

WEDNESDAY
MAY 11, 2022



FREE



Road work

Two-year project will widen State Road 252, improve drainage, add sidewalks.

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Edinburgh Courier

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

“Forgiveness is a funny thing. It warms the heart and cools the sting.”

— William Arthur Ward

WHAT'S UP?

Community Outreach

Northview Assembly of God, 904 S. Holland St. Edinburgh, will hold its fifth annual community outreach event May 21 beginning at 10 a.m. The day includes live music, free food and bounce houses, games and cotton candy for the kids.

Edinburgh Alumni Banquet

The Edinburgh Alumni Banquet will be held May 21 at the Edinburgh Community High School.

The Alumni Association will honor the 50-year class of 1972, the 25-year class of 1997 and the graduating class of 2022.

A social hour will be held in the high school gymnasium area for reminiscing, beginning at 5 p.m. Dinner, provided by Edinburgh Lion's Club, will be held in the cafeteria at 6 p.m.

Tickets can be purchased, for \$12, at the Edinburgh Wright-Hageman Public Library, Sherman's Barber Shop, or by contacting Cathy Hamm at 812-343-4352.

An alumni gathering will be held at the Edinburgh American Legion following the banquet.

Museum exhibit open

The Johnson County Museum of History's newest featured exhibit, “Edinburgh: Johnson County's First Town,” showcases Edinburgh for its bicentennial celebration.

The Johnson County Museum of History is at 135 N. Main St. in downtown Franklin. Regular hours are 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday through Friday, and 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday. Unless noted, admission and activities are free. Information: 317-346-4500, johnsoncountymuseum.org.

NEWS

Amy May, editor 317-736-2726 or 812-379-5761
Editorial fax 317-736-2766
Editorial email courier@dailyjournal.net

ADVERTISING

Cindy Warren 317-736-2737
Email cwarren@dailyjournal.net
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Pixy Theatre owner Mike Harding sits with the venue's historic organ.

Small Town Entertainment Man revives historic Pixy Theatre

STORY BY CHERYL FISCUS JENKINS

PHOTOS BY MARK FREELAND

On a Tuesday morning in Edinburgh, people come and go from the Pixy Theatre carrying construction equipment and cleaning up after its most recent production.

A sign outside promotes the next Friday night comedy event.

All smiles and enjoying fellowship associated with bringing life to the hub of Edinburgh's downtown, local folks soak in the theater's eclectic mix of urban entertainment with a small-town vibe. Pixy owner Mike Harding blends right in with the show-must-go-on mentality.

“One of the reasons for buying this place is it used to be the pearl of the community,” Harding said. “It brings the community together.”

The Edinburgh Pixy Theatre was built in 1907 and was used as a Masonic Lodge until 2008. It was a former opera house, movie theater and home of the Edinburgh Sugar Creek Players for almost 20 years. With extensive renovations done in the last decade, these days it serves as a historic venue for live music, movies, arts, stage productions, weddings and even paranormal investigations. It has hosted line dancing and fencing lessons and has served as a seed location for small startup businesses. Harding bought the facility in 2008 — two years after his wife, Carol Forrest, died in a tragic flying accident. With the marquee falling off and the Masons wanting to move, the fixer-upper project seemed like the perfect way to heal his broken heart and soul.

“It needed a lot of help, and I needed something to do,” he said. “We’ve had a good time. This belongs to the town, and you have to take care of it.”

Area resident Judy Chandler grew up attending Saturday night Pixy events and now sells tickets and concessions for its weekend shows and cleans the facility for weddings. She has

SEE PIXY, PAGE 4

COMMUNITY CHATTER

Farmers market

Applications for the Edinburgh Farmers Market are available at the John R. Drybread Community Center, 100 E. Main Cross St. The market will run on Thursdays 4-7 p.m. starting June 2 through Sept. 28.

Pizza at Legion

The American Legion Auxiliary sells freshly made pizzas with a variety of toppings 5-8 p.m. on the fourth Thursday of every month at Post 233 in Edinburgh.

Prices are \$8 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.

The Edinburgh Pixy Theatre

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

June 11: Mike Milligan and Steam Shovel (blues)

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

July 9: Bomar and Ritter (folk, pop)
Aug. 13: Magician Jordan Rooks
Aug. 20: Kevin Stonerock
Nov. 13: Fairy Tale Theater musical, 2:30 p.m. Freewill donation

Unused medicine

A medication drop-off site is in the Edinburgh Police Department lobby, 200 S. Main St. Leave expired or unused prescription and over-the-counter drugs in original containers, if possible. No questions asked.

Recycling in Edinburgh

The Edinburgh Recycling Depot is at the Transfer Station, 701 W. River Road. Hours are Tuesdays and Fridays, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Saturdays, 8-11 a.m. Closed on holidays.

Accepted items are flattened cardboard, clean plastic bottles and jugs, clean food and beverage cans, and mixed paper, newspapers, magazines and paperboard. Wet paper or cardboard or dirty items will not be accepted.

The site does not accept electronics, large quantities of cardboard, glass of any kind, plastic bags or items from businesses. Some of these items can be taken to Johnson County Recycling at 900 Arvin Road, Suite A, Franklin.

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, 6-7:30 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

GOOD OLD DAYS

70 years ago: The Edinburg School Board announces that John Ireland has been hired as the new superintendent of Edinburg schools, replacing Dewey Manuel.

65 years ago: Edinburg's Tom Lynch set a school record in the high jump as the Edinburg Lancers wins their third consecutive Johnson County track championship.

60 years ago: Winners in the Edinburg American Legion's Auxiliary Poppy Poster Contest are: Sandy Gerline, first; Larry Workman, second; and Joe Gephart, third.

55 years ago: Edinburg High School

seniors Larry Raufeisen and Phillip Gaskins win the Plymouth Trouble Shooting State Championship, held at the Indianapolis Speedway.

50 years ago: Sandy Perkins and Tom Miller are crowned queen and king of the Edinburg junior-senior prom held at the Regency room of the Columbus Imperial House.

45 years ago: The Edinburg Lions Club announces that Edinburg senior Leona Sears, who is president of the Edinburg senior class, has been named girl of the month.

NINEVEH SENIOR CENTER

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

May 13: Pitch-in luncheon and members meeting, noon to 1:30 p.m., free blood pressure checks and speaker Sallie Wells of Mutual Savings Bank discussing current scams.

May 13: Phone class, 1:30-3:30 p.m. Be sure to sign up — class is about 20 minutes long. Bring phone and questions.

May 16: Bingo with prizes, 1-3 p.m. Free coffee.

May 25: Crafts with Elyssa Everling, 3-4 p.m. Greeting cards.

Regular activities:

- Mondays: Shanghai, 9 a.m. to 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

SCHOOL NOTEBOOK

Athlete of the week

Congratulations to Junior Braylon Bryant on being named the Horizon Bank Student Athlete of the Week.

Braylon is a member of the Track & Field team. Braylon finished first in 200 meter dash and second in 100 meter dash his last meet. Congratulations Braylon!



BRYANT

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

Free athletic physicals offered

Free athletic physicals will be given on Wednesday May 18 from 3:15 until 5:30 at the high school gym.

Forms are available now at the high school during regular school hours. All forms need to be completely filled out and have all the proper signatures at the time of the physical.

For questions questions, call 812-526-5501 during school hours.

Tickets to games

Edinburgh Community Schools athletic department has released game ticket and pass prices for the 2021-22 school year.

Single game prices:

All varsity events, \$6

Non-varsity events, \$5

Middle school events, \$5

East Side events, adults, \$4; students, \$1

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Despite weather cancellations, Lancers baseball, tennis take victories

The full slate of activities in last week's schedule was greatly impacted by all the rain but, the old saying "make hay while the sun shines", did allow several things to go as planned. Lancer baseball recorded a conference win over one of its biggest foes and the varsity tennis team was able to notch two victories in the period.

Starting the week off on the road to Seymour on May 2, the softball Lancers played at Trinity Lutheran. This game turned out to be a pitching duel as the game was scoreless through the first four innings and Edinburgh held a 1-0 lead going into the home half of the sixth inning. Some untimely fielding miscues by the Lancers added to an eight run inning by the Cougars. Edinburgh was able to add one more run in the top of the seventh but it wasn't enough as they fell, 8-2. MacKenzie Bieker suffered the loss from the circle despite pitching a solid six innings, allowing just four hits and zero earned runs while striking out 15 Cougar batters. Gracie Crawhorn had a pair of base hits on the night with one being a home run. Bieker and Carly Cowan had one hit each including a double for Cowan. Crawhorn and Bieker each drove in one run.

Playing on the road as well on May 2, the Edinburgh tennis team scored a 3-2 win over Southwestern. Number one singles player Bethany Burton won, 6-2, 6-2, Jessica Walsh won at number three, 6-0, 7-5, and Peyton Bryant won at number three, 6-3, 6-0. The number one doubles team of Alyssa Funkhouser and Jillian Turner lost, 3-6, 3-6, and the number two doubles team of Zoey Sida and Gracie Myers lost, 3-6, 2-6.

In junior varsity tennis, Izzy Richardson won her singles match, 6-1 while Lily Turner won her singles match, 6-3. Mia Dodson and Maegan Clapper fell in junior varsity doubles, 4-6.

To finish out May 2, the middle school girls track and field team competed in a



Brian Ingels

Lancer Notebook

four-way meet at Waldron. They finished in fourth place just four points behind the host Mohawks with Triton Central and Morristown scoring in first and second places. For the Lancers, Payton Morris had a second place finish in the long jump and a fifth in the 60 yard dash, Kenna Streeval had a second in the 200 yard dash and Addison Crawhorn took fourth in the discus. The 400 meter relay team of Streeval, Crawhorn, Morris, and Kenzie Purvis placed second and the 1600 meter relay team of Streeval, Purvis, Morris, and Sophia Pace came in third. In the boys meet, Braiden Dewey was Edinburgh's lone scorer with a fifth place in the 100 meter hurdles.

May 3, the third day of the month, saw the tennis Lancers back on the bus to Seymour, this time heading to Seymour High School. There they carded their second victory in as many nights, 3-2 over the Owls. Bethany Burton won at number one singles, 6-1, 6-0, Jessica Walsh won at number two singles, 6-1, 6-0, and Izzy Richardson was beaten at number three singles, 1-6, 3-6. In doubles play, Alyssa Funkhouser and Jillian Turner were victorious at number one, 2-6, 6-4, 6-1 while Gracie Myers and Zoey Sida fell at number two, 2-6, 3-6.

Varsity baseball played at Southwestern on May 3 in the first of the two MHC games versus the Spartans. Southwestern took the lead with a run in their half of the third inning. The good guys answered with two runs in the top of the fourth and that was the extent of the scoring for the evening as Edinburgh came home with a 2-1 win. Travis Jones and Riley Palmeter each doubled and Colin Richardson had a single. Palmeter drove in both Lancer runs. Jones carded the first victory of his

high school career in the complete game, two-hitter. He didn't allow an earned run and fanned 11 Southwestern batters.

Middle school track was at Southwestern on May 4 with the girls finishing in the middle with 25 points behind Hauser with 56 and the Spartans with 23. Kenna Streeval scored second place finishes in both the 100 and 200 meter dash, Addison Crawhorn won the discus and came in third in the shot put, and Justice Vestal and Emilee Cox were fourth and fifth in the 400 meter dash. Edinburgh's 400 meter relay team of Streeval, Crawhorn, Kenzie Purvis, and Payton Morris were winners while the 1600 meter relay team of Streeval, Sophia Pace, Purvis, and Morris finished second. In the boys meet, Braiden Dewey placed third in the 100 meter hurdles.

Tennis was at home on May 4, playing host to Triton Central. The always-strong Tigers downed the Lancers, 5-0. Bethany Burton fell at number one singles, 2-6, 1-6, Jessica Walsh lost at number two singles, 1-6, 5-7, and Peyton Bryant lost at number three, 1-6, 0-6. The number one doubles team of Jillian Turner and Alyssa Funkhouser fell 0-6, 0-6 and the number two doubles team of Zoey Sida and Gracie Myers fell, 3-6, 6-7.

In game two of the two game set with Southwestern, the Lancer baseball team fell 6-5. Both teams hit the ball much better than they had on the previous night and the good guys held a one run margin going into the game's seventh inning. The Spartans put two runs on the scoreboard in the top of that inning and kept

Edinburgh from scoring to end the game. The Lancers out hit the visitors, eight hits to five on the night with Jarrett Turner hitting safely three times and Nick Detling twice. Detling also knocked in two runs and Riley Palmeter drove home one. Gabe Bennett took the loss on the mound even though he gave up just three earned runs. He struck out six Spartan batters.

The week ended with the Lancer golfers playing in the Hauser Invitational. They finished the 18-hole tournament in fourth place out of 10 teams with Max Blandford leading the way by shooting a 78. Mason Calhoun carded a 93. Trevor Moon 106, Cash Cunningham 106, and Devyn Milburn 123.

On Tap For The Week

Thursday

Varsity tennis at Indy Lutheran, 4:30 p.m.
MS track & field MHC at Southwestern, 4:30 p.m.
Varsity softball at Seymour, 5:30 p.m.

Friday

Varsity baseball at home vs. Indian Creek, 5:00 p.m.

Saturday

Varsity tennis MHC at Hauser, 9:00 a.m.

Monday

Varsity baseball at home vs. Waldron, 5:00 p.m.
Varsity softball at home vs. Waldron, 5:00 p.m.
Varsity tennis at home vs. Brownstown, 5:45 p.m.

Tuesday

Varsity golf at Martinsville, 4:15 p.m.
Varsity baseball at Oldenburg, 5:00 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.



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PHOTOS BY MARK FREELAND

Pictured from left: The Pixy's stage area. // Mike Harding holding soil and water samples from Lenhi River.

Pixy

FROM PAGE 1

grown to know more local folks with the job and admires what Harding has done to restore and rejuvenate community events.

"He'd give you the shirt off his back," she said. "He's a heck of a nice guy."

Caring for historical buildings and connecting people to purpose was the premise behind Harding's hiring of about two dozen young adults in trouble with local law enforcement to help renovate the Pixy.

For several years, they painted doors, staircases and spindles, stripped and sanded floors, scraped walls and learned to show up for employment sober and ready to work.

"We taught them some skills and put them to work," he said. "It took a couple of years and kept them out of trouble."

Some of the kids fared well and found success after their time at the Pixy, Chandler said. Other workers fell astray — overdosing on drugs or returning to jail. One young man, whom Harding testified for in court to serve the community rather than jail time, died in a car crash running from police.

"I don't dwell on that," he said. "You do what you can. We had them for a few years. They were good kids, and they worked their butts off."

Harding is no stranger to hard work. He grew up on the east side of Indianapolis and graduated from Purdue University in 1976 in environmental science. He lived and worked in California in environmental restoration after such disasters as wildfires and mudslides. In his extensive career, he has consulted on projects around the globe and has given keynote

speeches on environmental matters.

His passion for several years was the Flight of Discovery, in which a team of experts retraced the Lewis and Clark trail and collected water and soil samples to study environmental changes. The adventure took place in 2004, 2005 and 2006 with Harding only participating the first two years. In 2006, right before the excursion, his wife, along with two other participants, died in a helicopter crash.

Harding said his wife was a fabulous civil engineer, musician and ballet teacher. The renovated bridal room at the Pixy houses cherished items of Forrest's past and the couple's life together. After her death, he returned to the Edinburgh area to purchase farmland in the family from years ago and some other properties, including the Pixy. He has also renovated the downtown Edinburgh building housing Cork Liquors and its bowling lanes upstairs.

"I kind of got enamored with this town," he said.

The Pixy, which Harding describes lovingly as a true nonprofit organization, is

SEE PIXY, PAGE 4



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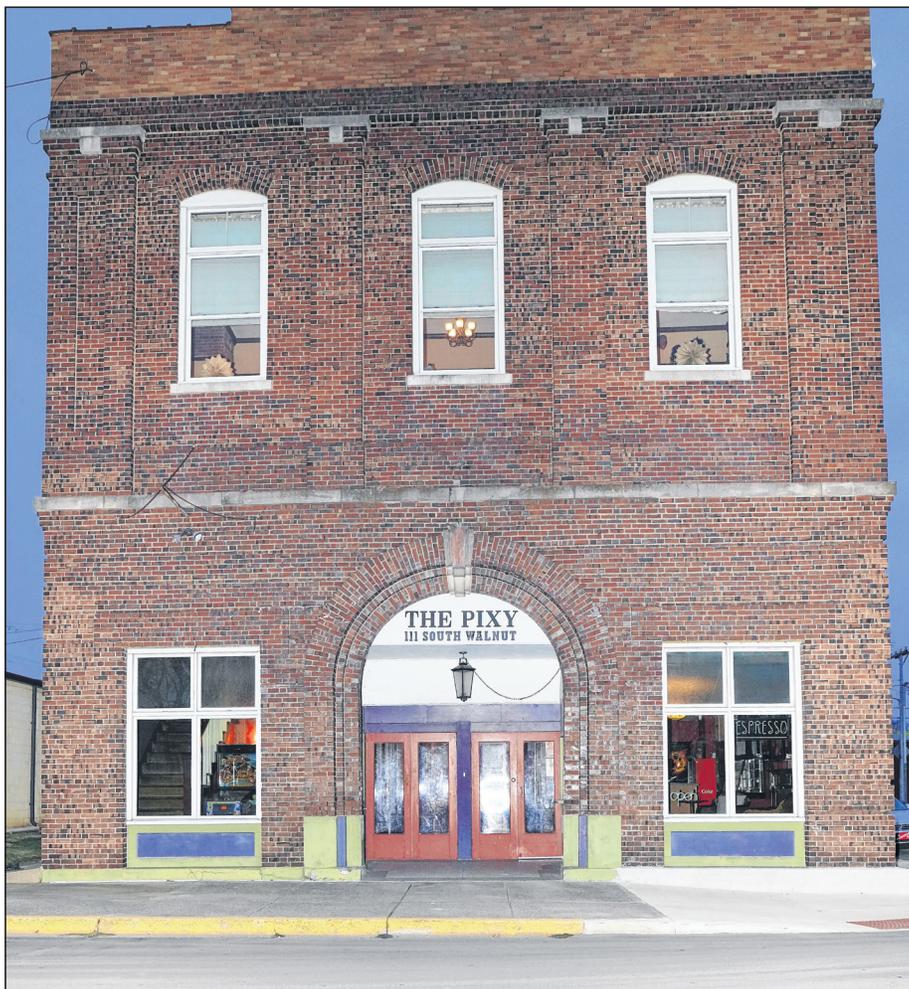


PHOTO BY MARK FREELAND

The exterior of The Pixy.

Pixy

FROM PAGE 4

also home to a museum of Civil War memorabilia and lending library, male and female parlors, original projectors and a vintage organ from 1928. New windows bring life and light to the old building, along with a restored lobby and restrooms.

Harding embraces quirkiness at the Pixy, such as his extensive unique mirror collection and theater seating signs for Purdue and Indiana University fans. He recalls a “Cat in the Hat” themed wedding with rhyming vows and he stays on alert for paranormal activity from various unexplained theater presences he calls “tenants.”

On any given day, guests can hear unidentified voices and someone walking the steps, Harding said. They can see orbs and faces in pictures, watch the stage curtain lift on its own, feel cold spots and witness a little boy present in the back of the theater.

“They just want you to know they are here,” Harding said.

A performer and musician himself, Harding’s joy comes from being front and center stage — watching the audience appreciate good talent or a loved one’s performance.

“My satisfaction comes from people’s reaction,” he said. “For every dollar I lose on this place, I get \$10 back.”

Mount Auburn resident Glynn Graham attended one of the final concerts of 2021’s season with Tennessee’s popular blues and country rock band Sugar Lime Blue. He loves live music and joins in the fun whenever possible.

“They never get a bad band in here,” he said.

Edinburgh residents Josh and Amy Davis live a block away from the Pixy and attend events often. The couple appreciates the local and regional acts, the theater’s history and the many holiday celebrations.

“It’s kind of a gem,” Josh Davis said.

Harding said Pixy programming typically runs mid-April through mid-December. Events are posted on the website and social media. Tickets can be purchased at the door.

ART SHOW

The annual Edinburgh Community Middle and High School art show is May 11, 5-7 p.m. in the school library. It is free and the community is encouraged to attend. There will be light refreshments.

The choir and HS and MS bands will be playing contest music starting at 7 p.m. They will play a couple of contest songs and Wellerman (sea shanty) beginning band will play “We Will Rock You.”

There will be awards for the most outstanding artists and award ribbons for excellence in art.

Every person who attends the show can vote for their favorite artists for the People Choice Award.

A variety of mediums such as pencil, charcoal and paintings in acrylic, oil and watercolor will be in the show. This year, students studied Dutch artists Vincent Van Gogh. They had the opportunity to visit Newfield art museum’s special exhibit the LUME. Students then created a painting in the style of Van Gogh.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Junior Carmen Gonzalez works on her painting in art class.

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Great care starts here.

INDOT plans \$8.7M project in Edinburgh to improve 252

By Andy Bell-Baltaci
DAILY JOURNAL STAFF WRITER

About 100 people filled the seats last week at Edinburgh Community High School's cafeteria to hear about an estimated \$8.7 million dollar project to improve State Road 252 in Edinburgh.

The project will include repaving the road, adding sidewalks to both sides of State Road 252 between Eisenhower Drive to Lincoln Street, widening the road and installing new inlets to improve storm drainage, Indiana Department of Transportation officials said at the meeting.

Bids will be collected and utilities will be moved to prepare for construction in 2024 and construction would begin on the project the following year. Construction would be expected to conclude in summer 2026. The project will be broken down into three phases, but the exact timeline for each phase is still to be determined, INDOT officials said.

The first phase will run from State Road 252's intersection with U.S. 31 to State Road 252 and Eisenhower Drive. That phase will include widening of travel lanes and resurfacing of pavement. The second phase, stretching from the Eisenhower Drive to Lincoln Street, will include the greatest range of work, including pavement resurfacing, lane widening, sidewalk construction and drainage improvements. The third phase, from the intersection of State Road 252 and Lincoln Street to 0.2 miles west of Interstate 65, will include pavement resurfacing, widening lanes and installing a new culvert, INDOT officials said.

Three homeowners and one business owner will have to relocate as a result of the project, INDOT officials said.

The working engineer's estimate for the



PHOTO BY ANDY BELL-BALTACI/DAILY JOURNAL

Edinburgh resident Robert Ackerman asks Indiana Department of Transportation spokesperson Annie Walker a question during a State Road 252 information session on April 27 at Edinburgh Community High School.

project is \$8.7 million, which would be paid for with state and federal funds, INDOT officials said.

Several residents asked questions about the project and how it might impact the town at the April 27 public information meeting.

Resident Andrew Knox voiced concerns about the project, sharing fears that widening the road would lead to people speeding through town.

"How will you guys deal with the speed factor?" Knox said.

"This will make the roads nicer, but we already have a speeding problem where they don't stop. With (widened) turns and all that, I think it will increase. With truck drivers, when they try to turn right, they destroy the roads no matter what. What's the point of a new (turning) radius if we'll have the same problem in five years?"

The project will have a net benefit for

Edinburgh residents, said Natalie Garrett, INDOT spokesperson.

"This will improve the roadway, reset the life of the pavement of 252, improve safety for pedestrians with sidewalks along the roadway and improve drainage," she said.

"It's an investment in the community and an improvement of safety for the community of Edinburgh."

RESTAURANT INSPECTIONS

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

Geri Girl Bakery

109 W. Main Cross St., Edinburgh

Critical: 0

Non-critical: 0

Edinburgh Food Pantry

110 E. Main Cross St., Greenwood

Critical: 0

Non-critical: 0

Flores Western Wear

200 S. Walnut St., Edinburgh

Critical: 0

Non-critical: 2

AT THE PARKS

Edinburgh Parks & Recreation

722 Eisenhower Drive

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

Info/to register: Tracy Beier at 812-526-3535, ext.

3, or tbeier@edinburgh.in.us

• The summer Youth Club will be conducted June 1-July 22. The club is for children ages 4-12.

Activities include swimming, field trips, crafts, breakfast and snacks. Cost is a \$100 registration fee and \$25 per week per child. Hours are 9 a.m. to noon on Mondays and 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesdays through Fridays.

Signups will be taken through May 14. Contact Elissa Day, 812-526-3535, 317-833-8637 or eday@edinburgh.in.us for information or an online registration form.

Johnson County Park

2949 E. North St., Nineveh

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

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

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

June 24: Sparks in the Park

Taylorville teacher treasures student relationships

By Jana Wiersema
THE REPUBLIC STAFF WRITER

Jennifer Ryshavy knew she wanted to be a teacher as early as first grade.

"I had a Lakeshore Learning kit that had report cards and a chalkboard and different teacher items in it, and I would play school," she recalled. "And I would sit and watch, or I guess, look at the overhead projector, and I would try to figure out how I could make one of those at home. And I eventually did make one, out of flashlights and mirrors in my bedroom."

Now, years later, Ryshavy teaches first grade at Taylorville Elementary and has won the 2022 Edna V. Folger Outstanding Teacher Award.

The award is sponsored by SIHO Insurance Services, the Community Education Coalition, and the IUPUC Center for Teaching and Learning. Any full-time elementary or secondary educator from a Bartholomew County school is eligible for the honor.

Ryshavy taught for one year at Beech Grove City Schools before joining Taylorville Elementary in 2012. She taught second grade in her first year at

the school before moving to first grade.

"I don't know if it holds a special place in my heart because in first grade I wanted to become a teacher, but I just love first grade," she said. "I love everything about it."

She said that the best part of her job is the relationships she has with students, even after they leave. She also enjoys "being with kids and watching them learn and grow."

The most challenging thing, she said, is that there's "never enough time."

"I wish I had more time during the day," said Ryshavy. "Even though I enjoy summer, I wish we had more days. There's just more I want to be able to do."

During eLearning, Ryshavy found different ways to spend time with her students. If it was a student's birthday, she dropped off a card and balloon on their front porch. There were a couple of times where she read bedtime stories over video chat. She did a virtual version of her "Lunch Bunch" sessions — where she and kids eat lunch together — over video as well. One-on-one support was also important.

"I had a student in particular that was struggling to engage on the computer," said Ryshavy. "And so, they would join in on the lessons, but then after school,

before I went and picked my kids up, I would go and sit on their front porch. And we did the work together."

She was "shocked" to find out she'd won the Folger Award.

"I don't believe a teacher who's honored to receive this award achieves it by themselves," she said. "It wasn't all me. My administrators, my former and current teammates, my students ... and their families, and my own children have all influenced and shaped who I am as a teacher."

Vice versa, her cousin and first grade teammate Mitchel Paswater, said that Ryshavy has made him "the teacher I am today."

To some extent, education runs in the family, said Ryshavy. Her great-grandmother taught in Elizabethtown, and her great-grandfather was a teacher and later principal at a school. He was also the principal at Columbus High School for a year.

"Right now, my daughter says she wants to be a teacher, but I don't know," said Ryshavy. "That may change."

As she said this, Anna, 4, was playing teacher with a friend, as she does every day after school in her mother's classroom.

"She's got a good model," said Paswater.



PHOTO BY MIKE WOLANIN/THE REPUBLIC

First grade teacher Jennifer Ryshavy sits in her classroom at Taylorville Elementary School. Ryshavy was named as the recipient of the 2022 Edna V. Folger Outstanding Teacher Award.

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