

CARROLL COUNTY COMET

Consolidation of the Delphi Journal-Citizen (Est. 1839) and the Flora Hoosier Democrat (Est. 1897).

Published each Wednesday at 114 East Franklin St., Delphi IN 46923
Periodical Class Postage Paid at Delphi IN46923 and additional mailing offices.

POSTMASTER: Send Address Changes to Carroll County Comet,
PO Box 26, Flora IN 46929-0026 USPS 285-840

Published by CARROLL PAPERS, Inc. PO Box 26, Flora IN 46929-0026
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Editorial Writers: Susan Scholl, Comet Staff

MAIL SUBSCRIPTION RATES in Advance - Per Year
Carroll County, Service People and Counties which border Carroll - \$27.00.
All other Indiana counties - \$32.00; All other states - \$35.00.
Addresses changed for seasonal residences - Add \$3.00
Address changes - subs@carrollcountycomet.com

Memberships include:



Hoosier State Press Association



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'When the minutes appear in the newspaper...'

This phrase was uttered recently at a public meeting by an elected official. The reason it is memorable is that it more than adequately verbalized a common feeling among some public officials.

Although the sentiment is difficult to put into words, this council member said it best in that short partial statement.

There seems to be a belief among some in the community that the newspaper sends writers to meetings to record all of the happenings of the meeting in order to publish the minutes of the meeting.

When some agenda items are not covered in the ensuing story, those holding the meeting seem to believe the writer is not doing a good job for them.

The truth is that the media is present at meetings to be the eyes and the ears of the public who do not attend the meeting. The media's mission is to highlight issues of importance to taxpayers and residents of the community, not to take minutes of the meetings.

This means using judgment about which issues are most important, and those that are not so important. And sometimes we don't get it quite right. But mostly we do.

Every story is reviewed by at least three people before it makes it into print. Even then mistakes are inevitable. It happens in every newspaper in every country.

So, for those holding public meetings, let this serve as a well-intentioned and gentle reminder. The media attends meetings with intent to inform the people of the community. If the people of the community wish to read the minutes, they may request them from the governmental body. The only way the minutes of a meeting will appear in the paper is if those holding the meeting pay to put them there.

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

Jacob A. Lewis was charged with Count I, driving while suspended; Count II, failure to provide proof of insurance.

William A. Smith was charged with Count I, domestic battery; Count II, invasion of privacy.

In State of Indiana vs. David P. Lawrence, 19, Cutler, the defendant pleaded guilty to Count I, theft. He was sentenced to two years, with one year suspended, and a year of probation.

In State of Indiana vs. Kent R. Dixon, 53, Lafayette, the defendant pleaded guilty to Count I, public intoxication. He was sentenced to six months, with four

months suspended and a year of probation.

In State of Indiana vs. Exiquio Solis, 30, Logansport, the defendant pleaded guilty to Count I, driving while suspended. He was sentenced to six months, suspended, and a year of probation.

In State of Indiana vs. J. Matthew Edwards, 46, Lafayette, the defendant pleaded guilty to Count I, possession of marijuana. He was sentenced to two years, with all but three months suspended and one year and 270 days of probation.

In State of Indiana vs. Robert J. Knoth, 40, Monticello, the defendant was found not guilty of invasion of privacy.

In State of Indiana vs. Robert J. Knoth, 40, Monticello, the defendant was found guilty of Count I, criminal mischief; and pleaded guilty to driving while suspended. He was sentenced to one year.

In State of Indiana vs. Danny K. Moyers, 55, Delphi, the defendant pleaded guilty to Count I, public intoxication. He was sentenced to three months, suspended, and a year of probation.

In State of Indiana vs. Russell G. Stout, 42, West Point, the defendant was found guilty of violation of probation. He was sentenced to 14 days.

In State of Indiana vs. Maghan D. Walters, 18, Frankfort, the defendant pleaded guilty to Count I, illegal consumption of alcohol. She was sentenced to two months, suspended, and a year of probation.

My task at hand was to read the ingredients of the yogurt cup with the bonus granola in the little plastic container on the top. But I didn't have my glasses, didn't know what I was supposed to be looking for in contents anyway, and the spill in aisle 12 was more interesting to observe.

The spill, some kind of nuts from out of a bin, was pretty well confined. This was not a big clean up effort. But the young grocery worker, a tall, thin, teenage girl was intent on making this task last. She swept standing perfectly erect. No bend at the waist, not for this gal. It appeared as though she moved one nut at a time with her broom. She was almost motionless as she went about her task. Her "approach" to her work was to exert the least interest, the minimum effort, the littlest impact on the job at hand.

I had to move on before the young lady reached for her dust pan. The suspense, however, had me in idling in nervous anticipation.

So often, one's approach reflects a wide manner of choice.

I park my car at work in an elevated parking lot that I considered dedicated to the concept of greed. When the lot was designed and conceived the approach taken was to achieve at all costs the most parking spots for the space available. The project could have been approached with an emphasis on safety, or a focus on design. My take is the approach was greed, pure and simple, the most spots for the buck.

The result of the approach taken is a dangerously designed parking lot that will pose needless risk to every person who parks in the structure until the day it is demolished. The ramp to the second floor entrance is narrow and steep. It is a two-way ramp with a blind spot, both coming and going. Its legacy will be many fender benders, angry exchanges and close calls. And the parking

Midwest Memo

by Alan Shultz



Approach

Lately I've been exercising in an old health club nearby. Right now I'm in my treadmill phase. Upon entering the facility, I take a quick visual scan of the place and then beeline it to the first empty machine. I poke at the controls, build up to my stride and then off I go. I find the fully mirrored walls unsettling and so I watch my feet for the next 30 minutes.

My approach to my use of the facilities is...let's call it, standoffish.

Not so for Lenore.

Many years my senior, but one who walks my same pace (I know for sure, I peeked), Lenore enters the club greeting everyone by name. She knows your name, because she's introduced herself previously.

"Hi, I'm Lenore, I don't think I know you."

She doesn't "not know" anyone for long.

Lenore wears bright colors, brings a thermos of coffee, and she doesn't look at her shoes when she's tackling the treadmill - not for a minute. Instead, she looks at the person to her right and to her left and talks and asks questions and her approach is to interact and to get to know you and it's all pretty delightful.

Lenore's approach to a morning at the gym is "interactive," to say the least.

Like it or not, I guess the lazy grocery gal and I have something in common. We both should be more like Lenore.

That said, I still don't like looking in those goofy mirrors!

Letters to the Editor

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. Letters must be 400 words or less in length. 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.

Warnings of attempted fraud on Medicare beneficiaries

The Indiana Association of Area Agencies on Aging Seniors Examine Services Provided (SR ESP) project - a project designed to help seniors avoid becoming victims of Medicare and other types of fraud - warns seniors to be aware of fraudulent calls requesting personal information from seniors.

Do NOT share or verify any personal information to unknown callers. In most instances scam artists will ask for your Social Security number, your bank routing number, your credit card number, or your Medicare number - do NOT give it to an unknown caller. Often callers are very friendly and very convincing. A simple statement like: "I can't talk now, but if you will give me your name and number, I can get back with you" will scare them off. Insist on calling them back. In the most recent attempt, the caller's phone number does not come up on caller ID.

You need to know how to respond in order to avoid falling for a scam. If this happens to someone in Indiana - no one has fallen for the scam - then the Attorney General's office will do further investigation. Report suspected Medicare Fraud to your local AAA at 1-800-986-3505.

Melissa Durr
CEO

Indiana Association Area Agencies on Aging

Restaurant Inspections

Flora Pizza King

Routine inspection: 9/7/06
Summary of violations: No Violations Noted

Delphi Dairy Queen

Routine inspection: 9/7/06
Summary of violations: 5 non-critical
1. There was a food employee without a hair restraint. Directed to correct by 9/7/06.

2. There was not a thermometer in the drive up freezer. Corrected.
3. The ladies restroom did not have a cover on the trash can. Directed to correct by 9/8/06.

4. The ice cream scoop was not stored properly in between uses. Directed to correct by 9/7/06.
5. The orange base was being stored on the floor in the store room. Directed to correct by 9/7/06.

Flora Mid-Land Meals

Routine inspection: 9/6/06
Summary of violations: No Violations Noted

Camden Mid-Land Meals

Routine inspection: 9/1/06
Summary of violations: No Violations Noted

White Oaks

Beach House Café

Routine inspection: 8/31/06
Summary of violations: No Violations Noted

The Corner Café

Routine inspection: 8/24/06
Summary of violations: No Violations Noted

White Oaks

Coffee Shop

Routine inspection: 8/28/06
Summary of violations: No Violations Noted

Delphi Pizza King

Routine inspection: 8/25/06
Summary of violations: No Violations Noted

Camden Elementary

Routine inspection: 8/24/06
Summary of violations: No Violations Noted

Hillcrest Elementary

Routine inspection: 9/2/06
Summary of violations: No Violations Noted

Delphi Middle School

Routine inspection: 8/25/06
Summary of violations: No Violations Noted

Delphi High School

Routine inspection: 8/25/06
Summary of violations: No Violations Noted

Because the public has a right to know...

In an effort to help our readers understand what government meetings are happening when and where, the Comet will now print upcoming meetings on a weekly basis.

Wednesday, Sept. 20

Delphi Board of Works : 5:30 p.m.

Tuesday, Sept. 26

Carroll County Area Plan Commission: 7 p.m.

Marriage Licenses

Charles L. Kyburz, 42, and Marcia J. Allen, 43, both of Delphi.

David N. Connaway, 38, and Brenda M. Hekking, 42, both of Delphi.

John R. Michael, 31, and Michelle D. Rouhier, 26, both of Camden.

Scott B. Spencer, 26, and Stacy L. Louthain, 31, both of Flora.

Travis L. Davis, 27, and Diana M. Lima, 23, both of Rockfield.

Brian S. Mann, 23, and Jade L. Myers, 21, both of Cutler.

Bradley S. Thompson, 48, and Teresa D. Stewart, 45, both of Delphi.

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 default judgment was ordered in Midland Credit Management Inc. vs. David C. Freeman. The plaintiff shall recover \$1,733.37 plus costs.

In State of Indiana vs. Derek Haring, 23, the defendant pleaded guilty to Count III, possession of a controlled substance. He was sentenced to one and one-half years, with all but four days suspended, and shall serve the suspension under probation.

In State of Indiana vs. Kristopher Brummett, 21, Flora, the defendant pleaded guilty to Count I, burglary. He was sentenced to 10 years, with five suspended and five years of probation.

A summary judgment entry and decree of foreclosure were ordered in Household Finance Corporation III vs. Shelia M. Kirby et al.

A default judgment and decree of foreclosure were ordered in Lafayette Bank & Trust Company vs. Carey L. Land and Andria A. Land et al.

The following are in arrears of child support: Mary Haskins, \$3,550.54; Raymond Clark, amount unspecified; William Lane, \$1,820; Rhonda Blount, \$22,978.22; Michael Fultz, \$21,780.38; Sheryl Johnson, \$2,470; Jeremy Robinson, \$3,025.86; Kelly Reed, \$4,224.02; Daniel Hudleston, \$725; Brian Hartman, \$3,628.33.

In Midland Credit Management Inc. vs. Kimberly Gullion, the plaintiff shall recover \$6,325.51 plus interest.

A judgment of foreclosure was ordered in First Horizon Home Loan Corporation vs. Bret M. Remaly et al.

Marriage dissolutions: Gordon S. Wilson and Julia Wilson; Gregory A. Enoch and Jane E. Enoch, Melissa M. Anderson and Joseph A. Anderson, Kathy R. Williams and Curtis E. Williams.

A complaint on note and to foreclose mortgage was filed in JP Morgan Chase vs. Brett A. Smith and Evelyn L. Smith et al.

A complaint on promissory

notes and foreclosure of mortgage were filed in First Farmers Bank & Trust vs. Duane J. and Kathryn M. Davis and Sundance Waters LLC et al.

A complaint on note and to foreclose mortgage was filed in GMAC Mortgage vs. Anne Dalts and Jason S. Kepner.

A complaint for damages was filed in Charles P. Carter Jr. and Vickilyn E. Carter vs. James K. Brettbacher.

A complaint was filed in Midland Credit Management vs. Jeffrey H. Ragan.

A change of venue from Cass County was filed in Midland Credit Management vs. Candis Simons.

Linda S. Shanks was named administrator of the David A. Shanks Estate.

In State of Indiana vs. Maria S. Barradas, 41, the defendant pleaded guilty to Count I, forgery. She was sentenced to two years, with all but two days suspended, and two years of probation.

The following were found to be in arrears of child support: Jon M. Morrow, \$19,335.39; Jason Williamson, \$4,079; Richard Collins, \$8,184; Donald Morgan, \$12,402.37; Stephen Clark Sr., \$10,594.59.

In Communitywide Federal Credit Union vs. Dusty J. Davis, the court found in favor of the plaintiff, who shall recover \$17,636.47.

A default judgment was ordered in Legal Recoveries, Inc. vs. Roy C. Shaw. The plaintiff shall recover \$848.18 plus costs.

A judgment and decree of foreclosure were ordered in JPMorgan Chase Bank vs. Jerry L. Hughes and Kimberly K. Hughes.

In Richard S. Rakos vs. Sherri Cupp, Cupp shall return the 2001 Jeep Laredo to the plaintiff.

In State of Indiana vs. Scott B. Spencer, the defendant pleaded guilty to operating a motor vehicle after forfeiture of license for life. He was sentenced to six years, with three years suspended, and three years of probation.

A default judgment was ordered in Great Seneca Financial Corp. vs. Ellen Saylor. The plaintiff shall recover \$3,925.17 plus costs.

Web poll results

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 the following week.

Last Week's Results:

Do you feel safer today than the day after Sept. 11, 2001?

16% Yes
58% No

Total responses: 38

Public Notices appearing in this issue of the Comet:

Sheriff Sale-Gooden	5B	3613
Marshal's Sale-Brown	5B	3614
Summons-Holman Estate	3B	3713
Notice of Suite-Stover	5B	3713
TLRS-Notice	5B	3712
Sheriff Sale-Burlington	3B	3813
Rossville Sch-Not of Adop	3B	3811
Campbell Estate	3B	3812
Town of Flora-Ord. 2006-6	5B	3811
Julien Estate	3B	3812
Sheriff Sale-Pattengale	3B	3813
Town of Flora-Ord. 2006-7	5B	3811
Sheriff Sale-Wrightsmen	3B	3813
Town of Camden-Bidders	5B	3812

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

Tell us starting Wednesday at our web site, carrollcountycomet.com

How often do you call or talk to your commissioner or county council representative about an issue they are debating?

- Never?
- 1-5 times/year?
- 6-10 times/year?
- Every month or after every meeting?

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