

# Sheriff initiates two new programs

## Get out of jail card...fast tracking through the system

By Debbie Lowe  
Staff writer

When Tony Burns ran for sheriff of Carroll County last year, he said he would identify problems at the jail and work to make operations more efficient to help reduce inmate population. He also said he would research available programs which would enhance the safety of county residents.

Burns pursued both of those

election promises last week. **Credit and debit cards can now be used to bond out of jail**

PayTRUST Solutions of Indianapolis will provide a two-step process to assist those with cash bonds to use their credit or debit cards to access ready cash. In addition, PayTRUST assumes all liability for the transaction. There is no cost to the county.

Those who are arrested and

sanctioned with a cash bond will be able to call a toll-free number from the jail and provide credit information. PayTRUST Solutions will verify the information and the availability of funds and fax a verification form back to the jail. The service is available 24 hours a day. Those using the service will pay a non-refundable ten percent charge for the service. A valid photo identification is required.

Both debit and credit cards, including Visa, MasterCard, Discover, Diners Club, JCB and American Express (with some restrictions) will be accepted.

Funds will be electronically transferred to the clerk's office within 48 hours according to Jeff Milner, PayTRUST Solutions president and co-owner.

"This process should help us move some prisoners through the jail a little faster," Burns said. "In that way, we could see a reduction in the jail population, which will save the county money because we won't be housing and feeding as many prisoners."

### Can you hear me now?

Carroll County residents now have the opportunity to recycle no-longer-needed cell phones for a good cause. Citizens who are seniors or those victimized



Jeff Milner, PayTRUST Solutions president and co-owner, trained Carroll County jailers on how to use the system Feb. 28. Milner explained the two-step process and described how the system would work in the jail. Those pictured during the training, left to right, are Milner, jailers Lori Sustarsic, Pat Hankins, Walt Radersdorf, Steve Pearson Jon Randle, Spencer Kingery and Sheriff Tony Burns. Comet photo by Debbie Lowe

by domestic violence are the intended recipients of the phones. The Carroll County Sheriff's Office has partnered with RMS, a Florida-based communications group specializing in recycling and re-marketing unused cell phones.

The sheriff's office will be the drop-off site for unwanted and unused cell phones and charger. The phones will go to the RMS 911 Cell Phone Bank. RMS will rehabilitate and convert the donated phones for emergency 911 use.

The exact units donated by Carroll County residents may not be returned to the community, however the sheriff's office will receive a 911 cell phone for each unit donated to the program in Carroll County. All phones returned to use will have been tested and packaged with an extra battery and charger to distribute to the public.

Sheriff Burns encouraged individuals, businesses and other organizations to donate their unused cell phones in a March

news release. Donations will provide a critical link between law enforcement and senior citizens or those victimized by domestic violence.

Phones can be dropped off at the sheriff's office 24 hours a day, seven days a week. For more information visit [www.911cellphonebank.org](http://www.911cellphonebank.org) or call Burns at (765) 564-4321.

**Donate Your Cell Phone Here**

Your cell phone may provide the critical link between law enforcement and someone in trouble.

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## Business Briefs

### ANDY "DREW"

SANDORA has opened Sandora Tech, a computer repair and consulting business at 610 N. Indiana St. in Delphi. Sandora also sells supplies for computers and copiers as a service component of the business.

Sandora has been in information technology for 10 years and most recently worked for Pfizer Pharmaceuticals as a project coordinator. Sandora is newly-married to local resident Qiana Stewart.

Originally from Dowagiac, Mich., Sandora said he liked the small town atmosphere of Delphi and prefers to do business with people he will know for years to come.

"I wanted the business to be a local one," Sandora said. "I came from a small town and I like the idea of supporting the small-town economy."

Sandora Tech can be reached by calling (765) 564-6579.

KYLE KELLY of Kokomo is the new program director at the Carroll County YMCA in Flora.

He is a 1999 graduate of Northwestern High School. He graduated in 2003 from Marian College, Indianapolis, where he earned a bachelor of science degree in sports management. He also played on the college baseball team.

His previous YMCA experience includes being a summer camp counselor at a YMCA camp in Arkansas.

The local YMCA offers fitness and sports programs for all ages. As program director, Kelly is in charge of developing and overseeing the programs. He also runs the sports programs, assisted by volunteers.

Kelly said he would like to expand both the adult and youth programming. He is working on adding line dancing for adults and karate for youth.

Contact Kelly at the YMCA for current program offerings or if interested in being a volunteer instructor.



Sandora



Kelly

## Local environmental council advocates unity, responsibility

By Kevin Schnepf  
Staff writer

Global warming pervades the lives of everyone on the planet, including Carroll County residents.

When it comes to learning how to counter its effects, Carroll County residents now have a representative who can help.

Local resident Judy Berkshire is the Carroll County representative for the Northwest Central Region of the Hoosier Environmental Council (HEC). She will help organize local efforts in coordination with the council.

"There are many who do not believe global warming even exists," Berkshire explained. "We'd like to see that change through education and involvement."

Berkshire was present March 4 at Duncan Hall in Lafayette for a screening of "The Great Warming," a documentary-style film encouraging individual and global environmental awareness.

More than 250 concerned citizens attended what the HEC called its "coming out event."

According to literature provided at the screening, the council "works to restore and protect the natural systems upon which life depends" through education, advocacy and citizen empowerment in Indiana.

Council president Don Scheiber said the organization hopes to become stronger locally. He said the formation of eight regional councils, includ-

ing one in Carroll County, should help.

"We must do what we can to help (curb global warming)," Scheiber stated. He said school-based education and action programs are keys to success.

Brent Blackwelder, president of Friends of the Earth, a top environmental lobbyist group in Washington, D.C., was guest speaker at the Sunday afternoon program. After the film screening, he shared information and answered questions regarding the film and what can be done locally to help combat pollution.

"One big, easy change is light bulbs," he explained. "If each family changes five regular light bulbs to compact fluorescent bulbs, the United States could take 20 coal plants off-line."

HEC suggested residents:

- Recycle as much as possible;
- Lower air and water thermostats;
- Add surge protection to circuits;
- Clean refrigerator condenser coils yearly;
- and use energy-saving settings on appliances.

Some electric companies also provide discounts to customers who enroll in green energy savings programs.

Blackwelder, who has testified many times before Congress, said concerned citizens should act individually as well as in the political arena.

"When we are outspen by polluters, we have to become

very resourceful," he explained. "Despair is our biggest enemy. There are so many things each of us can do to make a difference."



Blackwelder

The film focused on scientific, political and religious viewpoints concerning global warming, caused when temperature and moisture levels are out-of-balance. It called for personal, spiritual and governmental responsibility to lead the way toward change.

"The evangelical community accounts for half the Republican Party's votes," Blackwelder stated. "More and more Christians view creation as sacred. Our hope is that they become unified in their demands and force politicians to act."

Figures in the film pointed toward tourism, agriculture and economic development as key areas of concern. Blackwelder said politicians and corporations must heed concerned citizens' calls for action.

The Indiana Land Resources Council stated Indiana is losing 100,000 acres a year of farmland and forestland to development. Blackwelder said those numbers indicate a problem not only for future generations, but now as well.

Local citizens interested in what they can do individually or as part of the HEC may contact Berkshire at (574) 686-2596 for information.

### SUSANNAH HALL-

JUSTICE of Hall-Justice Law Firm, gave a presentation on representing minors to the Indiana Trial Lawyers Association at the Lifetime Achievement Seminar held on March 2.

She discussed the best ways to help young clients and their guardians in personal injury and wrongful death cases.

Nationally known speaker, David Ball, talked about a book written by trial lawyer Don Keenan, named "365 Ways to Prevent Children from Being Hurt." Other speakers discussed issues such as the new management of Medicare liens preventing plaintiffs and defendants settling cases because Medicare will not tell them how much of a lien Medicare has.

ADAM RAPER has been placed as a student teacher with Delphi Community High School Agricultural Sciences and Business Instructors Ross Striebeck and Beth Theobald. The appointment was made by the Purdue University Agriculture Education program.

Raper will be teaching middle school agriculture, freshman agriculture, advanced life sciences, floriculture, agricultural mechanics and welding. He will also advise FFA activities such as career development events, leadership conferences and other community service activities.

"I am really looking forward to my student teaching experience," Raper said.

Raper, of Liberty, graduated from Union County High School in 2002. He resides in West Lafayette.



Raper

## Service News

### Perry enlists in split training program

Robert D. Perry, son of Robert E. Perry of Cutler, and Michelle J. Lytle of Kokomo, recently enlisted in the U.S. Army Reserve's split training program, and will report for active-duty training May 24.

The junior at Carroll Jr.-Sr. High School will take basic training this summer at Fort Jackson, S.C., and then attend advanced individual training as

a motor transport operator following graduation from high school in 2008. After completing training, he will be assigned to the Army Reserve's 209th Quartermaster Company, Lafayette.

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## Police & Fire Calls

Police reports are gathered from available records on file at local police departments. This information is a matter of public record and does not imply guilt or innocence. Information for fire reports is also gathered from reports on file with local fire departments.

### Delphi Police Department

Feb. 24, 9:45 p.m. - Property damage with injury, CR600N near US421. Jerry Shoemaker, 47, no address provided. Passenger Sheryl Johnson, Monticello sustained minor injuries. Officer Justin Wilson investigated.

March 3, 9:30 p.m. - Residential entry, 101 Crest Dr. Officer Chuck Kent investigated.

### Sheriff's Office

Feb. 26, 5:55 a.m. - Property damage, SR75 near CR375S. Anthony E. Stephen, 36, Cutler. Deputy Mike Thomas investigated.

Feb. 26, 6:30 a.m. - Property damage, SR218 near CR275W. Jeremy R. Riggle, 26, Peru. Thomas investigated.

Feb. 28, 9:30 a.m. - Child molest-

ing, 9100 block of CR225N. Deputy Grant Davidson investigated.

Feb. 28, 10:50 a.m. - Intimidation, 2500 block of CR300N. Threats to juvenile reported. Davidson investigated.

Feb. 28, 10:45 p.m. - Theft, 6000 block of N. Hodges. Rene McKenzie reported a shed in Sleepy Hollow Addition was entered by unknown person. Sgt. Mark Back investigated.

March 1, 5:55 a.m. - Property damage, SR18 near CR1150W. Daniel J. Colombo, 46, Monticello and Cary C. Cornett, 44, Delphi. Deputy John Chapman investigated.

March 2, 1 p.m. - Battery, 300 block Main St. Thomas investigated.

March 3, 6:30 p.m. - Property damage, SR25 at SR218. Karen L.

Schlusser, 56, Plymouth. Deputy Jay Schimmel investigated.

Flora Police Dept.

March 2, 8:15 p.m. - A juvenile problem was reported in the IGA parking lot. Sgt. James Bishop investigated.

March 3, 6:10 p.m. - Theft of fuel from a vehicle and attempted residential entry was reported at 702 S. Third St. Bishop investigated.

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