

# CARROLL COUNTY COMET

Consolidation of the Delphi Journal-Citizen (Est. 1839) and the Flora Hoosier Democrat (Est. 1897).

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Memberships include:



## Ad Hoc? What Ad Hoc?

Just before last week's school board elections were held, letters were sent to voters in Delphi Community School Corporation's Liberty and Rock Creek townships.

One of the letters, sent to Liberty Township voters, regarded DCSC Board of Trustees candidate William Trueblood. The other letter, concerning candidate Chris Nipple, was sent to those in Rock Creek Township.

Both letters were signed by the "Ad Hoc Committee for Better Education" and stated they were written in support of the incumbent candidates from those townships. Each letter opened with this statement: "It has been a while since our group has been active in support of a school board candidate. But due to the misinformation being put out by (Mr. Bill Trueblood or Mr. Chris Nipple, depending on the letter), we feel we must step up and correct the issues."

Both letters stated general reasons to vote for the incumbents and how many wonderful things were accomplished with their approval. But then they took turns for the worse.

Trueblood's letter went into detail about his employment career with DCSC. Included was information that typically can only be found in a school staff member's personal file or executive session content.

The letter focused on Nipple went so far as to ask, "...do you want someone who gave up a job and went on disability?"

The Comet does not know from where or whom these letters originated, or how the information contained therein was attained. What is known is that state law mandates any Ad Hoc Committee must be registered with the clerk's office in the county in which it desires to operate.

According to clerk records, there is no such committee on file. According to Indiana code 3-9-1-3, "Each committee must file a statement of organization not later than noon ten (10) days after it becomes a committee."

Indiana Code 3-9-1-4 further states a committee must include in its original statement of organization the name and address of the committee, the purpose for which it was formed, its chairman's name and address, what type of committee it is, whether it is a political action committee and its stance, financial information and other information as prescribed under IC 3-6-4.1-14(a)(3).

The alleged committee sent out scathing attacks on school board candidates with the aim of convincing voters to side with incumbents. It did not carry legal status according to Indiana law. Neither candidate "supported" by the letters was re-elected.

If this Ad Hoc Committee for Better Education had anything honest to report, perhaps it could have started by being honest itself. The person or persons involved in this committee should step forward and reveal themselves. Further, they should offer a public apology for their actions.

This type of approach can only hurt a process intended to seek out the best candidate for a position. Leave mudslinging to the livestock.

Kevin Schnepf, staff writer

## 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 last minute letters about and from political candidates influence how you vote?

Yes  
No  
My mind is made up before then

#### Last Weeks results

### Do you think a consolidation of the Carroll and Delphi school districts is inevitable?

50% Yes  
42% No  
08% Don't know

Total responses: 199

#### Reader's comments:

If the Governor gets his way, then the only way it may be workable is if the corners of the county are split off and sent to school districts in other counties, i.e., northwest goes to the closest White County school, northeast to a Cass County school, southeast to a Howard County school, and southwest area to a Clinton County school, possibly Rossville, and the south central county students being sent to a different Clinton County school, possibly Frankfort. All this is dependent on distance and busing constraints. This will leave central Carroll County students to be assigned to a "new" location somewhere in a central location, providing there are enough students left for the "new" school. This reminds me of the old political "arguments" of the original consolidation era from the late '50s and early '60s. Do we really want to go through that again? It seems to me that other states have gone this way, and are changing back to smaller, better education facilities.

Phil Jones  
Flora

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I believe that consolidation will be forced upon each corporation from the state of Indiana. It will be interesting if past hard feelings between the corporations can be overcome.

I had a taste for chicken salad yesterday so I stopped in the deli section at the grocery and got myself a small container of the creamy variety. I bought myself a newspaper and I thought I'd enjoy a quiet 10-minute lunch in the car, parked in the shade.

At the deli counter I asked for a plastic fork but learned they were out. "No matter," I thought to myself. In my mind I could picture my glove compartment filled with dozens of plastic forks wrapped in plastic - some with napkins, others with little salt and pepper packets.

When I got to the car I opened the glove compartment, then the console in between the two seats and finally the car trunk. I rummaged around looking for my plastic dinnerware, the very plastic ware I could see in my mind. Finally it dawned on me that those dozens of utensil packets are actually back home stuffed in a kitchen drawer.

Lacking any utensils whatsoever, I made a little scoop out of a tuck-pointer's business card and went to work on the chicken salad. I had to toss the newspaper mid-lunch because it became such a mess. I suppose the post lunch shampooing of the car won't be that expensive.

Ah, for the want of a fork.

Clearly I have an inventory control problem.

I have supply and I have demand, I just don't have them matched very often.

## Midwest Memo

by Alan Shultz



## Inventory control

The other day I had to shimmy down into the crawl space to fiddle with the dryer vent connection. The dryer vent exits the crawl space in an area off to itself. We have a lonely light bulb down there in the middle of the crawl space but it does not cast light where I needed it. I've always kept a utility light plugged in down in that space so I can take light around when necessary. On this particular day the utility light was on lone to some unknown gremlin who must live under our house.

I hollered through the floorboards to get my wife's attention.

"A flashlight please!"

Now we own, or have owned at one time, every form of flashlight ever made. My personal favorite is a flexible snake like thing which has a light at the end and which you can bend to hang over a pipe or coil so it stands on its own. But we have cheap battery-less throwaway flashlights and we have big expensive flashlights that require lots of batteries.

We've got tiny flashlights that give off big, intense light and

we've got clunky flashlights you have to hit on the side each time you use it. Those are the ones that give that yellow, hazy glow that is not all that helpful.

But on this particular day all those assorted flashlights had rearranged their whereabouts or left for parts unknown. None were to be found - any where. I briefly entertained using a candle to light the way but the cobwebs all around convinced me otherwise. Instead, I wrestled with the dryer vent in the dark and then called it a day.

Somehow, somehow, I need inventory control in my life.

Rulers and tape dispensers and scissors, we have plenty. But when they are needed, where are they?

A co-worked asked to borrow a map from me the other day. I knew I had one in my file drawer and I went rummaging around to find it. To my chagrin, I pulled out of said file drawer a pair of navy blue socks that I had squirreled away for a rainy day. I'd forgotten their existence, but remembered the day my feet got so wet in the rain that I had hidden them away for a similar situation involving cold, wet feet.

Socks in my file drawer, oh my.

So until that happy day that I get a handle on inventory control, I suppose the answer is obvious.

The question then is, where does one buy a plastic fork with flashlight attachment?

## 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, May 15

√ County Council executive session: 6 p.m.

√ County Council special meeting: 8 p.m.

### Monday, May 19

√ Carroll County Commissioners: 9 a.m.

√ Delphi Board of Works: 4:30 p.m.

### Tuesday, May 20

√ Carroll School Board: 7:30 p.m.

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

Brafford Name Change.....	7B
Sheriff Sale-Hyman.....	7B
Sheriff Sale-Daily.....	7B
Hayes- Name Change.....	7B
Thomson Estate.....	7B
Fife Estate.....	7B
Security Federal-Notice.....	7B
Oglageo Estate.....	7B
Sheriff Sale-Grable.....	5B
Sheriff Sale-Draper.....	6B
Sheriff Sale-Wells.....	5B
Sheriff Sale-Upton.....	5B
Sheriff Sale-Sellers.....	5B
White Co. Drainage Brd.....	7B
TLSC-Inv to Bid.....	6B
Sheriff Sale-Brown.....	5B
Sheriff Sale-Foster.....	6B
Duke Energy.....	6B
Harter Estate.....	6B
DCSC-Inv to Bid.....	5B
DCSC-Adv for Bids.....	6B
IDEM-Cook / Roth.....	6B
TLSC-Not of Adoption.....	7B
Roe Zoning.....	5B
Co Council-Addl Approp.....	7B
Alberts Estate.....	6B

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.

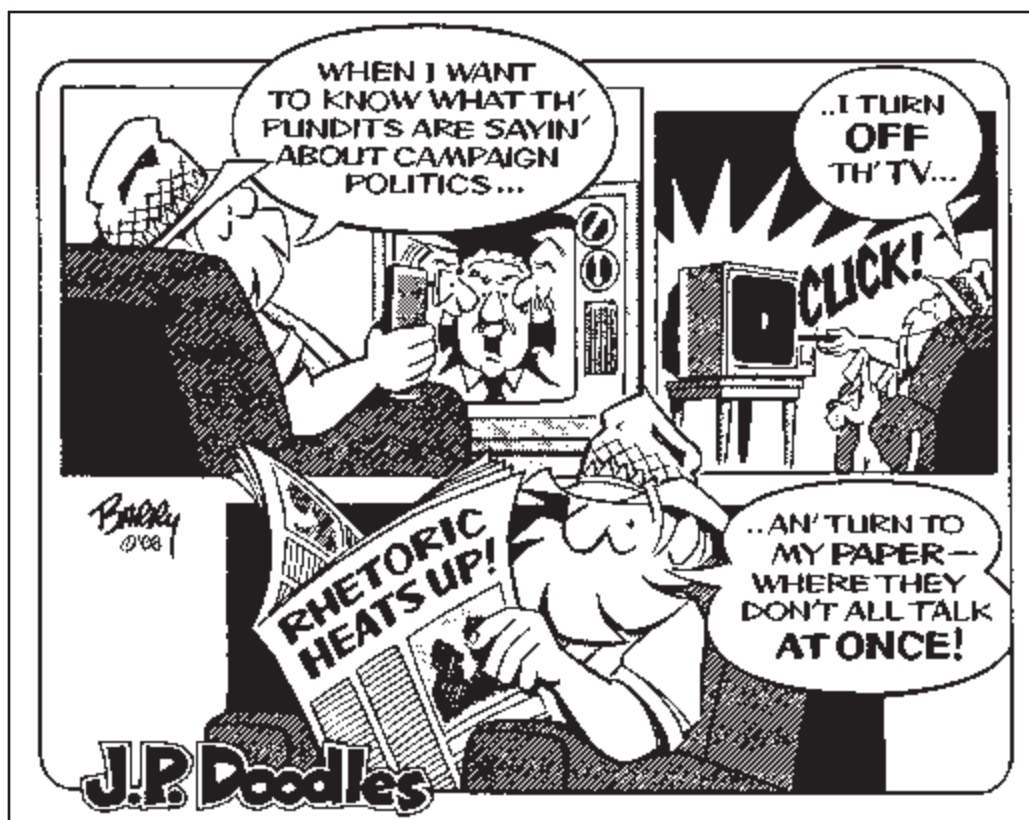
## Marriage Licenses

Charles L. Traviolia, 61, and Barbara S. Kincaid, 47, both of Brookston.

Shawn Patrick Keegan, 30, of West Point, and Darcy Susan Barrick, 34, of Delphi.

Joseph Richard Mayfield, 23, and Julie Ann Replogle, 23, both of Delphi.

Christopher William Shafer, 43, of Grayslake, Ill., and Garnet Elizabeth Sorenson, 41, of Frankfort.



## 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.

### Generous support

My letter is two-fold. Last week May 5-9 was National Teacher Appreciation Week. This was a tremendous success at Delphi Community Elementary and Camden Early Childhood Center. Our parent group volunteers with the help of area businesses showed the staff how much they are appreciated in a big way. We were able to offer them special tokens of our appreciation each day of the week, as well as a door prize for every teacher. Our parent group could not have made this event such a success without the support and generosity of local area businesses.

I also am a board member of the Carroll County Chamber of Commerce. Our county is experiencing some tough financial times and the economic development created by local area businesses will see us through. Please support your local businesses and encourage new ones to develop.

I would like to personally thank the many businesses who donated to our Teacher Appreciation Week and thank them for being so community-minded.

Michelle Pearson  
Vice president,  
Mighty Oracle Parents and  
Carroll County Chamber of  
Commerce Board Member

### Auction to benefit recovery home

A beacon of light will shine on Monticello with The Lighthouse Recovery Home for the Tri-County Area. The recovery home will provide the community with safe, secure, supervised housing for people who suffer from alcohol and/or drug addictions and offer space for nationally recognized, 12-step recovery meetings.

This facility is not a treatment center, intensive outpatient center, or medical facility. Property in Monticello has been leased, and is in the process of being re-

vamped for a home for 16 men.

Our goal is to educate residents on how to become useful, productive, taxpaying members of society. A 12-step based recovery program will enable each person to have a rewarding way of life.

A kick-off benefit auction will be held June 21 at the Monticello Armory from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Donations of goods, services, gift cards, etc. are now being accepted for the auction. Large items will be taken for consignment until June 13.

Join us for a day of fun and be a partner in the solution. For donation information, call Doug at 765-564-4657 or Randy at 765-564-3948.

Sandra Slusser  
Monticello

### Your help is needed

The Carroll County Wabash-Erie Canal Inc. (CCWECI) is still seeking funding for commemorative signage for the Trail of Death markers to be placed in Carroll County along the Towpath area and further south in Tippecanoe County.

We lack \$330.85 to complete our goal prior to Fulton County Historian Shirley Willard's commemorative drive in September. Cass County has already met its goal.

Let's show Shirley a Carroll County welcome by meeting the goal here. Contact Dan McCain at 1-765-412-4308 or mccain@carlnet.org; Shirley Willard at wwillard@rtcol.com, or Brian Stirm at 1-765-564-9658, or Mark A. Smith, at 1-765-563-3349, or smith4881@earthlink.net.

Mark A. Smith  
CCWECI board member

### Dogs & cycles do not mix

Thank you for the great newspaper. I appreciate your continuing diligence covering our county budget woes.

In reference to the article in the May 7 issue titled "ISP encourages motorcycle awareness," I believe several of the key issues regarding cycle safety have been properly addressed. However, there remains one major problem which I believe requires further discussion. The problem is dogs that run loose.

Dogs are a critical problem not

just for motorcyclists, but for bicyclists, joggers and walkers. Last year, on the Delphi side of the Wilson Bridge, two very large dogs attacked my wife and me while we were slowly driving our motorcycle and enjoying the wonderful view. The dogs obviously had practiced their routine as one dog blocked the road in front of me and the other dog attacked from the side. The owner of the two dogs stood by and did absolutely nothing even though I was yelling for help.

That was the third time in one year I was attacked or charged on by a loose dog. I was shaken as my wife almost was removed from my motorcycle by one of the large dogs.

I called the Carroll County Sheriff's Department and asked them what I should do the next time such an event occurs. The advice was to call the sheriff and make a report. Yes, good advice, but first I have to survive the attack.

I asked the deputy, what should I do to help my chance of surviving the attack. Should I swerve radically and risk going off road? Should I speed up to outrun the dogs but risk a higher speed crash? Should I slow down hoping the dogs will lose interest but also giving them a chance for attack? Should I stop my motorcycle and get off to combat the dog by hand?

I told the officer "spray" of any kind does not work because in order to use it I have to ride with one hand and the spray usually blows right back on us.

The officer's advice - shoot the dog. Yep, he stated that I have a right to protect myself, and with a proper gun permit, which I have, my action should be to shoot the dog.

So when I am under attack by a loose dog, I should ride unsafely with one hand on the handle bar, unholster my weapon, turn off the safety, make sure the area is clear around me, take a few shots at the dog, reholster my weapon, put both hands back on the handle bar and continue my ride, hoping my passenger is still with me.

Is this really what I should do? Is this the safest course of action for me to take while riding my motorcycle? Is this really the best advice the sheriff's department

has to offer? Would it not be better for everyone if people would just keep their dogs on their own property and under control?

I am open to suggestions to this very large problem. In the meanwhile, I guess my loaded gun will be with me when I am riding my motorcycle, just as the sheriff's department suggests.

Joe Ropes  
Bringhurst

### What's up with the price of ethanol?

Why is our "new" fuel alternative seemingly tied to the rising price of oil? The alternative fuel I can use is called "E-85" and it is a blend of 85% ethanol. It has stayed pegged at about 50 cents cheaper than petroleum fuel and I find in my car that I probably lose about that in reduction of miles per gallon. So that is a "wash" on my pocketbook.

Look at the Internet and follow the commercial price for bulk ethanol. Over the past 18 months, despite the sharp rise in the price of corn used to make the ethanol, the producers are selling ethanol for essentially the same price. Competition and efficiency has held this price steady. So why does the pump price reflect the rising price of petroleum?

Is this called price gouging? Rather than a rollback in federal taxes on fuel at the pump shouldn't our watchdogs (the politicians) be looking at this spread in price. More and more automobiles are being produced that are "all fuel" compliant with E-85.

Dan McCain  
Delphi

### Input sought

Wanted! Your comments about your interactions with the Twin Lakes Regional Sewer District (TLRSD) in White and Carroll counties.

We have been told that many of you are very happy with the TLRSD - however, we also have been told that many of you are very upset with the TLRSD. We would like for you to share your stories with us - tell us the good and the bad.

Please e-mail your stories to: fjtcc@yahoo.com or mail to: FJTCC, P.O. Box 53, Delphi, IN 46923.

Terry Dill  
Delphi