finish with a time of 19:23. The five runners who scored for the Lions were Mosby Jones, Bode Graber, Jacob Venters, Broc Kerns, and Jackson Lengacher. In the girls race, Reese Gibson led the Lions as she finished in 10th place with a time of 23:40. Kalotta Stockhammer ,an exchange student from Germany, ran in her first cross country meet and completed the course with a very respectable time of 29:59. The Lions will be back in action this Saturday as they travel to South Knox.

OBITUARIES

Brought to You By Blake Funeral Homes
in Loogootee, Indiana

ZETTA MARIE LENGACHER

April 18, 1932 - September 14, 2026



Zetta Marie Lengacher, 94, of Loogootee, Indiana went to her heavenly home on Monday, September 14, 2026, surrounded by her loving family.

She was born on April 18, 1932 in Minot, North Dakota to John Henry and Minnie (Ashton) Stoll.

Zetta was born and raised in North Dakota. At the age of 17, she moved to Indiana for work. Throughout her life, she worked a variety of jobs, but her greatest role was that of homemaker and mother. Raising her children and caring for her family were central to her life. Zetta married George Graber, and they shared 49 years together before his passing in 1989. In 2000, she married Joe Lengacher, and they enjoyed 25 years of marriage together, before he passed in 2026.

Faith was an important part of Zetta's life. She was a longtime member of Providence Mennonite Church, where she served as chorus leader. She also loved to sing and was a member of a quartet. Her faith was reflected in the many relationships and activities that were meaningful to her.

Zetta was a social person who enjoyed the company of family and friends, camping and sharing special times. She and George also enjoyed making wood crafts together, sharing the satisfaction of creating something with their own hands.

She had a special gift for making celebrations memorable.

Zetta loved to bake cakes, and many of her grandchildren remember the beautiful wedding and birthday cakes she made for them. But even more than the cakes, they will remember the time she spent with them. She treasured her grandchildren and great-grandchildren and made family time a priority.

Zetta will be remembered for her strong faith, her love of family, her warmth and social nature, and the many simple ways she cared for the people around her. Family was at the heart of her life, and the love she gave them will continue through the generations.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her husbands; two sons: Jerry J. Graber and Marvin Graber; one step-son, Mike Lengacher; and 7 siblings; Zetta will be lovingly remembered by her children: Delmar (Betty Jean) Graber, Terry Joe (Gwen) Graber, Nelda (Dean) Lengacher, Jolene (Van) McAtee, Sheldon (Jenny) Graber; her step-children: Jeff (Mira) Lengacher of Sarasota, Fl., Tim (Billie Sue) Lengacher of Leo, IN, Pam (Wayne) Miller of Sarasota, Fl; one sister, Ruby Miller;14 grandchildren and 19 great-grandchildren.

A funeral service will be held on Saturday, September 19, 2026 at 10:00 A.M. at Providence Mennonite Church in Montgomery, Indiana, with burial to follow in the church cemetery.

Visitation will be held on Friday, September 18, 2026 from 4:00-7:00 P.M. at Providence Mennonite Church and again the day of service on Saturday, from 9:00-9:45 A.M.

Online condolences may be made at www.blakefuneralhomes.com

Blake Funeral Home is honored to serve the family of Zetta Lengacher

To send flowers or plant a memorial tree in memory, please visit our flower store.

STEPHEN GLEN WAGLER

June 29, 1962 - September 13, 2026



On September 13, 2026, Stephen Glen Wagler, 64, of Montgomery, Indiana, peacefully went home to be with the Lord, safely into the loving arms of Jesus.

He was born to Glen and Ida (Knepp) Wagler on June 29, 1962 in Washington, Indiana. He married Janet Wagler, and she survives.

Stephen was a devoted family man and a man of faith, known for his steady nature and love of routine. He was a member of First Mennonite Church, and his Christian faith was an integral part of his life. Stephen was meticulous by nature and took great pride in maintaining his homestead, keeping things orderly and doing things the right way. That same care and attention to detail were evident in his work. He built a lifelong career as an electrician, where his precision, skill, and particular way of doing things made him exceptional at his craft. Outside of work, Stephen enjoyed fishing, gardening, and bluegrass music, but above all, he cherished time spent with his family, especially his infant grandson, Beckett.

He was preceded in death by his parents; two infant sons: Jayden and Javon Wagler; sister, Ida Lorene; and one sister-in-law, Laura Mae Wagler.

Stephen will be lovingly remembered by his wife, Janet; his daughter and son-in-law, Jessica and Tristan Graber; grandson, Beckett Graber; siblings: Pauline, Willard (Ada Marie), Marvin, Ada Marie (Lester) Graber, Mary Catherine (Loren) Wagler, Rosa (Paul) Wagler, Rachel (Leroy) Knepp, Delmar (Mary Ruth), Leanna (Robert) Wagler, Barbara Jean (Lewis) Stoll, Naomi Ruth (David Lee) Stoll; several nieces and nephews.

Visitation will be held on Monday, September 14, 2026 from 2:00 to 4:00 P.M. and from 5:00- 8:00 P.M and continue Tuesday, September 15, 2026 from 2:00-4:00 P.M. and from 5:00-8:00 P.M. at the First Mennonite Church in Montgomery, Indiana.

A funeral service will be held on Wednesday, September 16, 2026 at 10:00 A.M. at the First Mennonite Church, burial to follow in the church cemetery.

Online condolences may be made at www.blakefuneralhomes.com

Blake and Wagler Funeral Home is honored to serve the family of Stephen Glen Wagler.

To send flowers or plant a memorial tree in memory, please visit our flower store.

OBITUARIES

Brought to You By Blake Funeral Homes in Loogootee, Indiana

BARBARA AGATHA STOLL

October 14, 1934 — September 10, 2026



Barbara Agatha Stoll, 91, of Loogootee, Indiana passed away peacefully on Thursday, September 10, 2026, at Daviess Community Hospital in Washington, Indiana.

She was born on October 14, 1934, in Rugby, North Dakota, to the late Joseph and Carolina (Vetsch) Hornstein.

Barbara married John Stoll on September 15, 1953, beginning their 59 years of marriage, and he preceded her in death on December 27, 2012.

Barbara was a member of St. Joseph Catholic Church in Bramble, Indiana and later attended St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church. She found great joy in caring for her family and home, spending her life as a devoted homemaker, until her children grew up and she began to work outside of the home in various places. She was also a member of the Altar Society of Christian Mothers and cherished the time she spent serving her faith and community.

She loved to spend her time outdoors, especially farming and gardening. During her years as a military wife, she had the opportunity to travel and see new places, making memories and developing stories to share and carry with her throughout her life.

She is preceded in death by her parents Joseph and Carolina; her husband John; her son, John Stoll II; and 10 siblings.

Barbara is survived by her daughter, Peggy (Jerry) Padgett; a daughter-in-law, Bobbie Stoll; grandchildren, Joel (Anita) Padgett, Melanie Beckett, Michelle (Eric) Ringwald, Amanda (Nathan) Pruss, Sarah Stoll; her sister, Alice Myrum; 8 great-grandchildren and several nieces and nephews.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated by the Very Rev. J. Kenneth Walker at 11:00 A.M on Tuesday, September 15, 2026, at St. Joseph Catholic Church in Bramble, Indiana. Burial will follow in St. Joseph Catholic Cemetery.

Visitation will be held on Monday, September 14, 2026, from 4:00 P.M to 7:00 P.M at Blake Funeral Home in Loogootee, Indiana, and again on Tuesday from 10:00 A.M to 10:45 A.M at the church.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions can be made to the Martin County Right to Life.

Online condolences can be made at www.blakefuneralhomes.com

Blake Funeral Home is honored to serve the family of Barbara Agatha Stoll.

To send flowers or plant a memorial tree in memory, please visit our flower store.

MARY SUE STERLING

December 29, 1934 — September 9, 2026

Mary Sue Sterling, 91, of Loogootee, Indiana, passed away on September 9, 2026 in Evansville, Indiana.

She was born to Paris and Marguerite (Livers) Cannon on December 29, 1934 in Loogootee, Indiana. On July 7, 1953, she married the love of her life, Donald Gene Sterling and he preceded her in death on the same day 12 years ago on September 9, 2014.

Mary was a lifelong member of St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church and a devoted homemaker. She enjoyed helping others and volunteered in many ways over the years, including as a Pink Lady at Daviess Community Hospital, as a 4-H leader, and with St. Vincent de Paul charities. She stayed active throughout her life and, even at 91, exercised every day. Mary also enjoyed the simple pleasures, especially going to the casino with her son, Rob, and his wife, Nancy, and enjoying a meal at the Chinese buffet. She was a fan of hot and spicy foods in general. Her faith, love of family, and willingness to help others were an important part of who she was.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband, Donald; one son, Steven Sterling; one grandson, Dylan Sterling; siblings: Lucille Mramor, Doris Reising, Dorothy Taylor, Margie Flinn, Jenny (Arvin) Strange, Eleanor Haller, Eva Mae Babrick, John Cannon, Joe Cannon, and Bob Cannon.

Mary Sue is lovingly remembered by her children: Rob (Nancy) Sterling of Loogootee, Brad (Lynn) Sterling of Augusta, GA, Roger (Kim) Sterling of Vincennes, and Brenda (Bill) Rutherford of Paoli; one sister, Nancy Hayes; Grandchildren: Audra (Chris) Wood, Valerie Griffin, Nathan Sterling, Nicole (Matt) Fellows, Jeremy Sterling, Grant (Rebecca) Sterling, Dali (Jake) Ivey; great-grandchildren: Colette Fellows, Ethan Wood, Carter Wood, Madison Sterling, Brycen Sterling, Kinsley Sterling, Tegan Claire Sterling, Scarlett Sterling, Skylar Sterling, Eddison Ivey, Emmory Ivey, Sterling Ivey and Phillip Griffin; and several nieces and nephews.

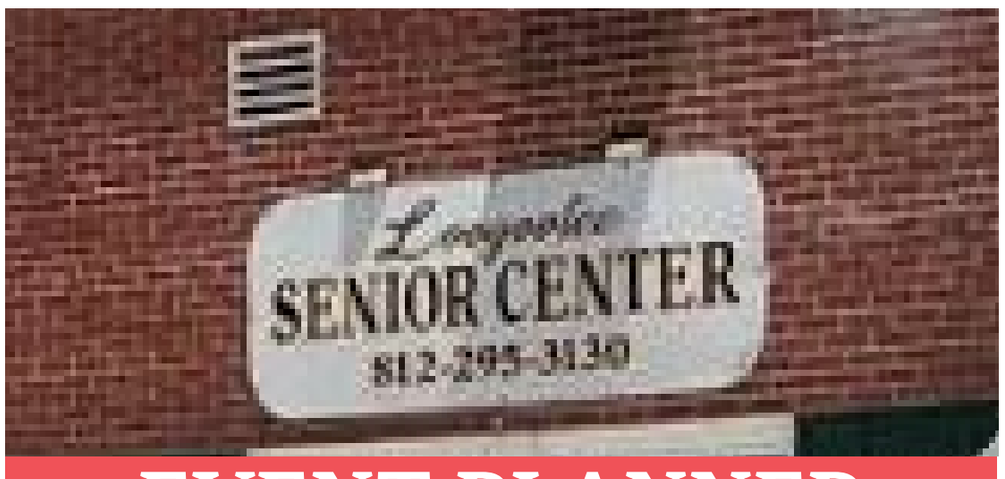
A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated by Very Rev. J. Kenneth Walker and Deacon, Earl Ruppel on September 18, 2026 at 10:00 A.M. at St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church in Loogootee, Indiana, with burial to follow at St. John Catholic Cemetery.

Visitation will be held on Thursday, September 17, 2026 from 4 P.M. to 7 P.M. at Blake Funeral Home in Loogootee, Indiana.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in honor of Mary Sue to St. Vincent de Paul charities.

Blake Funeral Home is honored to serve the family of Mary Sue Sterling.

To send flowers or plant a memorial tree in memory, please visit our flower store.



EVENT PLANNER SEPT. 16-21

The Loogootee Senior Center continues to provide area seniors a welcoming environment for health and wellness, social activities, and community fellowship through its weekly schedule of events.

Located at 406 NW 1st St. in Loogootee, the Senior Center offers a range of engaging programs each week. The following is a list of events happening from Wednesday, September 16 through Wednesday, September 23:

- Wednesday, September 16th: Lunch with Shed Escape Designs: 11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
- Gather with fellow members for a delicious midday meal hosted alongside Shed Escape Designs.
- Thursday, September 17th: Spa Treatments and Facials, followed by Lunch: 10:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
- Treat yourself to a relaxing morning of pampering with facial treatments and lunch. Participation is limited to 15 people, so be sure to sign up in advance at the center!
- Friday, September 18th: Chair Exercise & Casino Night
- Start the morning with Chair Exercise from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. Later in the evening, join the excitement for the adults-only Cookout and Casino Night starting at 6:00 p.m.!
- Saturday, September 19th & Sunday, September 20th: Closed for the weekend
- Monday, September 21st – Wednesday, September 23rd: Open for regular center hours and daily activities

Looking ahead, area seniors can also mark their calendars for the upcoming community Potluck Dinner scheduled for Wednesday, September 30 at 11:30 a.m. Sign-up sheets for both Casino Night and the Potluck Dinner are available at the front desk.



EVENT PLANNER SEPT. 16-23

The Loogootee Public Library continues to serve as an active community hub, offering youth literacy programs, essential health services, and reading resources for Martin County residents of all ages.

Supporters looking to aid the facility with program funding and general operational supplies can make donations directly via Venmo (@loogooteelibrary) or purchase requested items through the library's official Amazon wish list.

Located at 504 Park Street in Loogootee, the library hosts a wide variety of activities each week. The following is the schedule of operational hours and events taking place from Wednesday, September 16 through Wednesday, September 23:

- Wednesday, September 16th: Closed
- Thursday, September 17th: Wiggle Worms at 11:00 a.m.
- Toddlers and young children are invited for an active morning of music, movement, and interactive storytelling.
- Friday, September 18th: Good Samaritan Walk-In Clinic from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.
- Good Samaritan will host a convenient, on-site walk-in clinic providing basic health screenings, consultations, and wellness checks for community members.
- Saturday, September 19th: Library Book Sale! from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
- Browse a large selection of gently used books, media, and materials at bargain prices to support upcoming library initiatives.
- Sunday, September 20th: Closed
- Monday, September 21st: Open for regular hours
- Tuesday, September 22nd: Little Learners: Deaf Awareness Week! at 10:15 a.m.
- Preschoolers and early readers will celebrate Deaf Awareness Week with themed stories, learning basic American Sign Language signs, and interactive activities.
- Wednesday, September 23rd: Closed

In surrounding community events, area residents are invited to take part in two upcoming gatherings hosted at the Loogootee Senior Center (406 NW 1st St.). On Friday, September 18, an adults-only "Cookout and Casino Night" will kick off at 6:00 p.m. Later in the month, the center will host a community Potluck Dinner on Wednesday, September 30 at 11:30 a.m. Those interested in attending either event can sign up in advance at the senior center front desk.

MID-STATES CORRIDOR SECTION

Published Weekly by Mr. Jim Arvin



To the Editor,I have been critical of the proposed Mid-States Corridor, but I want to make an important distinction, opposing the Corridor does not mean opposing economic development, private investment or progress. I believe the people of the Dubois-Martin-Daviess County region should welcome responsible investment —including solar energy and battery energy-storage systems (BESS)—provided these projects are properly located, economically sound and responsibly regulated.

The Mid-States Corridor is fundamentally different.

The proposed highway would require an enormous public expenditure, in the billions of dollars, while permanently consuming land, disrupting farms and communities, and some requiring property owners to give up their land through eminent domain. Its supporters emphasize connectivity, reduced travel times and economic development. But the central question should be whether those benefits justify the enormous financial and human costs imposed on the three-county region and Indiana taxpayers.

I remain unconvinced that they do.

The Dubois-Martin-Daviess region is not isolated. It already has above average connections to I-64, I-69, I-65, SR 37, US 231 as well as other federal, state and local highways. Before we spend billions on a new-terrain highway, we should first determine whether improving the roads we already have would provide the transportation benefits the region actually needs.

And this is where the regional argument becomes especially important.

The Corridor is promoted as a regional project, yet there is significant opposition within the very region it is supposed to serve. In Martin County, Loogootee officials publicly oppose the project. In 2023, then Loogootee Mayor Noel Harty said that every Martin County elected official he had spoken with opposed the road. More recently, Loogootee Mayor Brian Ader reiterated the opposition and advocated improvements to existing infrastructure rather than construction of the new highway.

Martin County's own 2025 comprehensive plan provides additional evidence. A county survey found that 76% of respondents opposed the Mid-States Corridor, compared with only 10% who supported it.

The point is not that every resident or every official in Martin or Daviess County opposes the project. The point is that there is substantial local opposition in the very communities that are supposed to benefit from this regional highway.

That should matter.

If the Corridor is truly a regional transportation necessity, what specific problems will it solve for the people of Martin County? What problems will it solve for the people of Daviess County? And are those problems sufficiently serious to justify spending billions of dollars on a new highway rather than improving the infrastructure we already have?

There is also significant statewide skepticism. A February 2026 Public Policy Polling survey found that 65% of Indiana voters opposed the Mid-States Corridor and 74% believed the project should be canceled. The size of the opposition is substantial, is growing and deserves to be taken seriously.

The answer should not be to label opponents as anti-development.

Solar farms and BESS facilities deserve a very different discussion. Unlike the Corridor, these projects generally involve private investment rather than billions of taxpayer dollars for highway construction. Landowners can voluntarily participate, investors assume the financial risk, and the projects can provide additional tax revenue to local governments. That does not mean every solar or BESS proposal is beneficial and should automatically be approved.

Large solar installations can affect farmland, views, drainage and neighboring properties. They should have reasonable requirements for setbacks, screening, drainage, road use and eventual decommissioning.

BESS facilities deserve particularly careful consideration because large lithium-ion battery installations present legitimate fire and emergency-response concerns. Those risks should neither be exaggerated nor dismissed. The proper question is where and under what conditions these facilities should be built.

That is where the tri-county region should take a more constructive approach. For example, the former National Gypsum mine near Shoals in Martin County deserves serious consideration as a potential location for energy storage. The mine is an existing industrial site rather than productive farmland or a residential neighborhood.

That does not mean the mine is automatically suitable for BESS. A rigorous engineering and safety study would have to examine structural integrity, ventilation, fire protection, emergency access, electrical infrastructure, environmental conditions and other factors.

But if such a study demonstrated that battery storage could safely be located at the site, it could provide an example of the kind of innovative reuse of existing industrial property that our region should encourage.

This illustrates the fundamental difference between the Corridor and private energy development. We should not ask whether the Dubois-Martin-Daviess region is for development or against development. We should ask what kind of development provides the greatest benefit while imposing the least unnecessary cost and disruption on our communities.

A private company willing to invest its own money in a solar or BESS project, assume the financial risk and comply with appropriate safety and land-use requirements deserves consideration. Such projects can produce investment, lease income, tax revenue and energy infrastructure without requiring taxpayers to finance a multibillion-dollar highway.

The Mid-States Corridor presents a very different proposition. It asks Indiana taxpayers to make an enormous public investment while property owners in the region will bear much of the disruption and the promised economic benefits remain just projections.

We can be pro-business, pro-investment, pro-energy and pro-development while still being opposed to the Corridor. The goal should not be to stop progress in Dubois, Martin or Daviess County. The goal should be to make sure that progress actually benefits the people who live here.

Before spending billions on a new highway, let's improve the roads we already have, where improvements are needed. Let's encourage private investment that makes economic sense. Let's consider innovative uses for existing industrial property. And let's make development decisions based on measurable benefits rather than promises of what might happen decades from now.

The Dubois-Martin-Daviess region deserves better than a choice between "build the Corridor" and "oppose progress." We deserve development that is economically justified, environmentally responsible, respectful of property rights and financially beneficial to the people who live here.

That isn't anti-development. It is simply making sure that the development we pursue is worth what it costs us.

Jim Arvin
Rutherford Township
Martin County

Upcoming Events & Dates:

9/17/26 Property Rights Alliance meeting at Klubhaus61, 7:00pm EDT

9/19/26 Ferdinand Folk Fest

9/21/26 Daryl Schmitt's Town Hall at Venue 1408, 1408 N Main, Huntingburg. 5:30pm EDT

9/22/26 Brad Hochgesang's Big Tent Town Hall, Highbanks Weddings & Events, Petersburg, 7:00pm EDT, doors open at 6:30pm EDT

9/29/26 Sens. Garten & Mishler, Rep Snow presentation on property tax freedom at Warsaw IN. 5:00pm EDT

10/2/26 Heart of Jasper Mingle on Main, 6:00pm. EDT

10/3/26 John Rust Octoberfest & Rob Kendall celebration near Seymour. FREE.

PETS

Section by The Martin County Humane Society

ADOPTABLE CATS

The Martin County Humane Society is encouraging local residents to consider adoption and support community animal welfare initiatives as it spotlights available pets and ongoing shelter needs.

Every animal adopted through the shelter receives comprehensive care prior to joining a new home. Pets are spayed or neutered, fully vaccinated, microchipped, dewormed, and treated for fleas. To ensure long-term health, dogs undergo testing for common tick-borne diseases, while cats are tested for Feline Immunodeficiency Virus (FIV) and Feline Leukemia Virus (FeLV).

Adoption fees remain accessible to promote pet placement throughout the region, with cat adoptions set at $45 and dog adoptions at $100.

Prospective adopters can submit applications directly on the organization's official website at martincountyhumane.orgto schedule a meeting with available animals, or email inquiries to info@martincountyhumane.org.

In addition to adoption efforts, the non-profit organization relies on community donations to maintain daily operations and provide essential care. Community members wishing to support the shelter can view critical supply needs through the society's official Amazon Wishlist.

Physical donations can be delivered or dropped off directly on the porch at the shelter facility located at 507 N. Oak St., Loogootee, IN 47553.

















PETS

Section by The Martin County Humane Society

ADOPTABLE DOGS

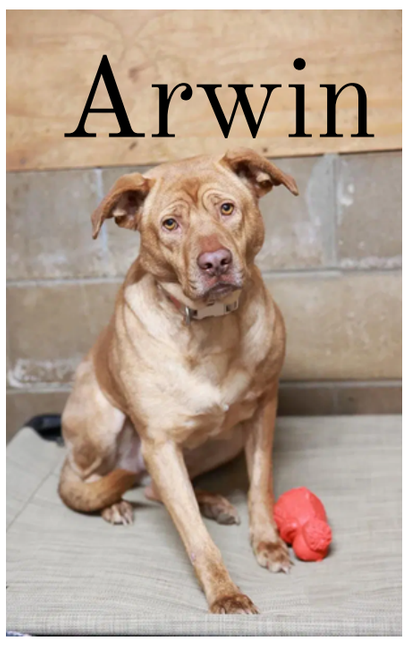
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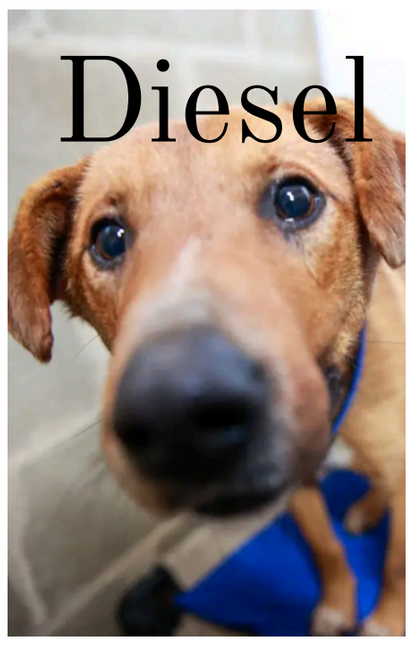
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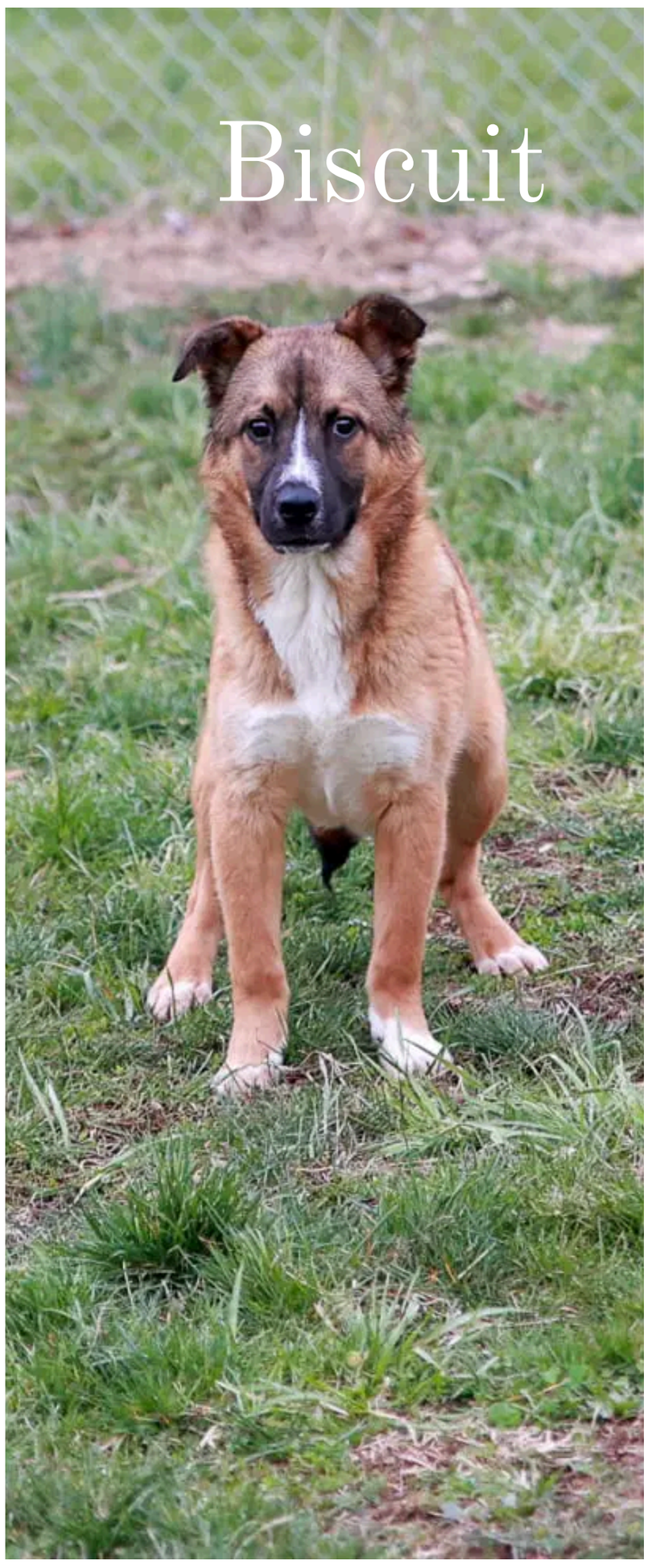
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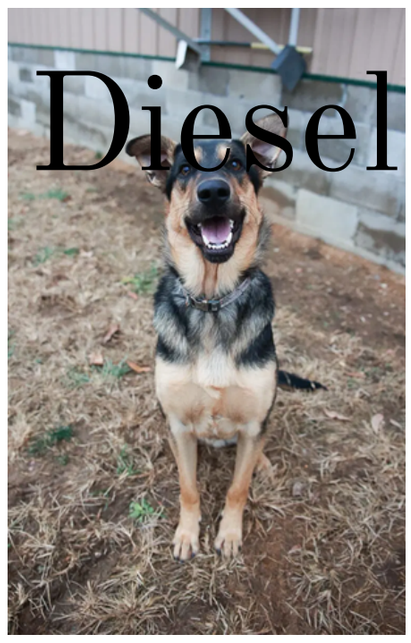


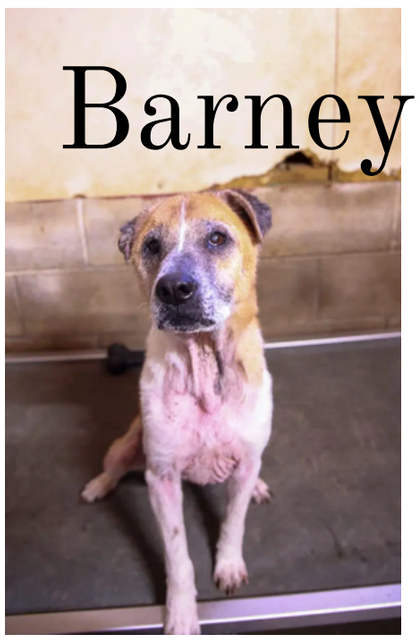


















Martin County & Courts

Monday, September 7, 2026

2:04 a.m.- Received a call requesting a welfare check Northeast of Shoals. Major Reed responded. Lawrence County was also notified.
3:44 a.m.- Received a report of a traffic hazard North of Loogootee. Major Reed responded.
7:04 a.m.- Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Medic 1 and Loogootee Fire Department responded. No one was transported.
11:56 a.m.- Received a report of a reckless driver on US 231N traveling South. Captain Gibson responded.
12:18 p.m.- Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Medic 2 and Loogootee Fire Department responded. Medic 2 transported one patient to IU Bedford.
1:21 p.m.- Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Medic 1 and Loogootee Fire Department responded. No one was transported.
1:21 p.m.- Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance North of Shoals. Lawrence County EMS and Indian Creek Fire Department responded.
2:38 p.m.- Received a call from Orange County requesting assistance from Lost River Fire Department. Lost River Fire Department responded.
6:14 p.m.- Received a 911 call from a Lawrence County address. Transferred the call to Lawrence County 911.
6:19 p.m.- Received an accidental 911 call.
6:37 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.
7:14 p.m.- Received a 911 call reporting a reckless driver on US 231N traveling South. Deputy Clark responded.
7:47 p.m.- Received a 911 call with no one on the line in Shoals. Indiana Conservation Officer Fuhrman responded.
7:53 p.m.- Received a report of bridge damage East of Loogootee. Deputy Clark responded. Martin County Highway Department was also notified.
9:10 p.m.- Received a call reporting a disabled vehicle in Loogootee. Big John's Towing responded.
9:51 p.m.- Received a call requesting an ambulance and deputies South of Loogootee. Martin County Medic 1, Loogootee Fire Department, Major Reed, Deputy Clark and ISP Troopers responded. Medic 1 transported one patient to Deaconess Memorial Medical Center.

Tuesday, September 8, 2026

7:59 a.m.- Received a 911 call on Crane Naval Base. Transferred the call to Crane 911.
8:54 a.m.- Captain Gibson transported two inmates to court.
9:01 a.m.- Received an accidental 911 call.
10:26 a.m.- Chief Deputy Keller transported one inmate to court.
10:57 a.m.- Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance Northeast of Shoals. Martin County Medic 1 and Shoals Fire Department responded. Medic 1 transported one patient to Deaconess Memorial Medical Center.
12:29 p.m.- Received a report of a disabled vehicle in Shoals. Sergeant Hawkins responded.
12:58 p.m.- Sergeant Hawkins transported one inmate to court.
2:00 p.m.- Sergeant Hawkins transported one inmate to court.
2:25 p.m.- Captain Gibson transported one inmate to court.
2:26 p.m.- Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance in Shoals. Martin County Medic 1 responded and transported one patient to Deaconess Memorial Medical Center.
3:14 p.m.- Received a 911 call requesting assistance in Shoals. Marshal Copeland responded.
3:38 p.m.- Received a report of a reckless driver on US 50 traveling East into Shoals. Marshal Copeland, Chief Deputy Keller and Captain Gibson responded.
4:57 p.m.- Received a report of a suspicious male in Loogootee. LPD Chief Cummings responded.
5:04 p.m.- Received a report of an accident with no injuries in Loogootee. Sergeant Hawkins and Big John's Towing responded.
6:14 p.m.- Received a call from WH International advising of a commercial burglar alarm in Shoals. Sergeant Hawkins and Deputy Clark responded.
8:39 p.m.- Received a report of a sewer alarm going off in Loogootee. Loogootee City Utilities was notified.
8:42 p.m.- Received a report of a trespasser in Loogootee. LPD Chief Cummings and Deputy Clark responded.
9:10 p.m.- Received a report of a trespasser in Loogootee. LPD Chief Cummings and Deputy Clark responded.

Wednesday, September 9, 2026

6:33 a.m.- Received an accidental 911 call.
3:01 p.m.- Received a 911 call on Crane Naval Base. Transferred the call to Crane 911.
4:25 p.m.- Jail Officer Bills and Transport Officer Norman on station with Vincent Romero, a 41-year-old male from Crane, arrested on a Martin County warrant. He is being held on $5,000 10% bond.
7:25 p.m.- Received a report of a reckless driver on US 50 traveling East toward Loogootee. Advised all on-duty units.
8:13 p.m.- Received a report of a tree down East of Shoals. Shoals Fire Department responded.
8:46 p.m.- Received a call requesting a deputy in Loogootee. Deputy Nash and Deputy Clark responded.
10:27 p.m.- Received a report of a domestic dispute in Shoals. Major Reed, Deputy Nash and Deputy Clark responded.
11:08 p.m.- Deputy Nash on station with Travis Bauernfiend, a 46-year-old male from Shoals, arrested for Domestic battery in the presence of a minor and Interfering with a 911 call. He is being held on $30,000 10% bond.

Thursday, September 10, 2026

7:29 a.m.- Received a report of a suspicious male in Loogootee. Captain Gibson responded.
11:35 a.m.- Received a call requesting to speak with a conservation officer. Indiana Conservation Officer Fuhrman responded.
11:50 a.m.- Received a 911 call reporting an accident with no injuries Southeast of Shoals. Captain Gibson and Big John's Towing responded.
11:53 a.m.- Conservation Officer Fuhrman on station with Jeremie Tharp, a 47-year-old male from Shoals, arrested for Driving while suspended-prior and Theft. He is being held on $6,000 10% bond.
11:54 a.m.- Received a 911 call reporting a telephone line down Southeast of Loogootee. Loogootee Fire Department responded.
11:55 a.m.- Deputy Droke on station with Stephen Barger, a 46-year-old male from Avoca, arrested by Conservation Officer Fuhrman for Theft. He is being held on $6,000 10% bond.
12:01 p.m.- Received a report of a telephone line down Southeast of Loogootee. Deputy Branham, Deputy Droke and Loogootee Fire Department responded.
1:26 p.m.- Received a 911 call reporting a cable in the roadway in Loogootee. Deputy Branham responded.
3:28 p.m.- Received a report of a reckless driver on US 50 traveling West from Lawrence County. Captain Gibson responded.
6:00 p.m.- Received a call requesting a vehicle unlock in Loogootee. Deputy Branham responded.

Friday, September 11, 2026

8:02 a.m.- Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance North of Shoals. Martin County Medic 1 and Shoals Fire Department responded. Medic 1 transported one patient to IU Bedford.
8:49 a.m.- Received a call requesting a deputy Northeast of Shoals. Deputy Droke responded.
9:00 a.m.- Corporal Erwin on station with Michael Covey Jr, a 34-year-old male from Bloomington, arrested by Major Reed for Possession of marijuana. He is being held on $5,000 10% bond.
10:33 a.m.- Received a call requesting a vehicle unlock East of Shoals. Deputy Droke responded.

MARTIN COUNTY LOG

12:05 p.m.- Received a 911 call requesting a deputy North of Loogootee. ISP Master Trooper Lents, Deputy Branham and Deputy Droke responded.
1:31 p.m.- Received a call requesting a Vehicle Identification Number check East of Shoals. Deputy Branham responded.
2:18 p.m.- Received an accidental 911 call.
4:40 p.m.- Scott Seals, a 56-year-old male from Shoals on station to serve a court ordered weekend commitment.
6:56 p.m.- Received an animal complaint North of Shoals. Corporal Erwin responded.
9:31 p.m.- Received a report of a possible traffic hazard West of Loogootee. Advised all on-duty units.
11:00 p.m.- Deputy Nash and Jail Commander Gregory on station with Pavlo Vlasov, a 38-year-old male from Ohio, arrested on a Martin County warrant. He is being held without bond.
11:01 p.m.- Received a report of a reckless driver on US 50 traveling West towards Shoals. Advised all on-duty units.
11:52 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.

Saturday, September 12, 2026

5:58 a.m.- Received a 911 call reporting a suspicious male Southeast of Shoals. Corporal Erwin responded.
9:20 a.m.- Received a call requesting a vehicle unlocked in Shoals. Deputy Droke responded.
11:13 a.m.- Received a report of a water leak in Loogootee. Loogootee City Utilities were notified.
11:19 a.m.- Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Medic 1 and Loogootee Fire Department responded. No one was transported.
1:30 p.m.- Received a request for ambulances North of Loogootee. Martin County Medic 1, Medic 2, Daviess County EMS and Loogootee Fire Department responded. Medic 1 transported one patient to Deaconess Memorial Medical Center. Medic 2 transported one patient to Daviess Community Hospital.
1:37 p.m.- Received a report of a trespasser in Shoals. Marshal Copeland and Deputy Droke responded.
2:06 p.m.- Received a 911 call reporting two bobcats Northeast of Shoals. Deputy Branham and Deputy Droke responded.
3:52 p.m.- Received an accidental 911 call.
4:09 p.m.- Received a request to speak with a deputy in Shoals. Marshal Copeland responded.
6:38 p.m.- Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance in Shoals. Martin County Medic 1, Shoals Fire Department and Marshal Copeland responded. Medic 1 transported one patient to Deaconess Memorial Medical Center.
6:43 p.m.- Received a report of a possible traffic hazard South of Loogootee. Deputy Droke responded.
9:14 p.m.- Received a 911 call reporting a car-deer accident Northwest of Shoals. Deputy Branham responded.
10:23 p.m.- Received a report of a loud explosion South of Loogootee. Corporal Erwin, Deputy Branham and Deputy Nash responded.
11:09 p.m.- Received a report of a possible trespasser North of Shoals. Corporal Erwin, Deputy Branham and Deputy Nash responded.

Sunday, September 13, 2026

3:25 a.m.- Received a 911 call reporting a verbal dispute Northeast of Shoals. Corporal Erwin responded.
6:43 a.m.- Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Medic 1 responded and transported one patient to Deaconess Memorial Medical Center.
7:00 a.m.- Received a request for a deputy Northeast of Shoals. Deputy Droke responded.
10:26 a.m.- Received a call requesting an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Medic 1 responded and transported one patient to Deaconess Memorial Medical Center.
11:22 a.m.- Received multiple 911 calls reporting an accident in Loogootee. Daviess County EMS, Loogootee Fire Department, Deputy Droke and Big John's Towing responded. No one was transported.
12:23 p.m.- Received a 911 call reporting a reckless driver on US 231S traveling North. Deputy Droke responded.
2:55 p.m.- Received a 911 call reporting a verbal dispute in Loogootee. Deputy Droke responded.
4:14 p.m.- Received a report of a traffic hazard East of Shoals. Shoals Fire Department responded.
4:26 p.m.- Deputy Droke on station with Bryson Haines, a 21-year-old male from Loogootee, arrested for Theft, False informing, Unlawful use of 911, and Public intoxication. He is being held without bond.
7:30 p.m.- Received a 911 call reporting a verbal dispute in Loogootee. Major Reed responded.
7:39 p.m.- Received an accidental 911 call.
10:16 p.m.- Received a 911 call reporting a disabled vehicle South of Shoals. Major Reed and Big John's Towing responded.
11:19 p.m.- Received an accidental 911 call.

LOOGOOTEE POLICE LOG

Monday, September 7, 2026
7:04 am- The Loogootee Fire Dept. responded to a medical call on S. Kentucky Ave.
12:21 pm- The Loogootee Fire Dept. responded to a medical call on Bellbrook Ave.
1:23 pm- The Loogootee Fire Dept. responded to a medical call on Bellbrook Rd.

Tuesday, September 8, 2026
12:49 pm- A commercial fire alarm was received from a local business.
5:04 pm- A caller advised of a property damage accident on W. Broadway St.
8:33 pm- Chief Cummings responded to a report of trespassing on North Line St.
9:13 pm- Chief Cummings responded to a report of a possible trespassing on N. Oak St.

Wednesday, September 9, 2026
10:50 am- Chief Cummings assisted with a civil issue.

Thursday, September 10, 2026
11:56 am- The Loogootee Fire Dept. responded to a report of a utility line down on SR 550.
3:03 pm- Chief Cummings secured a utility line down on S. Kentucky Ave.
3:10 pm- Chief Cummings completed vehicle inspections at a local business.
3:18 pm- Chief Cummings responded to a report of a utility line possibly down on US 231N.

Friday, September 11, 2026
12:40 pm- A subject came on station and advised of a vehicle that is stuck on a curb on W. Broadway St.
1:40 pm- A caller advised of a suspicious item left at her residence.
11:52 pm- The Loogootee Fire Dept. responded to a medical call on E. Main St.

Saturday, September 12, 2026
11:13 am- A caller advised of a water leak and Loogootee Utility Dept. was contacted.
11:19 am- The Loogootee Fire Dept. responded to a medical call on Williams St.
1:30 pm- The Loogootee Fire Dept. responded to a medical call at West Boggs Park.

Sunday, September 13, 2026
11:22 am- The Loogootee Fire Dept. responded to an accident on Mount Calvary Rd.

Property Records

Transfers September 9-16

NOTICE 1 Notice is hereby given to the public that my client, Dane Tyler Witty, residing at 1018 SR 550, Loogootee, IN 47553, is negotiating to purchase/transfer the property situated at 1018 State Road 550, Loogootee, IN 47553 (Legal Description: Parcel 1: A part of the Northwest Quarter of the Northwest Quarter of Section Thirty (30), Township Three (3) North, Range Four (4) West, containing 0.50 acre, more or less; Parcel 2: Part of the Northeast Quarter of the Northeast Quarter of Section 25, Township 3 North, Range 5 West, City of Loogootee, containing 0.49 acre, more or less; containing in total 0.99 acre, more or less; State ID: 51-07-30-200-001.000-007 and 51-08-25-100-009.001-008) from the current owners, Teresa K. Haag, Leanne Love, and Glenn L. Crim.

NOTICE 2is hereby given to the public that my client, Karl Allen Rhoads, as Successor Trustee of The Donald H. Rhoads Trust, dated January 20, 2020, residing at 60 N Beretania Street, Apt. 2704, Honolulu, Hawaii 96817, is negotiating to purchase/transfer the property situated at 11730 Poplar Grove Rd., Shoals, IN 47581 (Legal Description: A part of the East Half of the Northeast Quarter of Section Twenty-eight (28), Township Three (3) North, Range Four (4) West, lying South of Poplar Grove Road, containing approximately 1.32 acres, more or less; State ID: 51-07-28-100-011.000-001) from the current owner, Seth L. Davis.

NOTICE 3 Notice is hereby given to the public that my clients, Robert Eugene Hardin and Linda Hardin, husband and wife, residing at 8002 Progress School Rd., Shoals, IN 47581, are negotiating to purchase/transfer the property situated in Martin County, Indiana (Legal Description: A part of the Northeast Quarter of the Northeast Quarter of Section 13, Township 2 North, Range 4 West and a Part of the Northwest Quarter of the Northwest Quarter of Section 18, Township 2 North, Range 3 West, Martin County, Indiana, containing 1.53 Acres, more or less; State ID: 51-10-13-100-004.001-003 and OUT OF 51-11-18-200-001.001-003) from the current owner, Wayne Mae Property Group LLC, an Indiana limited liability company.

NOTICE 4 Notice is hereby given to the public that my clients, Candace Suellen Roush and James Travis Roush, wife and husband, residing at 701 Albright Ln, Shoals, IN 47581, are negotiating to purchase/transfer the property situated at 701 Albright Ln, Shoals, IN 47581 (Legal Description: The West Half of Lot Number Ninety-Three (93); The West Half of Lot Number Ninety-Four (94), and a described portion of the West Half of Lots Numbered Ninety-Five (95) and Ninety-Six (96), all in Daugherty's Addition, sometimes referred to as Chenoweth's Extension or Chenoweth's Addition to the Town of Shoals, Martin County, Indiana; State ID: 51-07-24-400-086.000-002) from the current owners, Harry Lewis and Virginia Lewis, husband and wife.

NOTICE 5 Notice is hereby given to the public that my clients, Johnny M. Andis and Sandra L. Andis, husband and wife, and Katina L. Clifton, as joint tenants with rights of survivorship, residing at 17194 Brassine Lane, Shoals, IN 47581, are negotiating to purchase/transfer the property situated in Mitchelltree Township, Martin County, Indiana (Legal Description: Lot Number Forty-nine (49) in the original plat of the Town of Harrisonville; ALSO portions of the Southeast quarter of the Northeast quarter of Section 29, Township 4 North, Range 3 West, Mitchelltree Township, Martin County, Indiana; State ID: 51-05-29-100-048.000-006 and 51-05-29-100-013.001-006) from the current owners, Johnny M. Andis and Sandra L. Andis, husband and wife.

NOTICE 6 Notice is hereby given to the public that my client, BLT PROPERTIES LLC, residing at 13291 Pineview Dr., Loogootee, IN 47553, is negotiating to purchase/transfer the property situated in Perry Township, Martin County, Indiana (Legal Description: A part of the Southeast Quarter of the Northwest Quarter of Section 25, Township 3 North, Range 5 West, Perry Township, Martin County, Indiana, containing 0.436 acre, more or less, together with an access easement; State ID: 51-08-25-200-384.000-008) from the current owner, SE BURCH PROPERTIES, LLC, an Indiana Limited Liability Company.

NOTICE 7 Notice is hereby given to the public that my clients, Brooklyn Elaine Jones and Joshua Clifton, as joint tenants with rights of survivorship, residing at 5181 Windom Rd., Shoals, IN 47581, are negotiating to purchase/transfer the property situated in Halbert Township, Martin County, Indiana (Legal Description: A part of the Southeast Quarter of the Southeast Quarter Section 7, Township 2 North, Range 3 West, Halbert Township, Martin County, Indiana, containing 1.65 acres, more or less; State ID: Parent Parcel #51-11-07-400-017.000-003 and Parent Parcel #51-11-07-400-018.000-003) from the current owner, Scott A. Johnson.

NOTICE 8 Notice is hereby given to the public that my clients, Seth Davis and Carol Grace Spears, husband and wife, residing at 305 N Line St., Loogootee, IN 47553, are negotiating to purchase/transfer the property situated in the City of Loogootee, Indiana (Legal Description: TRACT I: Lots 29 and Lot 30 in Cray's Second Addition to the City of Loogootee, EXCEPT 0.11 acre; TRACT II: Part of Lot 31 in Cray's Second Addition to the City of Loogootee, containing 0.120 acres, more or less; State ID: 51-08-24-300-033.000-008 and 51-08-24-300-034.001-008) from the current owners, Trey M. Kidwell and Hannah M. Kidwell, husband and wife.

Easy

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

Medium

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

Hard

	2		7		5	1		
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Expert

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

Master

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

Sudoku.com 09/16/2026

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Google Play

App Store

Sudoku Daily Game #61

Easy

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

Medium

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

Hard

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

Expert

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

Master

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

Sudoku.com 09/16/2026

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Google Play

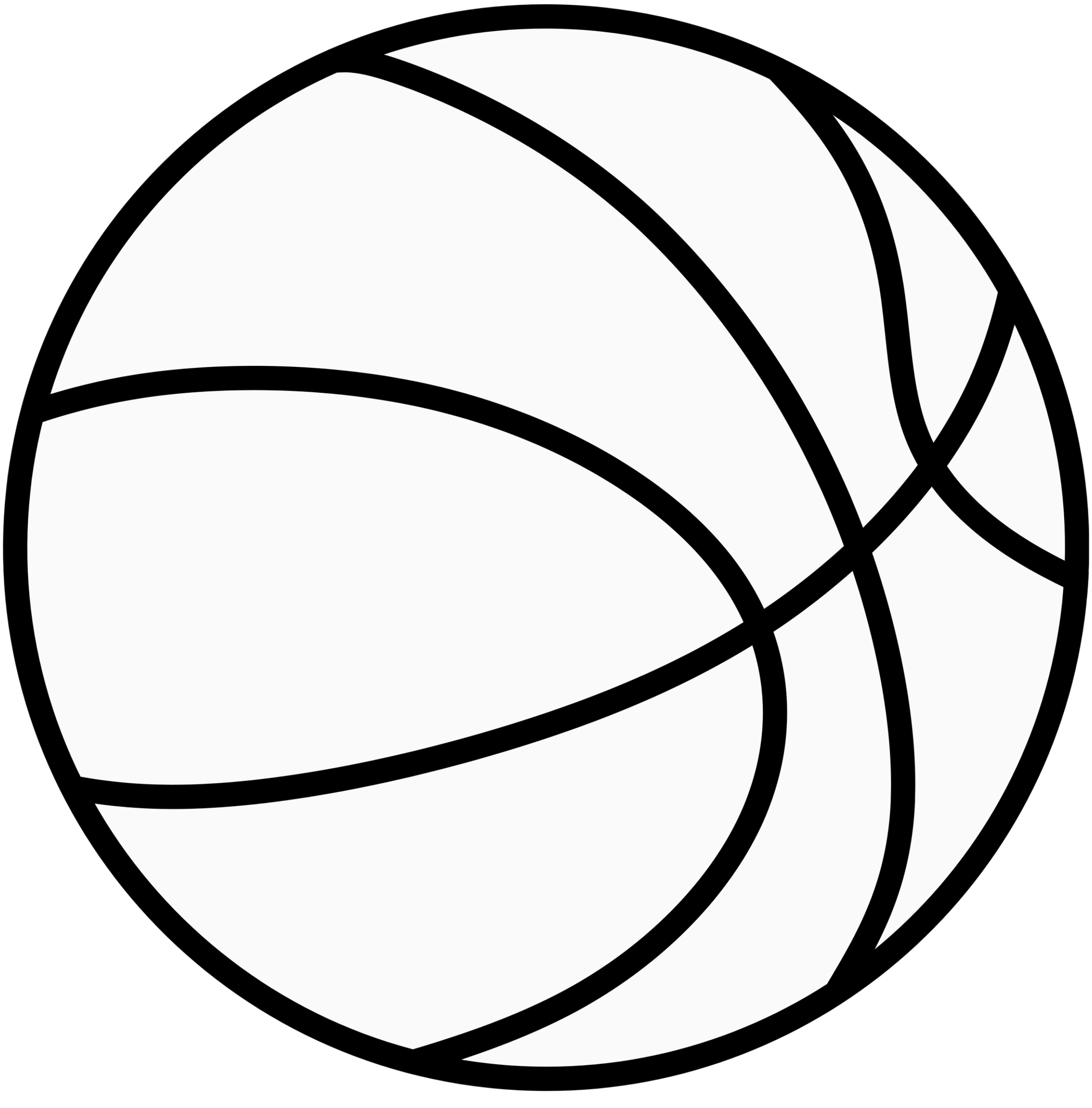
App Store

Sudoku Daily Game #61

SOLUTIONS

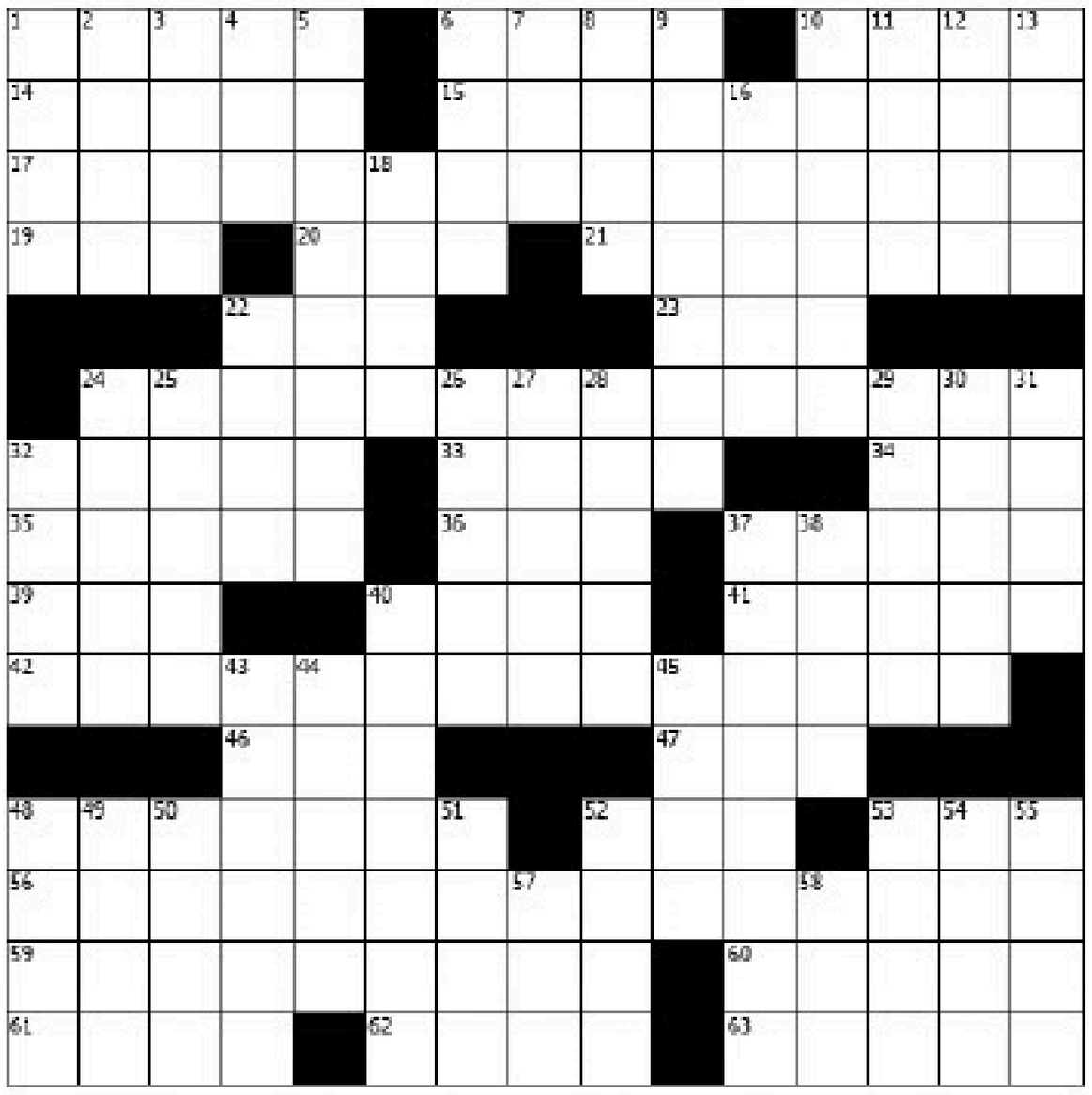
Coloring Sheet

Basketball Is Almost Here!



OnlineCrosswords.net
This is the Daily Crossword Puzzle **#1** for **Sep 16, 2026**

Find the solution at
https://onlinecrosswords.net/7091



Across

1. What most try to get
6. Sicilian resort
10. Rich belles
14. Rare rags-to-riches route
15. Pull-over sites
17. Picture featuring Clark Gable gets brisker?
19. This org. has a lot of pull
20. Sloppy one?
21. Clicks the mouse
22. Ton lead-in
23. Apt. divisions
24. Film co-starring Lena Horne becomes dangerous?
32. Western lake resort
33. New Haven collegians
34. "___ bad boy!" (Lou Costello)
35. Squirrel away frequently
36. WWII vessel
37. Senator Thurmond
39. Former Russian space station
40. Stimulate, as an appetite
41. Protective trenches
42. Eastwood film gets heavier?
46. Comic-strip shriek
47. Suffix with social
48. Rap sheet items
52. It can become bats
53. Zoo biggy
56. MGM hit musical solidifies?
59. As a whole
60. Car wash part
61. "Happy Days Are Here Again" composer
62. Thomas on ice
63. "Inside the Third Reich" writer

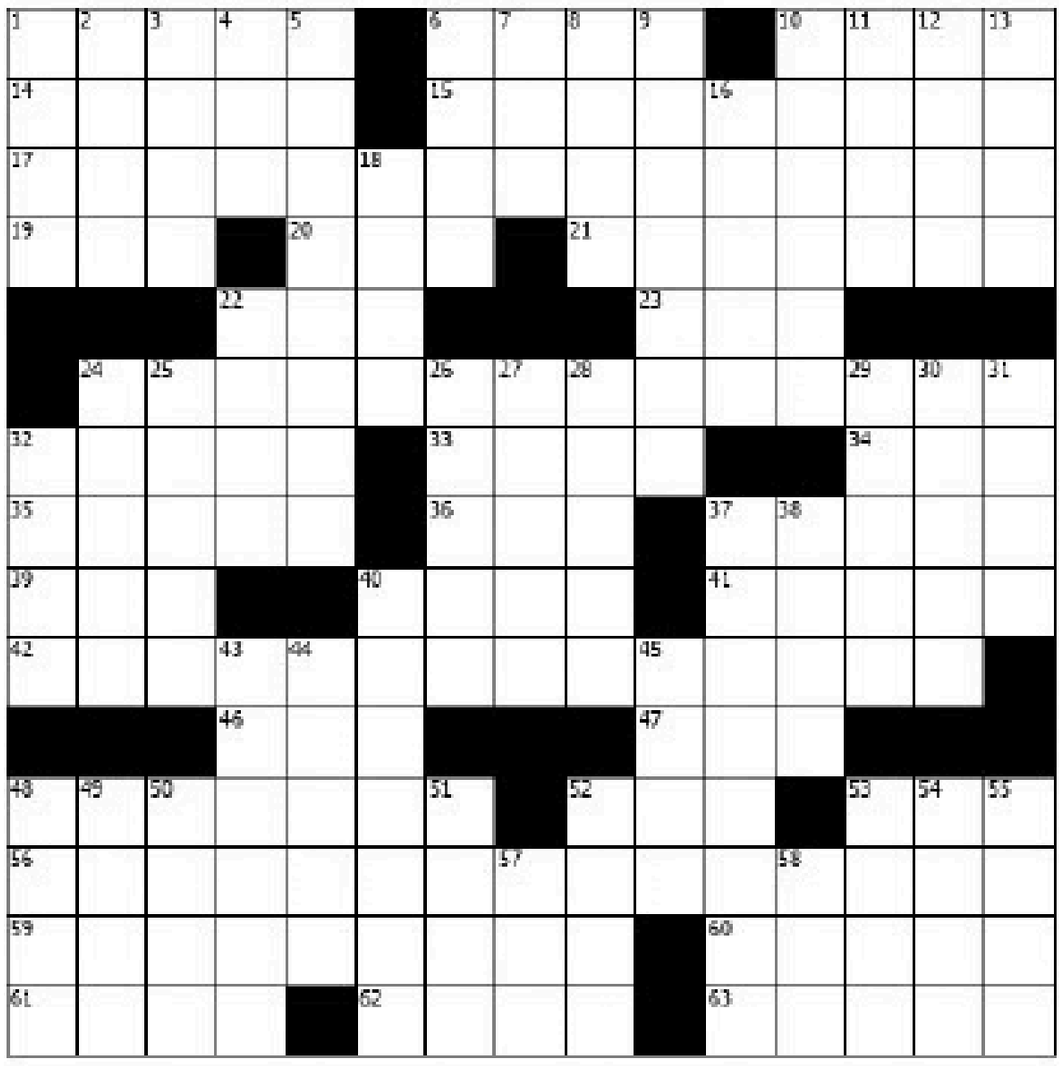
Down

1. Tiny aquatic plant
2. Major auto part
3. Volcano near Catania
4. "Thanks, I already ___"
5. Source of averages
6. Art Deco designer
7. Classic drama of Japan
8. Turner and Cole
9. Holds fast
10. Absorb food
11. Cabinet dept.
12. Outsmart
13. They could turn down their noses
16. City west of Montgomery
18. Macbeth's burial place
22. Warner ___
24. Sri Lanka native
25. "Gone With the Wind" name
26. Indian metropolis
27. Mary-Kate or Ashley
28. Quick with a quip
29. King of Tyre
30. Be a ham
31. Animals with memory?
32. Pack
37. Comedy brothers of TV
38. Went like the blazes
40. Roused
43. Famous pilot
44. Varnish ingredient
45. Drop a line?
48. Cyprus locale
49. Suffix for duck
50. "Come Back, Little Sheba" playwright
51. Progenitor
52. Mythic Hun
53. Bancroft or Boleyn
54. It's sometimes struck
55. Pitcher on a basin
57. Apprehend
58. Enjoy tea

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