

## Jefferson Township to go with Monticello ambulance service

By Rod Butcher  
Contributing Writer

Although told previously on two occasions by Carroll County Commissioners to not contract with another county to provide ambulance service, the Jefferson Township Advisory Board voted unanimously to do just that. They decided to pursue a contract with the Monticello Fire Department to provide ambulance service for the remainder of 2009 at a special advisory board meeting Monday night.

Trustee Harold Erdmann explained commissioners' attorney

Barry Emerson said the township could not legally contract ambulance service because the county was already providing service. Erdmann reported that Monticello attorney Dow Dellinger, who was retained by the township, conferred with the Monticello Fire Chief Shane Swaim and Monticello City Attorney George Loy.

Erdmann said Charles Nimits from the Indiana State Board of Accounts was also contacted for advice. He said the SBOA representative reported the agency did not know of any reason why township leaders could not contract

with another county for the service using township funds.

Erdmann said township residents wanted to go forth with the contract. He added the residents "would rather be part of the county but they didn't have the funding for it." He further stated he received no negative feedback from any township resident opposed to the contract.

County budget constraints in 2008 led to the reduction of ambulances in Carroll County, including the elimination of the ambulance based at Yeoman. Since the closest ambulance in Carroll County is in Delphi, township leaders believe

ambulance response time to their residents will be quicker through the Monticello Fire Department.

The agreement with White County stipulates the township will purchase a heart monitor in exchange for the service at a maximum cost of \$11,000.

Erdmann said Tuesday the contract would be effective when the township is able to "work it out with E-911" to dispatch the Monticello Fire Department Ambulance rather than the Carroll County service. He clarified that although Emerson advised the township could not use taxpayer money to pay for a service

already provided to them from the county, he could not cite a code to prohibit the township from proceeding.

E-911 director Jay Dee Cree said Tuesday he would do nothing without permission and guidance from commissioners. He said he did not have the discretion to change county policy.

"He's got to work it out with the commissioners," he said about Erdmann. "They make the policy."

"The commissioners are my boss," he added. "I am not elected - I'm appointed to this position."

## Barnard earns top award at Purdue

By Jennifer Archibald  
Staff writer

Eric Barnard of Flora received the prestigious G.A. Ross Award at the Purdue University Honors Convocation.

It is given to the outstanding graduating man from the whole university. The recipient best exemplifies the criteria of leadership, service, and character.

The \$500 award is made possible through a gift left to the university by G.A. Ross, a 1916 alumnus. A bronze-plated medal and a certificate also come with the award.

Barnard is the son of Mike and Lori Barnard of Flora. He is a 2004 graduate of Carroll Junior-Senior High School and was the class valedictorian, class vice president, member of National Honor



Barnard

Society and served on the Student Council.

His major at Purdue is agricultural finance, with a minor in management. He is the outgoing president and past treasurer of Purdue Student Government.

Barnard's activities included executive officer of the Purdue Greek Intersarsity Youth Fellowship, and a member of Mortar Board and FarmHouse Fraternity, where he was an office holder.

He was active in FFA in high school and went on to become an FFA state officer. At Purdue, he served as an Agriculture Ambassador, representing students in the College of Agriculture. He also was a teaching assistant for a course in agriculture.

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## Severe weather alert is posted today for County

Comet staff report

Carroll County Emergency Management Agency Director Dave McDowell reports the county has been advised to brace for severe weather Wednesday.

According to the National Weather Service (NWS), Carroll County could be in for "a dose of wind and rain" which could possibly become extreme. The dangerous weather could start Wednesday afternoon, increase in intensity overnight and continue through Thursday afternoon.

McDowell said some flooding is possible, but nothing like the situation in March. High winds, hail and possible tornado development are feared for the area.

"We've not seen this kind of collision of storm systems before and we don't really know what to expect," the

NWS said in a communication.

"People need to brace for this weather," McDowell concluded. "Emergency responders will be on duty watching for threatening conditions when necessary. The worst of the storms may occur late Wednesday into Thursday morning."

McDowell can be reached at (765) 564-4243 or at dmc-dowell@cacoshrf.com.



### A recent familiar sight

ISP Trooper Jon Watson posed recently with one of several Harley-Davidson motorcycles used in ISP motor patrol blitzes across the state. Trooper Bart Stouffer used a similar cycle to patrol Delphi and the surrounding community in a traffic safety measure funded by a federal grant. Photo provided

## Local residents see increased police presence

By Debbie Lowe  
Staff writer

Delphi residents, as well as motorists passing through the county seat, experienced increased police patrols in the past two weeks. Not only have the Indiana State Police targeted the Delphi area to monitor and respond to traffic violations, but the city police wrote more than 23 valid parking tickets, based on city ordinance 1873, which prohibits parking a vehicle on a street against traffic, last Thursday morning as part of a training exercise. According to published police activity reports for 2009, 10 parking tickets had been issued until Thursday.

ISP Lt. Jay Kistler, who lives in Carroll County and operates a motor patrol unit from the Indianapolis post, said Monday the trooper on the Harley-Davidson was performing a 20-hour seat belt blitz. The measure was funded by the Indiana Criminal Justice Institute. Kistler said 20 counties across the state were targeted for the blitz, chosen based on the number of unrestrained incident injuries reported and rural population.

Kistler said his motorcycle squad was given 50 hours of funding for the blitz. The Lafayette Post used 30 of those, which left Kistler with 20. He chose to use them in Carroll County. "I'm pretty proud of my

motorcycle squad," he said. "This funding is from a federal Rural Demonstration Project."

Kistler said Trooper Bart Stouffer wrote 55 citations, including 38 for seat belt violations, during 18 hours of service. He said local law enforcement agencies, such as the Delphi Police Department and the Carroll County Sheriff's Department are entitled for like-funding through an application process.

Carroll County Sheriff Tony Burns said Monday that although he was not aware of the ISP blitz before it began, he supported the action. He said most crashes and injuries are caused by driver error.

"Anytime any law enforcement agency focuses on traffic safety, it is a good thing," he said Monday.

Delphi Police Chief Justin Darling said Friday a Flora police officer, who works part-time for the Delphi department when needed, provided the Thursday early-morning training. He explained Flora strictly enforces all parking ordinances and the training officer provided like training to the newest Delphi officer.

"This emphasizes the differences in our community standards," Darling said. "We in Delphi will be reviewing our parking ordinance enforcement policy to determine if a change is warranted."

## Carroll board considers transfer student policy

By Jennifer Archibald  
Staff writer

Carroll School Corporation is considering a new policy pertaining to transfer students. It is posted on the school website or can be seen at the Administration Office. The public is welcome to comment on it prior to its potential adoption at the next school board meeting.

Copies of the proposed policy were handed out at the May 5 Carroll School Board meeting. It lists criteria for non-resident students to be considered for enrollment in the Carroll schools and lists the bases for acceptance.

In response to a question from the *Comet*, superintendent John Sayers said later that the policy is being addressed in anticipation of more requests for enrollment by non-resident students. He said because the state is taking over the general fund and the fee charged for transfer stu-

dents will not have a local property tax component, the fee should be considerably lower than in the past. He said the current transfer tuition for students to go to Carroll is approximately \$2,400. Although the cost is expected to be lower, students will have to meet the stated requirements in the adopted policy.

In other business, Sayers recommended non-renewal of two teacher contracts as a reduction-in-force measure, and the board approved. The teachers are Lindsey Martin and Amy Bochenek - both first-year teachers, in kindergarten. Sayers said a fourth section of kindergarten was added this year, but enrollment calls for only three sections next school year. That eliminates one kindergarten teacher position. He said the other teacher was taking the place of a teacher on maternity leave and she is eligible to come back in the fall.

Two resignations were ac-

cepted - Stephanie Williams as high school Historian sponsor, and Leslie Eikenberry as in-school suspension supervisor and Sunshine Society sponsor.

Amanda Schneckloth was hired as a summer swim instructor.

Elementary grade-level chairpersons for 2009-2010 were announced. They are: Caren Johnson, kindergarten; Megan Coomler, first grade; Malinda Blocher, second grade; Amy Cottrell, third grade; Jenelle Gish, fourth grade; Mike Hyman, fifth grade; and Jana Conn, sixth grade.

The board approved the social studies textbook adoption for next school year.

Elementary principal Carolyn O'Connell and junior-senior high school assistant principal Fred Schnarr presented proposed student handbook changes to the board.

At the junior-senior high

school, the following addition is being proposed to the list of unexcused absences: "No student will be excused from school the day before or after a scheduled school vacation. (Thanksgiving, Christmas, spring break). To be excused, absences on those days require a doctor note stating the student was ill and unable to attend school."

The current policy lists grounds for suspension and expulsion, including circumstances of unlawful activity off school grounds. A proposed addition to the policy lists the following specific circumstance: "This includes, but is not limited to, vandalism of a staff member's personal property."

Handbook changes will be reviewed at a work session following the next board meeting.

O'Connell reported that sixth grade teacher Andrea O'Brien received a letter from a man in Maryland,

commending her on her innovative teaching of the Holocaust. Kim Doyle, editorial poet for *The Brunswick Citizen*, was inspired by O'Brien's teaching and the teaching of the Holocaust in France to write a poem called "Keeping Children Alive." He sent a copy to O'Brien and told her to "keep up the good work." O'Brien leads various projects to help students understand how many children were killed in the Holocaust. The *Comet* carried a story about one such project, and O'Brien assumes the poet saw it online.

Schnarr reported that junior high students who had no disciplinary lines, or just one, the whole school year would be rewarded with a field trip to an Indianapolis Indians baseball game. (Twenty-one students went on the trip May 7.)

Junior-senior high principal

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