

Delphi elementary school goes wireless

Other campuses to follow

By Debbie Lowe
Staff writer

Delphi elementary students will be able to access the Internet without cords and telephone lines when they return to classes in August due to an action by the board of school trustees at a Monday night special meeting.

Technology specialist Scott Gear presented a proposal for \$80,511, which was approved unanimously, to "completely make our elementary building wireless." In addition, a portion of the high school campus will receive wireless service for \$21,426.80. Board member Melinda Rossetter requested Gear present quotes in the future for the middle school campus to become wireless.

Elementary project

Three additional items were approved for the elementary school summer building project for \$65,868. Additions included items needed to complete the video surveillance system at the elementary school and Camden for \$54,970, door security which was not part of the original plan for \$10,000 and

In last week's *Comet* story about referendums across Indiana, a chart was printed depicting how voters in each Delphi Community School Corporation precinct voted in the June 16 special election. Results from Rock Creek Township were inadvertently omitted from the chart. The entire chart is reprinted this week with our apology to the voters of Rock Creek Township.

Township	Total votes	Yes votes (%)	No votes (%)
Deer Creek 1	243	106 (43.62%)	137 (56.38%)
Deer Creek 3	163	95 (58.28%)	68 (41.72%)
Deer Creek 5	108	57 (52.78%)	51 (47.22%)
Tippecanoe 1	82	32 (39.02%)	50 (60.98%)
Tippecanoe 2	64	26 (40.63%)	38 (59.38%)
Liberty	59	6 (10.17%)	53 (89.83%)
Jackson	173	33 (19.41%)	137 (80.59%)
Madison	69	32 (46.38%)	37 (53.62%)
Rockcreek	50	16 (32%)	34 (68%)
Total	1,011	403 (39.98%)	605 (60.02%)

*As reported by the Carroll County Clerks Office as "unofficial" results Friday, June 19.

Canal Council

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Both walks will be offered Saturday and Sunday. For those who prefer biking, mountain bikes and cruising bikes will be available for renting. All of the buildings in Canal Park will be open, and the 10 miles of towpath trails are always available for walking, hiking, or biking.

There is no admission charged to tour the Interpretive Center featuring exhibits that tell the history of the canal.

The 1844 Reed Case House will be open for tours both days, and hand-made gifts will be available at the Bowen Cabin Crafts Gift Shop.

Kids can make their own bird houses with Rob Lawson at Jim's Carpenter Shop.

The schoolmaster will be at the schoolhouse both days, and children can play old-fashioned games outside during "recess."

The on-shore playground boat will welcome children to explore its many parts. Another attraction, on Sunday only, will be horse-drawn carriage rides from noon to 5 p.m.

The Canal Association's Snack Shack will offer various sandwiches and food items as well as the traditional home-made fruit pies and ice cream. New this year will be buffalo burgers at the Snack Shack. Another booth will be serving chili. Hot apple dumplings with ice cream will be for sale (while supplies last) at the Canal Center.

At the Canal Center and throughout the park craftsmen and artisans of pioneer crafts will demonstrate their skills and some will have items for sale. Arts and crafts will include watercolors, leather crafting, gourds, carved bowls, broom making, crocheting, puzzles and toys, wooden toys, scroll sawing, hand-painted notes, china painting, potpourri, and more.

installation of a doorbell/intercom system at the childcare room at the elementary school for \$898.

Jason Jeffries of Envoy said with the additional costs \$256,000 remained from the approved amount for the project.

Preschool teacher hired

In a split three-to-four vote, history repeated itself when the wife of superintendent Ralph Walker was hired as a pre-school teacher at Camden. Wife of former superintendent John Williams also held an administrator position at Camden for several years during his 14-year tenure.

Jerry Sparks, Bill Trueblood and Rossetter provided the nay votes. Jim Garrison, Nick Cronk and Chris Nipple voted to approve the recommendation to hire Walker. Board president Robert Resler provided the tie breaker to hire Nancy Walker.

According to Early Childhood Center and Curriculum Director Carol Coon, Walker is "highly qualified and has a lot of experience and training for the position."

However Rossetter expressed concern that the per-

son recommended for the job is married to the superintendent.

"I don't think this is an appointment the public would support," she said.

Resler said the corporation "should hire the best candidate" for the position as he cast the deciding vote.

Other business

I-CAN, a series of computerized math remediation programs for \$13,296 was approved. Program components included 400 half-year licenses for \$8,696, 30 reference text books for \$2,100 and one day of training for \$2,500.

Text book rental fees were approved. Kindergarten fees will cost \$112 per student, first grade \$113, second \$125, third \$116, fourth \$112, fifth \$109 and sixth through eighth-grades \$131 with \$13 additional charge for choir students. High school rental is based on each class.

A replacement air handling unit in the high school was approved to purchase for \$47,666 plus \$2,000 for Siemens engineering services for the project.

FFA members will travel to Cedar Point Amusement Park from July 20-22. The group will attend state FFA camp in Trafalgar from July 6 to 8.

Sparks requested to hear a plan about how the corporation will address issues in the science and business wings at a future board meeting.

Resler explained that, although the recent Indiana

State Board of Accounts Audit results for the corporation indicated a former interim superintendent should not have been paid as directed by Resler for work he did not do, the notation would not have been made by different auditors. He reported one of the auditors told him that the reason it was noted was because a patron called attention to the issue prior to the audit. He also said legal counsel Barry Emerson advised the corporation to pay the superintendent. Resler said a letter was sent to SBOA concerning the matter.

The next meeting will be July 13. A budget work session will be at 7 p.m. and the business meeting, at which time the 2010 budget could be approved, will be at 8.

Personnel

Employment:

- Middle school principal – Kyle Trebley;
 - Middle school dean of students – Ross Striebeck;
 - High school science teacher - Dennis Conner with five years experience;
 - High school assistant football coach – Kameron Baner;
 - High school volunteer track coach – Joel Wagner; and
 - School corporation power washer – Josh Pine.
- Resignations
- Earl Waldrep – Corporation technology; and
 - Brad Miller – elementary head custodian.

Increased patrols statewide, over holiday weekend

By T. Neil Moore
Executive director
Indiana Criminal Justice Institute

As July 4th approaches and many Hoosiers make plans to celebrate the nation's independence, drivers throughout the state are urged to do so responsibly. The complications of tragic outcomes can be easily prevented by following one simple rule: before consuming alcoholic beverages, designate a sober driver or make alternate plans to get to a destination safely.

While it is easy for many people to notice when they've had way too many, we also want them to clearly recognize when they've had one too many. For the past several years, pop culture has dictated that "buzzed" is the drinking-level descriptor of choice among those who have a false sense of being in "control." Yet those who drive motor vehicles or motorcycles in this condition pose a great hazard on the roadways.

The combination of increased traffic and alcohol has made July the nation's deadliest month and the 4th of July our most dangerous holiday for motorists. Unfortunately Indiana is no exception – the crash and fatality statistics bear this out.

Of the 1,304 traffic collisions that occurred during the 2008 July 4th holiday period (6:00 p.m. Thursday, July 3 through 5:59 a.m. Monday, July 7), 131 were alcohol-related. Nearly half (41.2%) involved a driver over the legal limit of .08. In total, five people lost their lives on Indiana roadways during this holiday period.

Alcohol also plays a big role in Indiana motorcycle fatalities. Fifty-three motorcyclists were killed in single-vehicle motorcycle collisions in 2008; almost half were alcohol-related.

Statewide, alcohol-related motorcycle collisions and fatalities are the highest they have been in the past five years.

Now that teenage traffic fatalities are on the rise, this is also a very appropriate time to focus our attention on preventing untimely teen deaths on our state's roadways. As the primary influencers in their teens' lives, parents are encouraged to model socially responsible behaviors and talk to their teens about the consequences of poor choices and the benefits of smart ones – especially during this high-risk holiday weekend.

As we move towards July 4, motorists throughout the state can expect to see an increased police presence on the roadways. Law enforcement agencies across the state will increase DUI, speeding and seat belt patrols during this time.

Remember, the most important safety feature in your car is you – the sober and attentive driver. In fact, this message has been specifically crafted to convince those who may potentially get behind the wheel after drinking that tragedy "can happen to them."

Hoosiers can increase their safety this weekend by following a few simple tips:

- Always wear a seatbelt.
- Plan ahead to get a sober, designated driver.
- Take a cab or bus after drinking.
- Spend the night instead of heading home.
- Report drunk drivers by calling 911.
- Make non-alcoholic beverages available at parties and events.
- Drive defensively at all times.

For more information on impaired driving, visit www.in.gov/cji or StopImpairedDriving.org.

Obituaries

Angelique Thompson

Angelique R. Thompson, 74, of Indianapolis, died June 19, 2009.

Born Aug. 19, 1934, in Indianapolis, she was the daughter of Phil and Mary Jones.

She was a member of Glens Valley Church.

Surviving are her husband of 35 years, Robert L. Thompson; children, Debra

Moline (husband: Leonard), Janis Wilson, Brian Johnson, Robert Johnson (wife: Michelle), and Kevin Johnson (wife: Lisa), a sister, Barbara Meyer (husband: Bruce), a brother, Larry Jones (wife: Cathy); 19 grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren.

Services and burial were June 23 in Indianapolis.

David T. Robertson

David T. Robertson, 54, of Flora, died at 2:16 a.m. Thursday, June 25, 2009, at St. Joseph Hospital,

Kokomo. He had been in ill health for two weeks.

Born Dec. 10, 1954, in Lafayette, he was the son of Donald Eugene and Frances VanBriggle Robertson. He was formerly married to Shirley Wetzel Linder and Susan J. Barton.

Mr. Robertson was formerly employed at Wabash National in Lafayette as a welder.

He enjoyed fishing and golfing and dearly loved his grandkids.

Surviving are his mother, Frances C. Fisher of Flora; two sons, Terry T. Robertson (wife: Susan) of Bringhurst and Tommy E. Robertson, at home; a daughter, Jami M. Spann (husband: Jason) of Bringhurst; a stepson, Zachery Whitfield of Camden; a stepdaughter, Chelsea J. Whitfield of Camden; two sisters, Iona Sue Hall (husband: Sam) of Bringhurst, Debra P. Garrison (husband: Dave) of Flora; one brother, Michael E. Robertson (wife: Judy) of Williamsport; nine grandchildren; and one stepgrandchild.

He was preceded in death by his father and two brothers, Tommy Eugene Robertson and Charlie Robertson.

Services were held Monday at Baker Funeral Home, Flora (www.bakerfh.com). Pastor Bill Godbey officiated.

Marshall Shoemaker

Marshall C. Shoemaker, 89, of Cutler, died at 6:55 a.m. Thursday, June 25, 2009, at the Indiana Veterans' Home in West Lafayette, where he resided the past four years.

Born Aug. 26, 1919, in Leesburg, he was the son of the late Edgar and Wilma Gall Shoemaker. He attended Kosciusko County Schools.

A World War II veteran, he received an honorable discharge from the U.S. Army. He was in the 32nd Division, 3425th Ordinance Medium Maintenance Company Q and served in the East Indies, Papua, and New Guinea.

Mr. Shoemaker was employed at Dick Porter Farms and Carroll County Farm Bureau Co-op.

He was a member of the United Methodist Church in Burlington.

Surviving are four daughters, Chris Popejoy (husband: Steve) of Burlington, Marsha Hudson (husband: Jack) of Dayton, Ohio, Deb Shoemaker of Charlotte, Tenn., and April Reason (husband: Dave) of Lafayette; two sons, Mike Shoemaker (wife: Kathleen) of Camden and Don Shoemaker (wife: Gwen) of Lafayette; two sisters, Clara Borthillier of Palm Springs, Calif., and Faye Hedington of Warsaw; 13 grandchildren; and eight great-grandchildren.

He was also preceded in death by two brothers and five sisters.

Graveside services were held Saturday at Maple Lawn Cemetery, Flora. Military graveside rites were provided by the Kokomo VFW Military Rites team.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the Indiana Veterans' Home, 3851 N. River Road, West Lafayette, or to the American Cancer Society.

Reinke Funeral Home, Flora, handled arrangements.

Bonnie J. Cossairt

Bonnie Jean Cossairt, 54, of Deer Creek, was called home to be with her heavenly Father on Sunday, June 28, 2009, at 1:45

p.m. after a three-year battle with cancer.

Born Jan. 18, 1955, in Logansport, she was the daughter of Jacob Lee and Freda Jean Lowe Kingery. She graduated from Carroll High School in 1973. On Jan. 19, 1974, in Flora, she married Terry Cossairt, who survives.

Mrs. Cossairt was employed by Carroll Consolidated School Corporation for many years, most recently as a bus driver and Title I Aide in Maxine Shanks's Junior Primary classroom. Along with her daily bus route, she drove team buses to her daughter's extracurricular activities.

She was a member of Living Faith Church of the Brethren.

Mrs. Cossairt enjoyed spending time with her family and friends. She loved working with and helping children. She also loved going to car shows, cooking, working outside around the house, and going to Carroll school sporting events.

Surviving with her husband are a daughter, Leann Cossairt, at home, (fiancé: Eric Turrill of Delphi); her mother, Jean Kingery of Flora; a brother, Robert Kingery (wife: Debbie) of Bringhurst; a nephew, Mike Kingery (wife: Angie) of Flora; and a niece, Malinda Blocher (husband: Brad) of Bringhurst.

Services will be held at 10:30 a.m. Friday at Living Faith Church of the Brethren, 310 N. CR 250 W. (two miles west of Flora). Pastor Jeff Tomson will officiate. Burial will follow at Maple Lawn Cemetery, Flora. Visitation will be Thursday from 3 to 7 p.m. at Living Faith Church of the Brethren.

Memorials may be made to St. Elizabeth Hospice, 1415 Salem Street, Lafayette, IN 47904.

Baker Funeral Home, Flora, (www.bakerfh.com) is handling arrangements.

Jewell C. Freeman

Jewell Clouse Freeman, 50, of Delphi, died June 25, 2009, at Lafayette Home Hospital.

Born Nov. 18, 1958, in Pineville, Ky., she was the daughter of Vernon and Eunice Saylor Clouse. Her marriage was in Pineville to David C. Freeman, who survives.

Mrs. Freeman was a homemaker.

Also surviving are three daughters, Sherry Miller (husband: Greg), Hope Nunn (husband: Bruce) and Melissa Moore, all of Pineville; a stepson, Jason Freeman, and a stepdaughter, Casci Jacob, both of Lafayette; and two brothers, Rick Clouse (wife: Loretta) and Lester Clouse (wife: Diane), both of Kentucky.

DELPHI FIREWORKS
July 4th at Dusk
High School Football Field

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- The name of the individual memorialized will be added to the Community Foundation's book of memory
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