

## Delphi begins renovation talks

By Debbie Lowe  
Staff writer

Five, out of the seven Delphi Community School Corporation Board of School Trustees, began the process to initiate needed renovations critical to the main campus at a special Monday night meeting. Chris Nipple, Melinda Rossetter, Jim Garrison, Jerry Sparks and Bill Trueblood heard preliminary renovation and cost estimates, as well as potential funding options, from construction engineers, financial experts and bond counsel.

"We respect that the \$13 million project was defeated," DCSC superintendent Ralph Walker said at the beginning of the meeting. "But we still have issues to take care of in our buildings."

All possible independent projects explained carry a separate price tag

of less than \$2 million, which is the threshold under which no approval from the public is needed to proceed. It was noted the projects are required to be separate from each other, however more than one can happen simultaneously.

### Middle school

Projects suggested by construction engineers include:

- Create three fully equipped science laboratories with lecture and lab space by adding onto the existing building, for a cost of approximately \$650,000;
- Redo cafeteria ceiling, lighting and fixtures, for \$115,000;
- Install electronic access control system and video surveillance, for security for \$100,000;
- Install new partitions in the boys and girls physical education locker rooms and install new boys lockers, for \$50,000; and

- Make structural wall repairs in the west side of the building, for \$350,000.

Total estimated costs for recommended renovations at the middle school - \$1,265,000.

### High school

Projects recommended were:

- Create three fully equipped science labs with lecture and lab space and remove the green house from the building, for \$1,000,000;
- Replace auditorium seating, carpeting and lighting, for \$200,000;
- Add an electronic access control and video surveillance system for security, including a secure vestibule area plus windows and doors replacement, for \$250,000; and
- Renovate three sets of restrooms to include new finishes, partitions and fixtures, for \$200,000.

Total estimated hard construction

costs for renovations at the high school - \$1,650,000.

### Exterior

Project renovation suggestions were:

- Completely renovate the tennis courts, for \$200,000;
- Build an access drive between the middle and high schools in the rear of the buildings to direct driving students to the Armory Rd. exits from the rear parking lot, for \$30,000;
- Fill cracks and seal parking areas for, \$75,000; and
- Construct new concrete sidewalks where needed, for \$50,000.

The total cost for exterior renovation projects recommended - \$355,000.

Walker explained that although high school principal Barry Stone stated during the July board meeting the situation was not as bad as first

thought, in fact he was talking about the project to clean out the science labs and not the need for overall renovation of the buildings.

"Nothing has changed," Walker said. "Things are as bad as we thought."

"This board will have to make some hard decisions," he added.

It was explained there are funding options for school projects through the state, resulting from federal stimulus money for the next two years, in the form of interest free bonds. Called "qualified school construction bonds," Indiana will receive \$177 million per year to issue interest-free bonds. Traditional funding through bond sale is also an option.

The financial advisors emphasized it is desirable to maintain a constant debt service tax rate. It was **See Delphi page 5A**

## County readies for expected flu pandemic

Volunteers are needed

By Debbie Lowe  
Staff writer

Carroll County was informed by the Indiana State Department of Health last week that the county will develop an urgent need for volunteers to help distribute and inject H1N1 flu vaccine by September or October.

The Emergency Management Agency and local health department are ramping up for what they hope will not become a serious situation for county residents.

"It is better to be prepared for the worst situation than not be prepared at all," EMA director Dave McDowell said Thursday. "Public Health Nurse Hope Kinzer and I have been tasked by the state with delivering the H1N1 vaccinations, starting with the local schools, as soon as vaccine becomes available."

McDowell explained there could be a very large number of shots to administer. He said if every one of the 20,000 county residents receives an inoculation, which includes two separate injections, a total of 40,000 injections would need to be given.

"This is going to take some planning and organization," McDowell said. "There will be a need to keep accurate records, do data entry, complete forms and move things like medicine and supplies from one area of the county to the other. We will definitely need help giving injections."

"We are really looking for people to step up and volunteer to help with this effort," he added. "We are going to need help organizing volunteers and supplies without a doubt."

McDowell said volunteers will be trained in all phases

of the operation when supplies become available. Prior to that time, he would like to assemble as many volunteers and assign them to areas of responsibility or need.

To learn about the pandemic flu and to download a worker questionnaire, interested county residents can visit <http://www.cacoshrf.com> and click on the link for the pandemic flu.

Those interested in volunteering for EMA and the health department, are urged to download and complete the questionnaire and return it to [ccpanflu@gmail.com](mailto:ccpanflu@gmail.com) or to McDowell's office in the basement of the county courthouse in Delphi.

"We truly need to know how many people are interested in helping with this in the next few weeks so we can begin to plan a duty roster," McDowell concluded. "We absolutely hope that this preparation is more than we need, but we would rather be over prepared than under prepared."



**Three perspectives**  
Artists (l-r) Terry Lacy, Rena Brouwer, and Alan McConnell will use their unique perspectives to capture the essence of Carroll County. Their travels around the county will produce an exhibit called "A Carroll County Journal," opening Sept. 19. Photo provided

## Artists to depict 'A Carroll County Journal'

### Comet staff report

During the next two months, Carroll County artists Rena Brouwer, Terry Lacy, and Alan McConnell will be focusing their artistic eyes and talents on the landscapes and people of Carroll County.

Their completed work will be showcased in an exhibit called "A Carroll County Journal," opening Sept. 19 in the Opera House Gallery of Contemporary Art in Delphi.

Brouwer, known for her free-flowing watercolors, is hoping to be invited into a community to paint.

"By immersing myself in my surroundings, I try to discover the essence of a place or persona," Brouwer said.

For her, painting is a spontaneous and almost spiritual experience.

"My work is a reinterpretation of what my eyes see," she continued. "Sometimes it may be a conversation that springboards a painting, but there is always a connection to persona in

my art."

She is interested in people and places - areas that speak for themselves as they depict Carroll County beauty, vitality, serenity, or a way of life. For Brouwer there is always a story being told in her mind as the watercolors connect with paper. To invite Brouwer to paint these stories for all time, email: [Rena@RenaBrouwer.com](mailto:Rena@RenaBrouwer.com) or call 765-589-3115.

Lacy might be spotted in a hay field **See Artists page 5A**

## CC Old Settlers is coming to Delphi

### Comet staff report

The 154th annual Carroll County Old Settlers will begin Wednesday, Aug. 5, around the courthouse square in Delphi. Activities including rides and amusements, entertainment, an art show, booths, food and more, will continue through Saturday, Aug. 8.

The Rendezvous encampment will be held at canal park Wednesday through Saturday.

The midway carnival and

rides will be open from 5 to 10 p.m. Wednesday and Thursday, from 5 to 11 p.m. on Friday, and from 12 noon to 11 p.m. on Saturday. \$15 wristband specials will be offered Wednesday evening and Saturday afternoon.

Special music is planned each evening on the east lawn of the courthouse. Those attending should take their own lawn chairs.

The Historical Museum and Art Show will be open from 6 to 9 p.m. Wednesday, regular daytime hours and from 6 to

9 p.m. Thursday and Friday, and Saturday afternoon.

There will be children's games and old-time craft demonstrations on the south lawn of the courthouse from Friday evening and Saturday afternoon.

Antique cars and tractors will be on display in the parking lot at the corner of Washington and Franklin streets from 1 to 9 p.m. Saturday.

The Old Settlers Open Golf Tournament will begin at 8 a.m. Saturday at the Carroll County Country Club.

Also starting at 8 on Saturday morning is the Canine Cavalcade at Riley Park.

Saturday afternoon entertainment will include a fife and drum corps, gymnastics performances, Eel River Indian Drums, Dulcimer Gathering, and Tae Kwon Do demonstrations.

### Delphi Preservation Society

The Opera House Gallery of Contemporary Art and gift shop will be open afternoons and evenings with Opera House tours to be given daily. The Red Brick Theater will

present performances of "Black Comedy," a one-act play in the rear of the Opera House Gallery. Seating is limited to 50. Doors will open at 8:15 p.m. with performances beginning at 8:30 p.m. For dates, check at the DPS booth or the Opera House Gallery.

Old Fashioned "Roof" Beer will be featured at the Delphi Preservation Society booth with proceeds to help replace the Opera House roof.

"Courthouses of Indiana" will be the program topic **See Old Settlers page 5A**

## Carroll amends calendar; prompted by state ruling

By Jennifer Archibald  
Staff writer

Carroll School Board amended the 2009-2010 school calendar at a regular meeting July 21. The new calendar omits four staff development days that were previously scheduled. This was prompted by a state Department of Education ruling that students can't be dismissed at noon for Staff Development Days.

As a result, the Carroll Ed-

ucation Association proposed, and the school board approved, reducing the two teacher records days (at the end of first semester and at the end of the school year) to half days instead of full days for teachers. Students do not attend on records day.

A memorandum of understanding, which amends the current master contract, lists four days when teachers are paid but students are not in attendance. Teachers will attend two days prior to the

opening of school on Aug. 13. Superintendent John Sayers said Aug. 11 will be a staff development day for teachers, and Aug. 12 will be the traditional teacher orientation day. Besides the two half-day records days, the other paid day is Presidents' Day, when students do not attend unless it becomes a snow make-up day.

Sayers commented that it has not been determined how parent-teacher conferences will be handled. He said it

will be discussed in board-teacher negotiations.

The board approved the purchase of Credit Recovery software for just under \$5,000. It allows students who are deficient in class credits required for graduation to go online and receive help toward earning those credits. Sayers said the purchase will be paid out of the Capital Projects Fund, and if possible, with federal stimulus funds.

Two quotes were received

for drainage work in the baseball outfield to get rid of standing water. Sayers said the outfield is very uneven and needs to be leveled out, sloped properly, and then reseeded. It was agreed that the superintendent will contact an engineer to make a topographical map of the area, which should give more direction for the excavation work. Then new cost estimates may need to be considered. Sayers also will get a **See Carroll page 5A**



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