

CARROLL COUNTY COMET

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Editor: Susan Scholl, editor@carrollcountycomet.com
Ad Director: Joe Moss, comet@carrollcountycomet.com
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Guest commentary Politicians need to find a balance

By Lee H. Hamilton

For most of my career I've been a firm believer in the political arts, first as a member of Congress and now as an observer of politicians. Yet lately, I've begun to think that politicians are acting too much like politicians for the country's good.

Our representatives these days too often seem to be guided by polls or special interests. Sometimes it seems as though the one thing our system was designed to ensure - that our representatives would think hardest about what's good for the country - is the last thing on their minds.

We need politicians who understand their responsibility both to reflect the popular will and to lead the public - who recognize that in a representative democracy, the people elect them to use their judgment. Getting this balance right is difficult. But enlightened politicians trying to serve the public good will almost always produce better policy than ones who simply mirror the polls.

The challenge for American voters is to know the difference, and reward the former rather than the latter.

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.

In my opinion.... SR 75 Extension Project will help county to grow

With the Hoosier Heartland Highway (HHH) project funded and scheduled to be completed through Carroll County over the next few years, a narrow window is now open that would provide Camden, Flora and Carroll County a chance to benefit economically if a companion-project was to be aggressively pursued that would extend SR 75 northward about three miles to connect with the HHH. This would be an Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) managed project, but would not be part of the HHH and would require separate funding (80% federal and 20% county).

The Town of Camden has voiced its strong support for such a project and INDOT has responded quite favorably. INDOT feels extending SR 75 would be a worthwhile pursuit for Carroll County and they are evaluating alternatives to provide connectivity to the HHH/SR 25. However, to make such a highway project happen will require strong, unified support from our county commissioners and county Economic Development Corp.

The only reason the Town of Camden supports a SR 75 extension project is the real potential for industrial/commercial development in the area near the SR 75/HHH connection site. This area would be adjacent to the N&W Railroad, sufficient open land is available and this could be an ideal site for future development, creating many new, badly needed jobs in our county.

cated in Frankfort, Lebanon is a fast-growing distribution center, and a large-scale dairy operation is being built near SR 75 in Carroll County. All of these operations would benefit from direct access to the HHH. Heavy-truck traffic originating from these sources is already starting to pass through Carroll County utilizing geo-positioned routes and existing, unimproved county roads which is damaging these roads and creating very unsafe driving conditions for some county residents.

There are clearly sound economic and safety reasons to extend/improve SR 75 and connect it to the HHH. The possibilities for future industrial/business growth that would likely result from this highway project are endless. The HHH project will result in profound changes to Carroll County. As local leaders we need to better prepare our county and communities to take full advantage of the potential being created for major economic development opportunities. Without an extension to SR 75, Carroll County may well see the HHH passing through the county while realizing very limited economic benefit.

We need for everyone to urge our commissioners, county council and county EDC to actively support the SR 75 Extension Project and make this once-in-a-generation opportunity become a reality for our children and grandchildren in Carroll County.

Pete Wagoner
Council President
Town of Camden

Marriage Licenses

Derek Joseph Burge, 21, and Kristi Juanita Gill, 22, both of Delphi.

Dean W. Stark, 60, and Sharon R. Garbison, 60, both of Monticello.

John Anthony Toleno, 46, of East Stroudsburg, Penn., and Tamala Lynne Munson, 45, of Stroudsburg, Penn.

Russ Adam Blocher, 23, and Shelly Lyn Meador, 18, both of Cutler.

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From the looks of my shower stall, I should be one of the cleanest male specimens in the county. That's because a collection of all things soap-like has taken up residence along side the soggy au natural me.

My shower is one of those prefabricated fiberglass affairs. The makers of the shower provided a small ledge about shoulder high in the design of the space. I suspect that they figured a bottle of shampoo and a bar of soap should do the trick and that was all the space that was required.

They were sadly mistaken. First, I should be clear that I've not sought out, nor do I need, all these soap products in my shower. On a typical day I don't get all that dirty. Cleaning the gutters makes me a sorry sight - but that's twice year. And with 18 or so hairs on my head, I don't exactly need much in the way of shampoo.

So how is it that I am now being crowded out of my own shower by soap products?

Frankly, I can't verify where much of this stuff came from.

The ledge designed for one bar of soap and one bottle of shampoo is jammed full of a half dozen shampoos. Each shampoo bottle is a different height and a different color from the other. Each promises a unique benefit. One shampoo promises "maximum volume," another guarantees "tangle free." There are fra-



Mighty clean

grances of peach and mango, vanilla and something on the order of limeade. Most of the bottles are less than half full. Some date back to the early '80s.

In the summer we have lots of guests and my bathroom becomes the guest bath. I think my soap collection is the result of a couple forgetful guests who right now are scrubbing and lathering away with a little bitty sliver of Ivory.

Hanging from the shower spigot is something called a shower caddy. The shower caddy is really just a couple of open shelves intended to hold -well, soap products. My shower caddy is really more like a small museum devoted to all expensive soap products that will never be thrown away.

On the top shelf are any products purchased at the "natural Store." These products promise to be fragrance-free or perhaps kind to itchy skin. One pricey bottle is intended for shoulders only. As long as I even vaguely recall the price paid for these items, the bottles will remain on permanent display.

The second shelf is devoted to bar soap. This shelf also has

a museum quality to it since I haven't used bar soap for a decade or so. There's a little Irish Spring, some tan chunky soap with a musky odor and then there is the obligatory sliver of Ivory.

With the ledge and the shelves full, the floor of my shower has become spill over storage for soap products. That's where "economy size" body splash and body wash products can be found. I've got an array of cheap stuff down there - generic stuff labeled "spring clean" and "fall fresh." The cheap stuff makes no claims of "being gentle" or "improving" or "healing" any body surface. I suppose Madison Avenue doesn't think "removes dirt" does much to sell more product.

Finally, on the floor of the shower is a big squirt bottle of clear soap. This is actually shower surface cleaner. The label on this bottle has long ago fallen off. When this bottle appeared on the scene it was after our well water started to leave a yellow tint on the shower surface. I was instructed to use this cleaner to squirt down the walls of the shower after each use - no rinsing required.

Now that I think about it, some of last summer's guests left us with a certain glow, a clean radiance. We attributed it to our hospitality, but now I'm thinking it may have been my shower wall cleaner.

Keeping clean - it's just not as simple as it sounds.



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

Phillip M. Ratcliff was charged with residential entry, battery resulting in bodily injury and battery.

Daniel D. Pearson was charged with domestic battery.

Daniel D. Pearson was charged with theft.

Victor Gonzalez was charged with two counts of operating a vehicle while intoxicated - endangering a person.

William J. Emmitt was charged with strangulation and battery resulting in bodily injury.

Jose R. Sosa was charged with operating a vehicle while intoxicated - endangering a person, operating a vehicle with an ACE of .15 percent or more and operating a vehicle without ever receiving a license.

Gary D. Robinson was charged with operating while intoxicated - endangering and speeding.

Donald E. Hickman III was charged with operating while intoxicated - endangering a person, operating a vehicle with an ACE of .15 percent or more and failure to stop after an accident which resulted in non-vehicle damage.

William G. Weatherwax was charged with theft.

Raquel Dela Garza was charged with operating a vehicle without ever receiving a license and headlight requirement.

Antonio Delado-Zarata was charged with operating a motor vehicle without ever receiving a license.

Kenneth David Ash was ordered to pay \$850 to Elizabeth Warner.

Dustin T. Watson was ordered to pay \$2,673.75 to CACH LLC.

Agreed judgments were entered in the following cases: Dr. Robert D. Lucas vs. Jason Bixler and Kristy Bixler, in the amount of \$367.80; James K. Miller vs. John Federspill, \$104.84; and

Donald E. Fritts vs. Derrick Westbrook, \$5,472.

For convictions related to alcohol, the following were meted a combination of jail time, with some suspensions, probation with fees, community service, house arrest, participation in a court-approved drug and alcohol program, and suspended and/or probationary driving privileges: Dusty G. Hooper, 21, of Cutler, public intoxication; Rodney E. Madison, 19, of West Lafayette, operating while intoxicated - endangering a person; John F. Hill, 48, of Monticello, operating while intoxicated; Larry D. Peterson, 37, of Delphi, public intoxication; Jose M. Silvestre-Ambrosio, 29, operating a vehicle while intoxicated - endangering a person; Amber N. North, 19, of Monticello, operating a vehicle while intoxicated - endangering a person; Michael K. Thompson, 48, of Flora, operating a vehicle while intoxicated - endangering a person; Kenneth F. Simmerman, 65, of Delphi, operating a vehicle while intoxicated - endangering a person; Erin A. Lilly, 19, of Monticello, illegal consumption of an alcoholic beverage; and Kristy Grubb, 29, of Bringham, public intoxication.

Shannon E. Saylor, 20, of Monticello, pled guilty to maintaining a common nuisance. She was sentenced to one year in jail,

all suspended, and one year supervised probation.

Kenneth Ash, 38, of Monticello, pled guilty to driving while suspended and headlight requirement. He was sentenced to 180 days in jail, all suspended, and one year supervised probation.

Amber N. Lucas, 24, of Flora, pled guilty to check deception. She was sentenced to 60 days in jail, all suspended, and one year supervised probation.

Brandon R. Gross, 38, of Monticello, pled guilty to possession of marijuana. He was sentenced to one year in jail, all suspended, and one year supervised probation.

George L. Young III pled guilty to possession of paraphernalia. He was sentenced to 180 days in jail, all suspended, and one year supervised probation.

Sherry L. Miller was found not guilty by bench trial of a charge of operating while intoxicated - endangering a person. She was found guilty of no license in possession, for which she was fined.

Anna M. McGlothlin, 26, of Monticello, pled guilty to check deception. She was sentenced to 60 days in jail, all suspended, and 180 days unsupervised probation.

Darrell L. Maxwell, 55, of Flora, pled guilty to domestic battery. He was sentenced to one year in jail, all but 14 days suspended, and 350 days supervised

all suspended, and one year supervised probation.

Kenneth Ash, 38, of Monticello, pled guilty to driving while suspended and headlight requirement. He was sentenced to 180 days in jail, all suspended, and one year supervised probation.

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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.

Richard C. Everett was charged with burglary (eight counts) and theft (eight counts).

Red Rock Lake Finance LLC filed a complaint against Michael L. Galimore.

Regions Bank filed a complaint on note and to foreclose mortgage against Jerry L. Morris, Laura E. Morris and unknown occupant.

RBS Citizens filed a complaint on note and to foreclose mortgage against Jon W. Baker, Amanda L. Baker and Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems.

LaSalle Bank NA filed a complaint on note and to foreclose mortgage against Rebecca L. Price.

Lafayette Savings Bank filed a complaint to foreclose mortgage against Tina M. Hill.

First Financial filed a complaint on account against Robert W. Goris and Peggy L. Goris.

Arrow Financial filed a complaint against Scott Knight.

John R. Gambus was named executor of the estate of the late Donna B. Nance.

Kimberly J. Isley and William Robert Alberts were named executors of the estate of the late Sharon S. Alberts.

Nellie Sliger and Gary Wortman were named executors of the estate of the late Harry D. Rayburn.

The following cases were dismissed: Deutsche Bank National Trust Company vs. Chad A. Johnston and Jessica M. Johnston; Deutsche Bank National Trust Company vs. Linda S. Huddleston and Daniel J. Huddleston; Phoenix Credit Solutions LLC vs. Shelly Bennington; Capital One Bank vs. Charles R. Cottrell; State of Indiana vs. Villado Chavez; Charles P. Carter Jr. and Vickilyn E. Carter vs. James K. Brettnacher; and State of Indiana vs. Shawn J. McKinley.

Shannon Heath pled guilty to forgery. He was sentenced to six years in prison, four and a half years suspended, and four and a half years of probation.

A complaint filed by Crop Production Services Inc. against Brent O'Farrell was transferred to White County Circuit Court.

A request by Joyce A. Sullivan Murphy to change her name to Joyce A. Sullivan was granted.

Nancy Dietrich was ordered to pay \$15,203.25 to Discover Bank.

A petition for the creation of the Jefferson Township Conservancy District June 11 was denied. The matter was dismissed by the court and referred to the Natural Resources Commission.

Perry W. Gipson was ordered to pay \$3,152.20 to RJM Acquisitions LLC.

In a summary judgement, Sergio A. Hernandez was ordered to pay \$1,827.60 to Capital One Bank.

Ronald D. Scowden was ordered to pay \$3,516.51 to Arrow Financial Services LLC.

Brandon C. Kelly pled guilty to battery resulting in serious bodily injury. He was sentenced to four years in prison, three years suspended, and three years of probation.

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, Jan. 10
√ Twin Lakes Regional Sewer District: 7 p.m.-White County Gov. Building
√ Camden Town Council: 7 p.m.
Monday, Jan. 14
√ Commissioners Executive Meeting: 9 a.m.
√ Special Commissioners: 10 a.m.
√ Delphi School Board: 7 p.m.
Tuesday, Jan. 15
√ Carroll School Board: 7:30 p.m.

Public Notices appearing in this issue of the Comet:
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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.

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.

What do you do to escape the winter doldrums?
Read books
Work on hobbies or projects
Go out to eat
Outdoor sports
TV and movies

Last Weeks results
How did you spend New Year's Eve?

35% Stayed at home & watched the ball drop on TV
7% Went out to eat
17% Went to a party
41% Slept through it
Total responses: 135