

Letters to the Editor

Obituaries

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total repayment of the principal and interest would be no greater than \$21,760,000, but this amount was based on interest rates of 5.5%. This maximum interest rate is more than one percent higher than current interest rates for municipal school bonds, and these current municipal bond rates of about 4.5% have been fairly constant for the last six months or so. In addition, we anticipate funding a portion of the project with the new tax credit bonds permitted by the 2009 U.S. Recovery Act enacted in February of this year. These tax-credit bonds, to the extent they are made available to us by the governor and superintendent of public instruction, will require the payment of interest rates of less than one percent. This would make the repayment cost of the project closer to \$13 million instead of \$21 million. Based on these truths, I don't believe anyone can assess what the likely cost of the repayment for the project will be at the present time. All we know is that it won't cost the community more than \$21,760,000.

Jeffery J. Qualkinbush, DCSC bond lawyer
Barnes & Thornburg LLP
Indianapolis

Our future is now

The *Comet's* recent editorial stated that the Delphi Community School Corporation wanted to borrow more money than state statute allows. What statute? Indiana Code 6-1.1-20-3.5 and 3.6 spells out school building projects. It does not cap the amount that can be borrowed.

The *Comet* also criticized current school board members for not making needed repairs to the building but instead spent close to \$1 million to build a new track. A new track was built after the previous track was closed due to

being unsafe for use. The track had to be replaced not only for athletic teams, but also for physical education classes. Due to the scope of the repairs needed for the buildings, such as electrical upgrades and lab replacements, the dollars spent to install the track would not even come close to making the repairs to the buildings in the fashion that the work has to be accomplished. The installation of the new track not only replaced the running surface, but it also solved major drainage issues in that area of the campus. Unsafe and high operating cost lighting was replaced.

Taxpayers of the corporation need to realize the history behind why repairs were unable to be made by this board and prior boards.

First, when the Capital Projects Fund (CPF) began, schools could raise \$1.25 per \$100 of valuation. Over time the various administrations wanted to cut property taxes so they lowered the CPF and capped the maximum that could be raised so it would be approximately 80¢. It is only one-third of that now because of real property values. Delphi's was around 30¢ last year. The point is that cuts from the original \$1.25 over a 10-year period saved taxpayers \$4 million at the expense of school deterioration.

Secondly, it was capped back in 1973 on the amount that we could raise in the general fund and we were capped very low compared to many other schools. So DCSC has not been able to raise as much money as many other school districts for almost 40 years; saving the taxpayers in this school district millions of dollars compared to other taxpayers across the state. Some people are complaining about \$13 million. The boards could have kept our buildings up if they had the extra money that some school corporations were able to raise.

Also, many people forget that a few years ago, Delphi had a severe mold problem. To solve the problem, a major project was undertaken costing over \$4 million. For some reason, probably due to existing bond issues, this project was being paid for from the CPF. Therefore, the corporation was paying over \$400,000 a year from this fund. This was \$400,000 of repairs each year that could not be done. About four years ago the board removed these costs from the CPF and merged it with a lower bond issue, allowing the corporation to start making some of the smaller repairs needed.

When the computer age hit it was determined by the State Board of Accounts that all computer (technology) expenses must come from the CPF. Every year more and more money is needed to keep up with these needs. Computers, programs and other technology-related equipment takes many dollars from this fund. This leaves less and less money available for repairs.

Three years ago when the new superintendent was hired, the corporation was in terrible financial shape. There was less than a \$500,000 cash bal-

ance. Today, after three years under his leadership and the work of the past two setting boards, the corporation has over a \$2 million cash balance. It appears that some sound financial planning was used.

The DCSC is one of the largest employers and has one of the largest physical plants in the county. Like any other large corporation, they must keep the facility up to date, to provide not only for today's needs, but also for the needs of the future. They cannot make these upgrades from profits. Tax dollars are the only way to fund these needs.

Whether this renovation project goes forward or not, it is not a win or loss for the school board or superintendent. If the project does not go forward the losers here will be the students and the taxpayers. The students will lose because they will be kept from benefiting from an up-to-date facility that can offer the programs they need. The taxpayers will lose as it will cost them much more to make not only the needed repairs, but the repairs that will only get worse with time.

Robert R. Resler
Delphi

Patron addresses Carroll board about principal's contract

By Jennifer Archibald
Staff writer

Valta Thieke addressed the Carroll School Board during the "public comments" portion of the June 3 meeting.

Speaking on behalf of other non-named patrons in the Carroll School district, she asked the board questions pertaining to the "non renewal" of the contract of CJSHS principal Charles Huckstep. Among the questions was if board members felt it was their responsibility to follow the will of the people. Another question was what it would take for the board to reconsider its decision of "non renewal."

She handed the board a list of the questions and requested a place on the agenda at the next board meeting to have the questions answered.

Board president Sam Zook said school employees could not be discussed at a public board meeting. He said the proper channel for her to voice her concerns would be with the superintendent. Zook did comment that there are other considerations besides public opinion that enter into decisions on administrative contracts.

Other administrator contracts currently extend through June 30, 2011. The board voted in December to not extend Huckstep's contract, leaving it currently effective through June 30, 2010.

School handbooks were

discussed at the meeting and will be further addressed at a work session immediately before the next meeting. Issues to be discussed will be language in the elementary handbook concerning bullying, and portions of the junior-senior high handbook that deal with revocation of driving privileges for students who do not pass all classes, and the criteria for naming one or more valedictorians and salutatorians.

The next board meeting will be June 16 at 7:30 p.m. at the Administration Building.

Other Death Notices

Services for **Joann Booth Pring**, 79, of Aurora, Colo., were held March 30 in Aurora. Burial was in Burlington, Colo. She died March 27, 2009, in Aurora. Born June 2, 1930, she was a 1948 graduate of Carrollton High School. She married Philip Pring on Aug. 14, 1948, at Bachelor Run Church of the Brethren near Bringham. They moved to Colorado in 1959. Surviving are her husband and a daughter, Jennifer, both of Aurora.

Martha Gay Han, 80, Monticello, died June 4, 2009, at St. Elizabeth Healthcare Center in Delphi. Among the survivors is a daughter, Linda Inman (husband: Woody) of Delphi. Services were June 8 in Monticello.

County chamber sponsors Health Summit for professionals

Comet staff report

A community Health Summit, sponsored by the Carroll County Chamber of Commerce, will be tonight, June 10, from 6 to 9 p.m. at the Canal Center in Delphi.

Medical doctors, chiropractors, eye doctors, dentists, etc. are invited to attend. The health summit is designed to provide an opportunity for health professionals to collaborate about the

healthcare needs of Carroll County.

The event will be facilitated by local resident Dr. Janet Ayres.

Correction

Sue Floyd is the director of Noah's Ark Daycare, located at the First Assembly of God Church, Delphi, and not Ready-Set-Go Daycare as stated in last week's *Comet*.

Ralph E. Godbey



Ralph E. Godbey, 69, of Delphi, died Sunday, June 7, 2009, at 1 p.m. at his residence. He had been in ill health for the past year.

Born Aug. 12, 1939, in Battle Ground, he was the son of Alvin and Rose Belle Warren Godbey. He attended Battle Ground schools. His marriage was on Oct. 16, 1963, to Shirley Mae Propes, who preceded him in death on March 9, 1980.

Mr. Godbey served in the 82nd Airborne Division in the U.S. Army from 1956 to 1960.

He retired from Loy-Quinn Roofing after 35 years of employment.

He was a member of the VFW Post #9383.

Mr. Godbey enjoyed fishing, hunting, reading and spending time with his family.

Surviving are his companion, Barbara Christiansen of Delphi; a son, Glen Johnson of Delphi; five daughters, Gloria Fassnacht (husband: Lou) of Delphi, Lisa Fassnacht (husband: Richard) of Camden, Kimberly Clawson (husband: Mark) of Delphi, Samantha Adams (husband: Todd) of Dunkirk and Tina Brown (husband: Troy) of Delphi; two brothers, Johnny Godbey of St. Roberts, Mo., and Gene Godbey of Attica; three sisters, Christine Reynolds of Attica, Ruth Keown and Judy Wheat, both of Lafayette; 14 grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

Preceding him in death were two brothers, Check and Herbert, and two sisters, Margie and Evelyn.

Visitation will be today, Wednesday, from 4 to 8 p.m. at Davidson Funeral Home in Delphi. Services will be held at 10 a.m. Thursday at the funeral home. Pastor Mearl Hodges will officiate. Burial will follow at Morning Heights Cemetery in Delphi with military graveside rites by the Delphi American Legion and VFW.

Memorials may be made in his memory to the family.

Carl E. Jenkins

Carl Emmett Jenkins, 82, Flora, passed away at 8:25 p.m. Wednesday, June 4, 2009, at Milner Community Healthcare Center in Rossville.

He was born Sept. 2, 1926, in Camden, to Seth and Virgil Flora Jenkins. He attended Camden schools. On Jan. 1, 1949, in Flora, he married Naomi Flora and she survives in Flora.

Jenkins was employed as a carpenter at Zinn Kitchens for 36 years, retiring in 2008.

He was a member of the Flora Old German Baptist Brethren Church.

Also surviving are a daughter, Karla Jenkins of Flora; three sons, Curt Jenkins (wife: Colleen) of Cutler, Lyle Jenkins (wife: Michele) of Frankfort, and Gordon Jenkins (wife: Amy) of Cleveland, Ga.; and 10 grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by one brother, one sister and one brother-in-law.

Services were held Monday at the Flora Old German Baptist Brethren Church. Burial will follow at Musselman Cemetery near Camden.

Memorial contributions may be made to Musselman Cemetery.

Betty R. Ward



Betty R. Ward, 78, of Delphi, died Sunday, June 7, 2009, at Clarian Arnett Hospital in Lafayette.

Born Sept. 5, 1930, in White County, she was the daughter of the late Arvil Voyles and Ivadell Criswell Voyles Gingrich. Her marriage was on Oct. 10, 1953, at her parent's home south of Delphi, to John R. Ward, who survives.

Mrs. Ward was an active member of the First Presbyterian Church in Delphi.

She retired from the Carroll County Farm Bureau Insurance Office in Delphi.

Also surviving are two sons, Brice E. Ward of Delphi and Randy J. Ward (wife: Cathy) of Brownsburg; a stepsister, Wilma Gingrich Perkins of Elizabethtown, Ky.; a brother, John H. Gingrich V (wife: Linda) of Delphi; and two grandsons.

Services will be today, Wednesday, at 10 a.m. at the First Presbyterian Church in Delphi. Burial will follow at Masonic Cemetery, Delphi.

Memorials may be made to the First Presbyterian Church.

Rose M. Hill



Rose Mary Spear Hill, 80, formerly of Delphi, died Sunday, June 7, 2009, at 5:55 p.m. at the Mulberry

Health and Retirement Home. She had resided there since March 2008. Before that she had resided at Carroll Manor in Delphi, moving there November 2006.

Born Nov. 10, 1928, in Chalmers, she was the daughter of the late Otis Lee and Alice Ree Sprowl Spear. She attended Delphi High School. Her marriage was on Feb. 10, 1946, in Rockfield, to Robert L. Hill, who preceded her in death on Nov. 16, 2001.

Mrs. Hill worked at the former Peters-Revington Furniture Factory, the former Lantern Room Restaurant, and at the Dairy Queen Restaurant for several years, all in Delphi.

She was a former member of the Delphi Christian Church.

Mrs. Hill enjoyed working puzzles, bowling and solitaire card games.

Surviving are two daughters, Marsha Crowe (husband: Floyd) of Lafayette and Sandra McClain (husband: Douglas) of Zionsville; a son, Daniel Hill of Kentucky; one brother, Cloyd Spear (wife: Patsy) of Mexico; five grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren.

Preceding her in death were two brothers and one sister.

Visitation will be today, Wednesday, from 5 to 8 p.m. at Abbott Funeral Home in Delphi. Services will be June Thursday at 11 a.m. at the funeral home. The Rev. Herb Wingard will officiate. Burial will follow at Masonic Cemetery in Delphi.

Memorials may be made to the Alzheimer's Association. Envelopes will be available at the funeral home.

BAIL BONDS
JOE MOSS, AGENT
765-564-2226

Relay From page 1A

crowned at 8 p.m.

The Luminaria Ceremony begins at dusk, 9:45 p.m. Names of cancer victims will be read and the luminaries lighted. To participate, make a \$10 donation per name for a track-side luminaria and/or a \$15 donation per name for a bleacher luminaria, which will spell out HOPE on the bleachers. Cut-off time for luminaries to be purchased is 8 p.m.

At 11 p.m., there is a pizza buffet for hungry participants and with relay games following, along with card games, karaoke and contests throughout the night.

Saturday's events start with

the Kiwanis Breakfast at 7 a.m. A firefighters tug-of-war with local departments begins at 9.

The closing ceremony begins at 11:30 with everyone joining in on a Victory Lap.

Relay for Life is the American Cancer Society's signature event. It has been bringing cancer survivors and anyone touched by the disease together since 1985. Today, more than 4,200 communities across America host Relay for Life events that provide a platform for raising cancer awareness and connecting communities to the programs and services of the American Cancer Society.

DCSC From page 1A

ported in the statement of funds report distributed to board members includes a \$2 million bond.

Cafeteria commodity contracts were awarded to Fox River and Gordon Foods.

In board comments, Trueblood thanked all staff members for everything they did for students during the school year.

Resler said there was a combined 272 years of experience represented at the recent retirement celebration for those leaving the corporation. He said some of the retirees expressed pride in that some of their former students are now school board members. Resler thanked the board members for their work throughout the year. He said each one attempted to do what they thought is best for the students.

He noted the referendum special election is June 16 from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m.

The girls basketball team will travel to Vincennes June 21-24. The next meeting will be June 29 at 7 p.m.

Personnel retirements

•Amanda Woods will retire from the elementary school at the end of the 2008-2009 school year.

•Don Brothers will retire for 30 days.

Employment

•Ashley Hensler - 1st grade teacher;

•Connie Brown - Elementary extra curricular treasurer;

•Sara Daly Brosman - High school plays director;

•Erica Cory - High school assistant girls basketball coach;

•Paula Huffer - High school four-hour cafeteria worker; and

•Shane Hyman and Zach Condon - Elementary school painters.

Summer school teachers:

•High school - Linda Tyner and Nancy Rucker, English; John Gasser, math; Randy German, health; Don Brothers, physical education; and Mike Atwood, math remediation.

•Middle school - Cassy Gasser, math; and Tim Conner, English.

Births

Travis and Trisha Hill Curts are parents of a 7-pound, 12-ounce son, Kale Alan, born May 23 at Clarian Arnett Hospital in Lafayette. Grandparents are Rick and Pat Curts and Rob and Leisha Hill, all of Delphi. Great-grandmothers are Diane Schockley, Nancy Jacobs, Clara Hill and Juanita Scott, all of Delphi.

Andy and Bethanny Barrell Cougill are parents of a 7-pound, 9-ounce daughter, Hailey Juliette, born June 1 at Clarian Arnett Hospital in Lafayette. Grandparents are Bob and Joy Barrell of Carol Stream, Ill., and Don and Sallie Cougill of Charleston, Ill. Great-grandmother is Emaline Cougill of Charleston, Ill.

The office location of the deceased Thomas Anderson, MD will be closed effective June 26, 2009
Patients needing assistance with their medical records should call 574-686-2202 by June 26th and 765-447-8133 or 888-449-2732 after June 29, 2009 to transfer their files.

A memorial should last forever

Memorial gifts to the Carroll County Community Foundation do just that.

- Your gift will be acknowledged to the family
- The name of the individual memorialized will be added to the Community Foundation's book of memory
- Contributions will be added to the fund of your choice and endowed as a lasting memorial benefitting our community forever

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For good. For ever.™