

# Accused spray-painter to get trial

By Debbie Lowe  
Staff writer

A significant amount of red spray paint appeared on businesses, fences, bridges and buildings in mid-January. After an exhaustive investigation by the Delphi Police Department, 19-year-old Jose Torres of 416 E. Franklin

St. was arrested and charged with 16 counts of criminal mischief. According to the probable cause affidavit filed Jan. 30 by Sgt. Brook McCain, Torres "admitted that he was responsible for the graffiti and filled out a voluntary statement form." Torres was arrested and bonded out of jail Jan. 30. He first appeared in Carroll Superior Court Feb. 22 for an initial hearing. He told Judge Jeffrey Smith at that time he was not working or attending public school. He said he was living with his parents and was being

schooled in the home. Torres said he owned no property or vehicles. Smith entered a plea of not guilty on behalf of Torres and appointed public defender, Steven Knecht to the case. Torres appeared again May 9. Knecht reported his client wanted to stand trial to answer to the charges. He advised the court that due to the number of victims and potential witnesses, the trial would last two days. Because of a congested court calendar, a tentative trial date was set for July 31 and Aug. 1.

## Work continues on comprehensive land use plan



The interest group interviews continued Monday for the Comprehensive Land Use Plan that the county has contracted with Ground Rules Inc., Zionsville, to put together. Senior Planner/Project Manager Bradley Johnson facilitated the interviews. Workshops for the general public and those who were unable to attend the focus groups are expected to be held in three weeks. To allow individuals ample opportunity for dialog and input, the workshop attendees will be divided into small groups with a Ground Rules staff member leading each group. Those dates and times will be announced. A public opinion survey to help Ground Rules determine what is meaningful for this community for inclusion in the plan will be available soon on the Carroll County Chamber of Commerce website ([www.carrollcountychamber.com](http://www.carrollcountychamber.com)). Johnson said that he expects the process to take 12 months. Comet photo

## TLRSD may take on State of Indiana

By Debbie Lowe  
Staff writer

Sewer districts in Indiana wield significant power to compel unwilling "customers" to connect to the service when it is built in their area. The Twin Lakes Regional Sewer District may be exploring that statute-giving power soon against the power of the State of Indiana.

TLRSD board members voted Thursday night to require the INDOT to begin paying for the service for the highway garage which is located on US421 just south of Lake Freeman "like any other customer."

Those in the service area in Jefferson Township, which includes the garage, will begin paying when construction in Carroll County begins in mid-July. The highway garage currently receives service from the city of Monticello.

"They're no different than anybody else," board treasurer Art Anderson said.

Attorney Donald Tribbett warned board members before the vote that to go forth with the standard procedure could result in additional legal fees for customers. He said there are state statutes, which indicate the state might be compelled to, or exempt from, a mandatory connect. He advised that pursuing the matter could mean significant legal fees if the state is not in agreement with the requirement to connect.

"You may end up in litigation over this," Tribbett said.

The board voted four-to-two to pursue the matter. Carroll County representative Wayne Garrison voted against the action.

Andy Dietrick, Communication Director for INDOT, told the Comet Tuesday afternoon that he was unaware if the state highway garage had heard from the sewer district yet.

"However, INDOT is always willing to work with local governmental agencies," he said. "We strive to reach the best solution for the agency and the taxpayers of Indiana in all instances."

Construction bids for Carroll County were opened Thursday afternoon. The engineering firm of GRW of Indianapolis developed a certified bid tabulation and a special meeting was held May 15 at 6:30 p.m. to interview the two low-bidding construction firms, RhineBach Engineering and Driesenga & Associates, for the work.

When construction begins in mid-July, all Carroll County residents in the service area will be required to begin paying for the service, although there will be no sewer service available for several months. According to Garrison, monthly charges will depend upon the number of EDUs the structure is considered.

To be considered a full EDU, the structure has to have a working toilet, a sink and cooking facilities. A standard household would be considered one EDU in most cases and the cost for one month is \$65. When construction begins in mid-July, property owners will be required to pay \$32.50/month until construction ends.

A structure with a working bathroom and a sink but no cooking facilities can be excluded from the service. If the structure has sleeping quarters however, the property owner will be charged one-quarter of the monthly fee for service.

A property owner can abandon the structure by removing sewage-making capabilities. If there are no cooking facilities, such as a stove, the structure can be considered a nightly rental. The property owner would then pay one-fourth of the monthly EDU fee.

A property falling inside the service area can be excluded from service if the house is on a three-acre lot, is considered one dwelling and the septic tank is located at or more than 300 feet from the sewer district main line. The exclusion does not apply to lake-front property. To gain exclusion from service, the Carroll County Health Department Sanitation worker, Chris Jones, must visit the property and certify the septic system was determined to be in good

working order at the time of the inspection.

Garrison explained all exclusion requests will be handled in the same manner. A form must be completed and submitted to the sewer district superintendent's office. Sewer district officials will inspect the property and make a recommendation to the projects committee. The projects committee, of which Garrison is the chair, will review the request form and superintendent's recommendation and forward a formal recommendation to the board for official action.

All exclusion policies and procedures are detailed on the sewer district's Web site at [www.twinlakesrsd.com](http://www.twinlakesrsd.com).

The next general meeting will be May 24 at 7 p.m.



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## Business Briefs

**RICK AND TINA OLDENKAMP** of Monticello recently opened Two Moons Antiques at 101 W. Franklin St. in Delphi.

The store was originally located inside Times Past Antique Mall on S. Washington St.

Tina Oldenkamp explained she and her husband chose the

downtown location based on the town's atmosphere and the location of other antique stores. "I liked our booth at Times Past and that all the antique shops in Delphi are within walking distance," Oldenkamp said.

A grand opening ribbon-cutting ceremony by Carroll County Chamber of Commerce was held Monday. Two Moons is now open Tuesdays through Sundays 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The couple said they plan to move to Delphi.

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