

Kindergartner rewarded for her good deed

By Jennifer Archibald
Staff writer

For those who read about the kindergarten students who sold popcorn to raise funds for the rebuilding of the torched playground boat in Delphi, this is the rest of the story:

One of the girls who sold the popcorn at Camden Early Childhood Center went a step further and brought in her savings for the cause. Cynthia Rossi had been saving all summer for an American Girl doll. Many who read the story hoped that somehow, Cynthia would still be able to get her doll.

Stephen Siwinski of Flora did more than hope. He made it happen. He called her teacher, Sherri Cripe, and asked her to check with the girl's parents and see if it was all right if he bought the doll for Cynthia. He found out what kind of doll Cynthia had



Siwinski

wanted, and got that very one. She had wanted the "Just Like Me" doll, with the same hair and eye color and same complexion.

Last Thursday, Cynthia was surprised when her parents, Siwinski, the school principal, superintendent, and a Canal Association member all came to her classroom. Then she was given the doll. She was a bit overwhelmed, but all smiles.

Siwinski said it was amazing that a five-year-old girl would

give her savings.

"When you do something good, it comes around full circle," he said. "I wanted her reward to be the doll. I hope this is a continuing lesson in her life."

Cynthia's parents, Al and Denise Rossi, said they are proud of their daughter and of all the kindergartners at her school. They are also appreciative of a stranger's generosity.

"Cynthia will remember this the rest of her life," her mother said.

The kindergartner's good fortune will continue when her parents plan to take her to the American Girl Store in Chicago in December.

"She and her doll will be going to a tea," her mother said. And now that she has her doll, there could be shopping for doll clothes and accessories.

Cynthia had earned her money by doing chores and helping out at her grandpa's house. When she told her parents she wanted to take her savings to school for the boat, her parents asked if she was sure that's what she really wanted to do.

She told them that the doll would just be for her but "the whole world" enjoys the playground boat.

Cynthia said her favorite thing about the boat was the yellow slide.

And her favorite thing about the doll?

"It looks just like me," she said.



'Just like me' Cynthia Rossi hugs her doll who looks just like her. Comet photo by Jennifer Archibald

House bill not a bail-out... according to Donnelly

By Debbie Lowe
Staff writer

Congressman Joe Donnelly, in a tele-conference call Tuesday morning with news media across the state, said the financial rescue package voted down by members of the U.S. House of Representatives Monday was not a "bail-out" for mortgage and insurance companies. He said the package will prevent the loss of jobs and retirement savings on Main St., U.S.A.

"I am angry at the greedy people who put this country in this position," he said. "But this is the best way to protect our jobs and our futures."

"This bill is not to help Wall Street," he added. "It is to ensure our economy will run smoothly."

Donnelly said he would vote for the same bill when the vote is taken again, which is expected later this week. He emphasized the taxpayer would not lose money with the plan. He stated it was important for



Donnelly

Congress to ensure American jobs were preserved as well as to protect 401k retirement and savings accounts.

"This is not a perfect piece of legislation. The goal is to provide stabilization," he said. "Something has to be done."

Donnelly said he expected a different outcome with the next vote.

"The people who voted 'no'

the first time will re-evaluate the situation and that will provide a new perspective," he said.

The Congressman briefly described the plan which included government oversight "put back into the game." He said banks would have to pay back "every penny to the taxpayers." The banking and lending model established would ensure "prudent, responsible banking" when followed, Donnelly added.

The Comet's non-scientific Web poll question last week was, "Do you agree with the federal government's bailout of mortgage and insurance companies with our tax dollars?" Seventy-one percent of respondents answered "No" while 19 percent said "Yes."

It was noted that 93 Congressional Democrats also voted against the bill Monday afternoon.

Donnelly said Carroll County residents must realize the bill is not a bail-out but a measure to save retirement and savings accounts while protecting jobs and the economy.

He said government oversight would protect the American taxpayers.

"But I am as angry as anyone about this," he concluded.

A staff member from Donnelly's office, or Donnelly himself, will be available for office hours today, Wednesday, from 4 to 5 p.m. at the Delphi Public Library.

INDOT lifts restrictions on SR 29

Comet staff report

The Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) has completed the small structure replacement project on State Road 29 over McCloskey Ditch just south of Carroll County Road 350N.

Construction started in the spring. S.R. 29 is open to

unrestricted traffic excluding any changes after final inspection.

INDOT said the improved roadway will enhance motorist safety and mobility.



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