

Letters to the Editor

Supports Delphi Youth Baseball

I am writing in response to the letter from the Delphi Youth Baseball board of directors.

I applaud their decision to respond to the anonymous letter, it would have been easy to ignore. These board members are a dedicated, service oriented group that puts their time into the league's well being before self-serving springtime activities. Their goal is to maintain a top rate facility that is capable of hosting a state tournament.

Paul Goyer field was completely destroyed by the flood three years ago. The league received some donations for recovery but most of the repairs have been accomplished by their own hard work. The financial ramifications of these repairs will carry on for some time before they enjoy the financial freedom that had been achieved before the flood. Rebuilding the field was not planned, yet it was accomplished and turned around before the next season as a fantastic playing field. Mayor Hoard and the parks department are certainly friends of the league and have helped many times on a when needed basis. But as mentioned in the board's letter, Paul Goyer field is independent of the city parks department and does not fall under their umbrella of protection and assistance.

I am no longer involved in Delphi Youth Baseball. I am however, the commissioner of Town & Country Baseball, of which Delphi's league is a member. In this role I have traveled all over the northern half of Indiana visiting ballparks during the state tournament. There are better parks and complexes, but for the size of the Delphi League, they 'own' a fantastic park.

I write this in support of Delphi Youth Baseball and their board of directors. Running a not for profit youth organization on a shoestring budget is not an easy feat. Doing so and completing a major rebuild is simply remarkable. I have always believed that the registration fee that is paid is a bargain for the facilities that the league has to offer and for the product that is put on the field. Parents, please be proud of the facilities that your kids are able to use, and support your board of directors.

Nelson Smith, commissioner
Town & Country Baseball
Delphi

Drug addict tells his story

I am 20 and would like to tell you why you should be concerned about youth. I did my first drug when I was in the second grade. It made me feel like I was cool and belonged. It made me feel good to hang out with an older crowd. When you're young, you're vulnerable to peer pressure and more willing to try things that aren't as good as they seem at first. A lot of times, all it takes is one try.

The first drug I tried was marijuana. From that day on I was addicted and spent most of my money on buying it. As I got older I began to use harder drugs. At first it was just all for fun. Quickly it was an addiction. Now drugs are what I turn to for every problem. I have a best friend, drugs. I choose the drugs over my family, my friends and my very own life. About half of my 20 years has been spent locked up in jail or on probation. Nothing seems to be able to separate me from my best friend - not my family, not jail, not counseling, or even death.

My first overdose was on over the counter medication. I flat lined and was revived. My second overdose was on medication. I again flat lined and was revived. The doctors told my family I would probably be a vegetable. Still, after flat lining twice, that wasn't enough to keep me from drugs. A few days later, lucky to be alive, I used meth again. After awhile, it owns you.

I used to have dreams and goals and things that made me happy. After awhile they all disappeared. This is why peer pressure is important. After I gave in, all my friends looked up to me and wanted to do it, too. This can happen anywhere, even in your schools. It becomes a cycle. At first it's fun and makes you feel you're someone. I turned my friends into what I had become.

We used to do well in school. I had goals, dreams and ambitions. My grades fell to straight F's and through middle school and high school I spent most of my time in detention or

expelled. I only have about a ninth grade education. The drugs began to make me mean and change my moods. They weren't enough anymore and I needed even more to control my anger.

I am a drug addict. I could have been anything I wanted. But I feel blessed to be alive and would like to help others with the same problem. I know I could reach out to many kids, teens and even adults because of all that I have done. I want to help them before they hit bottom and are too weak to get back up. I still see younger kids starting out the same way I did. They don't understand that it becomes more than an addiction, it becomes their life and world. It is very lonely when you find yourself there.

I believe my sole purpose is to help our youth and show them a better way, to help them understand that it's not a chance worth taking. Every choice we make will affect us in some way or another. I have hit rock bottom and don't want to see it happen to anyone else. Saying "no" is really okay. Saying "no" could save your life. I'm one of the lucky ones even though my years are shortened. I hope parents will talk to their kids more.

Tom Robeson
Delphi

Other Death Notices

Florence T. "Jo" Parks, 82, of Delphi, died at 5:35 p.m. on April 23, 2006, at St. Elizabeth Medical Center. Born in Kokomo on Aug. 14, 1923, she was the daughter of Bert and Nina Ulrey Thompson. Her marriage was to John A. Parks on June 12, 1943, and he died June 12, 1994. Surviving locally is a daughter, Joselyn Miller of Delphi.

Alfred Strehle, 79, of Lafayette, died April 22, 2006, at St. Vincent Hospital in Carmel. Born Nov. 17, 1926, he was the son of Alfred and Hedwig Shrehle. His marriage was to Renate Hormes on Jan. 11, 1968, and she survives. Surviving locally is a daughter Karin Gulik of Delphi.

Births

Matt and Tricia Jackson of Burlington are parents of a 7-pound, 1-ounce daughter, Lily Anne, born April 17 at St. Joseph Memorial Hospital, Kokomo. Grandparents are Sam and Elaine Ellis of Bringham and Alan and Linda Jackson of Cutler. Maternal great-grandparents are Paul and Pat Klemme of Kokomo. Paternal great-grandparents are Clara Parks of Toppenish, Wash., and Pete and Joan Jackson of Flora.

Trent and Malinda Baker of Lafayette are parents of a 7-pound, 14-ounce daughter, Morgan Beth, born April 12 at Lafayette Home Hospital. Grandparents are Ivan and Lisa Lavy of New Carlisle, Ohio, and Stan and Bonita Baker of Lafayette. Maternal great-grandparents are Melvin and Eva Mohler of Rossville and Gary and Sharon Lavy of New Carlisle, Ohio. Paternal great-grandparents are Dr. Eldon and Betty Rose Baker of Delphi and Homer and Marilyn Riffey of Westphalia, Kan. Maternal great-great-grandfather is Harry Mohler of Rossville.

Imogene Daniel



Imogene West Bouvier "Imy" Daniel, 57, a resident of Regency Place in Lafayette, and formerly of Delphi, died April 23, 2006,

at Regency Place. Born in Lafayette on March 4, 1949, she was the daughter of Albert N. and Geraldine Wamsler Tharp. She was a 1967 graduate of Delphi Community High School and attended Purdue University and the University of New Orleans at Delgado.

Ms. Daniel had been a manager of the Schlumberger-Purdue Brampton Apartments. She was a missionary for the Seventh Day Adventist in Brownsburg, Texas, from 1988 to 1990. She had also been employed with Pizza Hut and Godfathers Pizza. She was a member of the Monticello Seventh Day Adventist Church.

Ms. Daniel enjoyed reading and doing puzzles. She was a published poet. She also enjoyed serving as a volunteer at Home Hospital.

Surviving are her mother, of Lafayette; four sisters, Linda Hood and Peggy Ritchie (fiancé: William Mosier), both of Lafayette, Alberta Thompson of Elkhart, and Debra "Debbie" Hardy of California; and several nieces, nephews, great-nieces and great-nephews.

She was preceded in death by her father on Feb. 28, 1989.

Private services will be held, with burial at Morning Heights Cemetery in Delphi.

Davidson Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Kenneth E. Wolf

Services for Kenneth E. Wolf, 90, of Rossville were held Thursday at Middle Fork Old German Baptist Brethren Church. Home brethren officiated and burial was at Middle Fork Old German Baptist Cemetery.

He died at 10 a.m. April 20, 2006, at Milner Community Health Care Center, Rossville, where he had resided the past month.

Born Dec. 5, 1915, in Miami County, near Peru, he was the son of Roy A. and Lucy J. Cottrell Wolf. He married Lois M. Austin on July 25, 1936, in Clinton County, and she preceded him in death on April 18, 2006.

He moved to Clinton County at the age of four and resided there the rest of his life. He attended Rossville schools for ten and a half years.

Mr. Wolf started dairy farming south of Rossville in 1944. He also worked at the Monon Railroad for a short time and at Gray's Hatchery at Delphi and Rossville, counting baby chicks. He retired in 1985.

He was a member of the Middle Fork Old German Baptist Brethren Church.

Surviving are a daughter, Kathryn A. Mohler (husband: Marvin) of rural Rossville; a son, Gerald L. Wolf (wife: Diane) of Fremont; a daughter-in-law, Mary Wolf of Fremont; nine grandchildren; 38 great-grandchildren; and four great-great-grandchildren.

He was also preceded in death by a son, Gordon C. Wolf, and two brothers, Roscoe Wolf and Cleo Wolf.

Bodine Funeral Home, Rossville, was in charge of arrangements.

Obituaries

Ollie D. Moore



Ollie D. Moore, 88, of Flora, passed away at Milner Community Healthcare Center in Rossville at 9:20 a.m.

Monday, April 24, 2006. Born Jan. 20, 1918, in Lamar County, Alabama, she was the daughter of William K. and Lillar Carr Pennington. She married Carl Moore on Aug. 12, 1933, in Lamar County. He preceded her on Dec. 28, 1981.

Mrs. Moore was a housewife and had also been a factory worker. She was a member of Valley View Baptist Church in Flora.

Surviving are five daughters. Mrs. Dorothy (husband: Burl) Wiles, Mrs. Chris Ramsey, Mrs. Judy (husband: Orville) Reed, Mrs. Barbara (husband: Ron) Marchand, all of Flora, and Mrs. Ann (husband: Greg) Fahl of Columbia City. Also surviving are one brother, William K. Pennington, of Greenwood, Ark., and one sister, Mamie Whitus of Battleground, Ind.

Also surviving are 12 grandchildren, 26 great-grandchildren and nine great-great-grandchildren.

Three brothers, one sister and one son preceded her in death.

Services will be Thursday, April 27, at 2 p.m. at Valley View Baptist Church in Flora. Burial will follow at Maple Lawn Cemetery, Flora. Pastor Bill Godby will officiate the service. Visitation will be Wednesday from 4-8 p.m. at Reinke Funeral Home in Flora.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Alzheimer Foundation.

Ruby J. Hinkle

Ruby J. Hinkle, 85, of Flora, died at 2:45 p.m. April 22, 2006, at Lafayette Home Hospital.

Born Feb. 21, 1921, in Bringham, she was the daughter of Lawrence F. and Minnie Burge Spurgeon.

She cleaned houses and was a member of Living Faith Church of the Brethren.

Surviving are a daughter, Beverly Hinkle of Flora; a brother, Joe Spurgeon of Flora; and a sister, Betty Richason of Mitchell. Three brothers and three sisters preceded her in death.

Services were held Monday at Reinke Funeral Home, Flora. Burial was at Maple Lawn Cemetery, Flora.

Correction

In last week's Comet it was incorrectly stated that Judy Berkshire and others were successful 10 years ago in stopping construction of a hog CAFO in their neighborhood. The final decision by the court was in favor of the Top Sow group and they could have constructed their hog buildings. The farmers chose not to construct at that time due to low hog prices.

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Howard A. Turner



Howard A. Turner, 86, of Flora, died Monday, April 24, 2006, at 10:10 p.m. at St. Elizabeth Medical Center,

Lafayette. He had been in failing health.

Born Dec. 13, 1919, in Goodland, Ind., he was the son of Archie and Grace Houlk Turner. His marriage was to Betty J. Jackson on Oct. 15, 1967, in Otterbein, Ind., and she survives.

Mr. Turner was a 1938 graduate of Brookston High School, and attended Purdue University for one year.

A World War II veteran, he served in the U.S. Army in the South Pacific from 1941-1945. An infantryman, he received a Purple Heart.

Mr. Turner worked at Ross Gear in Lafayette for 38 years in the plating division, retiring in May 1981. While he was at Ross Gear, he was the union president for 12 years, and was instrumental in the development of the Industrial Federal Credit Unions that started at the factory and now are in surrounding communities.

He formerly attended a Baptist Church in Lafayette, and is a member of the Delphi American Legion Post #75, and the Delphi VFW #9383.

He enjoyed fishing in Canada for many years, raising exotic birds, raising exotic fish, aquarium assembly, and playing euchre.

Surviving with his wife are three daughters, Linda Martin (husband: John) and Debbie A. Clark, and Vicki Shaw (husband: Jerry), all of Lafayette, Ind.; one son, Tom R. Turner of Lafayette, Ind.; two stepdaughters, Debra "Deb" Woods of Bringham, Ind., and Dorinda Beever of Dallas, Texas; one stepson, Thomas L. Patrick of Delphi, Ind.; one sister, Maxine Hockstra (husband: Sam) of Buck Creek; 12 grandchildren, five stepgrandchildren, six great-grandchildren, and eight stepgreat-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by one infant grandson and one stepgrandson.

Services will be held at 11 a.m. Friday at Abbott Funeral Home, Delphi. The Rev. Larry DeVos will officiate. Burial with Delphi American Legion and Delphi VFW military rites, will be at Brookston IOOF Cemetery. Friends may call at the funeral home on Thursday from 5-8 p.m.

Memorial contributions may be made to the American Kidney Foundation (envelopes available at the funeral home).

Obituary policy

The Comet is offering families a choice of obituary style. One is a standard style, similar to what is currently published with a few limitations. As in the past, there will be no charge for this style.

The other style is a personalized obituary, offering a more complete depiction of the deceased person's life. It can be written by the family and include more information than the standard format. Personalized obituaries will be charged at \$50 for up to 300 words or 275 words with picture. Each additional word over the maximum will be 15¢.

A half-column photo of the deceased may be submitted for either type of obituary, at no charge. If a flag for military service or some other type of membership symbol or graphic is desired in the obituary, there will be an additional cost.

When appropriate, pending notices and other death notices will be printed at no charge.

By offering this alternative, those who desire a more personalized obituary about their loved one will now have that option.

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