

# CARROLL COUNTY COMET

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

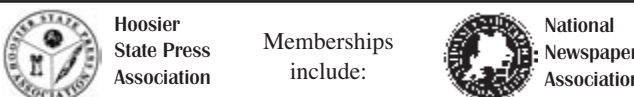
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Co-Publishers: Susan Scholl & Joe Moss

Editor: Susan Scholl, editor@carrollcountycomet.com  
Ad Director: Joe Moss, comet@carrollcountycomet.com  
Editorial Writers: Susan Scholl, Comet Staff

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## Community groups... where are you?

Not many weeks ago, Delphi Community School Corporation Superintendent Ralph Walker put out a plea to community groups for help with projects at the middle and high schools. He asked them to volunteer to do mostly simple tasks such as unscrewing blackboards from classroom walls and replacing them with white boards. Walker said this week not one community group has stepped up to the plate to help do any work.

Come on, community members!! These are your children! You told the corporation that you did not want them to spend \$13 million for the repairs. But the fact remains that the buildings need a significant amount of attention. And many needed tasks can be done by those with minimal or few skills. Plus, the cost savings would be great.

This is a friendly push in case you did not see the first two notices in the *Comet* or if you did and just have not gotten around to volunteering.

Come on Lions! Sign up Tri Kappa and Psi Otes! Step in line Main Street! Church groups, where are you? Eagle Scouts, do you not need a project? How about you Ag Association members, surely you can pound a nail or turn a screw! Delphi Preservation Society, you are the painters extraordinaire! Friends of the Delphi Library, get your heads out of the books! Leadership Carroll County, start leading! Rotarians, put your hands up!

Call Walker at (765) 564-2100 and tell him that you are willing and able to help the corporation provide a more conducive learning environment for your and everyone's children in this community.

I have a confession. I am the birthday scrooge. I do not get, have never gotten, can't figure for the life of me the big deal of birthdays past the age of - oh for the sake of argument - age 9. When you hit the double digits in the age department I'm ready to cut you loose.

I am the guy scrunched down behind the sofa at the surprise 40th or 50th or 75th mumbling "what the heck are we doing" as the unsuspecting birthday boy puts his key in the front door lock.

"Somebody get ready to dial 911." I'm apt to mutter just before the big "surprise!"

There are a few of us birthday Scrooges out there. At the office where I work we have a cake once a month to celebrate the birthdays of those workers who have birthdays falling on that calendar page. We light candles and sing and carry on. On some occasions no one is present at a given meeting from the list of names on that month's birthday list. And so the point is...well I'd have to guess cake for cake's sake at 10 a.m.?

On these festive birthday occasions our assistant office manager reveals she is, like me, a fellow birthday scrooge. Drussy doesn't like the mess the cakes make and doesn't like the assignment of hauling cakes in from who knows where. Most of all, she clearly does not like to be the designated cake cutter. Drussy uses a knife that resembles a meat cleaver to hack the cake into pieces. She cuts the entire thing up, puts the cake



## Blow out the candle

squares on paper plates and sticks a plastic fork in the top of each piece.

The birthday celebration looks like a crime scene when she's done cutting and a food fight when quitting time arrives at 5 p.m.

On the opposite side of us birthday Scrooges are the birthday nuts. These folks are the ones that declare their birthday "month" and celebrate the entire week of their "special" day. They declare immunity to tasks or work or obligations due near, or on, this sacrosanct day.

"Oh no, I couldn't finish the annual report - it fell due on MY BIRTHDAY."

My wife feels my negative attitude towards birthdays has come at a price. She mentioned that some years back when we were guests at my friend Ray's surprise 40th birthday party. It was an extravagant catered affair with much festivity and at least 100 folks in attendance.

"I wouldn't want 40 friends at my 40th - let alone this sized crowd," I whispered to her during the Happy Birthday song.

"You don't have 40 friends," she whispered back. And then there's the cards. My friend Pat is the world's

best card chooser and birthday observer. I don't know how she does it. I can forget my own birthday coming up only to be reminded by a little card arriving in the mail that week with "Pat and Paul" on the return envelope.

But I'm intimidated by the card rack. There are just too many choices for my taste - and the prices! One day my wife assigned me to buy a birthday card for a family member. I headed off to the drug store to face the racks and racks of cards. In one aisle I stumbled into the humor section and went from card to card. I laughed until I cried - some of the cards were that funny. But still, after a half hour of entertainment, I couldn't force myself to pick one that seemed "appropriate."

My friend Anna and I are just a day apart in the birthday department. Anna is a serious birthday celebrant and her phone rings for hours on her special day. Flowers are delivered, parties are thrown. Anna reaps what she has sown for she is the original birthday well-wisher. This year she called me from Italy to wish me the "happiest birthday ever!"

Anna doesn't know about the Scrooge thing. Some things don't need to be shared.

Meanwhile, I'm thinking Hallmark might want to consider the Scrooge line of birthday cards. At least I would know from what section I'm supposed to be making my choices.

## 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.

## Animal abuse goes unpunished

Today I received a disturbing call from my mother who lives in Flora. She was crying and sobbing, saying she could not believe what she had witnessed.

As she was pulling out of her garage she glanced into her neighbor's garage and saw him flailing an object around and slamming it onto the ground. At first, she couldn't tell what the object was. She then realized that the "object" was his miniature schnauzer, a dog that could not weigh more than 20 pounds.

My mother quickly stopped the car and ran over to her neighbor, begging him to stop and to give her his dog. The dog was not moving and my mother was almost sure it was dead. She continued begging him to stop, pleading that if he kept beating the dog, it would surely die. The neighbor told her that the dog wouldn't die, and proceeded to kick the dog in its stomach as it lie motionless on the garage floor.

Once she realized he was not going to hand over the dog, she called the Flora Police Department. Officer Mark Thomas responded. My mother told him what she had witnessed. After filling out a police report and taking statements from two other witnesses, the officer confirmed that the schnauzer was still alive. Officer Thomas told my mother and her neighbors that nothing could be done without "video proof" of the beating.

What are the laws regarding animal abuse in our communities? How can something so horrible go without reprimand? The thought of a 300-pound man beating a lifeless 20-pound dog sickens me.

Should my mother and her neighbors set up 24-hour surveillance of this man's house in order to catch him in the act? And how can we be sure that this dog will survive the next beating?

Sara Hampton  
Fort Hood, Texas

## Wants common sense for HHH

Having just recently arrived in Carroll County, my wife and I attended a meeting in Burrows concerning the new Highway 25 Heartland Project.

The following observations were noted:

- A. The highway department (the EXPERTS) had a plan for the new highway that included plans for inter-changes in Burrows.
- B. The County Commissioners (NOT experts) in their wisdom decided to change the plans for Burrows in spite of the fact the residents did NOT want the changes.
- C. It turns out there are several common sense solutions that would allow the highway plans at Burrows to go through as originally planned.
- D. It appears that one cannot use the word "County Commissioners" and "common sense" in the same sentence!

When is the next election?  
Peter Goodman  
Burrows

## Marriage Licenses

Daniel E. Hardy, 58, and Sandra J. Nethercutt, 62, both of Burrows.

Daniel William Alvarez, 46, and Tami Marie Hanna, 47, both of Monticello.

Matthew Carl Kostella, 37, and Heather Joan Ellis, 33, both of Flora.

Shawn Ryan McGaughey, 26, Bringham, and Lisa Marie Lach, 29, Oak Park, Ill.

Kevin Robert Leap, 37, and Lesly Lynn Norris, 33, both of Delphi.

Kent Daniel Flora, 21, and Christa Diane Kunkel, 25, both of Rossville.

Wesley Aaron McWhirter, 20, and Jessica Lynn Huffer, 23, both of Delphi.

## Superior Court Judge Jeffrey Smith

### New Filings

Cynthia M. Lemus was charged with criminal mischief.

Joseph Olvera was charged with driving while suspended and false or fictitious registration.

Kurtis M. Vestey was charged with possession of marijuana.

Gloria K. Duran was charged with operating motor vehicle without ever receiving a license and speeding.

Juan P. Hernandez was charged with driving while suspended.

Zakry A. Gutierrez was charged with battery resulting in bodily injury and criminal trespassing.

Gatlin Wright was charged with battery resulting in bodily injury and criminal trespassing.

Shawn D. Smith was charged with resisting law enforcement, disorderly conduct and battery.

Dustin L. Matlock was charged with operating a vehicle as an habitual traffic violator.

Holly A. Fullerton was charged with possession of marijuana and illegal possession of an alcoholic beverage.

Jeffrey A. Wagner was charged with permitting an

animal running at large.

Derek M. Lane was charged with possession of marijuana and furnishing alcohol to a minor. \*\*\*

Jesse O'Campo, 19, Monticello, was convicted of residential entry. He was sentenced to one and a half years in the Department of Correction, suspended, and one and a half years of supervised probation.

David A. Martin, 57, Flora, was convicted of operating a vehicle while intoxicated endangering a person. He was sentenced to three years in the Department of Correction, one and a half years suspended, and one and a half years of supervised probation.

Dena L. Markle, 31, Kokomo, was convicted of operating a vehicle while intoxicated. She was sentenced to 365 days in jail, 355 days suspended, and 355 days of probation.

Robert L. Davis, 58, Rossville, was convicted of operating a vehicle while intoxicated endangering a person and habitual substance offender. He was sentenced to one year in jail with all but 30 days suspended and 330 days of supervised probation on the first count. He was sentenced to a two-year enhancement, suspended, and two years of

supervised probation for the second count.

Rustin N. McIlrath, 28, Delphi, was convicted of theft and operating a motor vehicle while intoxicated endangering a person-prior conviction. He was sentenced to one and a half years in the Department of Correction, one year suspended, and one year of supervised probation for the first count; one and a half years in jail with one year suspended, and one year of supervised probation for the second count.

Joshua C. Combs, 20, Delphi, was convicted of operating a vehicle while intoxicated endangering a person. He was sentenced to one year in jail with all but 30 days suspended, and 335 days of supervised probation.

James L. Griffith, 54, Delphi, was convicted of operating a vehicle while intoxicated endangering a person. He was sentenced to two years in the Department of Correction.

Brandon L. Hancock, 23, Lafayette, was convicted of driving while suspended. He was sentenced to one year in jail, suspended, and one year of supervised probation.

The following causes brought by the State of Indiana have been dismissed: vs. Travis D. McDorman; vs.

Pamela D. Johnston; vs. Rachel N. Wheeler; vs. Rachel N. Wheeler; vs. Donald F. Richardson; vs. Pamela R. Cretche; vs. Jessica R. Martin; vs. Seth A. Scales; vs. Tara E. Weaver; vs. Karen Masters; vs. Ricardo Hernan-

## Because the public has a right to know...

The *Comet* publishes government meetings weekly to provide understanding of which government meetings are happening, when and where.

### Wednesday, August 26

√ Delphi Parks Board: 4 p.m., Stone Barn  
√ Town Hall Meeting: 6 p.m., Delphi Public Library

### Thursday, August 27

√ Twin Lakes Regional Sewer District: Executive Session: 6 p.m. and Business Meeting: 7 p.m., Administration Building  
√ Delphi Airport Board: 7 p.m.  
√ INDOT Hoosier Heartland Corridor Meeting: 7 p.m., Delphi Community High School Little Theatre and Commons  
**Tuesday, Sept. 1**  
√ Carroll School Board: 7:30 p.m.

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

Sheriff Sale-Edwards .....10B  
Sheriff Sale-Little .....10B  
Delphi School-Notice of Intent .B4  
Delphi School-Determination .B10  
Madison Twp-budget ..... .B4  
Monroe Twp-budget ..... .B4  
Jackson Twp-budget ..... .B4  
Flora-Monroe  
Twp. Library-budget ..... .B4  
T.L. School-bus replacement . .B4  
Carroll County-budget ..... .B4  
T.L. School-tax levies ..... .B9  
KIRPC-Delphi Statements of qualifications ..... .B  
Town of Camden-Public hearing B  
Tipton Twp-budget ..... .B  
Delphi Library-budget ..... .B  
Town of Burlington-budget . . .B  
Rossville School-tax levies . . .B  
Rossville School-bus replacement . .B  
County Council-add'l appro . . .B  
Rush estate ..... .B  
City of Delphi-budget ..... .B  
Deer Creek Twp-budget . . . . .B  
Deer Creek Twp-add'l appro . . .B  
Notice of Suite-Huddleston . . .B  
Sheriff Sale-Salyor ..... .B  
Fritts-dissolution of marriage . .B

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.

## Circuit Court Judge Donald Currie

New filings are from public records available in the Carroll County Clerk's office on the second floor of the courthouse, Delphi. Other information regarding judgments and marriage dissolutions is gathered from public records found in the clerk's office.

Judgment and decree of foreclosure was granted the plaintiff in U.S. Bank National Assoc. vs. Eric S. Miller, \$39,329.31.

Judgments were granted to the plaintiff in: MJK Services, Inc. vs. Pamela S. Dillon, \$6,363.65 and ANCO Steel Company vs. Whiskey Barrel Planters and Ralph Richard Robinson, \$78,753.33.

Maryann Smerdel, Karen Jeanine Carter and Mary Virginia Orr have been named administrators of the Alyce E. Treece estate.

American Acceptance filed complaint against Larry M. Dowell.

Midland Funding LLC filed complaint against Pam Gibbs aka French.

Midland Funding LLC filed complaint against George Isley.

Joe Dean Rush has been named the administrator of the Carl Wayne Rush estate.

Marlene and Parker Slusser filed complaint for damages against Milton D. Rogers.

## 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.

### Are you in favor of the County Road 75 extension?

Yes, only if the cost is funded 100% by state and federal funds. Yes, even if the county and local governments are required to fund a portion of the costs at the expense of other local projects and needs. Yes, at any cost, it will bring future industry and business. No, not interested in seeing the project happen.

### Last Week's results

Was your back-to-school spending....  
17% About the same as previous years  
22% Spent more  
28% Spent less  
33% Have no kids in school  
103 Total Responses

## Restaurant Inspections

### Smitty's Tacos - Delphi

Routine inspection: 8/3/09  
Summary of violations: no violations noted.

### The Manor Lounge - Delphi

Routine inspection: 8/3/09  
Summary of violations: 3 non-critical

1. Floors, walls, ceilings not constructed with smooth easily cleanable material in food prep area.
2. Wall and ceiling studs or rafters exposed to moisture.
3. Light intensity in food prep area not at least 70 foot candles.

### Fishers Restaurant - Flora

Routine inspection: 8/3/09  
Summary of violations: 1 non-critical

1. Restroom doors not self-closing.

### Just One More Pub - Camden

Routine inspection: 8/3/09  
Summary of violations: No violations noted.

### Camden Grocery

Routine inspection: 8/3/09  
Summary of violations: No violations noted.

### 218 Produce Market

Routine inspection: 8/3/09  
Summary of violations: No violations noted.

### Old Settlers

Routine inspections for all of the following: 8/3/09

Summary of violations: No violations noted for:

### Dumbo's Elephant Ears

### Parrett's Catering

### Phil's Concessions

### DJ-MS Concessions

### Jessup's Concessions

### Yeager Vending

### Ze Belle Concessions

### Debbie's Concessions

### Jackie's Special Ribs

### Dan's Fry Service

### Nelson's Golden Glow