

# CARROLL COUNTY COMET

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Memberships include:

## Who really wants to close Carroll Manor?

Actions speak louder than words and in the case of what will happen to Carroll Manor and its residents, the actions of the principal players need to be carefully examined.

The community has heard for months that all the "bad press" and the actions of the county council have impeded population growth. The community has heard what a beautiful facility the Manor is and how wonderfully the residents are cared for inside the brick walls. And those walls contain the new elevator awaiting the chance to carry new residents to their rooms on the second floor. Everyone has heard how staff has taken a self-imposed pay cut to be able to pay the bills to keep the doors open.

However, examination of the money end of things gives the community a very different picture.

Some in the community have heard that the county council, as a body, wants to close the facility. Yet the facility continued to receive funding in 2008. And it continues to receive funding today. That is not the action of a body that wants to close a facility. Instead, it is the action of people who indicated closing the facility is not the desired effect with budget reductions. If it was, the funding would be stopped. It was halted for the museum and animal control. Council members know how to cut off funding.

Instead, the council appropriated funding for the Manor and its residents while making the sheriff and the ambulance service thin out their herds.

The community has heard that superintendent Martha Lewis has worked endlessly to bring in new residents. She was told by the council two weeks ago the number of residents currently housed at the Manor dictated the cost per day would have to be \$63 per resident. However, she did not appear at the Aug. 18 meeting to request a rate hike. Her actions did not support her words about wanting to keep the facility open for the residents.

According to "Here's Your Indiana Government," county homes were established to house those who could not afford to live anywhere else. Those are called "indigent" residents and the State of Indiana provides guidelines to determine who is to be considered "indigent."

Lewis said during budget hearings that she has only one person, among 14 residents, who qualified as "indigent." That means that taxpayers are supporting those who, in most other counties in Indiana, would be supporting themselves.

Commissioners approve all new admissions to the Manor. It is their job, according to "Here's Your Indiana Government," to oversee the operations at the county home and the superintendent. When they approve an admission, they do not ensure the person is "indigent." And they do not initiate rate hikes that would enable the continued operation of the Manor.

It is up to taxpayers to demand the actions of those in charge match their words or make a change. Voice your concern to those in charge of how the Manor is managed. You are paying for it.

## Web poll

Tell us starting Wednesday at our web site, [carrollcountycomet.com](http://carrollcountycomet.com)

Each week the *Comet* polls its readers on a different topic. Vote online at [carrollcountycomet.com](http://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.

**Are you watching the National Democratic Convention this week on television?**

Yes! Wouldn't miss that!  
No, not interested.  
I catch it when I can, but it isn't my first choice of viewing pleasure.

### Last Weeks results

**Do you expect your elected officials to obey all laws, no matter how minor?**

88% Yes  
08%No  
11%It depends  
Total responses: 154

The warm red of tomatoes and the sharp green of zucchini are coloring our kitchen table these days as the yield of the garden makes its way to the blue dinner plates we've used for over 30 years. The toil of the gardener who started laboring back in early spring is once again bursting forth as a bountiful harvest and also announcing the conclusion of summer.

The zucchini bread and stuffed green peppers on August's menus not only delight, they also politely remind me of the arrival of Labor Day.

I think I always identified Labor Day with the end of summer, the beginning of school and the shortening of days. I do not recall ever drawing a smiley face on the square of the calendar that read "Labor Day."

As I have shared before in this column, my attitude towards this unique September holiday mellowed thanks to an observation made by my neighbor Ruth Crawn. One Sunday morning, around this time of year, Ruth stood up at Hickory Grove Church and noted that those who can work should be grateful of that fact. A simple observation, it was, a huge truth it is.

In the real estate office where I work there is a division of folks inside the company with an undue amount of angst, pressure and blaming. Perhaps it is management, maybe it's the job, some of it might be due to personality quirks, but there is visible pain in the daily crises, yelling and finger pointing.



## Labor's satisfaction

Gratitude seems far off of the day planner agenda. And yet, gratitude for the ability to work seems like a tremendous starting point for any workday, for any toil-related endeavor.

So I welcome the bounty of the harvest as it begins to make its way to farmer's markets, grocery shelves, grain bins and kitchen counters. And with that bounty I welcome the reminder to be grateful for the opportunity to do an honest day's labor.

Last Sunday my wife and I headed for Lake Michigan and a nice walk along the water's edge. The waves were high and mighty and the sun was warm overhead. But the water lapping at our toes seemed mighty cold.

To complete the picture, the gulls overhead squawked and complained, as if to protest our intrusion on their right-of-way.

Finally, we both made our way past the waves breaking on the shore and into the cold waters - which turned out to be delightfully warm.

Oh, were we pounded by those waves! Like little kids with more energy than sense, we bounced and bobbed and fought the current in order to

keep in sight of our towels propped together on the sand. Over our heads and into our ears the waves rolled and crashed and tossed. If time could ever go backwards, it did this particular Sunday afternoon. The idea that this activity could be the province of generations younger seemed absurd and we retreated from the water younger than when we entered it.

Speaking of swimming, I must report that this is a dubious time to be in the market for a swimsuit - for which I am. I have stretched my elastic waist band to the point just short of failure.

The need is dire. Now I've never worn a Speedo, never will. I'll leave that number to the Olympic swimmers and those edgy Europeans.

But I'm also not in the habit of swimming in the equivalent of my blue jeans. And that's almost what the fashion industry has guys doing these days. I mean the average swimsuit for fellows weighs in at several pounds dry, before adding water. There are yards of material to these suits that are also called board shorts and which might keep one toasty during cold weather.

It seems, however, that I have little alternative to picking from the season's swimsuit, long john looking leftovers. I know if I sport the Speedo or if the elastic finally gives - well, someone on shore is certain to call the sheriff.

## 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.

## Lessons learned, thank you Mr. Buck

I read with sadness that one of my favorite high school teachers died this past weekend. Morris Buck was the kind of guy that you either really liked or hated. I liked him because underneath his scathing wit was a desire that each of his students succeed in the class, and in life. During speech class anyone who dared to utter the forbidden "uh" or "um" were interrupted with his classic, "Uh? Um? That is NOT a word, start again." He was a tough teacher, but in my opinion we need more like him. Whether in his role as director for drama students or teaching English and speech, he made an impact that I will never forget and I doubt many who he taught in his 33 years as a teacher will forget him either.

Michael Griffey II  
Lafayette

## Vote out all county incumbents

It has become quite clear that all of our county officials have turned into tyrants. Our highway superintendent had his feelings hurt so he wants a citizen's property condemned for a pet arch project. I'd like to know on what grounds you want this property condemned?

Our county is so far in the hole that we have to raise taxes because of the incompetence of past and present county officials. It is obvious that our elected leaders can't manage a lemonade stand so why are we wasting tax dollars on this bridge? What possible public interest of this arch trumps the right of a citizen to property?

I question whether the county attorney is going to pursue this legal action pro bono, or are we Carroll County taxpayers going to foot the bill?

Please join me in voting out all of our incumbent county officials. We can't continue on the same path that we are on.

Darren Pullen  
Bringham



AS LAY-OFFS CONTINUE, LABOR DAY'S RELEVANCE REVIVES...

## 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.

Timothy M. Mounts, 41, Monticello, was found not guilty of battery resulting in bodily injury.

Donnis Lowry, 19, Brookston, was found guilty of public intoxication and illegal consumption of an alcoholic beverage. He was sentenced to 120 and 60 days in jail, both suspended, and one year supervised probation for public intoxication.

Sarah E. Hopkins, 20, Delphi, was found guilty of illegal consumption of an alcoholic beverage and was sentenced to 60 days in jail, suspended, and one year unsupervised probation.

Casey L. Catterlin, 23, Monticello, was found guilty of OWI/endangering and was sentenced to 180 days in jail, suspended, and one year supervised probation.

Arturo D. Pedro, 24, Frankfort, was found guilty of operating a motor vehicle without ever receiving a license and was sentenced to 60 days in jail, suspended, one year unsupervised probation, and assessed a \$50 fine.

Harvey Mossholder III, 19, Camden, was found guilty of illegal consumption of an alcoholic beverage and possession of paraphernalia and was sentenced to 60 days and 180 days in jail, both suspended, and one year for each offense on supervised probation to be served concurrently.

Jeremy D. Wireman, 30, Wheatfield, was found guilty of check deception and was sentenced to 180 days in jail, suspended, and 180 days unsupervised probation.

Cheryl L. Swafford, 31, Logansport, was found guilty of driving while suspended and sentenced to one year in jail, suspended, and one year unsu-

pervised probation.

Natalie L. Corey, 31, Kokomo, was found guilty of OWI/endangering and sentenced to 180 days in jail, suspended, and one year supervised probation.

Jacob R. McCall, 19, Burnettsville, was found guilty of possession of marijuana, possession of paraphernalia and public intoxication and was sentenced to 180 days, 180 days and 60 days in jail, all suspended. He was further ordered to serve one year supervised probation for the first charge.

Julie Rodriguex, 22, Lafayette, was found guilty of no valid operator's license and was assessed a fine of \$20.

Kyle T. O'Brien, 27, Sheridan, was found guilty of possession of marijuana and possession of paraphernalia and was sentenced to 180 days in jail, suspended for both offenses, and one year supervised probation for the first offense.

Anthony J. Keeton, 21, Lafayette, was found guilty of driving while suspended and speeding. He was sentenced to one year in jail, suspended, and one year supervised probation.

Marco A. Lopez, 18, Frankfort, was found guilty of operating a vehicle without ever receiving a license and was sentenced to 60 days in jail, suspended, and one year supervised probation.

Jenny Pearson, 34, Camden, was found guilty of two counts of theft and was sentenced to two years in jail with one-and-a-half years suspended and one-and-a-half years on supervised probation for each count.

Jeremy W. Rigney, 26, St. Anne, Ill., was found guilty of operating a vehicle as a habitual traffic violator and was sentenced to two years in jail, one-and-a-half years suspended, and one-and-a-half years supervised probation.

## 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.

In Discover Bank vs. Darrell L. Maxwell, the defendant was ordered to pay \$6,101.37 plus \$1,200 attorneys fees.

In State of Indiana vs. Jeffrey Dillon, the defendant was ordered to pay \$18,362.50.

The following cases were dismissed: Unifund CCR Partners, assignee of Palisades Collection LLC vs. Jennifer S. Spann, dismissed with prejudice; Wilcox Lumber Co. vs. James Huffer, with prejudice; GE Money Bank vs. Karon Cook, Ralph Cook and Karon Cook; Palisades Collection LLC as assignee of HSBC vs. Janet L. Garbison nka Sparger with prejudice; Midland Credit Management Inc. as servicing agent for Midland Funding vs. Cindy A. Hartman without prejudice; Indiana Farm Bureau Insurance as subrogee of Charles Barnard vs. Jonathan Kilgore with prejudice; Bank of New York as successor trustee under Novastar Mortgage Funding Trust vs. Donald E. Spray Jr., Marjorie B. Spray and Harold M. Larimore, case dismissed against Larimore only; Wells Fargo Bank Minnesota NA vs. Michael L. Taber aka Michael Taber, Catressa K. Taber aka Catressa Taber, Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems Inc., David Knop, Brian Henson, Dave Neidige, State of Indiana Dept. of Revenue and United States of America without prejudice; Pinnacle Credit Services LLC as assignee of Direct Merchants Bank vs. Alan Davis with prejudice.

Also dismissed were: Wayne Bragg vs. Julia Ornelas; Centennial Wireless vs. Richard Wilken, National Check Bureau Inc. vs. Jackie Jones; Discover Bank vs. Donna M. Coup; Palisades Collection LLC vs. Andrea Anthony; Citifinancial Services Inc. vs. Danny L. Henderson; Colonial Credit Corp. vs. William L. Fraker; Alaska Eastern Partners vs. Jeffrey L. Leslie; Norwest Mortgage Inc. nka Wells Fargo Home Mortgage; Citi Financial

fka Commercial Credit and Unknown occupants; Shawn Heath vs. Rhonda E. Griffin; Republic Capital Corp. vs. Bailee Trucking Company Inc.

## 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, Aug. 28

✓ Delphi Airport Board Meeting: 7 p.m., Airport administration building

### Tuesday, Sept. 2

✓ Carroll County Drainage Board: 8:30 a.m.  
✓ Carroll County Commissioners: 9 a.m.  
✓ Carroll School Board: 7:30 p.m.

### Public Notices appearing in this issue of the Comet:

- Sheriff Sale-Huse . . . . .6B
- Sheriff Sale-Lively . . . . .6B
- Sheriff Sale-Wells . . . . .6B
- Sheriff Sale-Wasielewski 5B
- Rossville FVD-Bids . . . . .6B
- RCSC-Bus Replace. . . . .5B
- RCSC-Tax Levies . . . . .5B
- Not. of Suit-Akers . . . . .5B
- TLSC-Bus Replace . . . . .5B
- TLSC-Tax Levies . . . . .5B
- Pullen Estate . . . . .6B
- Camden-Inv. to Bid . . . . .6B
- Alcohol Comm-Auction .3B
- Price Estate . . . . .5B
- Camden-Instructions . .3B
- Sheriff Sale-Cunningham 5B
- Sheriff Sale-West . . . . .3B
- Sheriff Sale-Poe/Wine . . . . .5B
- Sheriff Sale-Wiles . . . . .5B
- DCSC-Tax Levies . . . . .9B
- DCSC-Bus Replace . . . . .5B
- HWY. Dept.-Bidders . . . . .5B
- Town of Yeoman-Budget 3B
- County Claims . . . . .3B
- Highway Claims . . . . .3B

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.