

CARROLL COUNTY COMET

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Co-Publishers: Susan Scholl & Joe Moss

Editor: Susan Scholl, editor@carrollcountycomet.com
Ad Director: Joe Moss, comet@carrollcountycomet.com
Editorial Writers: Susan Scholl, Comet Staff

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Memberships include:



Going public is best for community

Local media outlets everywhere are the eyes and the ears for the community. In Carroll County, the *Comet* is that media which more than any other, reports what is happening on many levels of society. The *Comet* has a fairly wide distribution and is read religiously by long-time residents and former residents. It is the *Comet's* responsibility to announce events and meetings to you. But to do that, we have to be able to obtain information. One of our office sayings is, "we can't put it in the paper if we don't know about it." Many times (more than you might imagine) news comes walking through the front door. Other times we get a phone call and do a little follow-up and there it is...the next article or story.

One of the biggest obstacles the *Comet* faces is what is, or is not, going on in your government. Recently, we heard about a meeting being planned by a county office supported by your tax dollars. There was no quorum of government officials planned to attend the meeting, but the topic was of great interest to community members - and again, it was supported by your tax dollars.

"Why would the paper care about that?" was asked when a follow-up phone call was made to confirm the meeting. The reporter making the call mumbled something about the public's right to know and hung up the phone.

Confirmation did not come that day. In fact, confirmation was not announced until the following Thursday - the day after the newspaper was published and put in your mailbox - the day after the public could have, and should have, been notified of the meeting.

The decision to wait to confirm the meeting until it was impossible to notify the public in the most comprehensive way - the public who is funding the meeting and the office the decision was made in - was wrong. It was wrong to exclude the taxpaying public from knowing about and being able to attend the meeting.

There should never be a time when community members hear about meetings, supported with their tax dollars, only after the meetings have taken place.

Community leaders are urged to look at how decisions like this are made. It is not too much to ask leaders to recognize taxpayers receive their news and announcements one time each week. There is no reason, *no excuse*, for the community to not be fully aware of how their tax dollars are spent.

Nothing good can come from having secrets or keeping information from the public. It is offensive and insulting to be manipulated in this manner.

Superior Court Judge Jeffrey Smith

Superior Court judgments are gathered from public records on file in the Carroll County Clerk's office on the second floor of the courthouse, Delphi.

New Filings

Daniel T. Longoria was charged with possession of marijuana and visiting a common nuisance.

Joseph H. Spear was charged with maintaining a common nuisance, possession of marijuana and dealing in marijuana.

Thomas J. Bennett was charged with illegal possession of an alcoholic beverage.

Brandon R. Gross was charged with possession of marijuana, possession of paraphernalia, driving while suspended, false and fictitious registration and failure to dim headlights.

Joseph T. Wilson was charged with operating while intoxicated - endangering.

Jose S. Linares-Ordenez was charged with operating while intoxicated - endangering, speeding in a construction zone

and failure to yield to an emergency vehicle.

Cindy A. Hartman was charged with invasion of privacy.

Michael R. Long was charged with possession of marijuana.

Derek R. Ramsey was charged with public intoxication and possession of marijuana.

Ashley Wallace was charged with operating while intoxicated - endangering and operating with an ACE of .08 or more.

The following were charged with check deception: Deradee D. Remaly (two counts); Andria Land; Jennifer L. Barnes (four counts); Katrina L. Boughton (10 counts); Michael O. Cobb Jr.; Steve E. Newmann; and Dana L. Faucett. *****

I spent the Labor Day weekend on the work end of a shovel and wheelbarrow. I'm happy to report that the labor felt surprisingly good. The weather was beautiful, my back cooperated and the project got done. Those factors combined went far to help with the positive feeling. Mostly, however, the labor felt good because my normal routine doesn't involve shovel and wheelbarrow. Variety, it turns out, is often a really good thing.

At this time of year Mother Nature's variety gets both my attention and my admiration. How can peppers turn up in these glorious greens, reds and yellows and still be considered vegetables and not art work? The yellow of the sweet corn, the purple of the eggplant and the seemingly infinite variety of greens from peas to cucumbers, I ask you, what canvas can do these hues adequate justice? I know the calendar still says summer, there's no debate about that, but everything outside, the air, the light, the textures, it all feels like fall is gently making its presence known.

I used to think of fall as simply a necessary transition between summer and winter. I didn't give it its rightful status on its own merit. I now appreciate fall more for the message and lessons that can be found in harvest time, for the clarity of crisp mornings and the contrast of warm days and cool evenings.

And, as I've mused over be-

Midwest Memo

by Alan Shultz



After Labor Day

fore, there's my Aunt Virginia's apple crisp to anticipate.

* * *

On Sunday my wife and I attended the wedding of some business clients. It was a 6 p.m. affair and we left home a tad too early. That early departure time proved to be fortuitous when we got near the public garden where the wedding was located.

It happened that on Sunday the garden facility was sharing its parking lot with a music festival further down the road. School buses and lines of autos merged from two lanes to one and inched along slowly. It took us an unplanned 40 minutes to exit the road and get the car parked.

Of course, we were not the only folks delayed by this traffic jam. Most of the guests and some of the wedding party were out there on the road fighting traffic long after the anticipated start time. The 6 p.m. wedding became a 7 p.m. affair with dinner served sometime after 10:30 p.m.

I'm sure there was plenty of behind the scenes drama, untold numbers of stressed cell phone calls and all kinds of adjustments between caterers and clergy and keepers of the gar-

den's midnight closing time. What impressed me was that some point there was a collective surrender to the situation. The traffic snarl was bigger than any good intentions, planning and anticipating. And the wedding simply went on from that reality. The daylight was dimmer than planned for the photos, the food took some reheating, the schedule took some rearranging, but on it all went, different than planned but embraced by all who came whether to serve or to celebrate.

* * *

Do you have a favorite hymn?

I ask this because over the span of a week or so I heard several references to favorite hymns.

At the 10-year memorial service for Princess Diana they sang her favorite hymn, "I vow to thee my country." Later that week a radio program narrator discussing the life of Mahatma Ghandi cited a familiar hymn as being Ghandi's favorite. And a few months back, at the funeral service of a longtime friend, the congregation sang her favorite hymn.

I love hymns, I love hymn singing - the older and the more familiar, the better. But I've never stopped to pick a favorite.

We know so much and so little about each other. I guess I like the idea of knowing a person's favorite hymn. Perhaps I should start with my own and build the list from there.

If you're inclined, give it some thought.

Letters to the Editor

The Comet welcomes letters to the editor responding to articles and events in the news. They must include the author's name, address and telephone number. The letter writer's name and city/town will appear in the paper - no exceptions. Letters must be 400 words or less in length. Please send your letters to: editor@carrollcountycomet.com; Letters to the Editor, Comet, P.O. Box 26, Flora, IN 46929 or P.O. Box 179, Delphi, IN 46923; or fax 574-967-3384 or 765-564-2010. By submitting a letter or opinion article, the author grants the Comet the right to publish, distribute, archive or use the work in print, electronic, on-line or other format.

Shelter screams foul!

On Aug. 15, the *Comet* printed a letter to the editor from Carl Perry. He made false statements concerning my organization (Pet Savers No Kill Shelter).

Mr. Perry stated that Pet Savers asked the county commissioners for \$1 (per person) of the county's tax money. He indicated that this money was to go to Pet Savers. This is incorrect. The money would have been put into a fund for low-cost spaying and neutering. Members of the community who do not have the funds could then afford to have their animals spayed or neutered. 100% of all the funds would have gone directly to the vet. In light of the fact that our community no longer takes any cats, personal turn-ins or litters of puppies...something has to be done! Spaying can prevent hundreds of unwanted puppies from being born. The answer is not euthanasia, it is prevention!

Mr. Perry also stated that he does not have any animals so why should \$1 of his tax money go for an animal cause? Your tax money is paying \$55 for every animal that is euthanized at our animal shelter. If you are this upset about \$1 of your tax money being used for a noble cause (saving animals' lives and future tax dollars), why aren't you furious that thousands and thousands of tax dollars are being used to put unwanted animals to sleep?

Mr. Perry also indicated that the *Journal and Courier* article that featured our shelter was designed for profit and personal gain. Wrong again. The article was designed to make the community understand that animal control will not take any more litters of puppies. It was also designed to help us find homes for the 40 adult dogs and 16 puppies we had at the time. We had a litter of eight Lab mixed pups dumped on our property. We were extremely upset about this for the following reasons:

This litter was dumped when we were not home, without our permission.

Our shelter was full. We had no runs, no cages and nowhere to put this additional litter of pups. Even though we take in between 400 to 600 unwanted animals per year (at absolutely no cost to this community), when we needed help from this community, we were told they would take the litter (at our expense). They would take the litter and euthanize them for \$55 per dog. (\$400).

I believe Mr. Perry referred to Pet Savers as a "personal problem." If the community feels that our shelter is in any way "a problem," we can close our doors. My husband feels that the thousands and thousands of dollars we loose annually, and the countless hours of work we do are not appreciated. If Mr. Perry is the voice of this community, then my husband is right!

Patricia Schneider Davis
Delphi
Pet Savers # 742-2200



Circuit Court Judge Donald Currie

New filings are from public records available in the Carroll County Clerk's office on the second floor of the courthouse, Delphi. Other information regarding judgments and marriage dissolutions is gathered from public records found in the clerk's office.

Robin E. Maxwell vs. Andrea N. Bell was dismissed.

Dale A. Mitchell pled guilty to operating a motor vehicle after forfeiture of license for life. He was sentenced to five years in prison, two years suspended, and two years of probation.

A decree of dissolution was granted between the following: Shalyn Robinson and Jeremy Robinson, with wife's former name of Shalyn Wilson restored;

Mary Linda Moore and Roger D. Moore; and

David L. Balensiefer and Patricia L. Balensiefer.

Thomas and Betty Ping filed a complaint to forfeit or foreclose land contract against Gregory and Kimberly Clawson.

Capital One Bank filed a complaint against Sergio Hernandez.

GMAC Mortgage LLC filed a complaint on note and to foreclose mortgage against Harold and Cynthia Denton.

MRC Receivables Corp. filed a complaint against William Phillips.

MacDonald Machinery Co. Inc. filed a complaint for foreclosure of mechanics lien against Gregory and Jerrielyn Jacobs.

Discover Bank filed a complaint against John S. Dietrich. American Acceptance Co. LLC filed a complaint against Garry G. Noe.

Dustin E. Humphrey was charged with burglary, two counts of theft, and contributing to the delinquency of a minor.

Melissa D. Hicks was charged with dealing schedule II controlled substance, two counts of theft, two counts of possession of a controlled substance and unlawful use or possession of a legend drug.

Trisha A. Allin was named executor of the estate of the late Michael S. Cooney.

The following cases were dismissed: Everhome Mortgage Co. vs. Angela D. Engle; and First Farmers Bank and Trust vs. Duane F. Davis and Gnow Bone Regional Sewage District (intervenor defendant). Default judgements were en-

tered for the plaintiff in the following cases: Capital One Bank vs. Edward McKenzie in the amount of \$4,945.29; Capital One Bank vs. Chris Burdine, \$20,823.43; Midland Funding Management vs. Kenneth J. Slaybaugh, \$5,743.54; American Acceptance vs. Tracy Lynn Claiborne, \$1,712.94; and Creditone vs. Jack Gerald, \$11,597.27.

Robert W. Campbell, 33, of Flora, pled guilty to criminal recklessness. He was sentenced to three years in prison, one year suspended, and one year supervised probation.

William H. Adcock was found not guilty of promoting prostitution by jury trial.

A decree of dissolution was granted between the following: Debra Lynn Boling and James Michael Boling Sr.; and Jim Lance Johnson and Jennifer Johnson, with wife's former name of McCammack restored.

The following were found to be in arrears in the payment of child support: Jason Blount, in the amount of \$4,218.53; Greg Long; Sharina Guerrero; Troy Miller, \$5,936.50; Donald Hughes, \$1,640; John Hunckler, \$4,437.22; Raymond Clark, \$2,755; Janice Bell, \$4,995; and Jennifer Watson, \$884.47; Rhonda Blount.

Capital One Bank filed a complaint against Clara D. Massengill and Glen F. Massengill.

Washington Mutual Bank filed a complaint on note and to foreclose mortgage against Charles N. Huffer.

Washington Mutual Bank filed a complaint on note and to foreclose mortgage on real estate against Jerry L. Grable and Teresa C. Grable.

Marriage Licenses

Robert E. Coble, 35, and Georgia Alison Henricks, 28, both of Burnettsville.

Kenneth Lee Grimes, 40, of Camden, and Amanda Mickel Lorts, 29, of Kokomo.

Restaurant Inspections

Bresnahan's

Routine inspection: 8/25/07
Summary of violations: No Violations Noted

Camden Mid-Land Meals

Routine inspection: 8/24/07
Summary of violations: No Violations Noted

Carroll County Jail

Routine inspection: 8/24/07
Summary of violations: No Violations Noted

Wick's Packaging

Routine inspection: 8/22/07
Summary of violations: No Violations Noted

Custom Select Meats

Routine inspection: 8/20/07
Summary of violations: No Violations Noted

Willoughby's Food & Spirit

Routine inspection: 8/17/07
Summary of violations: 1 Critical

The water for the wiping cloths measured over 400 ppm. Corrected.

School House Actions

Routine inspection: 8/17/07
Summary of violations: 1 Critical, 1 Non-Critical

Critical

There were some packages of raw hamburger being stored above some ready to eat foods. Directed to correct by one day.

Non-Critical
There was not any hand soap at the hand washing sink. Directed to correct by one

day.

Country Candies and Confections

Routine inspection: 8/17/07
Summary of violations: No Violations Noted

Pizza King of Burlington

Routine inspection: 8/16/07
Summary of violations: 1 Non-Critical

The dumpster was not on a concrete base. Directed to correct by six months.

Burlington Pizza

Routine inspection: 8/16/07
Summary of violations: No Violations Noted

Jones IGA

Routine inspection: 8/16/07
Summary of violations: No Violations Noted

Treece's II

Routine inspection: 8/16/07
Summary of violations: No Violations Noted

Spirit of Flora

Routine inspection: 8/15/07
Summary of violations: No Violations Noted

Flora Mara Mart

Routine inspection: 8/15/07
Summary of violations: 1 Non-Critical

The condiment table with the cutting board had an accumulation of residue on it. Directed to correct by one day.

The Summer Kitchen

Routine inspection: 8/13/07
Summary of violations: No Violations Noted

Web poll

Tell us starting Wednesday at our web site, carrollcountycomet.com

Each week the *Comet* polls its readers on a different topic. Vote online at carrollcountycomet.com starting each Thursday, and then click the *Comments* link to send us an email voicing your opinion. The best responses will be printed the following week.

Should the county take active steps to enforce bridge limits to reduce damage from overweight truck traffic?

Yes, why have them if we don't enforce them?
No, we don't have the manpower and it wouldn't be worth it.
Offenders could be reported and fined after the fact.

Last Weeks results

What did you do for fun over the Labor Day holiday?

- 28% Picnic with family
- 3% Went to an outdoor concert
- 33% Caught up on household chores
- 36% Absolutely nothing
- Total responses: 36

Because the public has a right to know...

In an effort to help our readers understand what government meetings are happening when and where, the *Comet* will now print upcoming meetings on a weekly basis.

- Friday, Sept. 7
√ County council: 8 a.m.
- Monday, Sept. 10
√ Commissioners: 9 a.m.
√ Flora Town Council: 6 p.m.
√ Delphi Board of Works: 6:30 p.m.
√ Delphi City Council: 7 p.m.
- Tuesday, Sept. 11
√ County budget hearings: 8 a.m.
√ Camden Town Council: 7 p.m.
- Wednesday, Sept. 12
√ Burlington Town Council: 7 p.m.
- Thursday, Sept. 13
√ County budget hearings: 8 a.m.
√ Twin Lakes Regional Sewer District: 7 p.m.-White County Gov. Building

Public Notices appearing in this issue of the Comet:

- Sheriff Sale-Lynch3B
- Notice of Suit-Wells5B
- Griswold Adoption5B
- Rossville School-Warrants .3B
- Sheriff Sale-Owen3B
- Sheriff Sale-Richeson5B
- IDEM-Baber3B
- Kokomo Rescue Mission3B
- Sheriff Sale-Frazier3B
- Sheriff Sale-Leslie3B
- Sheriff Sale-Cade3B

Questions concerning Indiana's Open Door and Public Access Laws may be directed to the state's public access office, at 1-800-228-6013.