

DCSC School Board discusses future of elementary schools

By Kevin Schnepf
Staff writer

When Delphi Community School Corporation Superintendent Ralph Walker came to Delphi last fall, he said one of his first orders of business was to look into why the corporation struggled financially each year. He stated community involvement would be welcomed when looking for solutions.

At the Delphi Community School Corporation Board of Trustees meeting Monday night, many community members took advantage of the invitation to share views concerning pos-

sible changes at the elementary schools. The meeting was held in the middle school cafeteria.

"I'm glad so many came to discuss this," began board president Robert Resler. "I would like to see this many people at all our board meetings."

Walker presented four options concerning possible changes at the schools for the board and community to consider:

- Make no changes;
- House all kindergarten and first graders at Camden and grades two through five at Hillcrest;
- Place one section per grade at

Camden and re-district the rest back to Hillcrest; or

- Make Hillcrest a K-3 and house grades four and five at Camden.

"A large amount of redundancy exists between Camden and Hillcrest elementary schools," Walker said, citing technology, teaching staff and school libraries as examples.

"A considerable amount of taxpayer money could be re-appropriated once changes are made to the setup of the schools," Walker explained. "Our priority is to utilize tax money to do what is best for students."

Walker said redistricting would free

up room and resources at both schools to create better learning environments. Citing poor academic results such as falling test scores and lower retention rates, he said change is needed.

"Are poor academic results acceptable to the community?" Walker posed. "If not, we need to make some changes."

He listed more than 20 positive effects re-alignment would have on students and the DCSC community.

"Providing safe, nurturing and stimulating education for all students is essential," he explained. "Through this process, we can achieve that goal."

Walker said gifted and talented student programs, which were cut in recent years, could return once changes were made. That pleased Camden resident Michael Freeman, who said he was concerned about downward scoring trends in ISTEP testing.

"When the gifted and talented programs disappeared, that was a crime," Freeman said to the board. He said the lack of the programs made him consider paying tuition to educate his child out-of-county.

Camden Town Board President Pete Wagoner said he felt he spoke for most

Continued page 5A

Carroll Pioneer Day



Carroll Elementary School has an annual Pioneer Day to go along with the fourth grade study of Indiana history. Teachers and community members give pioneer demonstrations at various stations, and students get hands-on experience with the crafts and activities. This year the stations included spinning, candles and calligraphy, basket and butter making, cooking, antiques, tin punching, and playing the dulcimer. The spinning demonstration was given by Elaine Brovont, pictured. The two girls spinning with a drop spindle are (l-r) Krystil Kenworthy and Mikayla Rosinski. Pioneer Day was held in the 4-H Building. Comet photos by Jennifer Archibald



Yeoman/EMS

Riverboat gambling money to be used for grant match

By Debbie Lowe
Staff writer

Carroll County Council members approved the use of \$30,000 of riverboat gambling money for a grant match for the joint Yeoman Community Center and Emergency Medical Services (EMS) garage project.

County auditor Beth Myers reported during the special March 8 morning meeting, \$30,000 for the project was put in the EMS budget for two years until 2007, when it was deleted.

She said the council decided during 2007 budget hearings if the money was needed, it would be appropriated out of the riverboat gambling fund.

Project grant coordinator Amy Miller said Carroll County would be considered the sole recipient of the grant by the Office of Community Rural Affairs. Yeoman would not be considered a sub-recipient.

Miller said the town of Yeoman would own the entire building, which would house both entities. The county will lease the EMS garage space for one dollar a year.

Miller said the grant request was \$350,000 and a \$75,000 county match was needed.

Yeoman contributed \$30,000 toward the match (\$15,000 of that was awarded to the project by the county commissioners approximately two years ago) and there were \$15,000 in-kind donations. A balance of \$30,000 was requested from the county.

Council member Steve Ashby voiced concerns about the design of the facility for the EMS portion and about the town's ability to support the building financially after construction.

Ashby requested to see a budget for the completed project that would show ability to pay for the facility after it was built. In addition he requested a floor plan for the project. Miller was unable to produce the documents for review at the meeting.

"I just have a problem buying something when you don't know what you are getting," Ashby said.

Council member Ron Slavens said an EMS garage site at Yeoman would be centrally located and advantageous to that area of the county.

Council president Rob Baker said he wanted assurance that future financial obligations could be met by Yeoman.

Yeoman Clerk-Treasurer

Peggy Braden said the town would be able to financially maintain the planned project.

Baker was told the new facility would not provide storage for additional equipment, such as the county-owned hovercraft, which is currently stored in the EMS facility on US421.

Council member Jerry Hendress said he was comfortable with the situation, given the county would not "own" the building. He said he was in favor of the project as long as the only county obligation was to receive and disperse funds.

A plan to address a possible funding shortfall for construction was provided by Miller upon request by council member Ann Brown.

Member Carl Abbott provided the motion to approve appropriation of the funds and Nancy Cripe gave the second. The motion was approved 5 to 1. Ashby voted against the appropriation.

After the meeting adjourned all council members remained seated and received information from Brown about the special finance committee established to investigate a possible shortfall in the county reserve.

Continued page 5A

Shooting investigation stalled

By Debbie Lowe
Staff writer

The Indiana State Police investigation into the Jan. 16 shooting incident in Delphi is not going anywhere, according to Kim Riley, public information officer for ISP.

The victim, Domingo Bernardo Gonzales, 35, of 425 N. Union St., was shot multiple

times while sleeping in the early morning hours. He was taken to Methodist Hospital in Indianapolis and was listed in critical condition in the intensive care unit for several days. He was later released from the hospital and eventually interviewed by ISP.

"The victim is not cooperating," Riley said. "He said he didn't recognize the shooter."

Riley said that although the in-

cident was a remarkable one for Delphi, there seems to be no danger for town residents.

"This seems like an isolated incident," Riley stated. "We don't feel there is any danger to the residents of Delphi from this incident."

Riley urged anyone with information to contact his office at (765) 567-2125 or (800) 382-7537.

Pork Producers honor Hall of Fame inductees

Comet staff report

County residents Linda Wise, Richard Bradshaw and Kenneth Pyle were inducted into the Agriculture Hall of Fame at the Carroll County Pork Producers annual banquet held Monday night at the 4-H Community Building in Flora. Purdue University Extension Educator Paul

Marcellino led the induction ceremony.

Parrett's Meat Processing catered the banquet. A short business meeting was held before state Pork Producer representative Emily Tice spoke about statewide activities.

Nathan Trapp and Nicole Sparsd were named recipients of the 2007 Pork Producers Hog Slat Memorial Scholarship. Aaron Flora and Jordan Scott, the 2006 scholarship recipients, each received \$500 after successfully completing their first year of college.

Carroll County Pork Producers donated \$16,844.89 locally in 2006. More than \$300,000 has been donated by the organization during the past 17 years.

Profiles of the inductees follow:

Linda Wise

Linda Welk Wise, daughter of Charles and Mary Ellen Welk, was born and raised in Clay Township. She graduated from Rossville



Wise

High School in 1967.

After graduation, she worked at L.S. Ayres and National Homes Corp. as a secretary until her marriage to Fred Wise. Since their marriage, she has played a very active role on their family farm. Her love for farming continues to grow while she learns more about hog production and operating large equipment.

Although Wise did not have the opportunity to participate in 4-H as a child, she has enjoyed participating as an adult. She served as a 4-H leader for Madison Township for two years. She was vice president on the Extension Board for six years. At that time, she was a member of the Purdue CARET Council. In 1991, she received the Elanco Bell Ringer Award. She served on the Swine Committee and has weighed hogs at the 4-H Fair for over twenty years.

Wise and her husband hosted the 1988 Indiana Farm Management Tour. In 1992, Prairie Farmer named them Indiana Master Farmers. They have hosted several foreign visitors and farm tours and hosted the District Purdue CARET Legislative Meeting.

Mrs. Wise has served the com-

munity in many areas. She has helped Pork Producers by serving meals, sponsoring trophies and preparing Christmas baskets. She participated in the Relay for Life. She is a member of Carroll County Community Foundation.

While attending the Pymont Church of the Brethren, the inductee served as a deacon and helped with many committees. She now attends the Delphi Methodist Church.

The couple was blessed with two children, Jeff and Joan. Jeff is married to Arlene Wolf Wise and they have three children, Britany, Tyler and Emma. Joan is married to Mark Abbott and they have three children, Garrett, Braden and Marlee, greatly missed, who went to be with the Lord in 2005.

Wise said she enjoys lawn work, spending time with her grandchildren and living in Carroll County.

Richard Bradshaw

Dick Bradshaw was born in Delphi in 1942, one of ten children. He graduated from Delphi High School in 1961 and Indiana University in 1966, with bachelor's and master's degrees in education. He taught at Bloom High School in Chicago Heights



Bradshaw

Bradshaw was president of the Carroll County Community Foundation and is current president of the Carroll County Chamber of Commerce. He is a member of Delphi Community Development Commission, Delphi Lions Club, Carroll County at the Crossroads, Leadership Carroll County, Camp Tecumseh Trailblazers Society, Junto Club and St. Matthews Lutheran Church.

In 1988, he received the Samuel Milroy Award for promoting the economic and social well being for the city of Delphi. He received the Lions Club Melvin Jones Fellow Award for dedicated humanitarian services, the Indiana State Lions W.P. Woods Fellow Award, and in 2006 received the Lions Clubs International and Delphi Lions Club Lifetime Membership

for fourteen years. In 1980 he made a career change and returned to Delphi to join Delphi Body Works, a family-owned business.

Bradshaw is married to the former Karen Janz. They have two sons, Matt Bradshaw and his wife, Tracy, of Delphi. Their son Mark Bradshaw and his wife, Tara, live in Goodlettsville, Tenn. They have four grandchildren.

Bradshaw's hobbies include golf, fishing, farming and motorcycling.

Kenneth Pyle

Kenneth Pyle was born in 1925 near Marshall, the middle son of Clarence and Gladys Pyle. He grew up on a dairy farm and was active in the Parke County 4-H program. After graduating from Purdue in agricultural engineering, he began his career with the Soil Conservation Service at Rochester in 1949.

Pyle initiated conservation technical assistance programs in Carroll County in 1950, in Hamilton County in 1968 and in Marion County in 1969.

Continued page 5A