

CARROLL COUNTY COMET

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

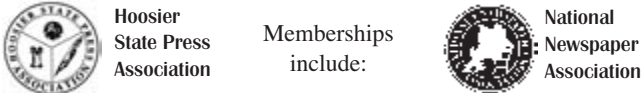
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County influences the future?

Little did the Carroll County Council know when they adopted an ordinance in September of 2008 that their actions set in motion events that would lead the Indiana Department of Local Government Finance to change (perhaps only slightly, but change they did) their management of Local Option Income Tax levies for all Indiana counties.

The DLGF should be applauded for not only recognizing a flaw in their system but then talking about it. It is commendable that state staffers took the time to understand what happened in Carroll County and decided to establish a different method of how things are done in their office to avoid a similar situation in other counties.

"We acknowledge that upon receipt of the original ordinance in 2008, we did not identify that the county intended to reduce the rate in the second year. We apologize for the oversight and have put provisions in place to ensure this does not occur in other counties..."

It was at the council's request that DLGF recently visited the council meeting to discuss the situation. DLGF could have refused, but they did not.

County council members were adamant that they followed the rules when they created the ordinance to adopt the tax rate. They explained the situation to the DLGF representative at the meeting, several times.

The DLGF representative was adamant about how the state statute dictated that the county could not do what the ordinance indicated would be done, also several times.

It seemed to be a friendly stand-off at the end of the meeting. Only after a telephone call from the DLGF to clarify the situation was the county situation fully understood in Indianapolis.

The DLGF could have recognized a problem and made the management change without making it public knowledge, but they did not. That is commendable.

And the knowledge that a change for the better has been made for the future, thanks to Carroll County, serves to remind everyone that going forth with integrity is worth the effort.

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.

Lafayette Bank & Trust Company filed complaint on note and to foreclose mortgage on real estate against Steven G. and Connie L. Myer.

GMAC Mortgage LLC filed complaint on note and to foreclose mortgage on real estate against Christian C. Mocherman and Wells Fargo Financial Bank.

James W. Ayres and Sharon Sue Delaney have been named administrators of the Joe K. Ayres estate.

Mortgage Elec. Reg. System filed complaint on contract promissory note and to foreclose mortgage against Amy Miller.

James and June Lytle filed complaint against Joseph Smith d/b/a Earthscapes Inc.

American Acceptance Company filed complaint

against Garret K. Herron. American Accounting Company LLC filed complaint against Sara Sizemore.

Arrow Financial Services LLC filed complaint against William E. Hefner.

Capital One Bank filed complaint against Richard Lawson.

Midland Funding LLC filed complaint against Bonnie Daugherty.

U.S. Bank NA filed complaint on note and to foreclose mortgage against Sean M. Wright.

Citimortgage Inc. filed complaint on note and to foreclose mortgage on real estate against Christopher J. Buono.

Carroll County Prosecutor Tricia Thompson and IN BMV Commissioner Ron Stiver petitioned for reinstatement of driving privileges for Lisa Diane Theike.

Sara Ann Downham Clark was named administrator of the Elizabeth Ann Downham estate.

A man pulled his car alongside mine this evening while I was stopped at a traffic light. It was dark outside and the street was pretty deserted. The guy pulled his little Honda close up to the side of my car and motioned me to roll down my window. As I assessed the situation, the traffic light turned green. At that point I shrugged my shoulders like that was my answer, gave the accelerator a little extra gas and took off. But at the next red light there he was again, pulled up right next to me, window rolled down and calling out to me.

Against my better judgment I used the power window control and lowered the passenger side window half way down.

In short order I learned that my persistent neighbor on four wheels was lost. In an accent thick from another country he asked me for directions to a nearby well-traveled street.

"That's 800 north, you're at 860 north," I said pointing to the street sign, "you went past it." I placed heavy emphasis on the word *past*.

The man looked at me puzzled as though he doubted what I said. Annoyed at the man, the situation, and annoyed at the funny feeling I had from being doubted by a lost foreigner, I pushed the button sending my window back to shut.



Directions

The light turned green, and off I went. The lost man with the thick accent tarried. Finally, my rear view mirror caught an image of him turning to head back in the direction from which he had come.

Then, there it was in front of me, a sign proclaiming the street name sought by the man in the car. Caught off guard, I had clearly gotten turned around in my thinking and had given incorrect directions.

I've given more than a few wrong directions in my time. Usually, they are the turned around kind of directions with me pointing exactly 180 degrees from correct. There's an awful feeling that settles in when this happens. The feeling takes hold just about the time the lost party is just pulling away from the curb. A moment of reflection takes place and the truth is revealed. At that precise moment I immediately want to chase after the innocent traveler whom I have misinformed. But I always feel I will appear as a full-fledged, deranged maniac and scare the very person who has

placed their trust in me.

A couple weeks back I was at the 7-11 getting a chicken salad sandwich. This is my new \$2.99 lunch and I've gotten to be a regular. As I headed to my car with sandwich and bonus brownie, a woman in a beige Toyota pointed her car right at me and swerved to block my passage.

The woman dispensed with all pleasantries and formalities. No "excuse me," or "may I ask?"

"Where's the Ontario feeder ramp to the expressway?"

Now in my defense, my sandwich was calling me and I was in the middle of the street.

"One block that way," I pointed towards the north.

"I think you're wrong," quipped the woman. "I think it's south."

"One block that way," I pointed and persisted.

Just as the woman completed a loud screech of a u-turn, it dawned on me that she was right and I was wrong and she was now headed in the direction I had sent her. The familiar flood of guilt washed over me but I managed to resist running down the middle of the street to correct my gaff.

A word to the wise. All you lost and bewildered and seeking directions, beware. The directions you garner may cause you additional travel

time and much inconvenience.

One easy rule to remember. If a man with a chicken salad sandwich gives you directions only to immediately start chasing you, well, that's a signal you are now traveling in the opposite direction that you desire. Do a u-turn, avoiding said man, ignore him and proceed confidently the way you were originally headed.

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.

Healthcare vote contradicts platform

This is a letter to our Congressman Joe Donnelly.

I now realize what your statement on www.donnelly-foruscongress.com means. "Independent voice" when read by the people who voted for you probably meant that you were going to stand up for them and vote for what they believe in. With your vote for Obamacare, it is now clear that "Independent voice" means a voice that is clearly independent of the people that put you in your position as steward for our piece of this nation. I'm sure Nancy (Pelosi) is very pleased with your support and your funding will be secured for 2010, but your votes are not. We have trusted you with our checkbook and you continue to plunder the livelihood of our future generations for short-sighted decisions you make today.

This will not continue; elections are right around the corner.

Brett Coughlin
Bringham

No more status quo
I feel Lon Bohnstedt's letter of Nov. 4 needs a couple of corrections. He cites Ron Scowden's letter stating a \$700 ambulance claim for one hour and 15 miles.

First of all, the ambulance company sets the price of the ride, not the reimbursor, whether that reimbursor is a private insurance company or Medicare/Medicaid. Mr. Scowden doesn't even mention if this was a Medicare Claim. So there was no Government Fiat for the price he was billed.

As for me, I don't live on another planet and I completely support health care reform.

And I will tell you what scares the bejebers (the letter writer's word, not mine) out of me:

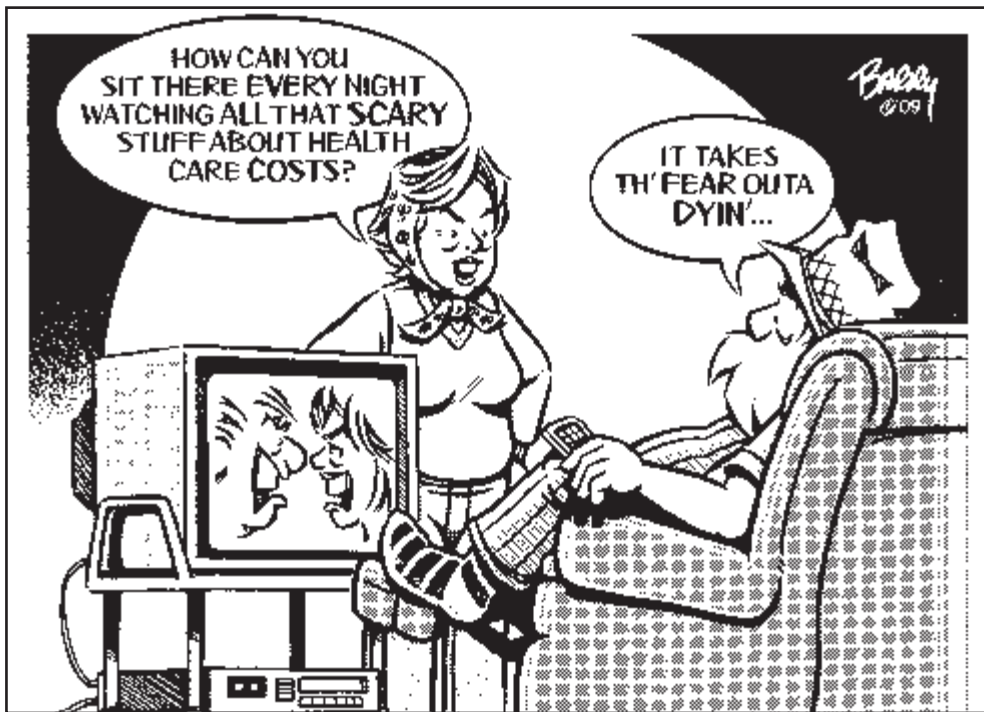
- My insurance premiums continuing to increase 10-20% every year.
- My premiums increasing just because I fall into a higher age bracket.
- I currently have a \$3,000 deductible and pay \$250 per month for insurance coverage through my employer who pays the other \$250 each month. This is a single coverage plan. If I would lose my job, my insurance is not portable, my premium for COBRA coverage would double my present monthly premium out-of-pocket, and should I exhaust the COBRA benefit after 18 months, would not be able to pick up coverage from another carrier because of pre-existing conditions.

Health care reform will correct portability and pre-existing conditions as well as keep the insurance companies honest and competitive. Comparing apples to apples, the built in profit margin for insurance companies of up to 25% would automatically disappear under a government option. Remember, the key word here is "option." No one is forcing you to take the government plan. If you are happy with your present carrier, no problem.

Michael Knight
Boca Raton, Fla.
(former Flora resident)

Public Notices appearing in this issue of the Comet:
Summons-Mandley/AugstB5
Sheriff Sale-CookB4
Sheriff Sale-KinzerB5
Sheriff Sale-CunninghamB4
Long-name changeB6
Sheriff Sale-PriceB5
Sheriff Sale-PetersB5
Downham estateB5
George Hardesty-name change B5
Town of Camden-requirements B5
Commissioners-wind energy .B5
Wallace estateB5
Kolby Martin adoptionB4
Jordan Martin adoptionB4
Notice of Suit-MelladyB5
Stout estateB5
Baldwin estateB4
Rosalville School-1028 hearing .B5
Schwartz-zoningB5
Carroll School-bus bidsB5
Delphi School-bidsB4

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.



Superior Court - Judge Jeffrey Smith

Superior Court judgments are gathered from public records on file in the Carroll County Clerk's office on the second floor of the courthouse, Delphi.

New filings

Imelda Martinez and Tania L. Peralta were charged with operating a motor vehicle without ever receiving a license.

Ricardo Hernandez was charged with driving while suspended.

John C. Ralstin was charged with OWI-endangering and operating w/an ACE of .08 or more.

Caleb E. Buffenbarger was charged with failure to stop after an accident resulting in damage to an unattended vehicle.

Timmy A. Leigh was charged with illegal sex offender residency and invasion of privacy.

Bryan A. Lee was charged with possession of marijuana, maintaining a common nuisance, and possession of paraphernalia.

Curtis Etter was charged with illegal consumption of an alcoholic beverage.

Richard M. Galuoppo was charged with OWI-endangering and failure to stop after accident resulting in non-vehicle damage.

Travis S. Wilson and Michael A. Leonard was charged with OWI-endangering and operating a vehicle with an ACE of .15 or more.

Adriane E. Swisher was charged with operating a motor vehicle without ever receiving a license and speeding.

Jessica E. Hullinger was charged with OWI-endangering, operating with an ACE of .15 or more and illegal consumption of an alcoholic beverage.

Justin Michael Loeffler was charged with maintaining a common nuisance, possession of marijuana and possession of paraphernalia.

Hipolito M. Reyes was charged with driving while suspended and speeding.

Ronald L. Hively was charged with domestic battery.

Russell M. Carter, Jr. was charged with maintaining a common nuisance, possession of marijuana and possession of paraphernalia.

Robyn L. Flanagan was charged with criminal trespassing, charged with public intoxication.

Mersed Flores was charged

with operating motor vehicle without ever receiving a license and speeding.

Gatlin W. Wright was charged with disorderly conduct.

Debra S. Hively was charged with intimidation and domestic battery.

Justin L. Woolington was charged with criminal confinement and battery resulting in bodily injury.

Timothy E. James was charged with two counts of possession of marijuana, two counts of possession of controlled substance and maintaining a common nuisance.

Jane Alison Popejoy was charged with theft.

The following causes have been dismissed without prejudice: Kyle L. Stacy, Edward McKenzie, William Rodenbarger, and Michael K. Whitt.

Robert J. Call, 29, Reynolds, was convicted of battery and criminal mischief. He was sentenced to 180 days in jail, suspended, and 365 days of supervised probation for each count.

The cause against Tracy A. Welch was dismissed.

Robin E. Love, 39, Bunker Hill, was convicted of check deception. She was sentenced to 180 days in jail, suspended, and 180 days of unsupervised probation.

Patrick P. Boyles Jr., 24, Flora, was convicted of strangulation. He was sentenced to three years in the Department of Correction with 835 days suspended, and 835 days of supervised probation.

Stefhanie E. Lawless, 26, Greentown, was convicted of theft. She was sentenced to one year in jail, suspended, and one year of supervised probation.

Daisy Gonzalez, 19, Logansport, and Kody A. Curry, 19, were both convicted of operating a motor vehicle without ever receiving a license. They were sentenced to 60 days in jail, suspended, and one year of unsupervised probation.

The charge against Ana Lucia Barrera-Lopez was amended to having no valid license and she was fined \$25 plus court costs.

Richard E. Hipsher, 22,

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.

How much Christmas shopping do you have done?

- None
- Less than half
- More than half
- Finished!

Last Week's results

Would you like to see windmills in areas of Carroll County where they would be feasible?

75% Yes
25% No

191 Total Votes

Marriage Licenses

James Scott Philapy Jr., 27, and Christina Marie Bott, 27, both of Flora.

Gary Arthur Grider, 58, and Melody Kay Ford, 39, both of Monticello.