

CARROLL COUNTY COMET

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Memberships include:



Reduce unwanted mail

Tired of sorting through unwanted mail, a stack that just gets bigger and bigger, especially during the holidays? How did your name get on all these mailings anyway?

The odds are pretty high that your name was added to a mailing list every time you bought something, ordered a product by mail or on the Web, entered a contest, made a donation, wrote a check, subscribed to a magazine, or sent in a warranty card. That mailing list with your name on it was then probably rented, sold, or traded to other companies.

Here are a few tips that just might help reduce your unwanted mail.

Those warranty cards that come with new purchases – don't fill them out. When you purchase an item, that item is covered by warranty, even if you don't fill out the card. Save your receipt for proof of purchase. The warranty cards are just a way to gather names for direct mail lists.

Send back unopened bulk rate mail with "Return postage guaranteed" on it. The original sender will have to pay the postage.

Mail that has no "return postage guaranteed" should be opened to see if there is a return envelope. If so, write on that envelope, "Remove from mailing list. Don't sell or trade address." Enclose your name (as it appears on the mailing) and address in the envelope and mail it back to them. The cost here will be a stamp.

Unsolicited first-class letters should be returned unopened. First, write "Refused – return to sender! Remove from mailing list!" on the envelope. Next, mark out the bar code so the letter doesn't come back to you. Put it back in the mail and the original sender will have to pay the postage.

Notify mailing list brokers that you want to be placed on their "suppress" files. These brokers include: Donnelly Marketing, Inc., 470 Chestnut Ridge Rd., Woodcliff, N.J. 07677 or Experian, List Maintenance, 901 West Bond, Lincoln, NE 68521.

Another place to notify is the Mail Preference Service, Direct Marketing Association, P.O. Box 643, Carmel, NY 15012-0643. Include on a postcard or letter your full name, address, ZIP code and a request to "activate the preference service."

And lastly, don't forget to call mail order catalog companies and ask to be taken off their mailing list. Most catalogs have a toll-free number for placing an order.

They say it's the thought that counts.

I think they're right.

The scene is a Christmas past. The gift is a black turtleneck sweater. The recipient is a cousin.

The gift box is unwrapped. The gift is removed, displayed for all present to see.

The cousin is silent, then says: "But I already have a black turtleneck."

Someone, quick, raise your hand if you care.

The nicest tie I've ever owned, the one I wore and wore and wore out, that tie was a Christmas gift from my mother-in-law. It was purple, kind of jazzy, a little ahead of my taste.

When I opened that particular box on that particular Christmas past I thought to myself: "I will never, ever wear this tie."

But my mama taught me to be polite. Taught me well, she did.

"Thank you," I said.

That tie, it grew on me, we became inseparable. One Christmas past I gave my aunt a box of chocolate covered pretzels. When she unwrapped the package, then opened the tin, she commented something like: "You know, I really don't like these."

Had I been a cartoon character, the thought bubble above my head would have read thus: "Well then, give them to your neighbor, leave them out at church, feed them to the dog."

A price is paid when a gift is rejected.

The legal system takes great pains in defining the requirements of a gift. The giver of the gift is called the "donor." The recipient of the gift is called the "donee." The legal requirements for an enforceable gift include obligations from both the donor and the donee.

The donor must have the intent to give a gift. If I loan you my lawn mower, that is not a gift. I don't intend for you to keep it as yours. I expect it back.

Midwest Memo

by Alan Shultz



Gift receipt

If I leave my mower on the sidewalk while I run to answer the phone inside, that is also not a gift to the passerby. I did not intend to give away my mower just because the phone was ringing. "Finders, keepers" does not apply in gift giving either.

In addition to intent, the donor must accomplish delivery. If I buy you a lawn mower and leave it in a box in my garage, that is not a gift. I must cause delivery of that mower to you to make it a gift.

But for a gift to be accomplished, the donee must act also. The donee must receive the gift. If I hand you a black turtleneck and you say "no thanks" and hand it back to me, my gifting of the sweater has not been accomplished. The donor intent was there. The receipt of the gift by the donee was absent.

When this happens, pass the eggnog and hope it's spiked.

It's worthy to note that the word "want" does not appear anywhere in the discussion, definition or commentary of what constitutes a gift. Also absent from the discussion of a gift is any reference to the right "color" or "size."

I suppose the most famous Christmas gifts ever given and received where the gold, frankincense and myrrh delivered on camel that very first Christmas.

Back then, gift registries hadn't been invented. Given the whole manger set up, I don't suppose Mary and Joseph were actually hoping for these particular items. Perhaps a bed and a warm bath would have been more welcomed.

But the gifts were considered treasures and they were received as such.

To be on either side of a relationship where a gift is intended, that is a treasure.

It is the thought that counts.

Merry Christmas, to all our readers.

Circuit Court Judge Donald Currie

New filings are from public records available in the Carroll County Clerk's office on the second floor of the courthouse, Delphi. Other information regarding judgments and marriage dissolutions is gathered from public records found in the clerk's office.

A complaint for damages was filed in Matthew L. Callan vs. Globe Valve Corporation et al.

Brian M. McFarren was charged with intimidation.

Lisa Hawn was named administrator of the John A. Moyer estate.

Charles Clifford was named administrator of the Robert L. Clifford estate.

Julie Ann Keeling was named administrator of the Marsha R. Schmidt estate.

Eileen E. Ringer was administrator of the Harold E. Ringer estate, probate will only.

Superior Court Judge Jeffrey Smith

Superior Court judgments are gathered from public records on file in the Carroll County Clerk's office on the second floor of the courthouse, Delphi.

New filings

The following are the misdemeanor charges filed by the Carroll County Prosecutor, on behalf of the State of Indiana.

Jeffrey A. Bartlett was charged with two counts of operating while intoxicated, endangering a person.

Suzanne Callane was charged with non-support of a dependant child.

Nathan Lear was charged with Count I, maintaining a common nuisance, and Count II, possession of marijuana.

Sarah N. Hinton was charged with illegal consumption of alcoholic beverage.

The following were charged with check deception: Julie M. Carlson; Travis J. Shaffer; Chad D. McDonald, four counts; Jason A. Fuller; Laura L. Shaffer; Scott A. Walters, two counts; Sharla Teggins; Rhonda L. Koch; William E. Vibbert; Kari Keifer; and Ronald Gurnick Sr.

Public Notices appearing in this issue of the Comet:

Name Change 49t3	6B
Moyer -Estate 50t2d	6B
Sheriff Sale -Moloch 50t3	6B
Carroll School -Notice 50t2	6B
Sheriff Sale -Willoughby 50t3	6B
Town of Yeoman 51t1	6B
Sheriff Sale -Curry 51t3	6B
Peaceful Valley Notice 51t1	6B
Clifford Estate 51t2d	6B
Schmidt -Estate 51t2d	6B
Duff -Name Change 51t3	6B

Questions concerning Indiana's Open Door and Public Access Laws may be directed to the state's public access office, at 1-800-228-6013.



Web poll

Each week the Comet polls its readers on a different topic. Vote online at carrollcountycomet.com starting each Thursday, and then click the Comments link to send us an email voicing your opinion. The best responses will be printed anonymously the following week.

Last Week's Results: Have you seen the new county history book?

15%-Yes
85%-No
Total responses: 34

Restaurant Inspections

Jones IGA
Type of inspection: Routine 12/5/05
Summary of violations:
1 non-critical

1. There was an employee in the meat cutting room with no hair restraint.

Carroll Jr.-Sr. High School
Type of inspection: Routine 12/1/05
Summary of violations:
No violations noted

Carroll Elementary
Type of inspection: Routine 12/1/05
Summary of violations:
No violations noted

Delphi Mid-Land Meals
Type of inspection: Routine 11/30/05
Summary of violations:
No violations noted

Burlington Locker Plant
Type of inspection: Routine 12/5/05
Summary of violations:
No violations noted

Carroll Manor
Type of inspection: Routine 12/7/05
Summary of violations:
No violations noted

The Comet welcomes letters to the editor responding to articles and events in the news. They must include the author's name, address and telephone number. The letter writer's name and city/town will appear in the paper - no exceptions. Please send your letters to: editor@carrollcountycomet.com; Letters to the Editor, Comet, P.O. Box 26, Flora, IN 46929 or P.O. Box 179, Delphi, IN 46923; or fax 574-967-3384 or 765-564-2010. By submitting a letter or opinion article, the author grants the Comet the right to publish, distribute, archive or use the work in print, electronic, on-line or other format.

Defends sheriff's handling of jail meals

There are so many people ready to give an opinion on how things should be done even though they do not have all of the facts. Before they offer their opinion they should do a little research and know all of the facts.

First, this is not a new thing with Sheriff Randle. This is how it has been handled for many, many years, and through many sheriffs. Second, this is how it is handled in many, if not most, of the counties of the state. Just because you have recently learned how the system works does not make it a new situation. Have you thought about researching how long this system has been in place and how it got established? Sheriff Randle did not come up with this system, he is just the first to be verbally abused because of it. Since when does being thrifty become a bad thing?

It would be great if the inmates and their families had to pay for the food that these inmates eat, but they do not. You and I, as taxpayers, are feeding them and I am glad that the sheriff does enough research to spend as little as possible and still provide better than the minimum requirements for these people.

The sheriff also makes sure he tries to keep the money spent on these meals local, as much as possible. He could spend all of the money allocated on out-of-town retailers and still go to the

county for more money, but he does not. If you have ever been involved in ordering from one of the delivery retailers you would know that they charge two to three times more than what is currently spent. I also know that the local retailers appreciate his business.

The people of this community need to think before they act and know ALL of the facts. This situation is not as simple as some are trying to make you believe it is.

Jon Randle
Delphi

Set the record straight

I was quite disappointed to read the Comet's editorial last week about Sen. Lugar making a "wrong choice" in hosting his constituent visit at the Freedom Center. As a board member of Freedom Mission, Inc., a not-for-profit 501C(3) charitable organization that runs the Freedom Center, I feel compelled to set the record straight.

The Freedom Center is not "owned and operated" by First Assembly of God Church as reported. The First Assembly Church of Delphi did indeed purchase and set up this organization as a gift to the Delphi community.

Through this gift we are able to house Jacob's Closet, a thrift store, Solomon's Grille, a restaurant, and on Sundays, Living Stone Church calls the Freedom Center home.

The multi-denominational board members of Freedom Mission, Inc. consist of only two First Assembly members, Pastor Brent Oliver and Kathy Hyman, Tom Hesler, a member of Faith Baptist in Lafayette and Gil Smith, a member of Delphi United Methodist Church, round out the board.

We are proud to be a faith based organization, and will continue to offer programs that are a benefit to all of this com-

munity, and not of any particular church or political affiliation.

Over \$2,500 has been given to community organizations through fundraisers held at the Freedom Center. Delphi Youth Baseball, Habitat for Humanity, and mission trips have all benefited. We have many plans for the portion of this building still needing renovated and hope to offer our community a book store and/or coffee shop in the future.

I hope this clarifies for the readers of the Comet who the Freedom Center is, and urge those with questions to stop in and visit. We welcome all denominations to access our facilities.

Gil Smith
Delphi
Tom Hesler
Delphi

Unhappy with highway department

On Dec. 11 my neighbor died of a massive heart attack. It took the ambulance a half-an-hour to reach my neighbor's house due to hazardous road conditions. It would have taken only ten to fifteen minutes if the roads were clear. I find it really concerning that Bill Brown could find it so important to pave Carrollton and Towpath Roads, but he did not think to make sure the county highway department was budgeted for salt for the winter.

This county seems to be going downhill lately. I blame this on the commissioners for not keeping the highway department in check. I also blame the county highway superintendent and the engineer-in-training. In the past the county highway superintendent and the engineer, who were on salary, would go out on small runs like fallen tree limbs and other small jobs.

The new county highway superintendent and engineer-in-training don't do this. Instead they keep a couple employees

on call at all times. This has caused a lot of overtime which was not in the budget.

Of course with all the classes the county is paying for the engineer-in-training, that probably does not help the budget either.

Why would you put someone in a position they are not yet qualified for? I happen to know the answer to that question myself. It is because he used to work in a bar that is owned by Bill Brown. If anyone else is concerned with the way this county is being run, I ask that we all keep this in mind come election time.

April Shank
Delphi

Prayer for moral budget

On Nov. 14, I traveled to Washington, D.C., to join other Evangelical Christians in a prayer vigil for a moral budget. As a result of our time of prayer on the steps of the Cannon Office Building (where my 2nd District Representative Chris Chocola's office is located), I was arrested for my civil disobedience of incommoding (blocking the entrance to the office building). I was willing to risk arrest because I believe the budget is a moral document and our U.S. Representatives are acting immorally when they propose cutting vital services such as food stamps, increasing co-payments for health care under Medicaid, cutting foster care benefits, child care enforcement and student loans for hard-working poor families and legal immigrants who are struggling to put food on the table. At the same time our legislators proposed budget cuts effecting over 220,000 economically stressed citizens, they passed a tax cut bill to extend cuts on capital gains and dividends that provides 80% of their benefits to the wealthiest

Joseph D. Huse
Flora