



## Land use committee considers in-house plan

By Debbie Lowe  
Staff writer

County representatives appointed to oversee the development of a comprehensive land use and zoning plan for Carroll County question if an outside firm should be hired for the work. Some members spoke in favor of doing the work themselves, thereby saving the county money.

The group began the May 17 early-morning meeting discussing their goal to determine the scope of work to be done by an outside firm and then began looking for provider options.

Council appointee to the committee

Jerry Hendress said one element to consider was a firm that would allow the county to choose from an array of services.

"We can justify spending the money if it benefits the whole county," he said.

County zoning administrator Dale Huffer noted the Carroll County Area Plan Commission is a taxing unit and a budget was established for this purpose. He reported \$20,000 is appropriated annually.

According to county auditor Beth Myers what is not spent out of the annual appropriation stays in the APC fund for future use.

However local developer and

Economic Development Corporation appointee Bret Rinehart offered a different option.

"It galls me to think of spending \$60,000 to \$100,000 for this," he said.

Rinehart suggested the ad hoc group compare ordinances from like-communities and compile information to develop Carroll County's plan. After compilation, the proposal would be distributed to other groups such as EDC, "the chamber" and the city of Delphi for review and suggested modifications, he said.

He stated one important issue the county is facing concerns entrance and exit ramps for the proposed Hoosier

Heartland Highway.

"The on and the off is the important thing about the Hoosier Heartland," he said. "I don't need an outsider to tell me about that."

"We are only talking about Confined Animal Feeding Operations now because of market-driven dynamics," Rinehart said.

Committee member Tom Hessler agreed and said, "CAFO is in our face right now."

Hendress called for more information before proceeding.

"Speaking from the council's perspective, we do see a real need for this (comprehensive land use plan)," he said.

"Let's get examples of like-counties' plans. We should study small rural county plans."

"Our next step is to get these plans in our hands," he continued. "And I don't want to wait for 60 days to do it."

Leadership Carroll County appointee Alan Flora stressed the need for objectivity and lack of bias as planning proceeds.

"I'm hoping this plan will be pro-growth," Hendress said. "Everything has to work together rather than not."

"What do we see as the future here?" he asked. "We need to look at how this is going to affect the whole county."

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## Students learn how to be healthy

By Jennifer Archibald  
Staff writer

Carroll Elementary second and fourth graders took part in a "Fit For Life" program last Thursday.

They visited three stations to learn about nutrition and fitness.

At station 1, they learned about the new food pyramid, portion size, and the importance of eating a balanced diet.



### Healthy snacks

Brandie Oliver offers students pears packed in 100% juice for a healthy taste test. She also served kebabs, made with pieces of green pepper, ham, strawberry, and colby cheese. Served with a honey-wheat braided pretzel, the snacks represented a taste from each of the food groups. Comet photo by Jennifer Archibald

At station 2, they were offered a taste test of healthy snacks.

At station 3, they took part in a fitness class and learned about the importance of getting 20-30 minutes of physical activity daily and the importance of drinking water.

Brandie Oliver, coordinator of the program, was the leader at station 2. Other station leaders were Janelle Kennedy, registered dietitian, and



Amanda Harness, personal trainer.

Oliver is the regional team leader for the statewide Action for Healthy Kids. She said Fit For Life was conducted as a pilot program at Carroll Elementary and two elementary schools in Clinton County. The students received pre-tests and post-tests to see if they learned from the program. Oliver said there will be a follow-up program in the fall.

For participating, students got to take home a packet of nutrition-related items, including a water bottle, ball, small bag of pretzels, healthy snack ideas, information from the new food pyramid, and suggested web sites. Two of those web sites are: [www.actionforhealthykids.org](http://www.actionforhealthykids.org) and [www.mypyramid.gov](http://www.mypyramid.gov).

Fit For Life was made possible by a grant written by Oliver and funded by the Indiana State Department of Health.

Carroll school nurse Kathy Sanders brought the program to Carroll as part of the corporation's increased emphasis on nutrition and physical activity.

Sanders chaired a Wellness Committee that recently developed a Wellness Policy for the school corporation. It will be considered for approval by the school board in June. As of July 1, all school corporations are to have a Wellness Policy in place.



### 'Fitness For Life'

Carroll Elementary second graders are pictured in a fitness class led by a personal trainer. The stretches and exercises were part of a "Fit For Life" program offered at the school last week. Comet photo by Jennifer Archibald

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## Governor to speak in Delphi today

Governor Mitch Daniels will be in Delphi today, Wednesday, at 12:30 p.m. on the Carroll County Courthouse Lawn. He will give an update on the Major Moves road program at

the southeast corner of the courthouse by the monument.

Daniels and Lt. Gov. Becky Skillman are touring the state Tuesday and Wednesday giving the road program updates.

## Brown won't support 2006 county road plan

By Debbie Lowe  
Staff writer

The 2006 Carroll County Road Plan presented by highway supervisor Ramzi Awwad calls for less than five miles of county roads to be resurfaced.

Commissioners' president Bill Brown was not in support of adopting the plan and refused to go along with the other two commissioners when the vote was called.

"I can't vote for it. This is unacceptable," Brown said emphatically at the Monday morning commissioners' meeting. He said approximately one-half of one percent of county roads are planned for improvements this year.

"Resurfacing the Carroll

County roads once every 200 years is not good enough," he proclaimed.

"We are doing the negligible fraction of what needs to be done," Awwad stated.

"How long before we have to take every road back to gravel?" Brown asked Awwad. Brown suggested money collected through county taxes are not funding the right county needs.

"If we paid our highway wages and benefits out of property taxes we would have about \$1,000,000 more to spend for asphalt," he said.

Both Mears and Hylton agreed that they would like to see more done for the roads.

The plan was adopted as Brown provided the one dis-

senting vote.

In other highway department news, final plans for engineering work by American Consulting for bridge #120 were approved. A notice to bidders was approved and bids will be opened at the June 8 commissioners' meeting.

Bridge #120 is on CR200N, also known as the Crooked Road to Flora (Delphi).

A comprehensive uniform traffic ordinance, including stop and yield signs, speed limits and roadside parking, is being developed by county attorney Barry Emerson. Emerson said the ordinance will address traffic in unincorporated areas and should be ready for review at the June 8 meeting.

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## Pet owners-know your obligations!

By Debbie Lowe  
Staff writer

Spring is one time the problem of animals running loose in the county becomes critical for some county officials and all county taxpayers. This spring is no different.

A revised animal control ordinance was adopted by Carroll

County Commissioners and Council last December. The ordinance details pet owners' responsibilities and

enforcement proceedings to be used when owners fail to comply.

**Animal Control Ordinance 2005-13, section 3.01, mandates "all dog and cats shall be kept under restraint."**

Animal control officer Ed England reports 36 cats and 83 dogs were impounded in the first quarter of this year.

Taxpayers pay \$55 per dog per stay and \$40 per cat per stay for impoundment services, by contract with the county's shelter provider. That means the county is responsible to pay \$1,440 for unwanted cats and \$4,565 for dogs for the first three months of this year.

The number significantly jumped in April. England reported impoundment of 30

cats and 21 dogs during the month. The tab for taxpayers will be a whopping \$1,200 for cats and \$1,155 for dogs.

In the four-month period, eight animals were returned to the owners. According to the ordinance the cost to retrieve pets is \$55 each. The income would net the county \$440 from pet owners.

England urged all pet owners to abide by the ordinance to avoid penalties. When legal action is sought by the county the first offense, an infraction, carries a fine of \$25. The second offense will cost the pet owner \$50. Continued problems could lead to court action, which could result in the pet owner being

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## Delphi to offer drivers' ed

By Debbie Lowe  
Staff writer

In a special board meeting that lasted only seven minutes, the Delphi Community School Corporation's Board of Trustees decided to cancel the drivers' education program this summer.

At the May 8 board meeting, a motion to cancel the course due to lack of enrollment was tabled when instructor Donald Brothers urged board members to delay a decision until the registration period ended. Brothers also offered to adjust his salary to match the class size.

Twenty-two students have enrolled in the course, said Superintendent John Williams at Monday night's meeting. He recommended keeping the program intact.

The motion to cancel was defeated unanimously.

**Board hires basketball coach**

In the last part of the brief

meeting, Brian Tonsoni, a coach and social studies teacher most recently with Northfield High School in Wabash was named the new high school boys' basketball coach.

The next board meeting will be May 22 at 7 p.m.

**Work session**

In a work session immediately following the special board meeting, members met with Dr. Jim Auter of Purdue University to begin the process of replacing Williams.

According to board president Robert Resler, Auter is part of a four-person team of placement experts who will guide school board members through the search and hiring process.

The timeline for the process began with the Monday night orientation meeting. Closing for applications is July 7. The new hire will be in place on or about Sept. 11.

The team, comprised of one

representative from Ball State, Indiana, Indiana State and Purdue universities will develop a pool of applicants based on criteria provided by board members.

Auter said once a needs-based picture is developed, the team will screen applicants and make recommendations. A July 13 date was proposed for screening applicants by the team.

The team will coach board members for interview questions and protocol before preliminary interviews.

Outgoing board members Pat George and Tricia Hammond plan to participate in the process until their terms end.

New board member Melinda Rossiter participated in the work session. Resler said he was in contact with new board member Nick Cronk via e-mail, who was attending a conference.

Resler said an interim superintendent will be hired.

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