

CARROLL COUNTY COMET

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Motorists cautioned

This week is Highway Work Zone Safety Awareness Week (April 2-6) in Indiana.

With more than \$900 million in road construction projects planned across Indiana, the Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) expects this year to be the busiest road construction season in Hoosier history – making it more important than ever to use extreme caution in Indiana's highway work zones.

Each year thousands of men, women and children are killed or injured in work zone crashes. Four out of five people killed in work zones are either drivers or passengers. Nationally, three people die in work zone accidents each day, and someone is injured in a work zone accident every nine minutes. In Indiana, 14 people were killed and 686 were injured in work zones last year.

INDOT urges motorists to drive safely by following these tips:

- Stay alert! Look for reduced speed limits, narrow driving lanes and highway workers.
- Pay attention. Work zone signs will tell you exactly what to expect ahead.
- Merge early. If drivers merge as soon as they see the signs, traffic will flow more smoothly.
- Slow down. If you're speeding, you may encounter slowed or stopped traffic within seconds.
- Don't tailgate. Maintain a safe distance on all sides of your vehicle.
- Minimize distractions. The three C's – cell phones, CDs and coffee – are the primary causes of driver inattention.
- Plan ahead. Expect delays and allow extra travel time. Select an alternate route if you are running late.

Marriage Licenses

Randy Lee VanPelt, 52, and Diane Applegate-Stanford, 56, of Monticello.
Ragene Ann McAllister, 44, and Jeffery Duane Ragan, 24, of Flora.
Robert William Applegate, 65, of Lafayette, and Julie Lindsay Deen Pearson, 20, both of Brookston.

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

Shane S. Hines was charged with two counts operating while intoxicated – endangering and habitual substance offender.

Rodney S. Snow was charged with two counts operating while intoxicated – endangering and speeding.

Siprison Zarate Gonzalez was charged with five counts identity deception.

Rodney L. Mangas was charged with resisting law enforcement and driving while suspended.

Lorri L. Clawson was charged with public intoxication.

Stephanie Williams was charged with public intoxication.

Trista M. Moser was charged with battery resulting in bodily injury.

Louis M. Fassnacht was charged with public intoxication.

Mark J. Savage was charged with criminal recklessness and speeding.

Timothy A. Robinette was

charged with illegal consumption of an alcoholic beverage.

Kenneth G. Couch was charged with public intoxication.

Blaine M. McLeland was charged with possession of marijuana and possession of paraphernalia.

William S. Holmes was charged with invasion of privacy.

Rebecca Coy was charged with receiving stolen property.

Christopher M. Meade was charged with intimidation.

Robert B. Guerrero was charged with operating a motor vehicle without ever receiving a license and disregarding a stop sign.

William A. Ramirez was charged with false informing.

Michael J. Burke IV was charged with criminal recklessness.

Joshua T. Johnson was charged with disorderly conduct.

Raul Salazar was charged with driving while suspended and speeding.

Patricia D. Kelley was charged with failure to stop after an accident resulting in non-vehicle damage.

Darryl E. Brickey was charged with possession of a

As the story unfolds, it turns out that 15-year-old Shaquanda Cotton of Paris, Texas, is no perfect little angel. She had a couple disciplinary incidents in her school file before the incident where she shoved a 58-year-old teacher's aide at her high school. But, let's be realistic here. Our high schools are not entirely filled with angels. And, for the record, the shoving incident did not result in any noted injury of the teacher's aide.

Shaquanda was tried in March 2006 in Paris' juvenile court before County Judge Chuck Superville. That shove got her a sentence of up to seven years in youth prison. A few months before Shaquanda's trial, Judge Superville granted probation to a 14-year-old girl convicted of arson for burning down her family's home.

Last week Shaquanda was abruptly released from prison after serving one year. A special conservator currently running the Texas juvenile system reviewed her case after the urging of civil rights activists. Conservator Jay Kimbrough said he took the action based on the arbitrary way in which prison officials had extended Shaquanda's prison term.

Shaquanda had been found with an extra pair of socks in her jail cell. That warranted her more time. During that "more time" another infraction could have earned her...more time. Chicago Tribune writer

Midwest Memo

by Alan Shultz



Shaquanda's shove

Howard Witt has been covering Shaquanda's story. I applaud Witt for his work and the part his coverage has played in seeing Shaquanda freed from prison. The Sunday edition of the Tribune had front page pictures of Shaquanda after her release. The caption under the picture included the following quote: "Her story sparked a nationwide fury over her punishing..."

I guess that's where I'd take a bit of exception with the Tribune.

I'm not feeling the "fury." Prisons are big business in the USA. Prison construction is a growth industry.

The crime rate is down in this country, and yet we incarcerate more and more people for lesser offenses.

Prisons are more and more removed from community. We make it harder and harder for family to extend support to folks behind bars.

Prisons are an underground, uncovered story.

The report card on the corrections department looks bad. The recidivism rate for offenders is horrible. No other system in the private sector would carry on with business

as usual with the amount of "returns" that the corrections system in this country sustains.

Back to Shaquanda. Do you suppose the Texas juvenile prison system has improved the chances that Shaquanda will be a good citizen? That very juvenile system that upped her stay over extra socks has a conservator because it is embroiled in a sex scandal involving prison officials. The U.S. Justice Department is now involved because it appears that different races are meted out different discipline and different justice in Texas.

The USA seems to need an attitude adjustment concerning incarceration.

Prisons should not be a secret underground, under-reported growth industry.

BRING THE STORY HOME

If Carroll County needs a new jail, a better, more up-to-date facility, well fine, then one should be built.

But...let's have the "experts" from the "industry" in ONLY after the community and the local officials determine the needs. Let's build the best and the smallest facility that meets those needs, and nothing more.

There are too many prison cells in this country. There's too much incarceration and too little correction. Let's not build a jail here in Carroll County that the prison industry "sells" us.

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.

Confusion about public involvement

I was confused when I read last week's Comet article titled "Input begins for Land Use Plan." My confusion related to why I missed the beginning of this important planning process.

I don't read every word in the paper but I do try to keep up on local governmental news. I keep my calendar handy and usually write down dates of upcoming meetings. Sometimes there are conflicts and I can't attend some functions but things like our county's land use plan interests me.

The public needs to be involved and especially since we have a professional outside firm conducting the process they or our local officials need to alert us to these opportunities. There needs to be something bold in the paper from the organizers announcing upcoming meetings.

Carroll County at the Crossroads did it correctly. They invited all of the community to come together and share concerns and opportunities. The community was involved and they felt it.

Our future rests on wise, well thought out, long term decisions made at meetings like this. Looking to the future, Carroll County has many changes coming upon us. We are investing taxpayer money - let's get our money's worth.

Dan McCain
Delphi

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.

Dale Huffer was named executor of the estate of the late Hilda E. Huffer.

The following cases were dismissed: JP Morgan Chase Bank vs. Kenneth McWhorter and Donna McWhorter; Kellie Dawn Jewell Marshall vs. Robert Dean Jewell; and Nora M. Campbell vs. Robert W. Campbell.

A decree of dissolution was granted between Troy A. Martin and Alice V. Martin.

A decree of dissolution was granted between Mark A. Westlake and Patricia M. Westlake.

The following were found to be in arrears in the payment of child support: Roger McCain, \$2,793; Belinda Robinson, \$3,100.18; Buck Brooks, \$3,051.50; David Rowland, \$17,767.20; David Demaggio, \$3,984; Fred Cavender, \$2,960.09; William H. Horn, \$2,039; Daniel K. Wethington, \$23,555.62; Kevin Vaughn, \$9,995.93; and Sheryl Johnson, \$1,500.

Bank of New York was granted a decree of foreclosure against John Gallaher and Lori Gallaher.



controlled substance, battery resulting in bodily injury, possession of marijuana, possession of paraphernalia and habitual substance offender.

Samantha N. Gates was charged with failure to stop after an accident resulting in damage to an attended vehicle.

Wyatt E. Lehnen was charged with illegal consumption of an alcoholic beverage.

Brian Evans was charged with operating while intoxicated – endangering.

Robert D. Perry was charged with public intoxication.

Michael E. Steele was charged with public intoxication.

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.

Wednesday, April 4

√Delphi Community School Board work session on realignment: 7 p.m., middle school cafeteria

Monday, April 9

√Burlington Town Council special meeting regarding sewer issues: 1 p.m., town hall

Tuesday, April 10

√Camden Town Council: 7 p.m., community building

Wednesday, April 11

√Burlington Town Council: 7 p.m., town hall

Thursday, April 12

√Twin Lakes Regional Sewer District: 7 p.m.-White County Gov. Building

Public Notices appearing in this issue of the Comet:

Sheriff Sale-Hanaway3B
Sheriff Sale-Ridgeway3B
Sheriff Sale-Landis3B
Sheriff Sale-Stover3B
Sheriff Sale-Allen3B
Sheriff Sale-Shives3B
Sheriff Sale-Smith3B
Wert Estate3B
TL Reg Sewer Dist3B
Notice-Addl. Approp3B

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.

Daniel M. Steele Jr. was charged with public intoxication.

James D. Lucas was charged with maintaining a common nuisance, possession of marijuana and contributing to the delinquency of a minor.

Michael S. Bane was charged with driving while suspended.

Jeremias Valdez was charged with operating a vehicle without ever receiving a license.

Duane F. Neff was charged with public intoxication.

Chad A. Gipson was charged with disorderly conduct.

Brandy N. Hibbs was charged with disorderly conduct and illegal consumption of an alcoholic beverage.

Terry L. Robinson was charged with possession of co-

caine, unlawful possession or use of a legend drug and possession of paraphernalia.

Alfonso Torres Jr. was charged with driving while suspended.

Brittany J. Brown was charged with possession of marijuana and false informing.

The following were charged with check deception: Sally J. Clark, Jennifer J. Bloyd, Cody A. Hufford, Richard G. Malott and Gladys E. Murphy.

Jayne E. Hampton, 29, pled guilty to resisting law enforcement. He was sentenced to one year in jail, all suspended, and one year supervised probation.

Jennifer Wireman, 24, of Delphi, pled guilty to false informing. She was sentenced to one year in jail, all suspended, and one year supervised probation.

Restaurant Inspections

Delphi Dairy Queen

Routine inspection: 3/13/07
Summary of violations: 1 Critical, 1 Non-Critical

1) The coney sauce in the hot holding table measured a temperature of 125 degrees. Directed to correct by 3/13/07.

2) The ice scoop was being stored on top of the Pepsi machine. Directed to correct by 3/13/07.

Pizza King Burlington

Routine inspection: 3/12/07
Summary of violations: No Violations Noted

Treece's 2

Routine inspection: 3/12/07
Summary of violations: 2 Non-Critical

1) There was not any paper towel available in the men's restroom. Corrected.

2) There was a drink in the food prep area that was not covered. Corrected.

The Dinner Bell

Routine inspection: 3/27/07
Summary of violations: 1 Non-critical

1) There was not a thermometer in the small refrigerator to measure the air temperature. Corrected.

The Burlington Scoop

Routine inspection: 3/23/07

Summary of violations: No Violations Noted

All-BBQ's

Routine inspection: 3/26/07
Summary of violations: No Violations Noted

All-BBQ's

Routine inspection: 3/22/07
Summary of violations: No Violations Noted

Pizza Hut

Routine inspection: 3/22/07
Summary of violations: No Violations Noted

Blimpie's

Routine inspection: 3/23/07
Summary of violations: 1 Critical, 1 Non-Critical

Critical

1) The sanitizing solution in the 3 bay sink measured over 400 ppm. Directed to correct by 3/23/07.

Non-Critical

1) There was a food employee in the food prep area without a hair restraint. Corrected.

Graham's Saloon

Routine inspection: 3/21/07
Summary of violations: 2 Non-Critical

1) The chest freezer and the upright freezer in the back room did not have a thermometer to measure the air temperature. Directed

to correct by 3/24/07.

2) The ladies' restroom did not have a cover for the trash can. Directed to correct by 3/24/07.

Betty's Stop & Shop

Routine inspection: 3/20/07
Summary of violations: 1 Critical

1) There was a dog in the establishment. Directed to correct by 3/20/07.

The Landmark

Routine inspection: 3/20/07
Summary of violations: No Violations Noted

Smitty's Tacos

Routine inspection: 3/19/07
Summary of violations: No Violations Noted

The Smokin' Dog Saloon

Routine inspection: 3/16/07
Summary of violations: No Violations Noted

Burlington Pizza

Routine inspection: 3/15/07
Summary of violations: No Violations Noted

Kristen's Homemade Delights

Routine inspection: 3/15/07
Summary of violations: No Violations Noted

Flora Pizza King

Routine inspection: 3/13/07
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.

Have you talked to your school DCSC board representative lately?

Yes
No

There is no need, they know how I feel.
There is no need, they don't care how I feel.

Last Weeks results

What is your idea of the ideal spring vacation?

33% A week on the beach
19% Take a cruise
02% A trip to visit relatives
38% Stay at home and do what you darn well please
07% Get a head start on spring cleaning
Total responses: 42