

CARROLL COUNTY COMET

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

Published each Wednesday at 114 East Franklin St., Delphi IN 46923 Periodical Class Postage Paid at Delphi IN 46923 and additional mailing offices.

POSTMASTER: Send Address Changes to Carroll County Comet, PO Box 26, Flora IN 46929-0026 USPS 285-840

Published by CARROLL PAPERS, Inc. PO Box 26, Flora IN 46929-0026 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

MAIL SUBSCRIPTION RATES in Advance - Per Year
Carroll County, Service People and Counties which border Carroll - \$30.00.
All other Indiana counties - \$36.00; All other states - \$40.00.
Addresses changed for seasonal residences - Add \$3.00
Address changes - subs@carrollcountycomet.com

Memberships include:



Rebuilding Congress

By Lee Hamilton

With their promise of new energy on Capitol Hill, congressional elections are a time for hope. That's especially true now. Congress needs to fix itself so it can do the people's business. Here's how to go about rebuilding Congress.

First, Congress needs to reassert itself as a robust institution comparable in strength and initiative to the President - our system works best when there is creative tension between a strong Congress and a strong President. It needs to make oversight of the executive branch a regular part of how it does business, and return to what Capitol Hill veterans call "the regular order" - taking up one appropriations bill at a time and allowing all the major issues to be fully investigated, debated, and voted on.

Perhaps most important, with the nation politically divided in the face of fundamental threats to its well-being, Congress needs to work harder to forge consensus and national unity behind solutions to problems. The American people expect it at least to try, and when they go to the polls this November, that hope will go with them.

Lee Hamilton is Director of the Center on Congress at Indiana University. He was a member of the U.S. House of Representatives for 34 years.

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

Stacey A. Britton was charged with operating while intoxicated - endangering a person and operating with an ACE of .15 percent or more.

Joseph C. Trueblood was charged with check deception.

Russell G. Stout Jr. was charged with illegal consumption and no valid license.

Juanita A. Sharp was charged with battery resulting in bodily injury.

Heather Lyn Fullerton was charged with domestic battery.

Cranston Bunker was charged with check deception.

Jose Rosendo Reyes-Briseno was charged with driving while suspended.

Brent A. Martin was charged with domestic battery.

Karl A. Leydet was charged with operating while intoxicated - endangering and possession of paraphernalia.

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

William C. Emmitt was charged with criminal mischief.

Joshua R. Sales was charged

with operating while intoxicated - endangering (two counts), operating a vehicle as an habitual traffic violator, habitual substance offender and driving left of center.

Gregory D. Hall was charged with theft.

Jeffrey L. Hines was charged with theft.

Hector Baez Tinoco was charged with operating a motor vehicle without ever receiving a license and disregarding auto signal.

Andrew B. Irwin was charged with theft and criminal mischief.

Owana Northcutt was charged with check deception.

Nicholas L. Johnson was charged with driving while suspended.

Ryan M. Johnson was charged with theft and habitual offender. In a separate cause he was charged with theft, false informing and habitual offender.

James Paul Kennedy was charged with resisting law enforcement and public intoxication.

Stacy L. Dunham was charged with battery resulting in bodily injury and intimidation.

Tina M. Hicks was charged with driving while suspended.

Joseph L. Shultz was charged with criminal trespass.

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.

Do you think a consolidation of the Carroll and Delphi school districts is inevitable?

Yes
No
Don't know

Last Weeks results

If there was a possible legal remedy to overturn the latest judicial mandate because it would adversely affect the county, should the county council press the issue in a court of law?

47% Yes, the judges should not be able to do this to the county finances.

29% No, the council cannot afford to hire an attorney.

24% Maybe, if they are sure they could win the case.

Total responses: 93

Reader's comments:

The next time we vote to retain a judge in office, I sure hope that the residents of Carroll County remember the bullying tactics of the current judges!!!

It is my hope that these judges will be replaced at a future election. An elected official with egotistical power does this community ill will. Obviously, they believe they are better than any other departments and their employees. Hmmm, didn't one of those judges incur a DUI?

The rift between Presidential hopeful Barack Obama and his former pastor Rev. Jeremiah Wright Jr. has occupied more than its share of air time and newspaper columns. One writer at the *Chicago Sun Times* noted that Rev. Wright seems intent on stretching his 15 minutes of fame into a half hour. One can only assume that all this controversy will be good for future book sales for Rev. Wright.

What is it they say about publicity? "Just spell my name right."

Wright injected into the national conversation the phrase "faith tradition" in describing both his style of preaching and the form of church services at the huge Trinity United Church of Christ on Chicago's south side.

Singing, dancing, shouting and sermons full of both faith and anger, politics and social justice, that's what Wright describes of the church he has led for many years.

Faith tradition, it must be said, fills a wide spectrum limited only by experience and imagination.

On Sunday mornings my parents went their separate ways to church and so I got to observe and participate in two distinct faith traditions while growing up. One faith tradition had us in and out of the sanctuary in an hour - guaranteed. No food was involved in that tradition, ever.

The other tradition was much more casual and food and fellowship played a big role in the gathering together after worship. Politics did not play a force in the

Midwest Memo

by Alan Shultz



Faith tradition

preaching that I recall. And shouting, there simply wasn't any of that. No way seemed right, neither seemed wrong, they were just different

Although I can appreciate good preaching and passion from the pulpit, my faith tradition, my religious background and my personal experience all combine to make me uncomfortable when the personality of the pastor defines the church. The teachings of a religion seem so much more tangible to me than the tenor of the person occupying the pulpit. And yet...

In Dallas, Texas, there is a man whose personal walk of faith tested should be shared and told and preached all across our land.

That man's name is James Woodard.

All the time that the media spotlight has been aimed at the Obama-Wright rift, that story line unfolded only because of the spotlight.

James Woodard's story unfolded, despite a media spotlight.

Woodard was released from prison last week after spending 27 years behind bars for a murder he did not commit. Woodard's freedom was secured by the efforts of a group known as the Innocence Project, a New York-based legal center.

Woodard's faith that right would triumph was never crushed. And that sermon, Woodard's faith tradition, that's one I yearn to hear.

Woodward says he is not bitter, that his days were not wasted, that he has hope for the future. His humility comes across louder than any shout that could be given voice.

A segment on National Public Radio about Woodard told how he refused to admit his guilt in the face of a commitment from the parole board that his admission would earn him a release.

How's that for faith?

According to an Associated Press story by reporter Schuyler Dixon, Woodard is the 18th person in Dallas County to be exonerated by DNA evidence. For the State of Texas the figure stands at 31 overall. Newly elected Dallas County prosecutor Craig Watkins has taken a move unprecedented across the nation. He has invited the Texas branch of the Innocence Project to review cases dating as far back as 1970 to determine if DNA evidence supports the finding of guilt.

James Woodard's testimony is one that should be heard by all Americans. More important, it is, than that which the media feeds us.

Sermons spoken.

Sermons lived.

The injustice done James Woodard is indeed something to shout about. His faith, though, that is something to truly rejoice over.

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.

Help is needed

The Walton IOOF Cemetery is located just north of Walton on CR 650S, just west of Little Mountain Golf Course. The cemetery is the primary burial location for many people living in or near Walton. The current cemetery is nearly filled. Because of this situation the cemetery took action to purchase and seed additional land. The new area has not been surveyed for burial plots and has not been improved with roads. The cost for the roads alone will be nearly \$4,000.

May 24 from 9 a.m. to 12 noon has been set aside to clean up the cemetery, view the lots or just come and give a donation. Trivent Association has agreed to help with money towards this project, but more is still needed.

Costs have gone up, while income has gone down leaving the cemetery in need of additional funds to complete this project. Donations may be sent to: Walton IOOF Cemetery, P.O. Box 234, Walton, IN 46994. For additional information, contact one of the cemetery board members: John Gaylor, Charles Remley, Jayne Small, Mark Guy, Mark Roeski, Roger Boe or Ben DeHaven.

Gordon Southern
Walton

Marriage Licenses

Caleb D. Butcher, 22, and Emily D. Wireman, 22, both of Bringhurst.

Simon Levi Ponder, 29, of Indianapolis, and Karen Lorraine Harness, 33, of Frankfort.

visit us
on the web
carrollcountycomet.com



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.

Jack L. Benefiel, 52, pled guilty to theft. He was sentenced to three years in prison, all but 162 days suspended.

Edward E. Douglas Jr. pled guilty to armed robbery. He was sentenced to 14 years in prison, four years supervised probation, four years supervised probation, and restitution.

A decree of dissolution was

Guest commentary

NIPSCO's report to the FERC

Floods are the most destructive, most frequent and most costly natural disasters on earth. Too often in the case of non-flood-control or run-of-river dams like ours, the downstream residents are put at risk by companies more intent on wringing the most electricity possible or bowing to the whims of more influential residents residing on a lake, rather than keeping water levels low enough to slowly absorb incoming runoff.

Norway and Oakdale dams are loaded weapons aimed down river. Downstream residents understand that floods will happen and we have learned to live with them as best we can, even those of us who were not in the "old" flood plain.

The NIPSCO flood abatement study, released last month, rejects the idea of lowering Lakes Shafer and Freeman in advance of a predicted flooding. "The lakes simply cannot hold enough water and they are not large enough to prevent or significantly lessen floods downstream of the dams, said NIPSCO. That attempting to delay the downstream flooding by holding back the water, "may result in grave consequences" once the water is finally released.

NIPSCO's standard response in this speculative report doesn't hold water when compared to the available information.

Measures can be taken to reduce the speed, size and duration of floodwaters, such as improving drainage, controlling erosion, and restoring meanders and wetlands. Where new housing developments with manicured lawns have replaced the undergrowth causing

unprecedented water runoff, flood absorption areas for that displaced water should be created. Where proper flood control management and planning is in place, hopefully flood mitigation will be successful, but where planning is inadequate or worse, non-existent, the effects undoubtedly will be disastrous.

NIPSCO still believes its preparation was adequate, but because the threat was underestimated and its lack of proper communication with local agencies and residents, that was not the case. Better preparation is almost always possible, but sometimes commitments to invest in risk-reducing measures for low-probability; high-consequence events like this compete with more immediate demands with faster and more visible payoffs.

With proper flood/water management in place even delaying peak flows one hour could mean the difference between a few dozen homes being flooded and hundreds more. Indeed, using the dams new record incoming/outgoing flow rates (run-of-river), if the lake levels were lowered 5 feet in advance (and the flood gates were closed) it would take 3 hours and 24 minutes to fill Lake Shafer's 1,291 acres and 3 hours and 1 minute to fill Freeman's 1,547 acres.

However, who in their right mind would close the gates at a time like that?

One solution or option then is to start with the lakes lowered 60 inches or some arbitrary number that takes silt and sediment into consideration and then allows the water to continually pass through

at a reduced flow rate. For example, starting with Lake Freeman lowered 60" and opening the flood gates to 20,000 cfs in a continuous flow (instead of the record 31,000 cfs) would take 8 and a half hours to fill it 60 inches to Freeman's normal level. The same criteria applied to Lake Shafer and letting out 18,000 cfs instead of 24,087 cfs, would take 12 hours and 50 minutes to fill 60".

If this process had been in place and used, using the new reduced incoming flow rate from Shafer - (releasing 18,000 cfs) into Freeman - (releasing 20,000 cfs) it would now take Freeman a full 19 hours to fill 60". Filling the lakes over a longer duration could buy that crucial extra time that could make all the difference to those people in front of that loaded gun downstream.

Would 19 hours be enough time for the news coverage and emergency response teams to inform homeowners that flooding was imminent? Would 19 hours be enough time to gather your belongings, move your vehicles, and find alternate lodging? Would 19 hours be enough time for the weather to abate, negating the need to open the floodgates to maximum capacity?

Perhaps the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission will require NIPSCO to re-evaluate its position that everything's fine, otherwise it's time to move along. Nothing to see here, no changes necessary. Good luck next time.

Edward Priest
Battle Ground
(Carroll County)

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, May 8

√ DLGF Budget Hearings: 9 a.m., commissioners' meeting room, second floor of the courthouse

Monday, May 12

√ DCSC Board of Trustees regular meeting: 7 p.m., corporation office

Tuesday, May 13

√ Burlington Town Council: 7 p.m.

Public Notices appearing in this issue of the Comet:

Isom Name Change	7B
Brafford Name Change.....	7B
Funkhouser Estate	7B
Sheriff Sale-Hyman	7B
Sheriff Sale-Daily	7B
Thomson Estate	7B
DCSC-Permission	7B
Duke Energy	7B
IDEM-Shaffer	7B
IDEM-Huffer	7B
Hayes- Name Change	7B
TLSC-1028 Hearing.....	7B
Fife Estate.....	7B
Security Federal-Notice.....	7B
Oglageo Estate.....	7B

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.