

Flood relief efforts continue

Comet staff report

Residents of Carroll and surrounding counties affected by recent floods could be eligible for relief benefits from several sources.

Disaster unemployment assistance available

FEMA announced in a Public Service Announcement Thursday that residents of Carroll, Cass, Elkhart, Fulton, Jasper, Marshall, Pulaski, Tippecanoe and White counties may be eligible for disaster unemployment

assistance. Residents out of work as a result of recent flooding and storms are urged to contact the nearest Indiana Department of Workforce Development Work One Center before March 7.

Mitigation teams to offer cleanup advice

Mitigation specialists will offer building tips which make homes more resistant to storms and flooding to Carroll County residents Feb. 25 and 26 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. at Wallmann's Grocery Store on E. Franklin Street in Delphi. The special

team is sponsored by FEMA in cooperation with local businesses, building supply centers and relief agencies.

"Everyone is invited and we urge all to attend, including homeowners, building contractors and architects," FEMA mitigation specialist Michael Klitzke said. "Information provided includes cleanup and repair techniques for flooded homes, how to prevent mold growth, ways to flood-proof your home and how to buy flood insurance."

Red Cross offers mental health service

The American Red Cross is on standby to provide free Disaster Mental Health Services (DMHS) to anyone who needs it in the wake of flooding. Red Cross representatives said special effort has been made in areas that have now flooded twice.

Those in need of the service should call their local Red Cross chapter, located at 615 N. 18th St. in Lafayette, at (765) 742-

6975 for information.

"These residents are exhausted, frustrated and many want to give up," Barb Scott, Disaster Mental Health Manager said. "We want them to know that somebody cares, that they're not alone and that we're there to listen, even if they just want to vent."

The Red Cross provides mental health support to those affected by disasters, whether they have disaster-caused damage, reside in the disaster-affected area,

are relatives of those affected or have disaster-related emotional difficulties created by mass media exposure.

Mental health support also extends to Red Cross workers assigned to a disaster relief operation and their families. Such assistance includes education about stressors, their effects and methods of coping, advocacy, crisis intervention and referral services to meet mental health-related problems.

Brosman's IGA closing its doors for good

By Debbie Lowe
Staff writer

After only three years of operation by current owners, but many years of family involvement in the business, the owners of Brosman's IGA on the outskirts of Delphi, have decided to close the doors to the business.

Owner/spokesman Brad Burton was unable to be interviewed but released the following to the *Comet* Tuesday:

"Brosman's IGA regretfully announces that we are going out of business as of March 2, 2008. It has been our goal to provide the community with quality food products and to offer our customers friendly, professional service in a clean environment during their shopping experience.

"Because of circumstances

beyond our control we will no longer be able to meet those goals and have decided that the best course of action is to cease operations.

"We would like to let our loyal customers know that we appreciate your patronage and we are concerned that we have let you down in some way. Please accept our apologies."

"If you have any coupons that need to be redeemed please do so in the next two weeks.

"To our employees: Thank you for your loyal service over the past three years. Many of you have worked tirelessly without a pay raise and have gone beyond what was expected out of you. We wish you well and will do our best to help you find new employment.

"We would encourage everyone in the community to continue to shop locally. The reality is that locally owned and oper-

ated stores cannot compete against large chain and box stores and all will eventually disappear without the support of the community. It is our belief that all of your grocery needs can be met by the local stores in Carroll County. Please consider investing back into your community before it becomes just another wide spot in the road. Carroll County is a wonderful place to live, work, play and raise a family. Let's work together to keep it that way."

When contacted, long-time Carroll County resident and now Delphi Mayor Randy Strasser expressed sadness about the closing.

"It's been such a big part of the community for such a long time," he said. "I'm sad to hear the store is closing."

Computer scams hit county

Comet staff report

The Carroll County Sheriff's Office has recently investigated several reports of computer-generated scams. Victims receive correspondence via their computer that requests they cash checks for the suspect or e-mail sender. For their effort, the victim is offered a percentage of the check. The checks appear to be legitimate cashier-type.

Some banks give the victim a portion of the funds until the check clears. However, the checks do not clear and the victim is responsible to pay the bank the amount advanced to them.

The suspects advise victims they are not in the U.S. and want the money transferred to them. No legitimate business needs to have individuals cash

Amanda Overmyer in Idol Top 24

By Jennifer Archibald
Staff writer

Camden native Amanda Overmyer, age 23, is one of the final 24 contestants in the American Idol competition.

She and the other female contestants will perform tonight (Wednesday) on the Fox network. On Thursday night, two people will be voted off.

Kathy Dunbar of Delphi is a friend of the Overmyer family and thinks Amanda should go far in her singing career and hopefully in the American Idol competition.

"She has the whole package," Kathy said. "She has terrific talent, stage presence, and a deep voice that draws you in. She also has an outstanding, supportive family behind her. Sometimes it's all in the timing, and this is her year."

Kathy said the judges are calling Amanda the female version of former Idol contest-

ant, rocker Chris Daughtry. Randy Jackson has also called her the "Rock & Roll nurse."

Amanda lives in Mulberry and is an LPN at Lincare in Kokomo.

Kathy said Amanda has been the lead singer in three different bands. She said when she's not performing on stage or working, she likes to ride her Harley.

Amanda auditioned for American Idol in Atlanta. She

lists Bob Seger and Janis Joplin as musical influences. Comments posted on the American Idol website, www.americanidol.com, not only compliment Amanda as a singer, but call her "down to earth" and "well grounded."

"Her family is very proud of her," Kathy said.

Amanda is the daughter of CJ Overmyer of Camden and Kathy Overmyer of Lafayette. She has one brother, Nick.

Lakes to be lowered this spring

Comet staff report

According to the Shafer and Freeman Lakes Conservation Corporation, lakes Shafer and Freeman will be lowered and raised on the following dates this spring:

Lake Freeman

- April 11 - Draw down begins at 8 a.m. at a rate of one foot per eight hours;
- April 12-15 - Down three feet from normal pool;
- April 17-20 - Down to six feet from normal pool; and
- April 21 - Will begin to rise at about the same rate.

Lake Shafer

- April 25 - Draw down begins at 8 a.m. at a rate of one foot per eight hours;
- April 26-29 - Will be down three feet from normal pool;
- May 1-4 - Will be down to six feet from normal pool; and
- May 5 - Will begin to rise at about the same rate.

Because the people have the right to know....

Calling all readers!!

The *Comet* has established a page on its Web site dedicated to county government meetings and agendas. The page was built for all readers to obtain knowledge about what their government leaders will be discussing, and when, in public meetings. Readers can now have ready access to pertinent county government meeting information.

We invite you to visit www.carrollcountycomet.com and click on "County Government Meetings and Agendas" listed under the links on the left of the front page.

If you do not see an agenda listed, call the county government entity and request one be provided for posting on the Web site.

Send suggestions about the Web page to dlowe@carroll-countycomet.com.

Filing deadline is Friday

Comet staff report

The deadline to file a declaration of candidacy for the May Primary is Friday, Feb. 22, at 12 noon in the county clerk's office.

The following have recently filed their candidacy for May primary races:

Commissioner

William Brown (R), District 3; George Mears (R), District 2.

Clerk

Nancy S. Mattox (R).

Delphi School Board

Robert Resler, Madison Township; Paul B. Brown, Rock Creek Township.

Carroll School Board

Sam Zook, Monroe Town-

ship; Michael Eikenberry, Burlington Township; Michelle Simmons, Democrat Township; Shawn Wickersham, Democrat Township.

Twin Lakes School Board

Terry Howe, Adams Township; Mark D. Mills, Jefferson Township.

Rossville School Board

Mark A. Cripe, Clay Township (Clay); John H. Spear, Clay Township (Owen).

Republican precinct committee person

Robert Davis

Lawrence Lambert

Republican State Delegates

John Shellcrosslee

Lawrence Lambert

Clara Rider

Two things to reach for if you think you're having a heart attack.

Fast action during a heart attack can save lives — maybe your own. Dial 911 or call for emergency medical assistance and chew a regular-strength aspirin*.

Know the symptoms!
Uncomfortable pressure, pain, fullness or squeezing pain in the center of the chest lasting more than a few minutes; pain spreading to the shoulders, back, jaw, neck or arms; or light-headedness, fainting, sweating, nausea or shortness of breath.

Take a free heart risk assessment at www.clarianarnett.com.

Clarian Arnett Cardiology
765.448.8000 | 800.899.8448
www.clarianarnett.com

*don't take aspirin if you're allergic to aspirin, have bleeding problems or your doctor previously told you not to do so.

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\$5,000 NEW MONEY
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ADD FUNDS AND/OR INCREASE YOUR RATE*

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*Any bank can offer an ordinary CD.
We offer a CD with options and security.*

With our new *FlexSafe CD*, you'll have the flexibility to make changes to your CD. You can request an increase in the rate and/or add funds in any amount one time during the term of the CD. Best of all you can rest easy because your funds are FDIC insured.

Stop by one of our convenient locations to take advantage of this great offer. CDs with flexibility to meet your needs, it's just another way to show that at Lafayette Bank & Trust, we have *the Strength of BIG, and the Service of small.*

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* FlexSafe funds March 31, 2008. Required minimum opening deposit for this 25-month CD is \$5,000. Opening deposit must be from funds not already on deposit at Lafayette Bank & Trust. Option to add funds and/or increase rate may only be exercised one time during the term of the CD. Ask us for complete account details. Member FDIC.