

## Council sends 2009 budget to DLGF for approval

By Debbie Lowe  
Staff writer

Monday morning Carroll County Council arrived at figures and numbers that satisfied all 2009 county appropriations and the Indiana Department of Local Government Finance (DLGF) to be able to adopt next year's budget. This was the second meeting in less than a week to reach consensus about appropriation numbers. The first meeting was Nov. 20.

Decisions were not without controversy, discussion and disagreement. After an impromptu Saturday meeting between Carroll County Judges Jeffrey Smith and Donald Currie with council member Carl Abbott, at the judges' request, council members increased the

total appropriation amount. An error in developing budget numbers for the joint courts per a 2007 agreement reached to avoid a judicial mandate was made and then corrected.

The budget adoption process also involved development of the tax rates for the local option income tax, which figured significantly into the expected income on the final balance sheet.

Carroll County will send a \$5,566,878 budget to the DLGF for approval in 2009. Five council members voted to adopt it. Jerry Hendress was absent and Ron Slavens disagreed with the appropriation distribution and voted against it.

"I don't think it's proper to reduce the appropriation for EMS

(ambulance service) and not make cuts in more of the courthouse offices," he said.

Ann Brown agreed with Slavens. She said there would have to be more budget reductions in the future to meet all expenses and repay loans.

"We are going to have to cut more," she said. "You can't raise taxes enough."

Rob Baker also agreed with Slavens about the potential for additional budget reductions. However, he said a budget had to be adopted by the end of the year. He said the council was bound by the state to finish the process now.

Near the start of the meeting, county auditor Beth Myers said she was advised by DLGF Friday the council should request more money

from the state than just department spending appropriations. She said DLGF predicted the county would receive more than \$5.5 million in income in 2009 but the county would receive no more than what it requested. It was explained that if income exceeded the request, the income would remain at the state level.

Slavens said the DLGF did not give correct income predictions for the past four years. He said there was no reason to believe the current prediction. Council consensus was spending could not be based on DLGF predictions, but rather on historical data and first-hand knowledge of income levels.

However it was deemed desirable to capture every dollar available to the county. Council

members devised a system to explain the need of additional income to satisfy DLGF requirements knowing if the money did not materialize for the county, there was a contingency to cope with the situation.

The amount to be submitted to DLGF included \$5,228,988 for departmental appropriations, \$337,890 for a total loan repayment to the cumulative bridge fund, and \$180,000 for added funding for county employees' health insurance premiums. The funding, if received, will be in the sole control of the council to appropriate for those purposes only.

"We were pleased the state gave the extension for budget submission this year," council president See **Budget page 5A**

## Smiths are recognized as Distinguished Family of 2008

Comet staff report

Gil and Janet Smith and their children, Alexis 13 and Austin eight, were recognized Nov. 19 with the 2008 Distinguished Family of the Year Award for their outstanding accomplishments and service to the community.

The Distinguished Family Award, presented annually by Family Services, Inc., is based on how a family works to-

gether to develop the 40 Assets necessary for children to grow into healthy, caring, productive and responsible adults. The 40 Assets serve as a guide to creating a strong family.

According to program information, Family Services gave the award as part of National Family Week, celebrated the week of Thanksgiving. The theme for

See **Smiths page 5A**



Alexis, Janet, Gil and Austin Smith

## Comprehensive Land Use Plan is ready to roll

Comet staff report

The Carroll County Comprehensive Land Use Plan Steering Committee has announced the final version of the Comprehensive Land Use Plan has been posted, along with the maps and appendices at [www.carrollcounty-zoning.wordpress.com](http://www.carrollcounty-zoning.wordpress.com). The posting is the last chance for residents of Carroll County to review for clerical errors and comment before the final version is published.

The final version will re-

main on the zoning website during the zoning update process. The new zoning ordinances should be aligned with the comprehensive plan, so that resource will be available for reference.

## Bradshaws chosen Christmas Parade marshals

By Theresa Replogle  
Contributing writer

The Delphi Lions Club named Dick and Karen Bradshaw as 2009 Christmas Parade marshals. The Bradshaws are the first husband and wife team to be chosen for the honor. They are known in the city both as owners of a long established business, Delphi Body Works, and as people who are dedicated to serving their community.

Dick graduated from Delphi High School in 1961 and attended Indiana University. He graduated in 1966 with Bachelor's and Master's degrees in education. He went on to teach government, economics, social studies and industrial education in Chicago Heights, ILL. for 14 years.

The former Karen Janz also

graduated from Delphi High School in 1961. This is where she and Dick met sitting across a table from each other in study hall. They were married for 45 years last September.

The couple has two sons, Matthew and Mark; who have given them five grandchildren. Matthew works with his parents as manager of the parts and repair department at the Body Works. Mark is a police officer in Nashville, Tenn., and owns

a paint ball shop.

Karen attended Prairie State College where she was in-

ducted into Phi Theta Kappa and Alpha Beta Gamma, Junior College Honor Societies.

She returned to school later in life, earning a bachelor's degree in business and management in 1994.

In 1980, the Bradshaw family decided on a change of career and returned to their hometown where Dick joined his family business, the Body Works. "Dick and I are happy that

we made the decision to return to Carroll County to raise our kids," Karen said.

Dick is past president of Carroll County Community Foundation, a member of Delphi Economic Development Commission, Carroll County at the Crossroads, Delphi Lion's Club and a graduate of Leadership Carroll County. In 1988, he received the Samuel Milroy award for promoting the economic and social well being of the city of Delphi.

He has received the Lion's Club Melvin Jones Fellow Award for dedicated, humanitarian services, Indiana State Lions W.P. Wood Fellow Award. He received the Lions Club International and Delphi Lifetime Lions Membership Award for outstanding service See **Bradshaws page 5A**

## Flora Parade - Best Float



Daisy Girl Scout Troop 1156 won the trophy for Best Float in Flora's Christmas Parade on Saturday. The parade was sponsored by Flora Community Club. For other winners and more photos, see page 8A. Comet photo by Jennifer Archibald

## INDOT awards \$325,000 for canal boat dock

The Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) has awarded the City of Delphi \$325,000 in Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) Transportation Enhancement (TE) funds for the Delphi canal boat dock project.

These federal funds, which are administered by INDOT, may be used as reimbursement for up to 80 percent of the project's total eligible costs. Canal board president Dan McCain said the 20 percent local match will be paid by the Canal Association.

Delphi was one of the 10 municipalities competing for TE funding appropriated to the INDOT LaPorte District this year. After district offi-

cials reviewed the applications and made their recommendations, a selection committee in Indianapolis recently confirmed the award.

The dock, which will be near the Canal Center, is part of a larger project that includes an operational replica canal boat and a warehouse for storage of the boat. Both the boat and the warehouse are slated for completion in June 2009. The federal funds for the dock grant will not be available until 2012. McCain said a dock will be needed before then, so volunteers are building a transitional wooden plank dock with money awarded by the Carroll County Community

Foundation.

This dock will be built near water level, just offside of the main visitor towpath access to the waterfront.

McCain said the wooden dock will allow handicap access and give shoreside access for fishermen.

The replica boat is being built by Scarano Boat Company in Albany, N.Y.

Michiana Contracting, Inc., working through their earth and concrete subcontractor LaPorte Excavators, has begun work on the warehouse, with the first pour of 40 yards of concrete for the foundation. A huge concrete 'pumper' was brought in to transfer the mix from the delivery trucks to the far out

forms along the canal basin in the Canal Annex. The 1850s turning basin is a "widewater" area where boats would have docked and loaded or unloaded their cargo.

The U-shaped foundation will depict the "slip" that the replica boat will ride in on when being stored.

The warehouse will protect the boat from the weather and will be used for mooring daily after carrying passengers. In the winter, the boat will be raised up and above the ice in that bay.

McCain said the building will look much like a canal-side warehouse of the 1850s. Doorway panels will be See **Canal page 5A**



Mailing label goes here



Dick and Karen Bradshaw

## 1st Annual Holiday Craft Fair

Saturday November 29th 9am - 3pm

### Bake Sale

To Benefit Carroll Manor

Carroll Co. Auction Barn

1351 Ruffing Ave. (across from Peters Revington)

Booth Space Still Available

10' x 10' ... \$25.00

Contact: Marlita 564-2603 / 414-7271 or Larry 564-6201 / 564-0060  
Please leave message if no answer!