

CARROLL COUNTY COMET

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If we just keep quiet, it will go away...

After the recent news of a less-than-perfect audit report for the City of Delphi for 2007, it was surprising that not one council member asked a question about it during Monday night's Council meeting. You would think that those public servants, elected just one year ago, would have lots of questions about what the next step would be, and how the city clerk-treasurer would resolve issues.

You would think that they would offer help and advice and talk about what their role in the fix could be. You would think that because that behavior would represent good government - transparent government - healthy government. That would be what the public expects.

Apparently that open government concept was a wrong assumption because there was not a word said about any of it Monday night. If anything is happening, it is going on behind closed doors and out of the prevue of the public eye. How healthy can that be? This is serious business and should be treated that way.

It has been said by more than one county resident because the local media kept the financial issues of the county government in the public eye, those issues were forced to the surface and the resolution to problems is in the works. That was a difficult time for everyone, but it helped to produce a much healthier government for the county.

It seems that the *Comet* may have to do the same to help Delphi leaders communicate to the residents just how they are being responsible to the citizens who pay the bills for the city.

It was disappointing to see how city council members seem to have forgotten who they truly represent.

Keeping quiet won't make it go away. However, it does serve to suggest to everyone there is something to hide.

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.

Eddie A. Hanna was found guilty of burglary with sentencing set Oct. 22.

Probation was revoked for Thomas M. McKinley.

Judgment was found for the plaintiff in Unifund CCR Partners vs. Jean Randle in the amount of \$4,402.15.

Julie A. Gardiner, 36, was found guilty of dealing in methamphetamine and was sentenced to six years in the Department of Correction.

Cody A. Talbert's sentence was modified and he was released from incarceration.

Ashanti Amanda Cooper's name was changed to Ashanti Amanda Isley.

Brandon L. Dail, 35, was found guilty of three counts of burglary and was sentenced to the Department of Correction for eight years.

Will N. Bishop, 31, was found guilty of burglary and possession of a controlled substance. He was sentenced to eight years for the first offense and three years for the second.

The following causes were dismissed: The Bank of New York Mellon Trust Co. et al vs. Dorsha A. Cobbs and Ralph B. Cobbs; Capital One Bank vs. Alan DeVault; Arrow Financial Services vs. Ronald D. Scowden and Jon C. Scowden; Red Rock Lake Financial vs. Valerie L. Stout; Arrow Financial Services vs. Nina Emmett and James R. Emmett; Arrow Financial Services vs. Theresa L. Harshman vs. Whitney K. George; Standard Fire Insurance Co. et al vs. Alan Coghill et al; Brandi Welker vs. Brian

Welker; Richard S. Rakos vs. Sherri Cupp and Sherri Cupp vs. Richard Rakos; Sherri Cupp vs. Richard Rakos; court ruled lack of jurisdiction in petition for writ of habeas corpus filed by Susan Sturdivant;

Marriage dissolutions were granted for: Deborah L. Farrell vs. Gary K. Farrell; Amanda J. Miller vs. Blake M. Miller; James E. Lucas vs. Connie L. Lucas; Eugenio Ibarra vs. Sonya Marie Ibarra; Beth A. McCracken vs. Alan L. McCracken;

Default judgments were entered for the plaintiff in: Deutsche Bank National Trust Co. vs. Dennis Warren for \$105,429.79; Portfolio Recovery Associates LLC vs. Jane L. Penn, \$13,060.35; Capital One Bank vs. Adam Caldwell, \$2,663.60;

Default judgments and decrees of foreclosures were granted for the plaintiff in: REO Properties Co. vs. Ginger Short a/k/a Ginger S. Short and Gary Short Jr a/k/a Gary A. Short Jr. et al for \$159,158.24; Regions Bank vs. Leslie R. Leap, \$57,615.20.

The following complaints to foreclose mortgage were filed: Fifth Third Mortgage Co. vs. Dennis R. Bolinger, Joyce D. Bolinger and Citifinancial Service Inc.; J.P. Morgan Chase Bank N.A. vs. Harold E. Bishop, Patricia C. Bishop and Lafayette Bank and Trust Co.; PHH Mortgage Corp. vs. Brian L. Martin, Kellie M. Martin a/k/a Kellie Martin and First Financial Bank; Wells Fargo Bank vs. Frances E. Starkey.

A judgment was entered in Joseph T. Ryerson and Son, Inc. vs. Accurate Industries Inc., Gary L. King and Charles A. King.

Midland Credit Management Inc. filed a complaint against Donald F. Wilcox, Jr.

No fair, Mother Nature.

I was still feeling pleasantly full from pumpkin pie and finishing the last bit of leftover Thanksgiving dressing to even consider, let alone worry about snow, sleet, slush and stuff.

Why I had only just this morning finally pulled November from the little calendar stuck on the front of the fridge. And there it was, December and because I had yet to look outside and yet to consult the news, well, the snow came as a surprise. I felt tricked and - gee wiz this is too early.

At this time of the year I always enjoy it when someone in the crowd retells a story of a Thanksgiving long ago on the patio in 70-degree weather. These stories always give me hope that we can slip into December unnoticed and tip toe through the month without stirring up snowstorms. However, folks start playing "White Christmas" on the radio and the guy at the hardware store puts a load of salt out front - and well, surprise, surprise, the snow comes.

Bad weather makes us all do odd things.

Consider the galoshes I wear this time of year. Better yet, let's forget my collection of the oddest of all footwear ever conceived.

My old office manager Christopher was a dapper dresser for most of the year. His avocation is ballroom dancing and so he was a sharp dresser at his day job as well as on the dance floor. But



Decemburr

when the cold winds started to blow, Christopher would don an elaborate knitted hood piece which covered his head and neck leaving a small oval for his face. You've seen this head scarf in various forms, but Christopher's scarf was something right out of medieval history. It looked as though all he needed in winter was a fencing sword and a damsel in distress to transport him to another time.

Bad weather dictates lots of things.

The other day my wife and I were extolling the virtues of the attached garage. We had such a luxury once upon a time. The garage was six steps down off the dining room. Back then we could leave sleeping children and heavy groceries and even winter garb to sit awhile and thaw in the car as the big old radiator warmed the narrow little space built more for a Model T than for our family station wagons.

Those were the days. Today our cars sit frigid in a pole barn structure. Nothing is colder than a car in a pole barn and the site of a frozen vehicle makes me want to turn around and suffer the late fine at the library or make do with whatever is left back in the near empty refrig.

Years ago we visited my

sister when she lived in Germany. One of my favorite pictures from that trip is a shot of our reluctant three-year-old twin sons standing in front of a barn with a cow sticking her head out of a nearby door. This barn was attached to the farmhouse on the property. The set up caused a lot of conversation concerning the smells and sounds that one would have to put up with having a house and a barn built side by side with a connecting door.

Why would one do this to oneself? Weather could be the only answer. No walking out to the barn in the dark and the cold - no, not with an attached barn.

I can see the architect defending his design in the heat of the summer when the flies and the bellows and the smells wafted from the barn half into the house half.

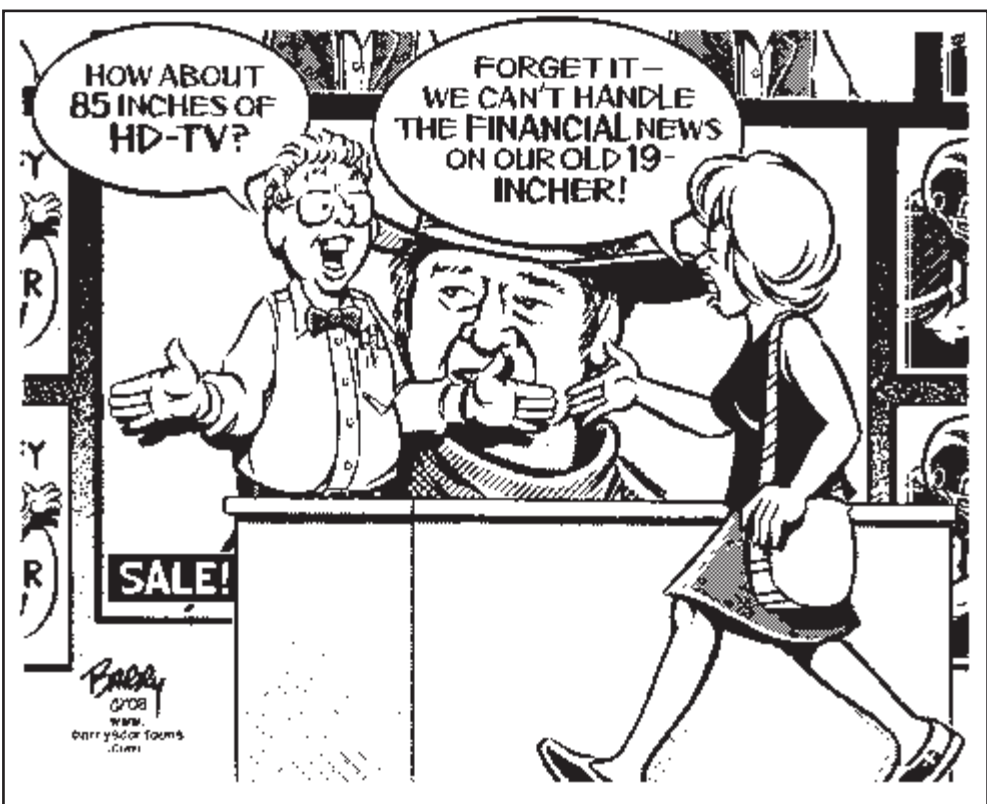
"The snow made me do it."

Then again, winter weather toughens us up and sometimes gets the creative juices flowing.

And me, I'm working on a patent for my soon-to-be-unveiled kermitton or mitkerchief - I'm not sure what to call it. This revolutionary winter wear combines the warming of the mitten with the practical of the handkerchief. It's all done via the miracle of velcro. No more dainty dabbling those frozen runny noses with ones mitten - not with a pair of kermittons handy.

Like I said, bad weather makes us do odd things.

Stay warm folks.



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.

The court ruled in favor of the plaintiff in: RAB Performance Recoveries LLC vs. Wilma Simons for \$14,621.76; Helms Lawn Specialists Inc. vs. Rondall L. White Jr., \$1,030 plus \$89; Earthscapes Inc. vs. Farris B. Fisher, \$21 plus \$89; and American General Financial Services Inc. vs. Daniel L. McCarty, \$450 in additional attorney fees.

The court ruled in favor of Bush Veterinary Services in the following: vs. David and Lora McWherter, \$99.06 plus \$99; Lanai Taylor, \$261.65 plus \$89; and Kimberly Jackson, \$161.86 plus \$73.

The court ruled for the defendant in David Knop vs. Mary E. McKinney.

The following causes brought by the State of Indiana were dismissed: vs. Carolyn M. Owens; vs. Cody A. Hufford; vs. James E. Gunther; vs. Jennifer Engels; vs. Nicolas L. Johnson.

Sentenced to one year supervised probation were: Alexis N. Flynn, Battle Ground, found guilty of possession of marijuana; Joseph A. Wolfe, Monticello, found guilty of public intoxication; and Antonio Landeros, Delphi, found guilty of OWI/endangering; Alexander T. Archibeque, Delphi, found guilty of public intoxication; Trevor A. Claton, Lafayette, found guilty of furnishing alcohol to a minor; and Stephanie Smith, Monticello, found guilty of OWI/endangering.

David S. Wallace, Logansport, was found guilty of OWI and being an habitual substance offender. He was sentenced to one year supervised probation on the first count and two years in-home detention on the second count.

Robert Lucas, Flora, entered a plea agreement on a charge

of check deception. He was sentenced to one year unsupervised probation;

Found guilty of illegal consumption of an alcoholic beverage and sentenced to one year supervised probation were Brandon L. Gaylor, Rossville; Troy A. Wagoner, Rossville; Benjamin A. Pagano, West Lafayette; Justina M. Wildrick, Lafayette; and Derrek A. Toussignant, Logansport.

Harley E. Cyr, Lafayette, was found guilty of illegal consumption of alcoholic beverages and was sentenced to two days in the Carroll County Jail and one year supervised probation.

Kory D. Rodgers, Lafayette, was found guilty of illegal consumption of an alcoholic beverage and was sentenced to one year supervised probation and two days in the Carroll County Jail.

Billy R. Davis, Cutler, was found guilty of criminal trespass and theft. He was sentenced to two years supervised probation.

Timothy S. Leffler, Sr.,

Lafayette, was found guilty of possession of cocaine and being an habitual substance offender. He was sentenced to two and a half years in the Indiana Department of Correction.

Kim E. Beamer, Camden, was found guilty of four counts of serving alcohol to a minor and was sentenced to six years supervised probation and 80 hours of community service.

The following causes were dismissed: Federal Home Mortgage Corp. vs. Robert O. Kenworthy, Joyce Ann Kenworthy, et al; Transworld Systems vs. Laura S. Wick; Stan and Darlene Spencer vs. Barry and Brook Sandifur; Peter F. Kunz M.D. vs. Sally Vescovi; Harry W. Jones D.D.S. vs. David and Sherrie Cain; and Matthew Macaluso for Cayla Macaluso vs. Allen Beckett Jr. and Lisa Ringer.

Judgment to foreclose was entered for the plaintiff in Washington Mutual Bank vs. Alan L. McCracken Jr. and Beth A. McCracken for \$193,299.40.

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 that grade reduction should be included in student disciplinary action?

Yes, only if specified in the student handbook
No, grade reduction should never be considered as a form of discipline

Last Week's results

What is your favorite part of Thanksgiving?

- 06% Turkey
- 08% Pumpkin pie
- 68% Being with family and friends
- 03% Football
- 15% Day off
- Total responses: 142

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.

Delphi School Board - Shame! Shame!

Do the Delphi Community School Board members not watch the news on TV? Our country is in a crisis! People are losing their jobs, home and dignity across this country.

We here in the Delphi area are no different. We have had factories close, people laid off, people losing their homes. Get a reality check! \$13 million dollars!!!! Is the money fairy coming soon?

Let's wait until times are better before taking this endeavor. If you feel the same way that I do, please voice your opinion while you can. Citizens speak now or forever be in debt!

Ron Scowden
Delphi

Marriage Licenses

Ryan L. Hoover Sr., 55, Bringham and Teresa A. Severns, 47, Lancaster, Ohio.

John C. McManus, 48, and Sara L. Flores, 52, both of Burnettsville.

Jonathan A. Griffey, 40, and Kristina M. Foreman, 35, both of Flora

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.

Monday, December 8

✓ Delphi School Board: 7 p.m.

Tuesday, December 9

✓ County Council: 9 a.m.
✓ Burlington Town Council: 7 p.m.

Public Notices appearing in this issue of the Comet:

- Serv. by Pub.-McLeland .6B
- Sheriff's Sale-Edwards .6B
- Sheriff's Sale-Baker .6B
- Sheriff's Sale-Macaluso .6B
- NOI-Killian .7B
- NOI-Walton .7B
- Sheriff's Sale-Delk .6B
- Sheriff's Sale-Ellars .6B
- Landes Estate .6B
- Sheriff's Sale-Short .6B
- DCSC-Proposal .6B
- Howard Co Plan Comm .7B
- Crider & Crider-IDEM .5B
- Crider & Crider-IDEM .5B
- Alcohol Permits .5B
- Bowers Estate .5B
- Landrum Estate .5B
- Monroe Twp-Add Appro .5B

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.

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