

# Delphi Armory to remain open

By Debbie Lowe  
Staff writer

That three additional National Guard Units, one of them from Delphi, will be moving into the Lafayette Armory does not portend the end for the Delphi Armory. "Some operations will continue at the Delphi Armory," Lt. Col. Steve Hines told the *Comet* Tuesday afternoon.

Hines is the Indiana National Guard Construction and Facilities Manager located in Indianapolis. He said recruiting and other activities will continue to be conducted at the local facility. "There will be a draw-down or slow-down at Delphi for between six months to a year," Hines said. "But the Guard does not want to let go of the Delphi Armory."

Hines said it is expected that another unit will move into the facility within the next year. The new unit will join the full-time recruiting and retention team and a recruit detachment currently stationed at Delphi. "The Military Police organization is the one moving to the Lafayette Armory," Hines concluded. "And that won't be for perhaps another year."

# DLGF responds to misunderstanding

By Debbie Lowe  
Staff writer

The Indiana Department of Local Government Finance read with interest the story in last week's *Comet* about a meeting of the Carroll County Council and a DLGF representative. The topic of discussion was the Local Option Income Tax rate adopted by the council for 2009 as deemed necessary to supplant revenue lost by state-imposed property tax reform. The council adopted by ordinance a rate double that which was deemed necessary because state statute dictated the needed rate be doubled to

create a "stabilization fund." The county ordinance read that the rate would be reduced the second year. During the review process, the council learned the state statute would not allow them to reduce the LOIT rate once it is established. DLGF requested another story to explain to readers why the situation happened as it did. The following was submitted Tuesday to the *Comet* via E-mail from Mary Jane Michalak, Chief of Staff/Director of Communications for the DLGF. "In 2008, Carroll County passed an ordinance to institute a "levy freeze" to provide

property tax relief to county taxpayers. According to state law, once a levy freeze is passed, the county can never again grow its property tax levy. (Levy is another word for government can collect.) For instance, if a county has a property tax levy of \$100,000 and passes the "levy freeze" LOIT, the county's levy will be maintained by the Department of Local Government Finance at \$100,000 in accordance with state law. However, the levy is supplemented by the local income taxes, which can be raised each year to adjust for what would be normal levy growth. "The allowable level of taxation and use of revenues are highly structured by statute. Therefore, the county loses some flexibility when they pass a levy freeze option versus another type of local income tax. For instance, the county is required to pass specific income tax rates that are certified by the DLGF for the first two years of the levy freeze to establish a base of funding. The first year, the county is required to adopt a rate that is twice what would be needed to cover the difference between the levy and the growth. In the second year, the county is required to adopt a rate that would cover the only the difference between the levy and the growth. (see graphic for explanation.) However, after the first two years, the county regains some flexibility and can annually choose whether to increase an income tax or keep it the same and flat-line local spending. The statute does not permit the rate to ever be reduced or rescinded, even after year 2. However, if the county wishes to provide more relief to taxpayers for 2011 (the deadline has passed for 2010), they could reduce their legacy CREDIT or CAGIT rate or lower their levy below the freeze amount. "It appears that Carroll County officials misunderstood the mechanics of the local income tax they were passing in 2008 and how the passage would limit their flexibility in the first two years. Unfortunately, the mistake in their passage of the local ordinance was not realized until this year. The Department is required to enforce statutes; therefore, the Department's ability to allow local control is also limited to what statute allows. "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. Regardless of this oversight, the passage of the 0.2 rate was in accordance with statute and this rate cannot be reduced or repealed."

# DCES From page 1A

ressed a concern raised earlier by a patron that doors for Delphi Community Elementary were not installed prior to the beginning of the school year. He explained construction bids were approved at the April 13 board meeting and the normal amount of time, two to four weeks, was spent working with the contractor to ensure all materials purchased met design specifications. Jeffries said the doors could not have been ordered before June 6, which did not leave enough time after they arrived to install them before school began in the fall.

Jeffries also reported that screens purchased for the Camden building were not able to be used due to irregularities in the window casements. "So we own them but we don't have anything they fit?" questioned Bill Trueblood. Jeffries acknowledged that is the case.

Walker said it is necessary for unused project funds to be spent for other repairs, projects and renovations at the elementary school buildings. He said the money did not have to be utilized quickly and could be kept in the line item for at least five to seven years.

Walker explained a similar funding situation existed for work at the middle school. He said the estimate to replace the ceiling in the cafeteria was much less than expected after the decision to not remove the pyramid was made. A bid for \$19,000 for the ceiling work was approved.

With the money remaining from that project, bids for \$13,386.14 for carpeting in six rooms, \$74,971 for a camera and security system, and \$26,519.96 to repair the greenhouse, not originally in the scope of work, were approved for the middle school. Funding for the project will be provided from a general obligation bond.

# FEMA From page 1A

The Polis Center and McDowell held an initial meeting Oct. 29 at the Flora Community Center to introduce the planning process and to identify a county-wide planning team. McDowell said he will be contacting those in the communities who are knowledgeable about what resources would be at risk for a majority of community members in the event of a disaster.

Five meetings will be held to develop the plan. McDowell was given a list of obvious critical facilities for which updated information was needed. In addition, he was charged to add additional sites to the list which could be at risk in the event of a disaster. McDowell said he would reach out to community members to gain as much accurate information as possible to present at the second meeting, which is expected to be scheduled within a month.

"We have been given a good starting point with the information Polis presented to us Thursday," McDowell explained. "But I know there are other sites that should be added

in order to help reduce potential damage from future disasters." "Historically, weather has been the force that has produced disasters," he continued. "But that doesn't mean we are immune from other kinds of disasters here. We just don't normally think of them happening to us because they have not...yet."

According to Polis Center representative Adam Campbell, there will be no cost to the county for the plan. He explained that the grant by which the Polis Center is paid for the work dictates a 25 percent match by the county. He said between county-wide sweat equity and county provided data, the match would be met. He also said at the completion of all county plans, the Polis Center will have completed 75 percent of them.

McDowell invited residents to provide risk assessment information to his office by calling (765) 564-4243 or by e-mail at dmcdowell@ccoshrf.com. For addition information about the Polis Center visit [www.polis.iupui.edu](http://www.polis.iupui.edu).

property tax relief to county taxpayers. According to state law, once a levy freeze is passed, the county can never again grow its property tax levy. (Levy is another word for government can collect.) For instance, if a county has a property tax levy of \$100,000 and passes the "levy freeze" LOIT, the county's levy will be maintained by the Department of Local Government Finance at \$100,000 in accordance with state law. However, the levy is supplemented by the local income taxes, which can be raised each year to adjust for what would be normal levy growth. "The allowable level of taxation and use of revenues are highly structured by statute. Therefore, the county loses some flexibility when they pass a levy freeze option versus another type of local income tax. For instance, the county is required to pass specific income tax rates that are certified by the DLGF for the first two years of the levy freeze to establish a base of funding. The first year, the county is required to adopt a rate that is twice what would be needed to cover the difference between the levy and the growth. In the second year, the county is required to adopt a rate that would cover the only the difference between the levy and the growth. (see graphic for explanation.) However, after the first two years, the county regains some flexibility and can annually choose whether to increase an income tax or keep it the same and flat-line local spending. The statute does not permit the rate to ever be reduced or rescinded, even after year 2. However, if the county wishes to provide more relief to taxpayers for 2011 (the deadline has passed for 2010), they could reduce their legacy CREDIT or CAGIT rate or lower their levy below the freeze amount. "It appears that Carroll County officials misunderstood the mechanics of the local income tax they were passing in 2008 and how the passage would limit their flexibility in the first two years. Unfortunately, the mistake in their passage of the local ordinance was not realized until this year. The Department is required to enforce statutes; therefore, the Department's ability to allow local control is also limited to what statute allows. "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. Regardless of this oversight, the passage of the 0.2 rate was in accordance with statute and this rate cannot be reduced or repealed."

# Freedom From page 1A

INDOT. "We thank the INDOT coordination team that made this feature of the new highway possible," McCain said. He added that although the bridge will be a part of the Delphi Historic Trails system, the state will own it.

INDOT. "We thank the INDOT coordination team that made this feature of the new highway possible," McCain said. He added that although the bridge will be a part of the Delphi Historic Trails system, the state will own it.

# Freedom

From page 1A

INDOT. "We thank the INDOT coordination team that made this feature of the new highway possible," McCain said. He added that although the bridge will be a part of the Delphi Historic Trails system, the state will own it.

INDOT. "We thank the INDOT coordination team that made this feature of the new highway possible," McCain said. He added that although the bridge will be a part of the Delphi Historic Trails system, the state will own it.

# Freedom

From page 1A

INDOT. "We thank the INDOT coordination team that made this feature of the new highway possible," McCain said. He added that although the bridge will be a part of the Delphi Historic Trails system, the state will own it.

# Obituaries

## Larry Hausenfluck



Larry Hausenfluck, 68, died Saturday, Nov. 7, 2009, in Surprise, Arizona. Born in Howard County, Indiana, on March 27, 1941, he was the son of Mildred and Vernon Hausenfluck, who preceded him in death. He married Susan Elwood in 1963 and she survives.

A 1959 graduate of Flora High School and 1963 graduate of Purdue University, Larry was a four-year member of the Purdue University Glee Club. He and friend Jim McCoy established a karaoke sing-along team, providing entertainment and encouragement to many residents of assisted-living and retirement centers in the greater Seattle area.

Larry was a sales manager with Barnes Distribution (formerly Kar Products) for 38 years. He retired in December 2006 and split time between his home in the Seattle area and Surprise, Ariz.

Surviving with his wife are two sons, Michael Hausenfluck (wife Marie-Sophie) of Covington, Wash., and Todd Hausenfluck of Everett, Wash.; three daughters, Ann Hausenfluck (husband Scott Grant) of Woodinville, Wash., Amy Tovel (husband Joel) of Kirkland, Wash., and Jill Christenson (husband Zeke) of Snohomish, Wash.; seven grandchildren, Ryan, Joshua, Kyle, Raphael, Martin, Hailey, and Nathan; one great-grandson, Lukas; and a sister, Ruthann Roberts (husband Don) of Lafayette.

A funeral mass will be held on Saturday at St. John Vianney Parish in Kirkland, Wash., followed by burial of remains at Sunset Hills Cemetery in Bellevue, Wash. A celebration of Larry's life will take place at St. John Vianney Parish following the burial.

In lieu of flowers, please make donations to Hospice of Arizona, 2222 W. Northern Ave., Suite #A-100, Phoenix, AZ 85021.

## Marlin L. Welk

Marlin LeRoy Welk, 92, of Rossville, died at 1:45 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 3, 2009, at Milner Community Healthcare in Rossville.

Born July 11, 1917, in Minot, N.D., he was the son of Mervin D. and Ethel Moore Welk. He attended Pyrmont School. His marriage was on Dec. 23, 1939, in Carroll County, to Edna C. Cottrell, who preceded him in death Aug. 27, 2007.

Mr. Welk worked with his father for many years as a carpenter. From 1964 to 1982 he was employed as a custodian and in maintenance at Mulberry High School. He also farmed for 26 years.

Mr. Welk was a member of the Middle Fork Old German Baptist Brethren Church.

Surviving are a daughter, Marilyn Jane Welk Renicker (husband: R.J.) of Rossville; a son, Eugene E. Welk (wife: Judy) of Delphi; two brothers, Floyd E. Welk (wife: Edith) and Galen Welk (wife: Donnabell), both of Rossville; a sister, Nellie Kessler of Rossville; a sister-in-law, Mary Ellen Welk of Delphi; four grandchildren; three step-grandchildren; nine great-grandchildren; seven step great-grandchildren; and four step great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by two brothers, Robert and Charles "Bill" Welk, and a brother-in-law, Marion.

Services were held Saturday at the Middle Fork Old German Baptist Brethren Church with home brethren officiating. Burial followed at Middle Fork Old German Baptist Brethren Cemetery.

Arrangements were handled by Bodine Funeral Home in Rossville.

## Jeffrey M. Hayes



Services for Jeffrey Mark Hayes, 51, Flora, were held Saturday at Baker Funeral Home, Flora. Pastor Dan Herendeen of

Maple Lawn Cemetery, Flora.

He died at 10:16 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 3, 2009, at St. Elizabeth Hospital, Lafayette, where he had been a patient since Oct. 28.

Born Oct. 30, 1958, in Logansport, he was the son of Elmer H. and Thelma Marie Eller Hayes. He graduated from Carroll High School in 1977. On Aug. 27, 1994, in Flora, he married Sandra Muir, who survives.

Mr. Hayes was a supervisor at Lowes in Lafayette for 14 years. He had worked at United Technologies in Flora for 11 years and helped local farmers when needed.

He attended the Flora Grace Brethren Church.

An avid sports fan, he especially enjoyed NASCAR, the Cincinnati Reds and Miami Dolphins.

He loved his family and spending time with them.

Surviving with his wife are a son, Jeffrey Paul Hayes, at home; two brothers, Joe G. Hayes (wife: Susan) of Florida and Jack L. Hayes (wife: Mary) of Flora; five nephews, Justin, Jeremy, Mark, Tom and Aaron; and a niece, Beth.

He was preceded in death by his parents, a brother, John H. Hayes, and a niece, Krystal.

Memorials may be made to the American Heart Association or to the Susan B. Komen for the Cure Foundation.

## Anthony E. Snapp

Anthony E. "Tony" Snapp, 43, Flora, died Friday, Nov. 6, 2009, at Home Hospital in Lafayette.

Born April 6, 1966, in Lafayette, he formerly lived in Rossville. His marriage was on Feb. 18, 1989, in Rossville, to Donna Richardson, who survives.

He was employed as a plumber at Klooz Plumbing.

Also surviving are a daughter and son, Carra and Hunter Snapp, both at home; his parents, Don Snapp of Lafayette, Carolyn Reef (husband: Larry) of Cutler, and Larry Dexter (wife Janice) of Corbin, Ky.; a sister, Teri Snapp of Lafayette; two brothers, Tim Snapp of Lafayette and Brian Dexter of Kentucky; his grandparents, William Snapp of Spencer; Mona Reynolds of Rossville, and Mildred Robins of Lafayette.

Services were held Tuesday at Bodine Funeral Home, Rossville. Burial followed at Musselman Cemetery.

Memorials may be made to the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation or the Colon Cancer Foundation.

## Reba L. Spitler



Reba L. Walker Spitler, 98, a life resident of Delphi, died at 7:20 a.m. Wednesday, Nov. 4, 2009, at St. Elizabeth

Healthcare Center in Delphi. She had been a resident there since Sept. 14.

Born Oct. 5, 1911, in Carroll County, she was the daughter of the late Bruce and Grace Dunkin Walker. Her marriage was on Nov. 24, 1934, in Lancaster, to Truman Spitler, who preceded her in death Oct. 13, 1988.

Mrs. Spitler was a 1929 graduate of Young America High School.

A homemaker, she helped her husband on their family farm and worked at the former Beesley's Department Store in Delphi.

Mrs. Spitler previously had lived at Carroll Manor in Delphi for six years before moving to the nursing home.

She was a member of the Living Faith Church of the Brethren and was a former deacon of the church. She taught Sunday school and belonged to the Women's Fellowship of the church.

Mrs. Spitler was active in an Extension Homemakers Club in Delphi and enjoyed sewing and gardening.

Surviving are three daughters, Connie L. Hoffman, Suzanne L. Hathaway, both of Delphi, and Joyce Johnson (husband: David) of Farmington, N.M.; a son, Philip Spitler (wife: Carol) of Kokomo; ten grandchildren; 11 great-grandchildren; four stepgreat-grandchildren; and seven stepgreat-great-grandchildren.

Preceding her in death were two infant brothers; a son-in-law, Dick Hathaway; a grandson, Todd Hathaway; and a sister.

Services were held Friday, at the Living Faith Church of the Brethren near Flora. The Rev. Jeff Tomson officiated. Burial followed at Zion Citizens Cemetery near Brighthurst.

Memorials may be made to the Living Faith Church or to Carroll Manor Home.

Arrangements were handled by Abbott Funeral Home in Delphi.

## Juana Salmeron

Juana Salmeron, 81, of Delphi, died Friday, Nov. 6, 2009, at St. Elizabeth Medical Center in Lafayette.

Born Jan. 27, 1928, in LaUnion, El Salvador, Central America, she was the daughter of the late Isabel and Natividad Bustillos Salmeron. She was married to Simon Salmeron, who preceded her in death.

Mrs. Salmeron was a member of the Seventh Day Adventist Church in Logansport.

Surviving are three sons, Odilio Salmeron of Iowa, Ramon Salmeron of San Antonio, Texas, and Jose Salmeron of Florida; a daughter, Salvadora Juarez of Delphi; two sisters, Victoria and Candelaria Salmeron, and two brothers, Roberto and Jose Salmeron, all of El Salvador; 14 grandchildren and 18 great-grandchildren.

She will be returned to San Salvador, Central America, for burial.

**The Classifieds**  
In the paper and on the Web. Most classified ads are linked to the advertisers' websites. Check it out at: **CARROLL COUNTY COMET.COM**

**BAIL BONDS**  
**JOE MOSS, AGENT**  
**765-564-2226**

*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

**PO Box 24**  
**Flora, IN 46929**  
**800-964-0508**  
**www.carroll.org**

*For good. For ever.™*

**MEDICARE SUPPLEMENT INSURANCE**

Turning 65?  
Paying too much for your current supplement?  
We have several VERY competitive plans available. Call Bob or Greg.

**RME Insurance 45 S. Center Flora**  
**574-967-4547 or 800-441-5143**