

WEDNESDAY
MARCH 2, 2022



FREE



A Safe Haven

Edinburgh agencies join national alliance to protect newborns.

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Edinburgh Courier

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

If you want to know what a man's like, take a good look at how he treats his inferiors, not his equals." — J.K. Rowling

WHAT'S UP?

Boy Scouts

There will be a parent meeting for Boy Scout Troop 209 at 6 p.m. on March 8 at the John R. Drybread Community Center.

A troop meeting is set for 6-7 p.m. on March 22 at the center.

Ag breakfast

The Johnson County Ag Breakfast is March 16 from 7:30-9 a.m. in Scott Hall on the Johnson County fairgrounds.

Cost is \$1 per person.

RSVP by March 8 to johnsonces@purdue.edu.

Two guest speakers will be at the breakfast.

Andrea Huntington, executive director for Indiana Land Protection Alliance, and Jon Zirkle, director of Wood-Land-Lakes RC & D.

Bicentennial fundraiser

Tickets are on sale for the Edinburgh Bicentennial 200th Anniversary Kick-off Fundraiser on Thursday at The Pixy Theatre. Enjoy a historic reading with interesting facts about Edinburgh's early days, an elegant dinner and drinks.

Tickets are \$35 and available at the Community Center or online through the Facebook page at facebook.com/Edinburgh200.

Dollars for Scholars

The Edinburgh Dollars for Scholars website is open through April 15 for students to apply for a college scholarship for the 2022-2023 school year. Students must be a graduate of Edinburgh Community High School or an ECHS senior graduating in 2022.

To apply, go to www.edinburgh.dollarsforscholars.org.

NEWS

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GETTING TO THE POINT

Local fencing club offers unique athletic opportunity

Story and photos by Kami Ervin

Clad in white fencing gear, Axl Kinnaird stands in the en garde position, foil in hand, preparing to begin his first private lesson at Blue River Fencing Club. Located in the former Masonic Temple of the Pixy Theatre in downtown Edinburgh, accomplished fencing coach Maestro Anthony Joslin recently opened the club with hopes of expanding the sport of fencing throughout the tri-county area.

Native to Nineveh, Joslin got his start in fencing as a summer exchange student in Osaka, Japan at the age of 14. After moving to California while still in high school, Joslin rekindled his love of the sport when he discovered a local parks and recreation fencing program. He eventually earned coaching credentials through the Federation Francais d'Esme in Paris, France in 2001 and for over a decade, Joslin coached many fencers to regional, national, and international levels of awards. In 2005, he even studied under Olympic Coach Laszlo Szepesi in Budapest Hungary, earning his Fencing Masters diploma.

Even though his father encouraged him at a young age to participate in sports, Joslin didn't see himself as an athlete until he started fencing. He believes that many kids feel the same way.

"Some children may not realize that they would enjoy participating in a sport," he says. "Fencing opens different doors for them to realize the value of being a part of sports.

Mandy Kinnaird of Nashville appreciates what fencing offers her son. The second grade Van Buren Elementary student has been enrolled in Joslin's group class at the Brown County YMCA since the beginning of the school year.

"Axl always liked the idea of sword fighting from movies and TV and it keeps him



Fencing Maestro Anthony Joslin and student Axl Kinnaird practice at the Edinburgh Pixy Theatre. Joslin has started a fencing school in Edinburgh.

active outside of school," Kinnaird explains. "But fencing also teaches critical thinking, strategy and discipline."

Many of the students Joslin has coached have been high academic achievers, a fact that Joslin attributes to the life lessons learned in the sport.

"It's an individual sport that can teach them to be a good sport, overcome goal-setting and define themselves," he says. "It's like playing physical chess."

Using metaphors like "You called me on

the phone and I answered it" Joslin mimics the back-and-forth motion between his six-year-old student and himself, something else that Kinnaird likes about Joslin. "He knows how to catch their attention, how to speak their language and how to keep them focused," she says.

Joslin moved back to Indiana in 2013, and after a long coaching hiatus, was in town looking for the right place to hold

SEE FENCING, PAGE 4

OBITUARIES

EDINBURGH

Arnold Austin

Arnold Alexander Austin, 90, of Edinburgh passed away Friday, Feb. 25, 2022, at his residence. He was born May 26, 1931, in Lafayette, Tennessee. He was the son of John Austin and Lora (Pipkin) Austin. He married Carolyn L. (Jones) Austin on Feb. 8, 1964, and she survives.

He is also survived by his sons, Donny (Joyce) Austin of Franklin and Tony Austin of Franklin; daughter, Patsy L. (Paul) Volkoff of Venice, Florida; 11 grandchildren; and 14 great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents, daughter, Sherry L. Knauer, seven brothers and one sister.

Arnold was a member of Jehovah Witness Kingdom Hall in Franklin. He served in the U.S. Army during the Korean War. He retired from CUI and enjoyed fishing and hunting.

A funeral service was conducted by Elder Kent Fischer at Eskew-Eaton Funeral Home in Edinburgh. Burial was at Rest Haven Cemetery in Edinburgh.



AUSTIN

her in death on Feb. 18, 2022.

She is survived by her daughters, Janet Dick of Bethel Ridge, Kentucky, Sondra (Johnny) Burton of Edinburgh, Cynthia Goff of Taylorsville, Lisa (Greg) Johnson of Bedford and Becky (Chris) Marcum of Salem; 10 grandchildren; 19 great-grandchildren; brother, Marvin (Susan) Godbey of Argyle, Kentucky; and sister, Mathel (Harold) Acey of Eubank, Kentucky.

She was preceded in death by her parents; husband; daughter, Tarena Jo Bryant; grandson, Charles "Chuckie" Goff Jr.; and brother, David Ray Godbey.

Mavis was a member of the Who-So-Ever-Will Community Church in Edinburgh. She was a nurse's aide at the former Brown's Nursing Home in Edinburgh. She enjoyed time with her grandchildren, painting pictures, bingo and bowling.

A funeral service will be conducted by the Rev. Randy Denton at 2 p.m. on Wednesday, March 2, 2022 at Who-So-Ever-Will Community Church. Calling will be from noon until time of service. Burial will be at Rest Haven Cemetery in Edinburgh.

Arrangements were made by Eskew-Eaton Funeral Home in Edinburgh.



BURTON

FRANKLIN

Ernest Gross

Ernest "Ernie" Dale Gross, 69, of Franklin, passed away Feb. 20, 2022. He was born June 4, 1952, in Edinburgh to the late Alfred "Tag" and Betty Jean

Whittington Gross. He married Mary Jayne Glass on July 14, 1989, at Camp Atterbury, and she survives.

Ernie was truly a one-of-a-kind person, evidenced by the fact that everyone who met him loved him. He was a proud graduate of Edinburgh High School, where he lettered in track. Ernie was employed for many years as an expert drywall installer and finisher. He was a member of the Edinburgh Full Gospel Church. He loved his dog Penny, playing music, gardening, and most of all spending time with his beloved grandchildren.

He is also survived by his daughters, Amanda Damlo of Edinburgh, Lori Sanderson of Oklahoma City, Okla., and Ariel (Gene) Mathes, of Indianapolis; sons, Chris (Carol) Shaffer of Franklin, Jason Shaffer of Franklin, Josh Anderson of Seymour and A.J. Gross of Franklin; brother, Earl Gross of Franklin; sisters Shelia (Kevin) Conner of Edinburgh, Susie (Earl) Hogan of Columbus and Sharon (Dwain) Botts, of Edinburgh; grandchildren, Meagan, Josiah, Madison, Jasmine, Matthew, Jayden, Eric, Liberty, Gene, Aubree, Olivia and Jaxon; and great granddaughter, Eva Jo.

He was also preceded in death by his infant daughter, Sharon Mae Gross; his brother, Eddie Gross, and his infant brother Christopher Gross.

The Rev. Douglas Smith officiated a funeral service at Edinburgh Full Gospel Church. Burial was at Rest Haven Cemetery, Edinburgh.

Arrangements were entrusted to



GROSS

Community Funeral Care, Edinburgh. To view the complete obituary or to leave online condolences, visit www.community-funeral.com.

EDINBURGH

Judith Streeval

Judith "Judy" Streeval, 82, of Edinburgh passed away Feb. 19, 2022, at her residence. She was born Aug. 2, 1939, in Johnson County. She was the daughter of Homer and Laura (Burton) Whitlock. She married Donald V. Streeval on Feb. 4, 1960, and he preceded her in death on April 7, 1986.

She is survived by her sons, Greg (Aimee) Stinson of Edinburgh and Donald Wayne Streeval of Edinburgh; daughters, Ruth (Ray) Lawson of Edinburgh and Patricia (Steve) Coffey of Edinburgh; 14 grandchildren; 17 great-grandchildren; and five great-great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents; husband; son, Eddie Jones; daughter, Pam White; granddaughter, Stephanie Coffey; and sister, Ruth Jones.

Judy graduated from Edinburgh High School. She was a member of the Eastern Star in Franklin. She retired from the Indiana Masonic Home in Franklin after 27 1/2 years.

She enjoyed cooking, baking, sitting on her porch, feeding and watching birds, and crocheting.

A funeral service was conducted by the Rev. Tom Collett at Eskew-Eaton Funeral Home in Edinburgh. Burial was at Rest Haven Cemetery in Edinburgh.



STREEVAL

GOOD OLD DAYS

70 years ago: The Edinburg Park Board announces that Edinburg teacher S. C. (Kim) Harrell will be the summer parks director for activities at Irwin Park.

65 years ago: Whiteland plays a slow down game against Edinburg in the Center Grove sectional, but the Lancers prevail, 47-33, behind Bill Depp's 25 points.

60 years ago: Joel Sanders wins the Edinburg fifth and sixth grade spelling contest and will compete in the county spelling contest. Carol Gerline finished second.

50 years ago: The Edinburg American

Legion Auxiliary announces that Debbie Burton, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Wallace Burton, has been named as a delegate to Girls State.

30 years ago: The St. George Lutheran Church on State Road 252 installs Edward W. Boone as the 40th pastor of the church by the Rev. Jerry Mieke of Columbus.

10 years ago: Jordan Burton's 20 points and 12 rebounds lead the Edinburg Lancers to the sectional championship over Indianapolis Lutheran by a score of 57-45.

MARRIAGE LICENSES

Patricia Robbins of Greenwood and Walter Buchanan of Edinburgh
Kaitlyn Diane Cobb of Martinsville and Joel Calvin Ferguson of Edinburgh
Aaron D'Angelo Martinez and Rinesha Nailah Kelley, both Taylorsville

AT THE PIXY

111 S. Walnut St. Unless noted, shows are at 7 p.m. and admission is \$10.

Information/purchase tickets: 812-526-6513, www.TheEdinburghPixy.com or advance tickets for some shows at www.brownpapertickets.com

Friday: Happy Place Comedy with Nervous Vurn and Munchie, funnier than ever with Cavin Eggleston, host Dave Cross. Show contains some adult content.

April 8: Happy Place Comedy with Mark

Armstrong

April 10: Palm Sunday concert with Night Owl Country Band and friends, 3 p.m.

April 30: Addison Johnson (country)

May 7: Happy Place Comedy with Jeffrey Bodart

June 11: Mike Milligan and Steam Shovel (blues)

June 16: Auditions for Fairy Tale Theater, 6:30 p.m. on Thursdays.

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19-3 boys win another, despite winter weather schedule change

In yet another week where the schedule was hampered by mother nature, the eighth grade girls were able to notch two wins and the boys varsity was victorious in their final tune-up before the tournament.

Playing in Westport on Feb. 21, the seventh grade girls fell in the first game of the night, 42-21, against South Decatur.

Mya Denton was the Lancers' high scorer with 11 points. Kinzie Purvis put in eight, and Sophia Pace two. The loss dropped them to 1-8.

The eighth grade girls jumped on the host Cougars early and didn't get off as they won, 48-2.

They had three starters score in double figures as Kenna Streeval led all scorers with 17 points, Payton Morris had 13, Lillie Goff 10, Bella Turner four and Addison Crowthorn four. The girls stand at 6-3 after this win.

Back in action on Wednesday at Southwestern, the seventh graders found themselves in a barnburner but unfortunately lost to the Spartans, 28-24.

Kinzie Purvis was on fire as she poured in 19 and Mya Denton added five. This loss dropped them to 1-9 on the season.

In the eighth grade game, the Lancers had an easy time against the hosts, winning 39-17 to improve to 7-3.

Bella Turner led this one with 14 points, Payton Morris had 12, Kenna Streeval nine, and Lillie Goff four.

Moved from Thursday to Wednesday evening due to the forecasted winter weather advisory, the Lancer varsity went to Brown



Brian Ingels

Lancer Notebook

County to take on the Eagles.

The Lancer offense came out with guns blazing and didn't stop until they carded a convincing win, 91-37.

Five of the good guys scored in double figures on the night with junior Jarrett Turner leading the way with 24 points, Caleb Dewey posted 21, Connor Ramey 12, Travis Jones 11, Riley Palmeto 10, Landen Burton nine, Trevor Moon two and Travis Vidal two.

This win moved them to 19-3 on the season.

On tap

Thursday

Girls MS basketball, opening round MHC Tourney vs. Waldron at Waldron, 5:30 p.m.

Friday

Boys varsity basketball, semi-final round, Edinburgh Sectional, 6 p.m.

Saturday

MS Girls basketball, semi-finals and championship MHC Tourney at Waldron, 9 a.m.

Varsity Boys basketball, championship Edinburgh Sectional, 7 p.m.

Brian Ingels is an industrial arts teacher at Edinburgh Community High School. Send comments to Edinburgh Courier, P.O. Box 699, Franklin, IN 46131, courier@dailyjournal.net.

CALENDAR

Friday: End of third nine weeks
March 7-11: Spring break
March 14-18: Spring break, protected days

March 21: Students resume classes
April 15: Good Friday
May 27: Last student day

LATE REGISTRATION NOW TIL MARCH 12th (\$10 late fee)

WANTED: ALL BOYS AGES 3-15/ALL GIRLS AGES 3-15

(Girls Age 6-15 as of Jan. 1, 2022) (Boys Age 6-15 as of May 1, 2022)
(Tball/Midgets Age 3-6 as of May 1, 2022)

FOR: T-BALL/MIDGETS/BASEBALL (8U-12U)/SOFTBALL (8U-12U)
BABE-RUTH/MIDDLE SCHOOL

WHEN: JANUARY 12, 2022 - MARCH 5, 2022

WHERE: EDINBURGH PARKS & RECREATION DEPT.
722 Eisenhower Dr. Edinburgh, IN - Phone - (812) 526-3535

REGISTRATION TIMES: MON-SAT NOON-8:00P.M.

ONLINE REGISTRATION: EMAIL TBEIER@EDINBURGH.IN.US TO RECEIVE AN ONLINE REGISTRATION FORM. ONCE FORM IS SUBMITTED, PLEASE CALL OUR OFFICE TO PAY BY PHONE.

Questions or concerns please contact Program Coordinator Tracy Beier at Office - (812) 447-6076 Cell - (317) 604-0364/Email - tbeier@edinburgh.in.us

IN-3509724

IN GOOD HEALTH

- The coronavirus vaccine is available by appointment at ourshot.in.gov or by calling 211. Seniors or caregivers having difficulty registering online or getting through to 211 can call Indiana's Area Agencies on Aging for help at 317-254-5465 or 800-432-2422.

- Al-Anon Support Group, every Monday, 7 p.m. Grace United Methodist Church, 1300 E. Adams Drive, Franklin. For more information call 317-625-5495.

- Be Well Crisis Helpline supports the mental health needs of Hoosiers during the COVID-19 pandemic by providing 24/7 access to experienced counselors. Call 211.

- ASSIST is a Franklin-based nonprofit program that provides services for people (age 5 and over) affected by sexual, domestic and physical violence at any point in their life. For an appointment, call 317-739-4456.

- Bariatric Surgery Seminars at Johnson Memorial Hospital, Wellness Classroom, new building, second floor. Free, no registration required. 317-346-3867

- Beginning Again: eight-week grief support group, helps adults cope with the loss of a loved one. Our Hospice of South Central Indiana, 2626 E. 17th St., Columbus. Dates and times vary. Info: 812-314-8042.

- Breastfeeding support group, 1-2 p.m. Wednesdays at Johnson Memorial Hospital, 1125 W. Jefferson St., Franklin, Education Room 4. Certified lactation consultant will help with breastfeeding basics, pumping and storage instructions, infant weight check and more. No registration required.

- Claim Aid Counselors are available to help Johnson County residents through the Health

Insurance Marketplace application process or to enroll in the Healthy Indiana Plan (HIP 2.0). 317-346-3736 or email billquestion@johnsonmemorial.org for information.

- Connect2Help 2-1-1 helpline: Free, assists with housing, parenting, transportation, education, health care, employment and more. Call 211 or 317-926-4357.

- Great Expectations free childbirth education class at Johnson Memorial Hospital is held four times a year. Register at JohnsonMemorial.org.

- Grief Share, meets Tuesdays at 6 p.m. at Edinburgh United Methodist, 305 S. Main St.; and Mondays 6-8 p.m. at The Crossing, 8728 S. Nineveh Road, Nineveh.

- Grief Support Group, led by the Main Street Hospice staff, is a place for all those who have experienced the loss of someone they love. Public is welcome to come and listen or share their grief stories. Sessions are the first Tuesday of each month, 6 to 7:30 p.m. at the Main Street Hospice office, 10 Highland Ave., Franklin. For information call 317-736-0055.

- Indiana Tobacco Quitline: free phone-based counseling service to help smokers quit. If enrolled in the QNI program, you get a two-week supply of nicotine replacement therapy gum or patches, while supplies last. 1-800-QUIT-NOW (800-784-8669).

- Tara Treatment Center Inc. Alcoholics Anonymous J.J. Memorial Group, 7 to 8 p.m. Fridays. 812-526-2611

Items for In Good Health may be sent to The Courier, P.O. Box 699, Franklin, IN 46131 or e-mailed to courier@dailyjournal.net. Info: 317-736-2726



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STARS & STRIPES PROGRESSIVE RAFFLE

JACKPOT for 3/4/2022 **\$11,088**

Tickets must be purchased prior to drawing at 9pm
Masks are optional for all members and their guests.

Open March 6
noon til 7pm NASCAR for big screen,
bring covered dish, enjoy race.

.50 Cents off Liquor, Every Monday
.50 Cents off Beer Every Tuesday

Mell's Little Bake Shop & Café
Open M-F 11am til 2pm, Friday nite dinner 6pm-8pm

IN-3509724

BOY SCOUTS TROOP 209



Cub Scouts Pack 209 winners are, from left: Fourth place Braxton Valor, third place Liam Andis, second place Joseph Baker, first place Trenton Withers.

AT THE PARKS

Edinburgh Parks & Recreation

722 Eisenhower Drive

Hours: Monday through Saturday, noon-8 p.m.

Info/to register: Tracy Beier at 812-526-3535, ext. 3, or tbeier@edinburgh.in.us

• Late registrations are being taken through March 12 for youth T-ball, baseball and softball.

Boys and girls ages 3-15 can play. Practices begin the week of April 4, pictures will be taken the week of April 18; games begin April 25 and tournament week is June 20-30.

Cost if \$40 for T-ball and midgets; \$50 for 8U-12U baseball and softball; and \$80 for middle school softball and Babe Ruth baseball. There is a \$5 sibling discount. Additional fan shirts, \$10, and hats, \$12,

can be ordered. (Prices include the \$10 late fee.)

To register, visit the Parks and Rec office or email Tracy Beier for an online form.

Johnson County Park

2949 E. North St., Nineveh

Hours: Monday through Friday: 8 a.m.-4 p.m.; Saturdays (April-October), 8 a.m.-noon

April 9: Scrambled Eggs (adult Easter egg hunt)

May 14: JoCo Pours in the Park, noon-4 p.m.

June 16-19: Johnson County Antique Machinery Association annual show

June 24: Sparks in the Park

Aug. 13: Movie in the Park

Aug. 20: Car show



Fencing Maestro Anthony Joslin stands in front of the Pixy Theatre in Edinburgh. In addition to his fencing school, he has opened Eden Cafe, a coffee shop in the theater's lobby.



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Fencing

FROM PAGE 1

lessons when he was introduced to the Pixy Theatre's owner, Mike Harding. Since purchasing the building in 2008, Harding has invested a great deal to bring culture, music and events to the area, and a fencing club seemed to fit the bill. A former basketball player and ballet dancer who appreciates the broad spectrum of athletics, he was enthusiastic when Joslin approached him about opening up a fencing club.

"It was intriguing," Harding says. "And I thought, yes, we've gotta do this and I'm going to take lessons myself."

In addition to fencing lessons upstairs, Joslin is also opening a coffee shop in the theatre's lobby, a dream that is reminiscent of his travels to renaissance fairs, doing fencing exhibitions and selling espressos and lattes. Eden Café will start

on weekends with a brunch service selling pastries, sandwiches and organic coffee and smoothies.

Aside from fencing, Joslin has a variety of interests, including gardening. He previously worked for the Indiana State Museum as the grounds supervisor and led the restoration of the garden at the T.C. Steele Historic Site in Brown County.

Joslin hopes to expand the sport throughout the tri-county area by providing fencing instruction to parks and recreation programs, youth centers and other organizations. He is in the process of starting a fencing program through Greenwood Parks and Recreation. He offers flexible scheduling of lessons to all ages and skill levels as well as the use of equipment (for a small fee).

For more information, contact Maestro Anthony Joslin at 317-315-4702 or at coastsidefencers@yahoo.com.

HONORS AND AWARDS



PHOTOS BY KAMI ERVIN

Left: Edinburgh Community High School girls varsity basketball Coach Amy Macy-Schilling was presented with the game ball from her 100th win on Dec. 14 after the against Hauser. **Above:** The Lancers basketball players wore throwback Maroons Jerseys, donated by the Rosser Family, for their Feb. 18 game. Town Manager Dan Cartwright and Fire Chief John Henderson presented the team with a bicentennial team plaque and ball.

SCHOOL NOTEBOOK

HSE grad

Ethan Perez earned his HSE (GED) through Edinburgh Adult Education.

Classes meet twice a week at Edinburgh High School. Interested students 16 years and older can contact Julie Redd at 317-392-2197 for information.



PEREZ

Hospital Guild Continuing Education Health Field Scholarship. Applications are available at johnsonmemorialfoundation.org/scholarships. Deadline for all applications is April 2. Information: 317-346-3703 or foundationmail@johnsonmemorial.org.

Before- and after-school program

Edinburgh Parks & Rec offers a Before & After School Enrichment Program at its Rec Center for East Side Elementary School students. Activities start at 6 a.m. before school and run until 5:30 p.m. after school. Transportation to and from school is provided. Activities include homework time and help, snacks and fun.

Info: Elissa Day, B.A.S.E. coordinator, 812-526-3535, ext. 4, or eday@edinburgh.in.us

On My Way Pre-K

On My Way Pre-K provides children from low-income families with free access to high-quality pre-K, to help prepare them for success in kindergarten and beyond. Child must have turned 4 before Aug. 1 and income guidelines apply.

For more information and to apply, visit OnMyWayPreK.org. Families may also call 800-299-1627 for assistance from an early learning referral specialist or for other questions.

Students of the month

Edinburgh students of the month were recognized at a recent school board meeting. Alliyah Grebel, East Side Elementary School; Bryce Sipe, Edinburgh Community Middle School; Max Blandford, Edinburgh Community High School.

Scholarships

The Johnson Memorial Hospital Foundation provides scholarships to financially assist Johnson County students pursuing health care careers. The four scholarships available include the Freda P. and Millard R. Montgomery Registered Nursing Scholarship, Katie Robards Memorial Scholarship, Johnson Memorial Hospital Guild High School Health-Related Scholarship and the Johnson Memorial



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NEWS ROUNDUP

DAILY JOURNAL AND REPUBLIC STAFF REPORTS

Bartholomew County officials set voting locations for primary

The bipartisan Bartholomew County Election Board has set in-person voting locations for the May 3 primary as officials prepare for the second election cycle to take place during the COVID-19 pandemic.

In-person early voting will be at the former JC Penney store at NexusPark in Columbus weekdays 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. from April 5 to 29 and May 2 from 8 a.m. to noon, said Bartholomew County Clerk Shari Lentz.

Additionally, early voting will be held at the former JC Penney store 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. the two Saturdays prior to election day — April 23 and April 30. No voting will be held at the Bartholomew County Courthouse.

Early-in person voting will also be held 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on April 23 and 30 in the new Bartholomew County Council chambers in the Bartholomew County Governmental Office Building, 440 Third St., in downtown Columbus.

German Township Fire Station, 9428 Main St. in Taylorsville, will be open for voting on May 3.

Traffic enforcement blitz planned across county

The Johnson County Coalition will step up patrols to curb dangerous and aggressive driving.

The enforcement campaign will run through March 21, according to a Johnson County Sheriff's Office news release.

The safety initiative is designed to reduce crashes and traffic fatalities and promote safe driving around St. Patrick's Day and the NCAA Tournament. It also comes at a time when roadway deaths continue to climb across the state and nation, according to the news release.

Officers will conduct high-visibility patrols over the next several weeks, showing zero tolerance for anyone driving aggressively, over the speed limit or

under the influence. The extra enforcement is funded through National Highway Traffic Safety Administration grants.

Nationwide, traffic fatalities continued to rise at a record pace last year.

Throughout the campaign, the department will encourage motorists to focus on safe driving and follow the rules of the road, including wearing a seat belt at all times, driving sober, watching for pedestrians, driving distraction-free and obeying all posted speed limits, the news release says.

Local man faces charges after he sent 2,000 threatening texts

An Edinburgh man with a lengthy criminal history will face multiple charges after police say he sent a woman 2,000 threatening text messages in five days.

Prosecutors charged Welby Johnson, 43, with stalking, a Level 5 felony; three counts of intimidation and four counts of invasion of privacy, all Level 6 felonies.

The victim told Franklin police Johnson was upset she had filed invasion of privacy charges against him. She said she was scared of him and did not want officers to speak with him because she was afraid it would make things worse. Police told the victim to stay with a friend for a couple of days, and to call 911 if Johnson came to her house, according to court documents.

The victim received hundreds of messages from Johnson's phone. He seemed to be extremely agitated in the messages, and became increasingly agitated when she did not respond, eventually threatening to kill her and her family, court documents show.

The victim told police Johnson was in a manic state and would not stop threatening her.

The cell phone company provided police with information that indicated Johnson's cell phone was about 5 miles south of Greensburg. He was taken into custody without incident and booked into the Johnson County jail on \$15,710 bond.

For more information on these stories, go to www.dailyjournal.net or www.therepublic.com.

RESTAURANT INSPECTIONS

This information was compiled from reports at the Johnson and Bartholomew County Health Departments. Reports include the business name, its address, the date of inspection, the number and type of violation and details about critical violations:

Edinburgh High/Middle School

300 S. Keeley St., Edinburgh

Critical: 0

Noncritical: 0

East Side Elementary

810 E. Main Cross, Edinburgh

Critical: 0

Noncritical: 0

Cracker Barrel #256

11701 N. U.S. 31, Edinburgh

Jan. 20

Critical violations: None

Noncritical violations: 1

McDonald's #12281

11995 N. U.S. 31, Edinburgh

Jan. 20

Critical violations: None

Noncritical violations: 2

CVS Pharmacy #6707

15622 N. State Road 79, Edinburgh

Jan. 25

Critical violations: None

Noncritical violations: 2

Montana Mike's Steakhouse

3720 W. Marketplace Drive, Edinburgh

Jan. 26

Critical violations: 2

Cut bacon pieces must be served with proper utensils or gloved hands. Hand-washing sink in ware-washing area must be accessible at all times.

Noncritical violations: 5

Taylorsville Elementary School

9711 Walnut St., Taylorsville

Jan. 31

Critical violations: None

Noncritical violations: None

Express Mart

11700 N. U.S. 31, Edinburgh

Feb. 2

Critical violations: None

Noncritical violations: 2

Taco Bell #3001065

11740 N. U.S. 31, Edinburgh

Feb. 2

Critical violations: None

Noncritical violations: None

Jay C Food Store #79

15801 N. U.S. 31, Edinburgh

Feb. 7

Critical violations: None

Noncritical violations: 3

COMMUNITY CHATTER

Pizza at Legion

The American Legion Auxiliary sells fresh made pizzas with a variety of toppings 5-8 p.m. on Thursdays at Post 233 in Edinburgh.

Prices are for a 7-inch, \$12 for a 12-inch and \$15 for a 14-inch.

Pizzas can be carried out or eaten at the Legion. Call 812-526-9001 to place an order.

Free tax help available

United Way of Bartholomew County is offering free tax assistance through the Volunteer Income Tax Assistant program.

The program offers free tax filings to Bartholomew County residents who make \$64,000 or less, persons with disabilities, elderly and limited English-speaking taxpayers who need assistance preparing their own tax returns. IRS-certified volunteers provide confidential and secure basic income tax return preparation with electronic filing to qualified individuals.

Income tax assistance appointments will be conducted through mid-April at Nexus Park. Reservations for a tax appointment will be taken on a first-come, first serve basis. Appointments can be made by calling 812-375-2216 anytime between 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday through Friday. Assistance is available by appointment only. Spanish speakers may make an appointment by calling Su Casa at 812-375-9370.

Information: uwbarthco.org/taxes

Nut sale

The Edinburgh Delta Sigma Chapter of Tri Kappa has some nuts left for this season. Stop by the John R. Drybread Community Center during normal business hours and get yours while they last.

Walnuts, cashews, pecans, healthy mix and deluxe mix are available for \$12 per bag.

Proceeds go to help fund the group's charitable contributions to the Edinburgh community.

Nineveh Senior Center

The Nineveh Senior Center, 3208 Rodeo Drive, Johnson County Park (next to horse park), for people 50 and older.

Center is closed this week due to water issues.

March 11: Pitch-in luncheon and members meeting, noon-1:30 p.m. Blood pressure checks being done by Franklin Meadows.

March 21: Bingo with prizes, 1-3 p.m. Free coffee.

March 23: Bingo with prizes, 1-3 p.m. Free coffee.

Regular activities:

- Mondays: Shanghai, 9 a.m.-noon; ping pong, 9:30-11:30 a.m. (See John if interested)

- Wednesdays, euchre, 4:30 p.m.

- Thursdays, bid euchre, 6 p.m.

New members are welcome. Membership is \$15 per year. Call Janet Wolfe, 812-376-3671, to join.

Information: Jon Myers, 812-343-4229, www.ninevehseniorcenter.org

At the Community Center

The John R. Drybread Community Center, 100 E. Main Cross St., is hosting the following programs:

- The Edinburgh Bicentennial Committee is selling keepsake ornaments for \$10 to commemorate the town's 200th anniversary. Pre-orders are available at the Community Center.

- Edinburgh's Bicentennial Committee meets the third Tuesday of the month at 6 p.m. Anyone wishing to help with 2022 celebrations can contact the center.

Information/register: 812-526-3539, sdrybread@edinburgh.in.us

Edinburgh police, fire departments join Safe Haven Alliance

By Leeann Doerflein
DAILY JOURNAL STAFF WRITER

Edinburgh officials want people living in the area to know they have the option to surrender a newborn if they're unable to care for it.

The Edinburgh police and fire departments have partnered with the National Safe Haven Alliance, an organization that advocates for Safe Haven laws and provides resources to parents experiencing an unplanned pregnancy through a national crisis hotline.

Under Indiana's Safe Haven law, parents can surrender an infant up to 30 days old anonymously and without fear of arrest or prosecution. Indiana parents can place their child in a baby box, or hand their child directly to an emergency medical services professional under the law.

Edinburgh officials plan to install a baby box at a new fire station they're planning to build on County Road 900 North. They joined the Safe Haven Alliance to raise awareness for the law in the interim, said Doyne Little, Edinburgh police chief.

The town's police station, at 200 S. Main St., and fire station, at 203 S. Walnut St., are installing signage designating those locations as safe places to surrender newborns.

The signs note that babies can only be surrendered when there is staff present, Little said.

The law requires there to be an exchange of custody from the parent to a public safety official. Handing over a baby to a police officer or firefighter will not come with any legal consequences unless there are signs of intentional abuse. Parents won't be asked questions, but they can share any information they feel comfortable sharing, such as date of birth, race, family medical history or any health conditions the baby has, he said.

Police officers and firefighters who receive the baby would take temporary custody of the child. They are required to take the baby to the hospital for a medical check-up, and to contact the Indiana Department of Child Services so it can be placed with a caregiver.

Police officers and firefighters will ensure the baby is handed over to a DCS caseworker and give parents peace of mind knowing their child will be safe. As part of the partnership with the National Safe Haven Alliance, brochures with resources for mothers facing an unplanned pregnancy will also be on hand, Little said.

"This is for not only the baby, but the mother and the mother's wellbeing," he said. "We are hoping to prevent mothers who don't feel like they have a choice from just — I hate to say it — dumping their baby."

For more information, visit nationalsafehavenalliance.org.



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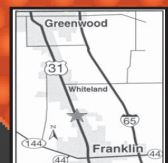


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