

WEDNESDAY
JULY 7, 2022



FREE



Summer shortage

Swimming pools struggling with a lack of qualified lifeguards.

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Edinburgh Courier

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

“The task of the modern educator is not to cut down jungles, but to irrigate deserts.”
— C.S. Lewis

WHAT'S UP?

School open houses

Open houses for students about to start the 2022-23 school year are July 26. Edinburgh Community Middle/High School will be open 5-6 p.m., East Side Elementary, 5:30-6:30 p.m.

Aquatic center

The Edinburgh Aquatic Center, 220 Harrell Drive, is open daily, noon-6 p.m.

Adult swim is 10 a.m. to noon Tuesdays through Fridays; free family swimming is 5-6 p.m. daily.

General admission for in-town residents is \$2 for ages 4-17 and \$3 for adults. Out-of-town residents is \$4 for kids and \$5 for adults. Admission for 60 and older and military is \$2. All children 3 years or younger are admitted free. A swim diaper must be worn even if the child is potty-trained.

Season passes: In-town individual pass, \$30; out-of-town individual pass, \$60. All family passes, \$100 (Up to two adults and four under-18 children living in the same household.)

Pool parties can be booked 7-9 p.m. Cost is \$250 (\$300 nonresident) for 75 guests. Call 812-526-3535 for availability.

Upcoming events:

The center is offering children's swimming lessons July 12, 13, 14, 19, 20 and 21. Classes are 9-9:45 a.m. Cost is \$35 per child, who can range from pre-beginner (3-4 years old) to intermediate. Sign up and pay at the center. Classes are limited to 8 students.

Free Fishing Day

The Indiana Department of Natural Resources' final free fishing day is Sept. 24. On free fishing days, Hoosiers can fish without a license.

The program applies to all public waters in Indiana. You can find public places at on.IN.gov/where2fish.

NEWS

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ADVERTISING

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Conquer and advance

Obstacle course brings new challenge to park

By Ryan Trares

DAILY JOURNAL STAFF WRITER

The foreboding incline loomed ahead, challenging visitors to the new Gatling Gauntlet obstacle course to climb it.

They had already scampered up the cargo net climb, flopped over a wooden wall and hopped from wooden post to wooden post. If they made it up the hill, participants still had to cross the monkey bars, flip tires and shimmy over a muddy pit, hanging from a rope.

If you go

Gatling Gauntlet

What: A 20-station obstacle course featuring challenges such as hurdles, a stone lift, a tire course, rope swing, balance beam and climbing walls, spread over 1.6 miles

Where: 7995 Gatling St., Nineveh

When: Course is open during daytime hours.

Cost: Free
Information: festivalcountryindiana.com/gatling-gauntlet

No one said the Gatling Gauntlet was going to be easy. And that's all part of the fun.

Johnson

County Park's newest attraction features 20 different obstacles all laid out on a 1.6 mile course. Attendees can do under, over, through and around the varying features, utilizing strength, speed and agility in a myriad different ways.

Though the course may sound daunting, it has been designed with modifications for different skill levels and fitness abilities, ensuring that people of all kinds can enjoy it, said Kenneth Kosky, executive director



RYAN TRARES | DAILY JOURNAL

Shelby Miles, marketing director for Festival Country Indiana, demonstrates the Over and Under station at the Gatling Gauntlet, a new obstacle course located at the Johnson County Park. The 1.6 mile course features a wide range of challenges.

of Festival Country Indiana, the organization that designed and built the course.

“It’s challenging enough for people who compete in Spartan events, but it’s also something that most people can do, because the obstacles are two-tiered,” he said. “If there’s a climbing wall, there will be one height for the extreme athlete, then another height that most people could do.”

Festival Country Indiana, the county’s tourism organization, had been envisioning an outdoor obstacle course since 2017. Organizers had examined the different offerings already featured within Johnson County, and saw a wealth of tourism draw: wineries and breweries, agritourism, unique local businesses and miles of trails.

The county also boasted a number of parks, which were not necessarily being

utilized to their full potential, Kosky said.

“One of the things we identified is that, we have great parks, but we don’t have that one signature attraction that would get people excited,” he said. “Knowing the Johnson County Park has more than 600 acres, and knowing they have a golf course site that closed, and the land was available, we identified that as a potential location.”

Kosky worked with Festival Country board member Brian Alvey, a veteran and founder of The Warrior 110 nonprofit, to test out other obstacle courses in the Midwest. Using Alvey’s military experience, they worked to design a course that would be challenging and unique to

SEE COURSE, PAGE 5

OBITUARY

EDINBURGH

James Isley

James "Jim" Isley, 71 of Edinburgh, passed away June 26, 2022 at Columbus Regional Hospital. He was born Dec. 18, 1950 in Shelbyville. He was the son of Ernest Edwin and Mabel (Owens) Isley. He married Brenda (Waltz) Isley on June 9, 1973 and she survives. He is also survived by his daughter, Megan Rooks of



ISLEY

Edinburgh; grandsons, Thomas Rooks and Hudson Rooks; and sister, Mary Susan (Tim) Reynolds of Anderson.

He was preceded in death by his parents. Jim was a 1969 graduate of Southwestern High School in Shelby County. He was a U.S. Army veteran serving in Vietnam. He retired in 2012 after 43 years as a clerk at the Edinburgh Postal Office. He enjoyed spending time with his family, hunting, fishing, reading and woodworking.

It was Jim's wishes to be cremated and without a service.

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

Memorial contributions may be made to St. George Cemetery.

COMMUNITY CHATTER

Fair week

The Johnson County 4-H and Agricultural Fair will be held July 17-23. The fair begins at 1 p.m. July 17 with the opening parade in Franklin and concludes July 23 with the 4-H awards program.

Visit <https://www.jocofairin.com/> for information.

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

July 9: Bomar and Ritter (folk, pop)

July 30: Lloyd Wood Night and Friends (country, impersonations, comedy)

Aug. 13: Magician Jordan Rooks, \$15

Aug. 20: Kevin Stonerock

Sept. 16: Katherine Nagy & Tim Wright and Friends (country)

Nov. 13: Fairy Tale Theater musical, 2:30 p.m. Freewill donation

Free meals at library

Two Shirts Kitchen, sponsored by Edinburgh Church of the Nazarene, is an opportunity for individuals, couples, friends and families to enjoy a warm meal at no cost. All are welcome regardless of income. The monthly meals are usually served the last Thursday of the month, 6-7:30 p.m., in the community room at

Edinburgh Wright-Hageman Public Library.

Meals are carryout only at this time. Go to the back door by the community room.

Recycling in Edinburgh

The Edinburgh Recycling Depot is at the Transfer Station, 701 W. River Road. Hours are Tuesdays and Fridays, 8 a.m.-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.

Food pantry

The Edinburgh Food Pantry and Edinburgh Ministerial Association has two distributions a month: the first Saturday and the third Thursday, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Odd Fellows building, 110 E. Main Cross St. Patrons are now allowed inside to go through the shelves and pick the foods they could use most, with shopping adjusted for family size. Face masks are required inside the pantry. Check the Edinburgh Drybread Community Center on Facebook for updates and other information.

"Blessing boxes" are also available at the Edinburgh Aquatic Center and the Edinburgh Wright-Hageman Public Library. The boxes provide basic nonperishable items such as canned soup and fruit, boxed pasta and toothbrushes. Anyone who has a need is free to take from the box, and people are invited to contribute items to the box.

Bunker takes 4th in AJGA tourney

By James Pence

THE REPUBLIC STAFF WRITER

The heat and humidity didn't slow down Edinburgh resident and incoming Columbus North freshman Ava Bunker during Thursday's final round of the AJGA Circle K Junior Championship Hosted By Otter Creek.

Bunker improved on her Wednesday score with a 1-over-par 73, which was one of the top girls' scores posted on Thursday. She had opened with a 73 on June 28 and finished in fourth place overall with a



BUNKER

54-hole cumulative total of 6-over 222.

Michelle Woo of Fremont, California, won the girls title at 5-under 211.

Bunker's round consisted of three bogeys and two birdies.

"Today was a lot better than (Wednesday). I was making a lot more putts. The speed was much better," Bunker said. "I got a couple birdies on the back nine, which I like the back nine better. I feel like it's more open, and I have a better chance of shooting better on the back than the front, but I still did good."

Bunker enjoyed the experience of playing in the tournament. She improved from her 22nd-place finish in last year's tournament.

"I'm very happy with the last couple days," Bunker said. "(Wednesday) still could have been better, but it's in the past. Today I did three strokes better, so I'm happy with it."

GOOD OLD DAYS

70 years ago: The Blue River receiving and storage grain elevator burns in a spectacular fire in Edinburg, destroying the building and \$40,000 in grain inventory.

65 years ago: Band Director John Adams announces that 59 members of the Edinburg High School Band will be marching in the American Legion parade in Indianapolis.

60 years ago: Mitchell Glick, manager of the Edinburg Dunlap and Company Inc. Store, announces the company will be celebrating its 89th anniversary this month.

55 years ago: Sarah Beth Otto of the

Edinburg Happy Clover 4-H Club wins a blue ribbon in the Johnson County 4-H Demonstration Contest held in Scott Hall in Franklin.

50 years ago: Edinburg Community High School junior Larry Burton, son of Wimfrey Burton and Mary Jane Burton, is named to the All-Johnson County Baseball Team.

45 years ago: The Edinburg Community High School Board of Trustees announce they have hired Joe Burkhart from Concord High School as the new high school principal.

SCHOOL NOTEBOOK

Past yearbooks now online

You can view yearbooks from 1920 and up on ECSC's website. Go to the alumni page at https://www.ecsc.k12.in.us/about_us/alumni

The alumni plan to continue to add more yearbooks as they get them. If you have a yearbook that is not on the site, please send an email to bstraugh@ecsc.k12.in.us.

GED classes

High School Equivalency (GED) classes meet twice a week at Edinburgh Community High School.

Contact Julie Redd, 317-392-2197, to learn more about the program.

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.

Board of school trustees

Members of the Edinburgh Community School Board are Cathy Hamm, Daniel Teter, Curtis Rooks, Alice Taulman and David Bauman.

Board meetings are the third Monday of each month at 6 p.m. in the Administrative Office, 202 S. Keeley St., Edinburg.

Calendar

July 26-27: Teacher professional development/orientation

July 28: First student day

Sept. 5: Labor Day

Sept. 30: End of first nine weeks.

Municipal pools, including Edinburgh, struggle to hire enough lifeguards

By Andy Bell-Baltaci
DAILY JOURNAL STAFF WRITER

At the Edinburgh Aquatics Center, lifeguards have needed to work nine more weekly hours than usual and the center's manager has had to work 62 hours a week to keep the pool open.

Pool workers there are experiencing some of the widespread effects of a nationwide lifeguard shortage that has affected a third of pools nationwide and resulted in the closure of all but five of Indianapolis' 17 pools.

In Edinburgh, there are 15 lifeguards compared to the typical 21. The shortage has resulted in lifeguards working 30 hours a week instead of 21 and manager Eric Whitlock working between 54 and 62 hours a week rather than the typical 40 to 48. Instead of working three to four days a week, lifeguards are now working five to six days a week in order to keep the pool open, Whitlock said.

"For young workers, it's tough to not have as many days off when it's 90-degree, 100-degree days, it's tough for them to work in the sun day after day," he said. "We are meeting the needs of the pool, but we're not able to do as many of our extra activities, like we can't have our night swims, which are three times a summer. We've only been able to schedule one summer splash where all the guards come in and play with the kids more. It's just cut back."

In order to combat the shortage, Edinburgh raised the hourly wage of lifeguards from \$8 to \$9 an hour and covered the expenses of lifeguard training, which typically costs about \$200. Because lifeguards typically get certified in the spring for the summer season, there is likely no relief coming to the Edinburgh pool, he said.

"We're in a situation where it's too late to take in lifeguards," Whitlock said. "We normally hire in February, and their training is in March and April for most lifeguarding classes. There's no relief for the summer unless someone is already certified."

Freedom Springs in Greenwood started recruiting for lifeguards as soon as the 2021 pool season ended on Labor Day. By doing so, along with increasing wages, the aquatics center was able to stay fully staffed despite shortages elsewhere, with 75 lifeguards and 50 to 60 concessions and admissions associates hired prior to the summer season.

Year to year, wages for lifeguards increased from \$10 to \$13 an hour and wages for concessions and admissions

associates increased from \$9 to \$12 an hour, said Brooke Gilles, aquatics manager.

"We put a lot of effort in the off-months during the winter and fall during the hiring process. Right when the pool closed on Labor Day, we went into hiring for the next season. We reached out to a lot of high schools that have junior lifeguarding programs during school. We're trying to get our name out there and alleviate a potential problem of a lifeguard shortage," Gilles said.

"We have noticed, at least with the past year, we have a lot of staff come back and work for us for years to come. Kids will work three or four years and when they're out of college, they'll come back and make it a career type thing. We keep it a fun, light, positive environment for the staff who work for us."

The Franklin Family Aquatic Center has also been able to avoid the worst of the lifeguard shortage. With 58 outdoor lifeguards of a target number of 60, aquatics director Kendall Ayers credits lifeguarding classes in pulling in lifeguards from not just Franklin, but surrounding areas as well.

"I know a lot of pools have their own staff train here. We were able to do a lot this past winter as far as open lifeguarding classes," Ayers said. "It tends to help. Out of our 58 here, we have about 10 of them from Indian Creek, Whiteland areas, a couple from surrounding areas. It's not just all Franklin kids."

From last year to this year, starting wages for lifeguards were bumped up from \$9 to \$10 an hour, he said.

There is more of an issue with indoor lifeguards at the facility. The aquatic center has seven indoor lifeguards, while the idea number would be 14, he said.

"We had to cut a couple of lap swim hours, but as far as keeping them staffed for the swim team we asked those that had to do it to bite the bullet and work different hours. Typically, we would have morning lap swims Monday through Thursday but we cut it down to two days a week," Ayers said.

"It helps to be out in the sun, and indoor (lifeguarding) is more isolated, it's just you and one other guard. We haven't had anyone come in looking for indoor classes recently."

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PHOTO BY ANDY BELL-BALTACI | DAILY JOURNAL

Lifeguard Miya Whitlock watches swimmers at the Edinburgh Aquatic Center.



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Petite powerhouses

Tips to make your home a hummingbird haven

BY FAMILY FEATURES | PHOTO BY COLE'S WILD BIRD PRODUCTS

Throughout the warmer months, many backyards play host to a variety of birds, including hummingbirds. When you see flowers and trees begin to bud and bloom and other migrating birds, like warblers, that's nature's way of letting you know it's time to ready your yard for hummingbirds.

It's enchanting watching hummingbirds — named for the humming sound of their fast-flapping wings — as their tiny size and speed make them natural wonders. Hummingbirds can fly 25-30 miles per hour, flapping their wings an estimated 70 times per second. They fly in every direction, even backwards, which only hummers can do and float majestically in midair.

The birds get their brilliant color from the iridescence in the arrangement of their feathers, not color pigment. Plus, they have the fastest metabolism of any animal on Earth, burning 1 to 2 times their body weight in food daily. Hummingbirds draw nectar from its source into their mouths, lapping it up almost 12 times per second.

To increase your chances of observing these petite powerhouses at home, consider these tips from the experts at Cole's Wild Bird Products:

- Be conscious of beneficial insects. Hummingbirds rely on insects, which provide essential protein, to complement the nectar they crave. To attract insects, try placing rotting fruit near feeders and leave it until insects arrive

for hummers' easy eats.

- Leave spiderwebs alone. Hummingbirds use spiderwebs as construction material to hold their nests together and pluck insects caught in the webbing.

- Offer a water mister. Hummingbirds adore bathing; a mister gives them the fine spray they prefer. Once soaked, they're off to find a preening perch.

- Provide tiny perches. Leave small, sturdy, bare branches for hummingbirds, to perch on for rest, preening and hunting. Perches provide vantage points to see danger and launching pads to swiftly pounce on insects. Once hummingbirds find a favorite perch, they'll use it repeatedly.

- Hang hummingbird feeders. Feeders are one of the most effective ways to consistently entice and encourage hummingbirds to come visit. Cole's Hummer High Rise Feeder is scientifically designed with elevated perches to make hummingbirds feel safe and comfortable, which encourages their consistent return.

- Hummingbird feeders can attract bees and ants, so look for one designed to keep pests at bay and one that doesn't drip, so large bees can't get to the nectar. A built-in ant moat will keep ants away from nectar when filled with plain water. Since birds drink from the moat, never use any repellents or additives.

- Hummingbirds are territorial, so hang multiple feed-

ers far enough apart to attract more birds. To ensure a steady stream of birds, hang feeders in the shade to avoid fermentation of sugar-based liquids. Check feeders bi-weekly to keep food fresh and clean feeders as needed with one part white vinegar to four parts water.

- Plant flowers. Trumpet honeysuckle, bee balm and sage plants are particularly attractive to hummingbirds and provide rich nectar. Hummingbirds consume 1 1/2 times their body weight daily, eating every 10-15 minutes and visiting 1,000-2,000 flowers per day.

- Choose the right nectar. Not all nectar is alike, and hummingbirds can taste the difference. Almost all commercial nectars contain one sugar source — sucrose — because it's cheaper to make. However, real flower nectar contains three sugar sources — sucrose, fructose and glucose — in varying amounts depending on the flower. Researched and designed to attract the greatest variety of hummingbirds, Cole's Nature's Garden is a high energy, nutrient-rich nectar that combines all three types of organically sourced sugars North American hummingbirds love.

- Don't forget, hummingbirds have memories like elephants. Once they discover your hummer-friendly habitat, they'll come back every year if there's a reliable food source. Learn more at coleswildbird.com.

Course

FROM PAGE 1

Johnson County.

Obstacles such as hurdles, a stone lift, a tire course, rope swing, balance beam and a climbing wall were all included.

"We picked several of the obstacles from military training after we researched existing courses across the country, as well as extreme fitness races," Kosky said. "Then we also kind of invented some obstacles on our own."

With its military-style obstacles, and because the course is basically across the street from Camp Atterbury, organizers opted for a name paying homage to that tradition: the Gatling Gauntlet. The Gatling gun was the world's first machine gun, which is an 1861 invention that was operated via hand crank and was towed around the battlefield on wheels.

Each station will have modifications that can cater to different fitness levels.

"And if you can't do the obstacle at all, you can do 10 burpees and move on," Kosky said. "Everybody can complete the course in one way or another."

Work started on the course in September 2021, and was nearly complete after about two months, Kosky said. A few aspects, such as planting grass, were finished and modified this

spring.

The most difficult aspect was creating the centerpiece of the course — King of the Hill.

"That area is extremely flat, and we really wanted a hill to put the course over the top. We brought a bulldozer in and were able to make that hill," Kosky said. "We thought it would be the coolest part of the course."

Construction of the course cost about \$100,000, though material donations, cash donations and in-house construction by the Festival Country board and staff helped bring that cost down. Businesses such as Johnson County REMC, A&E Tire Recycling of Noblesville, Hiron & Company, Visit Indiana, The Warrior 110, and Hoagies and Hops have signed on to sponsor the course.

While Festival Country designed the course and is paying for construction, branding and marketing, while the county provided land for the course and will be in charge of ongoing maintenance.

"We're really excited about this. The obstacle course is something that is unique. There is nothing else like it around here," said Kevin Leonard, interim superintendent of Johnson County Parks and Recreation. "It's going to draw people to the park and to the area, because it's something that's totally new."

Already, the course is generating buzz throughout central Indiana and beyond.

The website has received considerable traffic, and organizations and groups have inquired about team-building events.

To help introduce the community to the course, a grand opening event is planned for Friday. Live music and food from Hoagies and Hops will be featured, and guided demonstrations of each obstacle will let people try out the course for the first time.

The Gatling Gauntlet will be open year-round, during park hours. Anyone can access it at no cost. Those who complete the 1.6-mile circuit can go to the Johnson County Park office or the Festival Country office in downtown Franklin to get a sticker touting the accomplishment.

They can also buy a t-shirt commemorating their time as well.

After five years of discussions and planning — particularly after the difficulties of the past two years — has made the opening of the course a reason to celebrate, Kosky said.

"The pandemic really solidified the need for more outdoor recreation. If it was already important to us in 2017, it became only more important after 2020. It's going to be something for people to enjoy for years to come," he said.



RYAN TRARES | DAILY JOURNAL

The rope swing station at the Gatling Gauntlet.



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JOHNSON
MEMORIAL
HEALTH



WALK-IN
WEDNESDAY

Edinburgh establishes police K9 fund

Noah Crenshaw
DAILY JOURNAL STAFF WRITER

Edinburgh officials established a police K9 fund as the town moves forward with plans to get its first K9 since the 1980s.

The town council voted 3-0, with two members absent, last Monday night to pass an ordinance to create a K9 unit fund, which will be used to deposit both past and future donations for the program. The fund will also be used to deposit other revenues and to disburse funds relating to K9 units, officials say.

The town council had previously passed a resolution earlier this month announcing their desire to establish a K9 program.

Last month, Edinburgh Police Chief Doyne Little came before the town council to request permission to reestablish the department's K9 program and to get donations to help fund it. The need for the program's reestablishment stems from the town's problems with drug crime. Drug crime has been up and down for several years, but lately, it's been a steady rise, Little said last month.

Having a K9 will be beneficial as the department deals with the drug problem. Since 2020, the town has had at least 76 drug arrests for methamphetamine, 27 for heroin, 23 for cocaine and 83 for marijuana. These numbers only include Johnson County arrests, he said.

The last time the department had a K9 was in the 1980s, and since then the department has relied on requesting a K9 from neighboring agencies. However, these K9s are not always available, or close by, Little said.

Recent court decisions have made it more difficult for the department to just wait for a K9 from another agency. If an officer does a traffic stop and they suspect someone has drugs, they only have a reasonable amount of time — sometimes up to 10 minutes — to get a K9 there to conduct a search during the stop. If the officer issues a ticket and is done writing it

before the K9 is there, then the officer will have to let them go, he said.

The town council passed a resolution earlier this month announcing their desire to establish a K9 program.

On Monday, the town council voted to waive the ordinance through second reading to establish the fund immediately, giving the town a place to start depositing donations almost immediately. The department has received \$26,800 in donations so far, with another person interested in donating another \$5,000 and another three people expressing interest in donating, Little said.

People from not only the town but from Indianapolis and areas as far as Anderson have asked if they could donate to the program, he said.

"It's still going. It's amazing, this support (is)," Little said.

The next step for the establishment of the program is to assign an officer to be the K9's handler, along with that changing that officer's pay and duties. Officials will also need to choose the K9 provider from quotes they received earlier this year, said Dustin Huddleston, town attorney.

The first quote was for about \$19,255 for a Denver, Indiana-based company, and about \$16,000 for a Columbus-based company, officials said last month.

Edinburgh police are still taking donations for the K9 fund and will continue to do so in the future. The goal is for the department to fundraise and accept donations for the program, with the department's budget being a backup for expenses, Little said.

To donate to the fund, bring checks to the Edinburgh Police Department, 200 S. Main St. Donors are encouraged to write a note saying "Attention: Chief Little," he said.

In other business, the town council unanimously voted to convert two intersections into four-way stops citing the need to make the intersections safer. Under the ordinance passed, the intersection of Pleasant and Campbell streets and the intersection of Shelby and Clay streets will become four-way stops.

The Shelby and Clay streets intersection is being changed at the request of the town's board of zoning appeals. During the BZA's June 1 meeting, the board heard a variance request from a property owner who lives on the corner of Clay Street and Shelby Street. The property owner had installed a fence that did not meet the town's requirements for visual clearance, and the BZA recommended that the variance be awarded based on the condition that the council changes the ordinance to make the intersection a four-way stop, Planning Director Wade Watson said during a town council meeting on June 13.

The primary concern at this intersection is the amount of school traffic that drives along Shelby Street as parents go to and from East Side Elementary School. There have been accidents at the intersection in the past, Watson said.

With a lot of traffic on Shelby Street, the traffic on Clay Street is not visible from the cars that are parked near the intersection. Putting a stop sign will slow traffic down and prevent people from parking adjacent to the intersection. Parking there blocks the southbound traffic from seeing onto Clay Street, Watson said.

"The BZA gave their unanimous support on making that a four-way stop," he said. "It comes with the full support from our street department, our police department and the planning department," Watson said.

During the June 13 meeting, the town council expressed support for the measure and town officials asked to make an additional intersection a four-way stop: Pleasant Street and Campbell Street. People have asked about it becoming a four-way stop for a while, Street Superintendent Clark McCollum said.

"I've had a couple of people ask over the last few years about it," McCollum said.

The town council expedited the ordinance by waiving it through second reading.

Daily Journal reporter Angelica Gonzalez Morales contributed to this report.

NEWS ROUNDUP

DAILY JOURNAL AND REPUBLIC STAFF REPORTS

Asphalt resurface planned on U.S. 31 in Johnson County

Indiana Department of Transportation contractor Dave O'Mara Contractor Inc. has begun work to patch, mill and repave a section of U.S. 31 in Johnson County. Contractors will be working from just north of State Road 252 to just south of State Road 144 near the bridge over Young's Creek in Franklin. Drivers should expect lane closures and flagging throughout the project.

The \$6.2 million contract was awarded to Dave O'Mara in March and is expected to be complete later this summer. INDOT remind motorists to remain vigilant of workers and equipment in active construction zones. All work is weather dependent and schedules are subject to change.

Holcomb, lawmakers prepare to meet in special session consider banning abortion in Indiana

Lawmakers called into special session on July 6 by Indiana Gov. Eric Holcomb for the purpose of voting on a proposed refund of surplus tax dollars have a pressing new front-burner agenda item — banning abortion.

Rep. Ryan Lauer, R-Columbus, said that because the United States Supreme Court on Friday overturned Roe v. Wade, lawmakers will seek to vote on legislation that could make abortion illegal in Indiana. He called Friday's ruling a "monumental" decision.

"I believe that the legislature will address the topic of abortion and the regulations that exist today in Indiana," Lauer said of the special session in less than two weeks. "I expect we will be addressing that, and my hope is we will move Indiana in a pro-life direction, and how far Indiana ends up going is going to be a result of debate and discussion."

Holcomb in a statement Friday encouraged lawmakers to act.

"The Supreme Court's decision is clear, and it is now up to the states to address this important issue. We'll do that in short order in Indiana. I've already called the General Assembly back on July 6, and I expect members to take up this matter as well," Holcomb said.

"I have been clear in stating I am pro-life. We have an opportunity to make progress in protecting the sanctity of life, and that's exactly what we will do."

Sen. Greg Walker, R-Columbus, did not immediately respond to messages seeking comment.

JAIL BOOKINGS

The following people recently were arrested and booked into the Johnson County jail:

Jamie Ray Underwood, 45, Edinburgh; arrested on a charge of possession of stolen property; released on \$1,200 bond.

Leisha D. Turnbull, 60, Edinburgh; arrested on a charge of contempt; released on \$250 bond.

Angel Ivan Lopez Sanchez, 28, Edinburgh; arrested on charges of criminal mischief; \$3,000 bond.

The following people recently were arrested and booked into the Bartholomew County jail:

Stephanie F. Scott, 38, 606 E. Main Cross St., Edinburgh; arrested on a Bartholomew County warrant; \$10,000 bond.

Edinburgh Courier

A weekly publication serving the greater Edinburgh area.

Published by: Daily Journal
P.O. Box 699, Franklin, IN 46131

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FRESH FOOD



SUBMITTED PHOTO

The Edinburgh Farmers Market runs on Thursdays 4-7 p.m. through Sept. 28 at the John R. Drybread Community Center, 100 E. Main Cross St. Applications for vendors are available at the center.

NINEVEH SENIOR CENTER

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

July 8: Shanghai and Euchre, 9-11 a.m.

July 8: Phone class sponsored by Cricket and taught by Cassie, 10 a.m. to noon. Sign up, class is about 20 minutes long. Bring your phone and questions.

July 8: Pitch-in luncheon and members meeting, noon to 1:30 p.m. Blood pressure checks by Tiffany Creech of Franklin Meadows. Stephanie Sultz from CICOA will be guest speaker.

July 18: Box lunches from Franklin Meadows, 11 a.m. to noon.

July 18: Bingo with prizes, 1-3 p.m. Free coffee provided, pop and water for sale.

July 27: Craft event: decorating cups, 3-4 p.m.

July 27: 4:00 - 5:00 Dinner will be provided by Church of the Lakes, 4-5 p.m. All are invited for a meal of soup and sandwiches and fellowship with them and other members here.

Aug. 2: Computer Class, 6-7 p.m. LaDonna Elmore from Nineveh Christian Church will teach how to use the computer, the smart TV or the DVD player, surf the internet or

use email.

Aug. 12.: Shanghai and euchre, 9-11 a.m.

Aug. 12: Phone Class, 10 a.m. to noon. Class is about 20 minutes long. Bring phone and questions.

Aug. 12: Pitch-in luncheon and members meeting, noon to 1:30 p.m. Blood pressure checks by Tiffany Creech of Franklin Meadows.

Aug. 15: Box lunches will be provided by Franklin Meadows, 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Aug. 15: Bingo with prizes, 1-3 p.m. Free coffee provided, pop and water for sale.

Aug. 20: Ice Cream Social at Johnson County Park car show, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. There will be homemade ice cream, homemade cobblers, brownies and pies.

Aug. 24: Craft event, 3-4 p.m.

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

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