

CARROLL COUNTY COMET

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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.

Appreciates that Comet is online

I am just writing a short e-mail to say thanks for having your publication online. I have been stationed overseas for many years working as a civilian for the Department of Defense, U.S. Army.

It is always good to have a resource to read about home and where you started from.

Home has been kind of nostalgic lately, with a recent visit here in Belgium of one of my cousins and also a former high school friend and his spouse. Plus, it is getting close to Thanksgiving and it is always tough when you are far away from home.

Clarence E. Hammond
Deputy to the Garrison
Commander
USAG Benelux
DSN 361-1310

County museum - worth preserving

How did Carroll County get into such a financial mess the past few years that we have to close/lose our county museum?

The County Council told the museum staff Sept. 18, they are going to have all the funds from the county taken away as of Jan. 1, 2008. Who or what was responsible for this? A lot of people would like a full explanation.

Phyllis Moore, the curator, has said she will work for nothing just to keep it open. They have good volunteers and grant monies for computer equipment and a staff person's salary designated for that. The county has furnished money in the past for Mrs. Moore's and a second staff person's salary and a little for running expenses. The county can't come up with money for running expenses? How long the Carroll County Historical Society can keep the museum going is a problem because they have very little money.

There are nearly 16,000 photographs in the museum's archives as well as many artifacts from county people. It's certain no one wants these lost or sold. The genealogy resources are excellent as evidenced by nationwide use. The photos themselves are a treasure. I urge everyone to log on to the museum's website www.carrollcountymuseum.org to view these while they still can.

The county's 2008 budget will be adopted today, Sept. 26. The department heads met yesterday with the council to discuss and review the matter.

Joanne Ratcliff
Delphi

Believes Lohmiller sentencing unfair

Rebecca Lohmiller has a nursing degree from another state. She was a surgical nurse when she witnessed a crime and identified the person responsible.

The Federal Government put her in the witness protection program. She traveled with an FBI agent under aliases and in several states over the next eight years. She could not even phone her family. For her protection, the government stamped all her information with DNP (Do not publish), which never expires. Becky no longer existed.

When she married and moved to Indiana, she did not leave her brains or degree at the state line. When the Health Department wanted to hire her, she told them why she was afraid to transfer her license or register with the State of Indiana.

Yes, the Health Department doctors knew and said it was

not necessary as she was covered under their umbrella.

She was an excellent nurse for the county, well liked and she genuinely cared about the people - from the smoking cessation programs she gave, to traveling the county giving flu shots. She wrote grants and succeeded in bringing \$150,000 to the county - none of which went into her pocket.

Yet, you fined her \$25,000 and want her salary returned.

The former prosecuting attorney reduced the counts against Becky to only one count in a plea agreement. She wouldn't accept it. Why? Because she was innocent, and believed the jury would find in her favor after hearing all the facts.

Carroll County has ruined her career, her health and her life.

Several people attended Becky's sentencing to speak on her behalf. The judge said if anyone said anything about the witness protection program, she would go straight to jail for four years. I ask why?

Where is the justice for this injustice?

Ro Lantz
Monticello

Keep museum open for genealogists

The County Historical Society Museum is an asset that Carroll County would be remiss in not keeping alive.

This is an extremely important resource for genealogists, professional and amateur. It is also a historical resource for educators in the area. Carroll County has a rich and vital history, and has served as a keystone location for many pioneer families whose descendants moved on.

Over six generations of my family on both sides are buried in Carroll County, and it was the Historical Society Museum that unlocked many of the mysteries that I had not been able to otherwise solve. I meet cousins from all across the nation via the Internet as a result of the information I found there, and I have referenced them back to Phyllis Moore for more information. Just the other day, I was attending a funeral here in Texas, and met a previously unknown cousin from California who is a descendent of the Wingard family in Carroll County. People like him are frequently asking me how they can get in touch with someone in Carroll County to help them with their research.

The museum is not simply a place in the courthouse for local people - it is a nationwide (and probably international) service for people who want to learn about their roots. To jeopardize its existence by removing its funding is simply irresponsible and thoughtless.

The libraries have poor genealogical resources by comparison. I have been to the libraries in Camden, Flora, and Delphi on multiple occasions, and they all have far less to offer than the Historical Society Museum!

Carroll County owes it to its citizens and descendants of its founders and pioneers to keep a publicly available central repository of genealogical information alive and well. Keep Carroll County on the map!

Kris Brower
Arlington, Texas

Walker shouldn't return

The way that Mr. Walker has screwed the community of DCSC, and now he is screwing the government, I, as well as many others, feel that Mr. Walker should not be allowed to return.

I would like to know if Mr. Walker would like to trade me wages, and we all know what his wage is since DCSC wages are printed in the paper annually. I could live very high on the hog with his wages. It takes me four years to match one year

Letters Cont'd. next page

A black walnut tree did me in the other night. Well, it did in one of my nicest blue long-sleeved business shirts, that is.

Splat!
I didn't feel the hit, just saw the evidence the next morning. My better half confirmed the source of the unmistakable offending spot. An innocent conversation in the evening under a walnut tree and there goes a dent in my wardrobe. Even on sale, a nice dress shirt costs a good \$49.99, plus tax. And that assumes they have my size which combines fat neck with short arms. Had that splat hit my shoes, instead of my shirt, it might have actually improved the look - I've been needing to get the shoe shine supplies out for weeks.

Frayed, stained, worn, wrinkled, I've noticed of late that I'm due to spend a little quality time in the mens' furnishings department at the big store in the mall.

Several unrelated factors have combined to bring my wardrobe to critical mass.

First and foremost, I hate clothes shopping. I don't know what it is about the activity, but I get restless just thinking about adding to my wardrobe. The actual doing is far worse so I do as little clothes shopping for myself as possible.

My avoidance of shopping at every turn leaves my actual clothes inventory pretty scant. When I have to retire something like a dress shirt, well that's not done casually. I do the whole "can I wear it under a sweater" routine in hopes of saving some flawed item. The problem with this solution is that inevitably I

Midwest Memo

by Alan Shultz



All dressed up

appear in public wearing apparel not fit for prime time alone, yet I've forgotten to put on the companion piece that conceals the flaw.

In addition to overuse due to lack of reserves, my wardrobe gets abuse from the washer in our laundry room and the dry-cleaner that I frequent.

Simply put, and without exaggeration, our washing machine ties all our clothes into knots. Jeans and pullovers, boxers and briefs, socks and sweaters, our washer takes every other item and ties it into a solo ball, or combines it with something else to produce a mingled, mangled mess.

Oh sure, I separate and unknit the washer's mischief, but once these tortured items are put in the dryer they've got extra age on them. Also, after the knotting process, the clothes are highly unlikely to spring forth from the dryer looking wrinkle-free.

What the washer doesn't knot, the dry-cleaner wears down.

The collars and cuffs to most of my shirts and pants are worn and frayed, the casualties of too much starch and too little tenderness. Those commercial steam irons take their toll. So things are still coming back from the cleaners crisp and clean, but each visit for some favorites seems like

it may be the last.

My fashion forward son tells me I try to extend the life of my clothes way past their intended toss date. But I like familiar and comfortable in most things, particularly in clothes.

I'm also slow in incorporating a new item into my wardrobe. I like to let the new pieces settle in and age a bit in my closet or dresser. The rest of my family finds this odd. They make predictions on when a Christmas gift will actually be worn in public.

I like to think of myself as cautious when it comes to new clothes. I suppose that's because when I actually drag something new back from the mall it's usually wrong for a number of reasons. Mostly, my shopping errors come from too little investment in time in the endeavor.

I currently have a pair of never worn Dockers pants hanging in my closet. They're brand new, yet two years old. The label says they are 45% polyester and 55% cotton. I bought them because they look like they will last forever. My wife agrees with that prediction, but she says their long life will be because they are made from the same material as our car tires. She suggests that I not be seen in public wearing tires recycled into clothing.

I suppose I agree with her. But I know that a walnut would literally bounce off this apparel with no mark. Then again, our washer would probably explode trying to tie a pair of these pants in two.

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.

The following were found to be in arrears in the payment of child support: Stacy Heath, \$7,277.26; Janice Bell, \$4,553.00; Anthony Houser, \$4,824.33; Anthony Houser, \$3,916.54; Linda Boone, \$3,230.09; Jennifer Watson, \$990.32; Jason Williams, \$1,030.00; Mary Haskins, \$6,985.54; Scott Delaney; and Trisha Wargo.

Citimortgage Inc. filed a complaint on note and to foreclose mortgage on real estate against Anthony Thomas, Lisa Thomas and USA Dept. of Housing and Urban Development.

Midland Credit Management filed a complaint against Gary L. Bosley.

Capital One Bank filed a complaint against Ava D. Willis.

Midland Credit Management filed a complaint against Wilma Simons.

Capital One Bank filed a complaint against Dottie J. Ingle.

Bank of New York filed a complaint on note and to foreclose mortgage on real estate against Todd M. Shell.

Midwest Ag Finance filed a complaint on promissory note to foreclose mortgage to replevin personal property against Brian D. Wise, Beth A. Wise, Case Credit Corp., Excel Co-op Inc., Treasurer of Carroll County, Wabash County Farm Bureau Credit Union, General Electric Capital Corp. and Indiana Dept. of Revenue.

Capital One Bank filed a complaint against Timothy Spratt.

Deutsche Bank National Co. filed a complaint on note and to foreclose mortgage on real estate against James R. Shockley, Crystal L. Shockley and First Consumer Credit.

Countrywide Home Loans filed a complaint on note and to foreclose mortgage against Alan L. Sorenson.

Midland Credit Management Inc. filed a complaint against Cindy A. Hartman.



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.

Rodolfo Mata, 22, of Delphi, pled guilty to operating a motor vehicle without ever receiving a license. He was sentenced to 60 days in jail, all suspended, and 180 days supervised probation.

A sentence of in-home detention against William C. Hart was extended to 180 days for violation of probation.

Joseph B. O'Brien pled guilty to failure to stop after an accident resulting in damage to an attended vehicle and driving while suspended. He was sentenced to 60 days in jail.

Patrick D. Kelley, 33, of Battle Ground, pled guilty to failure to stop after an accident resulting in non-vehicle damage. He was sentenced to 180 days in jail, all suspended, and one year supervised probation.

Eric S. Cripe, 23, of Columbia City, pled guilty to possession of marijuana. He was sentenced to one and a half years in prison, all suspended, and one and a half years supervised probation.

The following cases were dismissed: State of Indiana vs. Chad A. Gipson; Lafayette Accounts Service Inc. vs. Matthew J. Lowery; Helvey and Associates vs. Steve Keown and Melissa D. Keown; and Argent Healthcare Financial Service vs. Janell Lee.

In a default judgement, Douglas Brehmer was ordered to pay \$5,394.27 to Discover Bank.

In a default judgement, Jack Gerard was ordered to pay \$6,358.57 to Convergence Receivables LC.

For convictions related to alcohol, the following were meted a combination of jail time, with some suspensions, probation with fees, community service, house arrest, participation in a court-approved drug and alcohol program, and suspended and/or probationary driving privileges: Christina R. Nicolas, 29, of Mulberry, operating a vehicle while intoxicated - endangering a person; Andrew G. Dallas, 19, of Cutler, illegal consumption of an

alcoholic beverage; Clay D. Taub, 20, of West Lafayette, illegal consumption of an alcoholic beverage; and Kyle D. Brown, 20, of Monticello, illegal consumption of an alcoholic beverage.

Matthew J. Cline, 19, pled guilty to operating a vehicle with a Schedule I or II Controlled Substance or its metabolite in the body. He was sentenced to 60 days in jail, all suspended, and one year supervised probation.

Jessica L. Perry, 25, of Bringhurst, pled guilty to battery resulting in bodily injury and battery. She was sentenced to two years in jail, all but 150 days suspended, and one year and 230 days supervised probation.

The following cases were dismissed: State of Indiana vs. Patsy A. Bosley; State of Indiana vs. Robert D. Jewell; State of Indiana vs. William Clay Hart; State of Indiana vs. Patri-

cia A. Evans; Trisha Neff vs. Derrick Westbrook; and Trisha Neff vs. Mark Kirts.

Richard Dix and Barbara Dix were ordered to pay \$900.00 to Carol Culbert.

Default judgements were entered for the plaintiff in the following cases: Horizon Veterinary Service vs. Troy Moffitt and Allison Moffitt in the amount of \$359.65; Lafayette Accounts Service vs. David E. Storey, \$2,207.78; Argent Healthcare Financial Services vs. Cary McCarty, \$421.48; and Lafayette Accounts Service Inc. vs. Sabrina J. Beauchamp, \$3,143.69.

In an agreed judgment, Stephanie Lewis was ordered to pay \$546.55 to Argent Healthcare Financial Services.

Wesley W. Bell, 26, of Delphi, pled guilty to operating a vehicle while intoxicated - endangering a person. He was sentenced to three years in prison, two and a half years

suspended, and two and a half years supervised probation.

The following cases were dismissed: Angela Hill Brown vs. Travis and Kora Haynes; Kurtis J. Fouts vs. Michael Plunkett; Pekin Insurance vs. Troy Helderman and Regina Helderman; Jacob Murphy vs. Terry Wilson; Delphi Community School Corp. vs. Henry Ivey and Janice Ivey; Tippecanoe Mobile Home Estates vs. Terry A. Marshall Sr.; Lucas Family Dentistry vs. Matthew McClain; and Helms Lawn Service vs. Brad Thompson.

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, Sept. 26

✓ County Council Budget Adoption: 8 a.m.

✓ County Council Meeting: 8:30 a.m.

Thursday, Sept. 27

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

Monday, Oct. 1

✓ Drainage Board: 8:30 a.m.

✓ 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, Oct. 2

✓ Carroll School Board: 7:30 p.m.

Public Notices appearing in this issue of the Comet:

Not of Suit-Stiger5B

CC Tax Sale.....5B

Sheriff Sale-McTigue5B

Wise Estate.....5B

Cooney Estate.....5B

Sheriff Sale-Garcia.....4B

Summons-Burge.....4B

RCSC-Not of Adopt.....4B

County Claims.....4B

Highway Claims.....4B

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, carrollcounty-comet.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.

With no funding for county Animal Control, what option do you favor as an alternative?

No animal control
Privately owned kennel
City/township funded program
Other

Last Weeks results

Do you plan to attend the county council's budget meeting next Tuesday when department heads ask questions?

15% Yes, wouldn't miss this for the world.

43% No, why would I?

43% I'd like to, but I have to work at 8 a.m.

Total responses: 47

Reader's comments:

I think this poll is a good yardstick for the mindset of our officials. It is apparent that a large number of people interested CANNOT attend. It is also apparent that the council has not heeded the request for more accommodating seating arrangements during their meeting for the benefit of the public. I once overheard a council member say to another, "Well, we can do anything we want". I believe it is their intention to keep as much of the public unaware as possible.