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insurance plan have not been agreed upon.

Teachers and extracurricular staff will receive three-percent pay increases for the upcoming year, followed by three and a half and four percent jumps the next two years.

Other areas negotiated were buy-out contributions, summer school, formation of committees, paid holidays, vacancies and the addition of four new extracurricular salary positions.

Walker said the three-year deal should be satisfactory.

"I think we have a very good agreement with both sides," he commented.

Bussing update requested

Board member Jerry Sparks asked Walker for an update on the bussing system.

Walker said new route-finding software allowed the corporation to cut three bus routes, making up most of the difference for three additional full-size buses and a smaller activity bus needed to transport kindergarten students. Kindergarteners will ride only with children from their grade.

He said students should ride for less than one hour, but asked for patience from the community while kinks are worked out the first few days of school. He explained the corporation underwent more changes than any other in the state during the past year and it would take time for everything to run smoothly.

He explained patience and teamwork would be vital to ensure students' success.

"Safety is number one," Walker reminded the board and public. "If you're not on time the next couple days, don't worry about it, we'll be fine. My goal is to see all 250 members of the staff work together to make the changes work."

Salary increase schedule changed

The board approved Walker's request to change the salary increase schedule for bus drivers and aides. To pay the increases now instead of in January will

create much less paperwork and help smooth the system, according to Walker.

Other business

Resignations were accepted from aide Jan Back and high school science teacher Jeremy Hale. Hale is the second science teacher to be hired and resign this summer.

Danielle Dunbar, the third of four teachers to be cut from DCSC staff earlier this year, was re-employed by the school. All four teachers to be let go are now gainfully employed, said Walker.

Other certified staff employed were: Ashley Cook, high school Spanish teacher and dance instructor; Shawn Means, high school science teacher and junior varsity basketball coach; and Gayle Conner, volunteer physical education teacher at Camden.

Classified staff approved were: Tina Isaacs, custodian at Delphi Elementary; Michael Lewis, high school career and remediation aide; Craig Shaw, full-time high school substitute teacher; Jessica Jones and Lisa Ringer, eighth-grade volleyball coaches; Don Currie and Margaret Mose, middle school cross country coaches; Jeff Shuler, eighth-grade football coach; Chip Dale, middle school head football coach; Chuck Kent, seventh-grade football coach; Joe Fassnacht, high school assistant wrestling coach; Jennifer Gear, Camden ESL aide; Kate Ebert, middle school ESL aide; Karen Brannan, Sue Brown, Patty Hudelson, Gail Burton and Nina German, kindergarten aides; Jennifer Calloni, volunteer co-director of Camden lending library; Tess Walker, middle school volunteer assistant cheerleading coach; Mimi Lynde, high school volunteer varsity and junior varsity volleyball coach; and Marsha Baker, volunteer sixth-grade volleyball coach.

The next regular meeting will be Aug. 27 at 7 p.m. in the corporation office conference room.

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strengths is getting to the heart of an issue and solving problems that usually involve the lack of or a breakdown in communication.

"I feel I have the skills to do that," he said.

"Financially, I've worked with budgets in the multi-millions that would be no different than the town's budgets and its departments," Seward said.

"My ability to look at and understand financial and operational statements would be an asset.

"My goal as town councilman will be to make good sound decisions to keep Flora in a growth pattern."

"I welcome the challenges that lie ahead," concluded Seward, "and I will serve the town to the best of my ability."

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questions about a variety of subjects, including property tax issues, illegal immigration, privatizing local government, children's health issues, special interest earmarks and alternative fuels.

"I make decisions based on what's best for our country and what's best for back home," Donnelly told the crowd. "I want to be an engine for economic development for you."

"I'm excited to see this type of turnout in Carroll County," Hershman said.

Hershman called the current property tax situation an "outmoded taxing system that does not reflect the ability to pay." He said government is "trying

to modernize a system that time has passed by." He stated a local option income tax would be "more reflective of ability to pay."

McClain said he thought the school general fund "should be taken off property tax."

"One of the functions the chamber should perform is to bring the people and their representatives together to facilitate communication," Bradshaw concluded. "We need believers who want to make this county go forward. We want things to happen in our county."

Booker said, "The challenge before us is to keep watching Carroll County grow."

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varsity girls' tennis; and Mike Miller, varsity track.

Two other extracurricular positions approved were Malinda Blocher, elementary yearbook, and Kellie Strong, elementary student council.

Sayers announced the resignation of two bus drivers, Ed Spraker and Jim Allbaugh.

He also noted that this year, Carroll kids will be transported to Logansport, Monticello, Delphi, and Camden, in addition to the local routes.

The board approved a revised Student Athletic Handbook following a discussion on lettering in the different sports.

Sayers said there is no perfect system for lettering.

"It varies among sports and among schools and with respect to male and female, but this (new handbook) is a step in the right direction," he said. "Students need to know how they letter in a sport."

AD Rose said every athlete will get a copy of the handbook. When a final copy is available, it also will be posted on the corporation website.

A cash tuition request from Chuck and Samantha Prater for their daughter, Heather, was approved.

Heritage Awards presented at Old Settlers' meeting

By Kevin Schnepf
Staff writer

Carroll County residents Richard and Nancy Hicks, Erick and Gayle Peterson and Bob and Elaine McCain were awarded Carroll County Heritage Awards during the 152nd Old Settlers' Meeting last Saturday. Each family was honored for maintaining and preserving their historic residences.

Loren Hylton, Bill Brown and Ross Brown were also honored for their efforts in saving Adams Mill and Lancaster Covered Bridge during the flood of 2003.

Richard and Nancy Hicks

Richard and Nancy Hicks were recognized for maintaining and preserving their home located at 1992W. CR100N., west of Flora in Monroe Township.

Their home is unique in both its construction and its age. Francis Thompson bought the 159.33 acres of land for the farm from the United States government while Andrew Jackson was president. A relative of Thompson later sold the land to William Allen on Feb. 25, 1850.

Mr. Allen built the house on the property in the form of a cross. Interior and exterior walls were made three bricks thick. There were four chimneys in the house.

Wooden gables around the roof were decorated with "teardrops," many of which deteriorated over the years. The Hicks have collected enough teardrops to re-cover the front of the house.

The wood inside the house is yellow poplar. Each window and the floors are lined with wide woodwork. The woodwork was carved from a single piece and made to look like several layers.

Each room has a different design. The ceilings are 10 feet downstairs and 12 feet upstairs. There were 10 rooms in the original house.

The Allens sold the house to Alva B. Ledman in April 1883. Most people around the area today remember the house as "The Old Ledman Place."

The Frank Forry family bought the house in 1920 and it is remembered that the house stood empty for a number of years.

The Hicks bought the house in April 1971. They took out a wall in the kitchen to open up the staircase.

They have removed many layers of wallpaper, but the walls, woodwork and floors remain in excellent condition.

They removed the front porch and balcony and replaced them as they were many years ago, except that the porch floor is concrete.

Most of the landscaping was done the next year, but the couple continues to preserve and improve the appearance of their home as the construction could not be better.

Today the house stands proudly as it did when it was first built. The Hicks have no doubt the house will stand for many years to come just as Mr. Allen intended for future generations to enjoy.

Erick and Gayle Peterson home

In 2002 Erick Peterson received a phone call from his father, Jonah, informing him that the old brick home next to his farm had just come up for sale. Having long admired the house and fulfilling his wife's dream of restoring an old house, they took on the project of complete restoration.

The house was in total disrepair but they looked beyond that and envisioned a restored masterpiece. After more than two years they achieved that vision.

The home, built around 1838, is a rectangular two-story Federal brick design. It features side-by-side front doors. It is the only remaining structure from three of that design built in close proximity to each other at about the same time.

Red bricks kilned locally were uncovered during restoration, including one with a date of 1838 on it.

The home has had several owners during its many long years but hit the jackpot when Erick and Gayle Peterson gained ownership. It identifies with the Peterson family in that it is next to their family farm and is also where Erick's grandparents, James and Isabelle Truesdale Peterson, took to housekeeping when they rented the home in 1923. Later the grandparents purchased a farm near Adams Township school, where Erick's father, Jonah, would grow up.

After consulting an architect, the Erick and Gayle employed local carpenter Vernie Criswell to undertake what was to become a beautiful restoration project.

Births

Adrian and Tara (Humphrey) Fure, 354 Cyclamen Chase, Westfield, IN 46074, are parents of an 8-pound, 1-ounce son, Cole Willson, born Aug. 2. Maternal grandparents are Ann and Ray Sheagley of Flora and Mike Humphrey of Lancaster, Pa. Paternal grandparents are Deb and Russ Fure of Marquette, Mich. Maternal great-grandmother is Jean Guyer of Flora. Paternal great-grandparents are Ann and Ray Vonck of Marquette, Mich., and Jackie and Cap Fure of Beaver Dam, Wisc.

Peter and Tiffany Tribble of Lafayette are parents of a 7-pound, 3-ounce son, Carson David, born at 7:15 a.m. Aug. 8 at Lafayette Home Hospital. Grandparents are Darrell and Kris Yoder of Flora, Alan Davis of Burlington, and Mike and Nora Tribble of Frankfort. Maternal great-grandparents are Vance and Lola Davis of Burlington and Frank and Fonda Spangler of Delphi.

One of the first tasks was to eliminate undergrowth and brush that had overtaken the home's exterior. Inside, the structure was cleared of many years of makeovers to allow the original design and beauty to be seen and give way to restoration.

During the process three fireplaces were uncovered. Wide poplar floor boards were also exposed and today they glow with the beautiful patina that can only come from native wood.

The sitting room/bedroom at the left front door was once a receiving room for guests during colonial days. The fireplace in that room was exposed and had a more elaborate mantle. The floors of that room were ash.

Built-in poplar cupboards designed with traditional raised-panel doors sit on both sides of all three fireplaces.

Windows in poor condition were replaced with exact replicas using a two-over-two design. The exterior brick was cleaned and tuck-pointed. A new roof was installed. All mechanical elements of the home were replaced with new ones.

A new stairway had to be built to replace the steep, unsafe old structure. The length of the stairway was extended into the room that is used as a dining room.

The fireplace in the dining room still displays the original hooks that held the cooking crane. Doors missing from cupboards were replaced with custom-made replicas.

A porch was built off the dining room to replace the dilapidated structure that had to be removed. The beaded board used on the ceiling was recycled from the abandoned Adams Township School.

Erick planed down 1,700 board feet to remove layers of paint and to expose the beautiful natural wood. The boards were also used on the ceiling in the screened-in porch.

Slate that separated the restroom stalls at the school was inset into the floors in front of all the fireplaces.

Erick's father graduated from the school, which added a bit of nostalgia to the project for the Peterson family.

The need for a new kitchen was evident. A new structure was added using a "dog-trot" type of hallway to connect the old with the new. The new structure was designed to fit well with the original home and features a garage on the bottom and screened porch on the side. A sink island overlooks the cozy family room.

Paint colors chosen throughout the house recognize the grayed, peaceful, rich European hues that early colonists used in décor.

The house was carefully turned back into a home of warmth and graciousness similar to what it undoubtedly displayed at its original completion.

Bob and Elaine McCain home

The early 1800s brought an influx of settlers from Ohio into Indiana when congress granted the land to be sold. Francis McCain of Warren County, Ohio entered land in the land office in Crawfordsville in 1829. It was the first land entered into what would become Carrollton Township in Carroll County. The family still holds the original paperwork which has the signature of Andrew Jackson on it.

Francis journeyed back to Ohio and married Mary Ann Brown. Their first child, James McCain, was born in Ohio on May 20, 1832. Shortly after that, the family came to Carroll County to live.

A log house was constructed on the hill overlooking a meadow and Deer Creek. A Native American encampment was along the creek at the time.

Family stories tell of tales of the young mother taking leftover food and setting it at the bottom of the hill. The Native American children would retrieve the food and by next morning the empty pans would be returned to the same spot.

A house was built over the original log structure and served the family until WWI when the footprint of the Dutch Colonial house we know today took over.

In the basement of the present home, original logs are still visible.

When Bob's father, John, passed away, he became the fifth genera-

tion of McCains to own and live on the land. Then Bob and Elaine began a major overhaul of their home.

It was a huge task as the home is not small by any means. The large home has 17 rooms, all of which were refurbished. The renovation also included replacement of 72 windows. Beautiful oak woodwork and hardwood floors were refinished. Walls were expertly repainted in beautiful hues and a new kitchen was installed.

In the sunroom a Hoya Carmosa vine gently twines itself around the room. The beautiful, long-living plant came from the original Camden State Bank.

Bob's cousin Ann Burton implemented her artistic skills and hand-painted the vine around the border of the dining room walls, adding a very striking symbolic touch.

During renovation carpenters found dates of April 1917 through July 1918 written on the original framework on the north side of the Dutch Colonial part of the house. Ironically, the couple began their renovation work in July 1997 and finished it in November 1998, 80 years after the colonial section was added.

The home and adjoining fields have been the roots of the McCain family for over 179 years. During the depression, apples from the orchard were stored upstairs. Bob and Elaine said on a damp day one can still smell the apples.

The home was recognized not only for its preservation, but also for the strength the family had to maintain and keep the land despite hardships that had to be endured.

Honored for saving historic structures

Bill Brown, Ross Brown and

Loren Hylton were recognized for their effort in saving the historic Adams Mill at Cutler and the Lancaster Covered Bridge on CR500W, near Owasco.

On July 4, 2003, the county received 10 inches of rain and another three inches two days later.

Bill and Ross received word the mill was in trouble along with a home located nearby. Upon checking, it was found that something had to be done.

They took railroad ties and steel rods and drove them in the ground hoping to shore up the bank of Wildcat Creek so it would not rush full-force into the mill.

Simultaneously, the ground on which Bill was standing was swept away. Had it not been for the other men he would have drowned.

The men saved the mill and the home next to it through their efforts. The next day, concrete slabs were placed in the millrace to stop the flow of water.

Bill and Ross were also concerned about Lancaster bridge. The situation there was becoming critical. The north side of the bridge was being pushed up by trees floating down the flooded creek. Water was being forced through slits in the walls as powerful as a fire hose and the bridge shook violently.

The men decided to add weight to the bridge. Bill called Hylton to bring a tractor and front loader. They ordered nine tons of stone and the men worked from midnight to morning spreading stone over the inside of the bridge to keep it from being swept away.

After the bridge was loaded down, the bridge stopped shaking. The work was very dangerous as the bridge could have been swept away at any time.

Obituaries

Arlene Weiss

Arlene Longshore Weiss, 69, of Mansfield, Ohio, formerly of Carroll County, died July 28, 2007, at Med Central Mansfield Hospital.

She was born April 14, 1938, in Marion to Merwin and Dorothy Longshore.

Surviving are her husband of 25 years, James Weiss; seven children, Debby, Arthur, Mike, Kathy, Michele, Dottie and Carol; six step-children, Carl,

Kandi, Jim, Ron, Tim and Jamie; a brothers, James Longshore of South Carolina; a sister, Gale Longshore of Colorado; Doris Joslyn of Monticello; and 32 grandchildren.

Mrs. Weiss was buried at Lantz Cemetery in Mansfield.

Memorial contributions may be made to the American Cancer Society.

James W. Griffey

James W. "Jamie" Griffey, 36, of Camden, died at 12:55 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 11, 2007, at St. Elizabeth Hospital Medical Center, Lafayette.

Born Aug. 10, 1971, in Logansport, he was the son of Dale Griffey and Cecilia Wallace. He graduated from Delphi Community High School in 1989. On June 12, 1993, in Camden, he married Shirley McTigue and she survives.

Mr. Griffey was a grill cook at Gracie's Restaurant in Flora.

He attended Camden United Methodist Church and was a member of the Sons of the American Legion, Squadron #413, Camden.

He loved sports and participated in the Bachelor Runn Golf League and J.C.'s winter pool league.

Surviving with his wife are his parents, both of Camden; a daughter, Brianna Griffey of Camden; and several aunts, uncles and cousins.

Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. Thursday at Cree Funeral Home, Camden. Pastor Dan Gottschalk will officiate. Interment will be held at a later date. Friends may call from 4 to 8 p.m. today, Wednesday, at the funeral home.

Jeffrey L. Bell

Jeffrey L. Bell, 46, of Kempton, died Sunday, Aug. 12, 2007, at Methodist Hospital in Indianapolis, after a tree fell on him.

Birth Sept. 30, 1960, in Cass Co., he was the son of Delbert D. and Patricia (Morrison) Bell. He attended Tri-Central High School.

Mr. Bell worked at Hankins Body Shop at Tipton.

He enjoyed working on cars and car shows.

Surviving are his mother and stepfather, Patricia and Lester Graber of Kokomo; two brothers, Mark Bell of Burlington and Steve Bell and his wife, Debbie, of Akron; one sister, Debbie Minglin of Warsaw; and nieces and nephews, Stephanie Myers and her husband, Bryon, Chad Bell, Jenny Piercton, Aaron Minglin, and Shawn Minglin.

He was preceded in death by his father.

Services will be at 10:30 a.m. Friday at Stout & Son Funeral Home, 200 E. Main St., Russiaville. Bill Martin will officiate. Burial will follow at Bacon Cemetery near Forest. Friends may call Thursday from 4 to 8 p.m. at the funeral home.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Critical Care Unit at Methodist Hospital.

Online condolences may be sent to www.stoutandson.com

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