

# Cars collide in SR18 head-on

Comet staff report

SR18, between Delphi and Flora, was the scene of a head-on collision April 11 at approximately 3:21 p.m. sending four people to the hospital. Carroll County Deputy John Chapman investigated the crash between two vehicles driven by Taylor A. Reef, 19, Flora, and Vicki G. White, 53, Cutler.

According to Chapman, White said she was driving east on SR18 and looked away for a second. She said when she turned back around, Reef, who was traveling west, crossed the center line and struck her vehicle head-on.

A witness at the scene said she was following White and noticed Reef, who was traveling west, had crossed the center-line. The witness said Reef's vehicle was approximately half-way into the east bound lane when the vehicles collided.

According to the crash report, Reef was driving a red GMC pickup. He suffered injuries to his shoulder/upper arm and was trapped in his vehicle. No restraints were used. He was transported to

St. Joseph Hospital in Kokomo and later released.

A front-seat passenger in Reef's vehicle, Cody M. Meade, 15, Flora, suffered injuries to his elbow and lower arm and was not using a restraint. He was extricated from the vehicle by the Flora Volunteer Fire Department and transported to Lafayette Home Hospital and later released.

White, driving a blue Chevrolet, was trapped in the vehicle and suffered injuries to her hip and upper leg. She was using a lap restraint and harness.

White's front-seat passenger, Zach White, 18, Cutler, was also trapped and suffered injuries to his knee and lower leg and foot. He was using a lap and harness restraint.

The Whites were extricated from their vehicle by the Delphi Tri-Township Volunteer Fire Department and were also transported to St. Joseph's Hospital. Vicki White was later transported to Methodist Hospital in Indianapolis where she remains.

Reef was later cited for driving left of center.

# Camden From page 1A

named Camden Early Childhood Center. Grades 1 through 5 will be transferred to Hillcrest Elementary School in Delphi.

He extended thanks to the teachers for their dedication to the students at Camden Elementary School, the citizens who worked diligently to protect the school, and the community as a whole for their support.

In a follow-up letter from

# 'Pitch In' for Delphi organized

Comet staff report

A "Pitch In" for Delphi, sponsored by the City of Delphi, Delphi Chamber of Commerce and Delphi Main Street, will be April 30 from 6 to 9 p.m. at the Wabash & Erie Canal Center. A light meal of sandwiches and drinks will be provided at 6 p.m. Those attending are asked to "pitch in" chips, veggies, desserts or fruit.

The purpose of the gathering is to bring together organizations and individuals concerned about the future of Delphi and the surrounding geographical area.

The meeting will begin at 6:30 p.m. Facilitator Janet

Duke Energy, the company indicated that it has made necessary improvements in its communications procedures and completed agreed upon follow-up. The letter indicated that the company is undergoing a review of all transmission lines serving Camden and Flora.

Town-wide Spring Clean-up will be April 26.

The next meeting will be May 8 at 7 p.m.

Ayres will guide attendees in discussions about the community's strengths and weaknesses, assess opportunities and threats, identify critical issues facing Delphi, and focus on Delphi five years in the future.

All who want to make Delphi a better place to live and those who want to work for that goal are encouraged to attend. Organizers request participants bring hopes, concerns, ideas, energy and commitment to share.

For information contact Jean Howell at (765) 564-6692 or Anita Werling at 564-2169.

# Crime Victims' Rights Week is April 22-28

Comet staff report

Crime victims and survivors will join with victims' advocates and allied professional service providers this month to celebrate the 27th anniversary of National Crime Victims' Rights Week (NCVRW) from April 22-28.

This year's theme, "Every Victim. Every Time." encourages the nation to advance the rights of victims and expand the services they need to rebuild their lives. NCVRW is a reminder that every victim deserves respect and compassion while recovering from the impact of the crime committed against them.

This year also marks the 23rd anniversary of the Crime Victims Fund established by the Victims of Crime Act of 1984 (VOCA), which, over the past two decades, has provided billions of dollars nationally for victim assistance programs. These programs offer a wide range of services to crime victims, and compensation that helps victims cope with the financial impact of crime. VOCA is not derived from taxpayers' dollars but, rather, from federal criminal fines, forfeited appearance bonds, and special assessments on Federal convictions.

The Indiana Criminal Justice Institute's Victims Services division allocates VOCA funding to law enforcement and victim service agencies, prosecutors' offices, domestic violence shelters, CASAs and sexual assault treatment centers through an annual competitive grant cycle. Since its inception, the Victims Compensation program in Indiana has awarded more than 19 million dollars in assistance to more than 30,000 victims.

# Obituaries

Jerry D. Wiese



Jerry D. Wiese, 60, of 24 W. 1050N., Delphi, passed away unexpectedly April 16, 2007, at 8:50 p.m. at St. Elizabeth

Medical Center emergency room in Lafayette.

Mr. Wiese was born July 31, 1946, in Lafayette to Ray and Ruby Taylor Wiese. His marriage was to Tina M. Savini at their residence on June 3, 1988, and she survives.

He was a 1964 graduate of North White High School. He served for several years with the Indiana National Guard. Mr. Wiese worked at Wabash National in Lafayette for 11 years and at the former Wilson Foods (now Tyson Foods) in Logansport for 24 years.

He was on the Logan Lovely's men's softball team for many years, coached boys' Little League baseball and was league president at Logansport. He was instrumental in the change from Little League to Babe Ruth Bambino baseball league at Logansport and was inducted into the Indiana Babe Ruth Hall of Fame.

Mr. Wiese was an avid Indianapolis Colts football fan and Chicago Cubs baseball fan. He enjoyed gardening, woodworking, summer and fall Indiana festivals and vacationing in Madison on the Ohio River.

Surviving are: two sons, David Wiese (wife: Michelle) of West Lafayette and Alan Wiese (wife: Julie) of Lafayette; a daughter, Suzanne M. Cameron of Tucson, Ariz.; two stepsons, Joseph Strasser (wife: Nicole) of Logansport and Neil Strasser (wife: Jennifer) of Delphi; a stepmother, Janice Wiese of Reynolds; two sisters, Sandra Johns (husband: Dave) of Reynolds and Nancy Allman of Orestes; two brothers, Dale Wiese (wife: Gail) of Brookston; nine grandchildren; and his dog, Doby.

Visitation will be April 19 from 4 until services begin at 7:30 p.m. at Abbott Funeral Home in Delphi, officiated by Rev. Ken Smith. There will be a private family committal service.

# Other Death Notices

**Linda D. Michael**, 55, of Rochester, died April 10, 2007, at Parkview Hospital, Fort Wayne. Born Nov. 10, 1951, in Crawfordsville, she was the daughter of George and Mildred D. Nichols Wasson. In 1996, she married Ronald D. Michael, who survives. She was a deli worker at the Kroger Supermarket in Rochester. Among the survivors is a son, Christopher Moss (wife: Anne) of Camden. There will be no services.

**BAIL BONDS**  
**JOE MOSS, AGENT**  
**765-564-2226**

Ruthina Forgey

Ruthina Forgey, 88, of Camen, died at 3:58 a.m. April 17, 2007, at Memorial Hospital in Logansport.

Born Aug. 29, 1918, in Cass County, she was the daughter of Clarence and Stella Grantham Sprinkle. Her marriage was on March 19, 1939, in her mother's home in Cass County, to Thomas I. Forgey, who preceded her in death on Nov. 29, 2004.

Mrs. Forgey was a homemaker. She was a member of the Deer Creek Presbyterian Church, Washington Township Extension Homemakers Club, and the Pleasant Valley Quilters Club.

Surviving are four sons, Hobart Forgey (wife: Becki) and Carl Forgey (wife: Pam), Charles Forgey, all of rural Camden; one daughter, Christina Kennell of Fort Wayne; one brother, C.J. Sprinkle of Walton; two sisters, Dorothy Floyd of Sebring, Fla., and Margaret Hall of Clymers; nine grandchildren; and 19 great-grandchildren.

Four brothers preceded her in death.

Services will be held at 10:30 a.m. Friday at Deer Creek Presbyterian Church. Burial will be at Hopewell Cemetery, Deer Creek. Friends may call from 5 to 9 p.m. Thursday at Cree Funeral Home, Camden, and one hour prior to the service at the church.

Memorials may be made to Deer Creek Presbyterian Church, 4450 N. SR 29,

# Hospital Notes

Chuck Maxwell of Delphi returned home Sunday from St. Elizabeth Hospital Medical Center, Lafayette, following open heart surgery.

# Births

Jon Curts and Ashley Purcell of Delphi are parents of an 8-pound, 9-ounce son, Nolan Avery Curts, born Feb. 13 at Lafayette Home Hospital. Grandparents are Doug and Lorrie Mohler, and Rick and Pat Curts of Delphi. Great-grandparents are Mary Lou Mohler and Elmer and Barb Price of Monticello, Jerry and Doris Curts of Camden, and Juanita Scott of Delphi.

Mike and Lucy Ball of Flora are parents of a four-pound, one-ounce daughter, Lexus Arlene, born April 10 at Lafayette Home Hospital. Grandparents are Gail and Helen Ennis and Sam and Denise Ball, all of Flora. Paternal great-grandparents are Don and Nola Clifford of Cape Coral, Fla.

Eric and Candice (Schneider) Overholser of St. Simons Island, GA 31522, are parents of an 8-pound, 6.7-ounce son, Colt Joseph, born April 15 at Southeast Georgia Health Systems, Brunswick, Ga. Maternal grandparents are Linda Henry of Lafayette and Joe Schneider of St. Simons Island, Ga. Paternal grandparents are Gary and Renita Overholser of Cutler. Paternal great-grandparents include Max and Doris Overholser of Bringhurst and Lorene Winningham of Flora.

# Marketing From page 1A

speaker for the Society of Health Care Strategists as well as the Mortgage Brokers Association of America. He is a presenter for the Indiana Economic Development Course held annually at Ball State University, teaching marketing concepts. His first book on strategic planning is due for publication this year.

The forum is open to all in-

terested individuals, businesses and organizations.

Forum sponsors are the Carroll County Chamber of Commerce, Carroll County Economic Development Corporation, and Carroll County Community Foundation, and Carroll County at the Crossroads/Focus on the Future committee.

# Child From page 1A

one filed out of the courtroom for lunch.

However, fair and impartial jurors from the group of approximately 27 who claimed to have knowledge of the case by reading a newspaper or watching the television were seated by the end of the day.

Each juror will be paid \$40/day and the two alternates selected will receive \$15/day for as long as the trial lasts. All

jurors are reimbursed for meals while the trial is in session.

Testimony in the trial began Tuesday morning with a long list of witnesses, including the alleged victim in the case and Sprinkle's former housemate, convicted sexual predator Keith O. Munson.

The trial is expected to reach a conclusion Wednesday.

# Highway From page 1A

Director Mike Durr said the new fees would not entirely pay for the county service, but they would be more in line with amounts neighboring counties charge. The new rates are consistent with the current Medicaid and Medicare reimbursement schedule.

"Is this enough of a raise?" Brown questioned. "I'd like to see our ambulance service be less of a burden for our taxpayers."

Hylton said he wanted to provide the best service possible to county residents because there is no hospital nearby.

"This is not enough," he said, "but it is a step in the right direction."

New fees are (ALS=advanced life support, BLS=basic life support, ALS2=use of all equipment for life support):

- ALS non-emergency - \$325;
- ALS emergency - \$500;
- ALS 2 - \$600;
- BLS non-emergency - \$225;
- BLS emergency - \$400;
- Treat/no transport - \$75; and
- Loaded mileage - \$10/mile.

Durr said the department has an approximate 27 percent collection rate for 2007. The rate for 2006 was 48 percent and 62 percent in 2005.

Commissioners approved an agreement with Dyna-Linck Inc. to assume billing and collection activities for the department.

Durr said the EMS secretary, who has been responsible for billing and collection efforts, will be retained until the end of the year to aid coordination between the department and Dyna-Linck.

Dyna-Linck will charge the county nine percent of funds collected to provide the service.

**Courthouse air conditioning**  
Craft Mechanical was awarded the contract, pending council approval, to replace the chiller barrel and one condenser in the courthouse for \$32,875.

Custodian Sheryl Shockley said the repair can begin approximately six weeks from the time the units are ordered.

Council members will meet in special session Friday morning, April 20 at 8 a.m., to discuss an additional appropriation for the work.

**Other business**  
Commissioners expressed disappointment with how long it took J.M. Barker Engineering to design the construction project for the Wilson Bridge, before they unanimously approved the firm to provide bridge inspection services for the same project.

"I'm disappointed in how long it took to get us to this point," Mears said.

The top three choices of firms to provide design services for Burnett's Creek Arch will be interviewed May 7 at 1 p.m.

Calling the project "very unique," Awwad said interviewing the prospective engineering firms would be "very beneficial."

Butler, Fairman and Seifurt will provide design services for a culvert on CR 200N. for no more than \$6,700 and for a culvert on CR 800W. for no more than \$7,800. Deck replacement on both and underpinning on the latter culvert will improve the amount of weight each can tolerate safely.

BS&F will provide observation services for \$28,100 for Bridge #87.

The 4-H Community Building will be used April 21 by the Flora Volunteer Fire Department.

Family Clinic of Carroll County will use the courthouse lounge July 10.

A sign will advertise an event for Delphi Ladies Fire Auxiliary on the courthouse lawn June 9-23.

Ordinance 2007-02, setting copy fees for county departments, was adopted. The charge will be 15-cents per page for most departments. According to county auditor Beth Myers, the treasurer and clerk's office will charge one dollar per page as dictated by state statute.

Payroll for \$177,519.74 was approved.

The next meeting will be May 7 at 9 a.m.

# Letters to the Editor

## Disagrees with reasons for Camden school realignment

This is really disturbing. How is it that we can see the need to spend \$4,000 on bussing software so that way we can solve the newly created problems from our new plan for the elementary school's; yet, we can't see clearly enough to use that same software as a useful tool before changing the entire elementary school's formats. Can't we simply figure out how to beef up the classrooms in Camden by rerouting the busses before we change the entire alignment of the schools! We can then be done with this problem of having to eliminate the 6 teachers required to make ends meet and not have to mess with anything else.

The bussing is going to be a disaster! We live in Burrows, which is 7 or 8 miles away from the Camden school and our kids are on the bus for an hour. Now we somehow think that we can bus 4 and 5 year olds twice that distance which will probably take twice the time. Even if they shuttle the kids from Hillcrest, they are still going to be in transit for 1½ hours - at least. It's insane!

To do that to a five-year-old is ridiculous (to a four-year-old, madness)! Maybe we should install some video equipment on the bus so the kids can watch Barney while they're traveling half the day (I'm only kidding, don't let a board member read that - they may make a motion to do it).

The board is boasting that they are doing all of this for the kids. Bologna! How can anyone boast that they are thinking of the kids first with a maneuver like this?

Am I the only one that sees how the size of a school matters? The larger the school, the greater chance for cliques to be formed. As the social groups form, pressure from these groups (peer pressure) is heightened. This directly causes stress to the child that is distracting to his/her focus. This stress then produces a less than optimal environment for any child trying to study. Isn't this just common sense?

Smaller School = less cliques = less peer pressure = less distraction = good study environment = 4-star school. Any questions?

Remember, the only reason that Camden did not make the 4-star schools rating these past two out of three years was ONLY because the attendance record fell short of the mark. The test scores were there!

All it takes is a motion from someone on the board (and some common sense from three other board members) to change this back to the way it has always been. We can simply reroute the busses to add kids to the Camden classrooms and be done with this mess. My grandpa always said, "If it ain't broke, don't fix it." Maybe he knew what he was talking about, huh?

Brad Powlen  
Burrows

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