

CARROLL COUNTY COMET

Consolidation of the Delphi Journal-Citizen (Est. 1839) and the Flora Hoosier Democrat (Est. 1897).

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Memberships include:



Where is the Animal Control Commission?

Carroll County Commissioners established an animal control ordinance and commission in 2001. The commission consisted of the county sheriff, the shelter provider, a commissioner and representatives from Delphi, Flora, Camden and Burlington. The sheriff was assigned the duty to head the group.

The sheriff at the time was Dennis Randle. The commission met to establish the cost to an owner to retrieve their animal from the shelter. Dr. Lawrence Stauffer was designated as the shelter provider and his charges to the county for cats and dogs were established.

And then the commission didn't meet again.

The commissioners did not ask the sheriff for reports and did not provide guidance for the operation of the commission.

Fast forward to 2005 – the county council became concerned about the cost of animal care to the county. Dr. Stauffer requested to be paid more per animal. He presented claims every month and the animal control officer presented a monthly activity report. Both indicated about twice as many cats were processed through the system as dogs. The council wanted to reduce the costs and strongly suggested cats not be picked up, sheltered and paid for.

A story appeared in the March 2005 issue of the *Comet* about the situation and the dormant animal control commission.

Shortly after the story appeared, the animal control commission met to re-work the ordinance. However, some of the ordinance verbiage was unacceptable to the council and it was reworked between Sheriff Randle, the commissioners and the council to be acceptable to all of parties.

The problem was that the body appointed to direct the course of the service was left out of the process.

On to 2007. The county's financial situation is in question. There may not be enough money to pay the bills at the end of the year. It was suggested animal control be eliminated to save money, but in the June 13 *Comet* Web poll results, 58 percent of respondents did not care for that alternative.

In response to opposition to the elimination suggestion, the council decided to direct townships and cities and towns to put money aside in their 2008 budgets to help pay for the service.

And where is the animal control commission in all of this? The county has a new sheriff who inherited the distinction of being in charge. However, he has received no direction from the commissioners, at least nothing in public, about how to proceed.

The commissioners and the sheriff should step up and work for the solution to this troubling issue. It is their job.

The reality is...

- County residents do not want the service eliminated.
- Dr. Stauffer cannot continue as the shelter provider forever.
- Residents do not understand what animals will and will not be picked up and sheltered.

However, there are options...

- The Animal Control Commission could meet monthly;
- The county could investigate opening an animal shelter utilizing reduced county funding. Private donations and grants could be developed as funding streams. A volunteer program could be developed to perform some shelter work. (Could those who need to do community service hours be utilized?); and/or
- Contracting with nearby shelter services could be explored.

The time to act is now. It would be prudent to develop a well thought out county-wide plan utilizing all resources, including the Carroll County Animal Control Commission!

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

Joel A. Valladares was charged with identity deception.

Veronica M. Vargas was charged with operating a motor vehicle without ever receiving a license and driving left of center.

Rodolfo Mata was charged with operating a motor vehicle without ever receiving a license.

Alijandro Botello was charged with operating a motor vehicle without ever receiving a license.

Shanna M. Smith was charged with aiding, causing and inducing invasion of privacy.

The following were charged with check deception: Dwight Dause; Jessica Humphreys (two counts); Ginny R. Johnson (two counts); Jennifer D. Wireman (nine counts); Sherry L. Rhonda; Patricia M. Westlake; Rhonda Butler; Patsy A. Bosley; Rebecca Willis; and Joel A. Enoch.

Jimmy J. Rentfrow was charged with possession of marijuana.

Rigoberto Martinez was charged with public intoxication.

Maxie Zuniga was charged with operating a motor vehicle without ever receiving a license and disregarding a stop sign.

Justin L. Herbst was charged with driving while suspended.

Daniel J. Peters was charged with maintaining a common nuisance, possession of marijuana, and domestic battery.

Alfrado Perez-Ayala was charged with disorderly conduct.

Hugo S. Colquehuhca was charged with disorderly conduct.

A count of criminal mischief against Stephen T. Gascho was dismissed. Gascho pled guilty to criminal trespass.

Thomas C. Parker, 29, of Delphi, pled guilty to driving while suspended. He was sentenced to 180 days in jail, all but 10 days suspended, 355 days probation and suspension of driving privileges for two years.

Probation ordered for Misty D. Bailey was terminated by the court.

Laura L. Selke, 45, of South Whitley, pled guilty to operating while intoxicated – endangering and possession of a controlled substance. She was sentenced to two years in jail, all suspended, and two years supervised probation.

Causes against the following were dismissed: Harry A. Hartman Jr.; Shelly Mulkey; Donald E. Fritts; Michelle M. Pratt; and Young's Culligan vs. Lisa and Kevin Baxter.

The following cases were entered for the plaintiff: Young's Culligan vs. Susan Field in the amount of \$127.43; Janet L. Donoho vs. Corey E. Fleener, \$6,836; Young's Culligan vs. Lonnie Stiles, \$301.16; Donald Connaway vs. Joshua Green, \$2,179.50; Chase Bank NA vs. Jeannie M. Stevens, \$21,422.81; American General Financial Services Inc. vs. Woodrow Inman, \$11,910.83; and Horizon Veterinary Service vs. Gene Ohrt and Doreen Ohrt, \$402.50.

We received several holiday party invitations for this year's 4th of July celebration. I was going to refer to it as an "observance" but clearly the 4th is a unique U.S. holiday - a kick-up your heels and make a lot of noise kind of event. It's truly a celebration. And it's a celebration you can't scoot around on the calendar to get a three-day weekend bonus. The exact day matters, it's the 4th for goodness sake, and that's how it has got to be.

One common thread in a 4th of July celebration is the red, white and blue color theme that repeats itself from napkins to crepe paper and from frosting to party favors. Those three colors layered together create a visual portrayal of freedom that requires no narrative. More U.S. flags pop up on the 4th than on any other holiday I can recall. Folks fly the flag and carry it and raise their right hand in a pledge to it. Music fills the air on the 4th and that music is wonderfully predictable, it's both rousing and reflective - enough to get the blood pumping and maybe raise a goose bump or two.

On the 4th of July we get invited to parties and picnics and public events.

On the 4th of July we get invited to fly the flag, sing the National Anthem and mimic the rockets red glare with all kinds of noisemakers and sky illuminators. We light the night sky with a bit of man-made wonder to let the world see and know our passion for

Midwest Memo

by Alan Shultz



The invitation

liberty.

The celebration of the 4th of July affords us the opportunity to roll out with dignity and pride the history and the cost of the fight for liberty for us to collectively reflect upon. At the same time the country gets to throw a big old raucous party to celebrate freedom. This invitation is extended to all and it invites us to reflect on what all this liberty means.

So I've set a visual scene with picnic table of red, white and blue, with potato salad and hot dogs on the grill. I've given the kids sparklers and raised Old Glory and put the Star Spangled Banner on the old Victrola on the front porch. Well this is where you should be hearing the needle of the record player pulled back the wrong way against the grain of the record.

If you follow the national news you have to wonder what's gone wrong with our idea of freedom for our fellow man. From where I sit we seem to have evolved into an awfully judgmental lot with a penchant for punishment.

We build prisons, lots of them, big ones. We build prisons in cities and counties and states. Incarceration is a big business growth industry in

the U.S. We find folks guilty of all kinds of things, send them off to these prisons and then don't report much about the goings on inside. This is an unpleasant topic. These people must be bad. And the number of those behind bars keeps growing. In general, the idea of rehabilitation is strictly a lip service topic. That leaves punishment as the only obvious motive.

Well if you want to lose some valuable sleep, review in detail the facts of the prosecution of the Duke University lacrosse players. This is justice really gone bad. Bad enough that the prosecutor was disbarred. Now change the facts of that case a little. Remove the scrutiny of the media, take away the wealth that paid the legal defense of the players and wonder what "justice" would have been rendered.

Mandatory sentencing has not worked in our legal system. The war on drugs was lost so long ago we forgot to even consider an alternative. We criminalize more activity, we imprison and punish more folks.

This 4th of July comes with an invitation to celebrate and to reflect on freedom and liberty. Perhaps it presents the opportunity to reflect on those instances when freedom and liberty are denied right here on U.S. soil. It's an uncomfortable subject, sure, absolutely, but one worthy of consideration even as we light the night sky in celebration of liberty.

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Restaurant Inspections

Delphi Dollar General

Routine inspection: 6/6/07
Summary of violations: No violations Noted

Flora Dollar General

Routine inspection: 6/5/07
Summary of violations: No Violations Noted

The Sportsman Inn

Routine inspection: 6/7/07
Summary of violations: 1 Critical, 2 Non-Critical

Critical
There were some cookies in the walk in cooler being stored with the raw foods. Corrected.

Non-Critical
The steak and the fish in the small refrigerator did not have a cover. Directed to correct by 1 day.

There was a food employee in the food prep area not wearing a hair restraint. Directed to correct by 1 day.

The Madam Carroll

Routine inspection: 6/7/07
Summary of violations: No Violations Noted

White Oaks

Beach House Café

Routine inspection: 6/11/07
Summary of violations: No violations Noted

Carroll Manor

Routine inspection: 6/12/07
Summary of violations: 1 Non-Critical

There was a fruit dessert in the chest freezer not covered. Directed to correct by 1 day.

Carroll County Auctions

Routine inspection: 6/12/07
Summary of violations: No violations Noted

Prince William Brands

Routine inspection: 6/13/07
Summary of violations: No Violations Noted

Carol's Candies and Cookies

Routine inspection: 6/6/07
Summary of violations: No violations Noted

Geno's Pizza

Routine inspection: 6/14/07
Summary of violations: No Violations Noted

Flora Pizza King

Routine inspection: 6/15/07
Summary of violations: 1 Non-Critical

There was a food employee in the food prep area without a hair restraint. Directed to correct by 1 day.

Solomon's Grill

Routine inspection: 6/18/07
Summary of violations: No Violations Noted

The Sandwich Shop

Routine inspection: 6/18/07
Summary of violations: 1 Critical

There were some raw sausage patties on a plate stored above the ready to eat foods in the refrigerator. Corrected.

Delphi Dairy Queen

Routine inspection: 6/19/07
Summary of violations: 1 Critical, 3 Non-Critical

Critical
The sanitizing solution for the wet wiping clothes read over 200 ppm.

Non-Critical
The wire whisk for the waffle cones was not being stored properly. Directed to correct by 1 day.

There were some wet wiping clothes being stored on cart (not in sanitizing solution). Directed to correct by 1 day.

There was not a thermometer in the frozen meat cases to measure the air temperature. Corrected.

Marriage Licenses

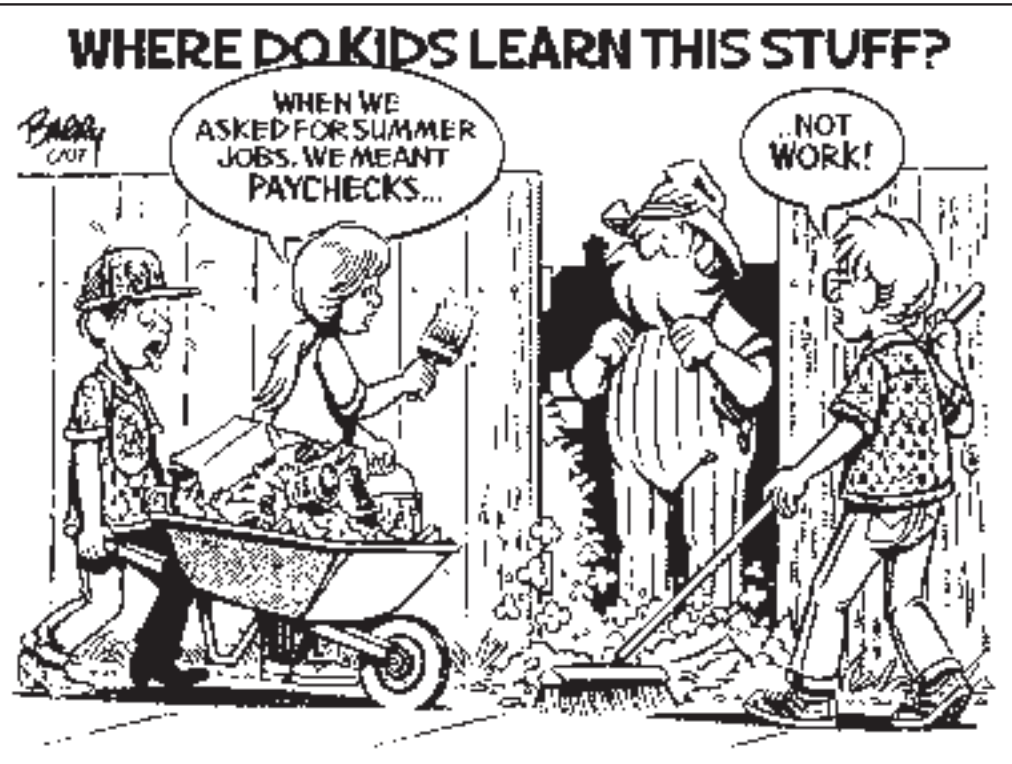
Tyler Jay VerBryck, 22, of Logansport, and Stefanie Ann Berger, 23, of Fort Wayne.

Denton Earl Hahn, 25, of Flora, and Debra Sue Meador, 20, of Cutler.

Jonathan Glenn Brown, 21, and Krista Ann Podemski, 21, both of Flora.

Stephen William Cody Martin, 27, and Billie Jo Marter, 25, both of Delphi.

Jackie L. Hayes Jr., 43, and Tonya Sue Shepard, 33, both of Rossville.



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.

David W. Murray was named executor of the estate of the late Kenneth W. Murray.

Teri K. White was named executor of the estate of the late Patricia A. Wells.

Linda Louise Ray was named executor of the estate of the late Dorothy Louise Syers.

Martha G. Lewis and Perry Lewis were named executors of the estate of the late Leta L. Lewis.

John Calvin Archibald, Vonda Lou Downing and Kevin Lee Archibald were named executors of the estate of the late James C. Archibald.

Jerry Blue and Mary Blue were named executors of the estate of the late Rodney Paul Flora.

Lonetta K. Felz was named executor of the estate of the late Marjorie M. Pearson.

The following cases were dismissed: Regions Bank vs. Robert P. Carpenter and Norma J. Carpenter; State of Indiana vs. Kasandra Schiano; US Bank National Association vs. Rocky Sears and Juanita Sears; and Citimortgage Inc. vs. Jack Brooks.

April R. Hunley pled guilty to

burglary. She was sentenced to 15 years in prison, five years suspended, supervised probation and restitution to victims.

Judgements for the plaintiff were entered in the following cases: Brookville Acquisition Group vs. Robert Haskins Jr., \$1,499.69; Midland Credit Management Inc. vs. Kimberly Gullion in the amount of \$1,421.44; Prairie Financial vs. Kimberly Gullion, \$1,926.95; and First National Bank of Omaha vs. Jon W. Baker, \$6,963.57.

Terry L. Antibus was ordered to serve 60 days in jail upon being found to be in arrears in the payment of child support in the amount of \$47,640.

Michelle L. Earnheart pled guilty to obtaining a controlled substance by fraud or deceit and obtaining or attempting to obtain a legend drug by forgery or alteration. She was sentenced to six years in prison, five years suspended, five years probation and in-home detention.

The following were found to be in arrears in the payment of child support: William Rodenbarger in the amount of

\$1,600.92; Wade McCarty, \$6,750.80; Bradley Bougher, \$3,913; Bobby Hunt, \$3,504; Patricia McLeland, \$7,655; Mark McLeland, \$10,087.40; Dale Babcock, \$15,026; Nina Valentine, \$14,094.32; Christopher Fairwell, \$2,868; Melinda Hartman, \$3,379.45; John Reed III, \$1,173; and Terry Robinson Sr., \$14,173.95.

Kevin Johnson pled guilty to burglary. He was sentenced to 12 years in prison, six years suspended, restitution and probation.

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.

Thursday, July 5

✓County Council Special meeting: 8:30 a.m.

Friday, July 6

✓Commissioners special budget work session: 9 a.m.

Tuesday, July 10

✓Camden Town Council: 7 p.m.

Wednesday, July 11

✓Burlington Town Council: 7 p.m.

Thursday, July 12

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

Public Notices appearing in this issue of the

Comet:

Sheriff Sale-Webb5B
Sale-Sandifur5B
Sheriff Sale-Herron5B
Sheriff Sale-Sorrrells5B
Smith estate5B
Oyler Estate5B
City of Delphi-Water5B
Ordinance 2007-065B

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.

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.

How often do you respond to our Web poll question?

Always
Sometimes
Seldom
This is my first

Last Weeks results

How often do you go out to eat?

11% Every day
50% Once or twice a week
22% Once or twice a month
17% Hardly ever
Total responses: 103
Reader's comments:

Our family eats out many times a week throughout the summer months. There's nothing better than a hotdog at a ballpark watching base/softball!