

WEDNESDAY
AUGUST 24, 2022



FREE



Offering a hand

Volunteer program trains advocates for vulnerable adults.

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Edinburgh Courier

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

“No one is perfect — that’s why pencils have erasers.”

— Wolfgang Riebe

WHAT’S UP?

10-mile garage sale

The 10-mile-long garage sale is celebrating its 17th year. It will be held in conjunction with the Marietta Fish Fry on Aug. 26-27, beginning at 8 a.m. rain or shine.

The fish fry begins Friday evening and continues all day Saturday.

Saturday is the main day for yard sales, but some sales may begin Friday.

To get to the sales from Edinburgh, take State Road 252 east to County Line Road and turn left at the last road before the Shell station. The intersection will be marked with a large sign, and white arrows will point out the route.

Another route is to take U.S. 31 to Arthur’s Roto Grill and turn east. Or use a GPS to 7478 W. 600S, Edinburgh, for a starting point.

Homes along the road, as well as Greensburg Road, Marietta and Mount Auburn, will have garage sales.

Information: Stephanie, 317-378-0870

Taylorville reunion

The annual Taylorville Grade School Reunion is set for Sept. 10 at noon at Heflin Park, 4323 W. County Road 700 North, Edinburgh.

All school alumni are welcome. Bring a covered dish, pictures and memories.

For more information, call Brenda Repp Cox at 317-364-5702.

Job Corps open house

Atterbury Job Corps Center will hold an open house Aug. 26, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Parents, prospective students and families are invited to explore the campus and learn what the program offers.

Information: 812-314-6250 or AtterburyAdmissions@jobcorps.org

NEWS

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DEADLINES

Display ads 5 p.m. Wednesday
News 9 a.m. Monday
Library drop box noon Wednesday

CIRCULATION 317-736-2777

Down on the farm

Reeves Festival this weekend at Henry Breeding Farm

By Brian Blair

THE REPUBLIC STAFF WRITER

No need to ask how the Bartholomew County Historical Society will keep folks down on the farm Saturday. The reference would be to the Henry Breeding Farm, the Edinburgh area site of the annual Reeves Festival, an outdoor extravaganza of blacksmithing, farm animal fun, hay rides, weaving and spinning, live music, food, beer and wine, self-guided tours of the property’s home, steam engine demonstrations, master gardener programs and even fireworks at dusk.

Organizers hope to attract about 500 people over the event’s approximate 10-hour stretch. About 350 people attended last year, according to Diane Robbins, the historical society’s executive director.

“At last year’s event, we had people pulling over in cars and even semis and stopping along (nearby) Interstate 65 to watch the fireworks,” Robbins said.

The gathering celebrates the local Reeves industrial family and commemorates the role the Reeves companies played in Columbus through the years. In 1888, William Reeves and his three sons — Marshall, Milton and Gernie — founded the Reeves Pulley Company in Columbus. Its pulleys were later used to construct the Golden Gate Bridge.

Organizers have set admission at \$10 per carload.

“We’re working very hard to make it an economical, family friendly event,” Robbins said. “We realize that not every person gets an opportunity to visit a farm these days. So, part of our simple goal is just to get people out there to see all that we have and to see everyday processes that went on 100 years ago.”

More than standard outdoor activities will be offered. The Bartholomew County Public Library will offer story times for youngsters at 1 and 2 p.m. Military re-enactors also will entertain. Plain air painters will be on hand to capture elements of the surroundings. Basket weaving demonstrations will be done between 2 and 5 p.m.

The Banister Family Bluegrass Band will perform from noon to 2 p.m. in the barn, followed by Columbus native and electric violinist Cathy Morris from 3 to 5 p.m. The local Stone Carnival Band will play from 6 to 8 p.m.

The food menu will include barbecue desserts, and other options.

Robbins acknowledged that the weather obviously can be a bit warm in August, but still comfortable on the property.

“The nice thing about the farm,” she said, “is that there’s always a breeze.”



REPUBLIC FILE PHOTO

Columbus native and electric violinist Cathy Morris will be in concert during Saturday’s Reeves Festival at the Henry Breeding Farm.

If you go

What: The Bartholomew County Historical Society’s annual Reeves Festival.

When: 11 a.m. to dusk Saturday.

Where: Henry Breeding Farm, 13730 N. County Road 100W near Edinburgh.

Admission: \$10 per carload.

Information: bartholomewhistory.org

OBITUARIES

COLUMBUS

Wyatt Livesay

Wyatt Clayton Livesay, 22, of Columbus passed away Aug. 9, 2022 at his residence.

He was born Aug. 8, 2000 in Franklin. He was the son of Clay Livesay of Columbus and Michelle F. Reel on Morgantown.

He is survived by his father; mother; step-mother, Suzette Livesay of Columbus; fiancée Natosha Young of Columbus; son, Wesley Clayton Livesay; daughter, Alaina Grace

Livesay; brothers, Chad (Jennifer) Nauer of Greenwood and Matt Nauer of Edinburgh; sisters, Amy (James) Coffey of Deputy and Lucy Livesay of Rush County; grandmother, Marjorie Tobias of Edinburgh; nephews, Jackson and Kingston; and nieces, Kendra, Kaleigh, Maddie, Payton, Caroline and Harmony.

He was preceded in death by his grandparents, William and Joann Livesay; and grandfather, David Reel Sr.

Wyatt attended Corinthian Baptist Church in North Vernon. He enjoyed time with his family, fishing, swimming, cook-outs, car shows and racing.

A funeral service was conducted by the



LIVESAY

Rev. Terry England at Grace Tabernacle Church in Edinburgh.

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

EDINBURGH

Marie Perkins

Marie Perkins, 95, of Edinburgh passed away Aug. 14, 2022 at Homeview Health and Rehabilitation Center in Franklin. She was born Oct. 25, 1926 in Gravel Switch, Kentucky. She was the daughter of Oscar and Bettie Lou (Riley) McCarty. She married George Perkins on April 7, 1945 and he preceded her in death on Nov. 9, 2012.

She is survived by sons, Donald Ray (Christine) Perkins of Flat Rock and Larry George Perkins of Edinburgh; daughter, Barbara Ann Coffman of Columbus; six grandchildren; 11 great-grandchildren; and three great-great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents, husband, four brothers and five sisters.

Marie enjoyed being outside working in her flower garden, sewing, making quilts and embroidering.

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

GOOD OLD DAYS

55 years ago: Allen Pendleton and Allen Estes combine to toss a 1 hitter as the Edinburg Little League All-Stars defeat Amo, 12-1, in the Morgantown Tourney.

50 years ago: The home of Jacob Pruitt, an Edinburg landmark located at 106 N. Walnut St., is being leveled for additional parking for the Edinburg State Bank.

45 years ago: Earl Smith receives a National Lead belt buckle from his supervisor, Neal Coy, for his 30 years of service with the Plastic Products Division.

40 years ago: Dana Surencamp, 15-year-

old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. David Surencamp, is named grand champion in the 4-H dress revue at the Johnson County Fair.

35 years ago: The Edinburg Fire and Rescue Department elects Allen Smith as the new Edinburg Fire Chief, replacing former chief Kenny Quinn, who resigned.

30 years ago: Clifton and Pearl Roth of Edinburg celebrate their 70th wedding anniversary with a reception at the Edinburg American Legion Post 233.

RESTAURANT INSPECTION

This information was compiled from reports at the Johnson 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:

Big Reds Place

124 E. Main Cross, Edinburg

Critical: 1. Raw shelled eggs and hot dogs measured at improper temperatures while inside the kitchen preparation table.

Non-critical: 2

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SCHOOL NOTEBOOK

Athlete of the week

Senior Gracie Crawhorn is the Horizon Bank Student Athlete of the Week. Gracie's volleyball play on Saturday with 34 kills and 40 digs, helped the Lady Lancers to a second place finish in the Henryville Invite with a 3-1 record.



CRAWHORN

Students of the month

The ECSC board and Superintendent Ron Ross recognized the following students of the month for August:

Lucas Pace, elementary; Cameron Fiset, middle school; Riley Peavler, high school

GED graduate

Edinburgh Adult Education would like to congratulate Waylon Rice on earning his HSE (GED).

Classes meet twice a week at Edinburgh Community High School for students 16 and up.

Interested students should contact Julie Redd at 317-392-2197.



RICE

College notes

Trine University has announced that John Martin of Edinburg has graduated.

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 bstrough@ecsc.k12.in.us.

Tickets to games

Edinburgh Community Schools athletic department has released game ticket and pass prices for the 2022-23 school year.

Family passes (members of same household): 1-4 members, \$150; 5-6 members, \$160; 7 members and up, \$170

Individual passes: Adult \$50; student \$40
Passes are not good for tourneys, scrimmages, jamborees or East Side contests.

Passes are available at the high school during regular school hours.

Single game prices:

All varsity events, \$6

Non-varsity events, \$5

Middle school events, \$5

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

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

Calendar

Sept. 5: Labor Day

Sept. 30: End of first nine weeks.

Oct. 3-14: Fall break

Nov. 23-25: Thanksgiving break

Dec. 16: End of first semester

Jan. 3: Teacher records day, half day

Jan. 4: Second semester begins

Jan. 16: MLK Day (snow makeup day if needed)

Feb. 20: Presidents Day

March 10: End of third nine weeks

AT THE PIXY

The Edinburg Pixy Theatre is at 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

Wednesdays: Happy Place Comedy Open Mic Comedy Night, 6 p.m. Win prizes or earn paid spots, meet new comics.

Aug. 25: Recover Out Loud movie night, "The Addict's Wake," 6:30 p.m. Free. The

film is a documentary about the damage drugs have done in Brown County. A panel discussion will be held afterwards

Sept. 11: The Pixy Playhouse Children's Variety Show (comedy, stories, music) 2 p.m. Adults, \$10; kids, \$5

Sept. 30: Suicide prevention benefit, Laughs for Good

Oct. 29-30: Halloween Comedy Horror Festival, Happy Place Comedy

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

MARRIAGE LICENSE

Ariel Beckner and Edgar Flores, both of Edinburg

Football team wins season opener; volleyball on win streak

The varsity volleyball team continued its hot streak with wins over four opponents this past week while the girls golf team had three victories, the JV volleyball team won once, and the varsity football team won its season opener on Friday evening with an eight point win.

Varsity golf got the week started the right way on Aug. 15 with a convincing 212-270 win over Triton Central. Izzy Richardson and Macie Blandford shared medalist honors, each posting a 46. Jillian Turner shot a 58, Gracie Myers 62, Hannah Pile 63, Cloee Britton 64, Ceira Myers 65, and Bella Turner 71.

On Aug. 16, the volleyball teams traveled to Osgood to play Jac-Cen-Del. The JV had a rough time in the opener, falling 10-25, 19-25. In the varsity match, the Lancers started off slowly but got stronger as the night went on, defeating the hosts, 27-25, 25-16, 25-18. Gracie Crawhorn led the way with 14 kills and 15 digs, Jessica Walsh had 13 digs, Zoey Sida 12 digs and MacKenzie Beiker 10. Kyah Streeval dished out 25 assists.

The Edinburgh varsity tennis team had to go to Southwestern Hanover to start their season on Aug. 16. They were turned back, 5-0 in their match. Max Blandford was beaten 1-6, 1-6, Austin Brockman fell at number two singles, and Milas Burkman fell at number three singles, 0-6, 2-6. Bailey Totten and Braylon Lenkner lost at number one doubles, while Teddy Crawhorn and Jayson Music lost at number two doubles, 0-6, 0-6.

The Lancer middle school volleyball girls went to Columbus Northside on



Brian Ingels

Lancer Notebook

Wednesday. The seventh graders got their first chance at volleyball competition and were downed by the hosts, 3-25, 7-25. In the eighth grade contest, the Lancers lost, 25-12, 25-11.

At Timbergate on Wednesday evening the Lancer golfers were turned back by Greensburg High School by a measly point and then defeated Indian Creek by two, 218-219-221. Izzy Richardson led her team with a 47, Macie Blandford shot a 55, Cloee Britton 58, Hannah Pile 59, Jillian Turner 60 and Gracie Myers 64.

On Thursday at South Decatur, the varsity volleyball girls earned their first conference win of the season as they easily defeated the Cougars, 25-14, 25-12, 25-13. Kyah Streeval set 31 assists, Gracie Crawhorn had 14 digs and eight kills, Zoey Sida eight digs and six kills, Jessica Walsh 19 digs and eight kills, MacKenzie Bieker 11 digs and six kills and Kenna Streeval had eight digs and a pair of service aces. The JV won their match in two super sets, 25-19, 25-21.

Playing at home on Thursday, the varsity tennis Lancers fell to Waldron, 4-1. Max Blandford lost at number one singles, 2-6, 6-7, Austin Brockman was Edinburgh's lone winner at number two singles, 3-6, 7-5, 10-6, and Milas Burkman lost at number three, 1-6, 2-6. The number one doubles duo of Bailey Totten and Braylon Lenkner lost 0-6, 0-6, and the number two doubles

team of Teddy Crawhorn and Jayson Music fell, 0-6, 0-6.

To put a cap on Thursday, the girls varsity golf team went to Shelbyville to play Morristown at Blue Bear Golf Course and improved their season record to 7-3 by defeating Morristown, 207-255. Izzy Richardson carded a 43 to bring home medalist honors, Macie Blandford came in with a 51, Gracie Myers 54, Hannah Pile 59, Cloee Britton 64, Jillian Turner 65, Ceira Myers 67 and Bella Turner 67.

The Lancer football squad opened its season at The Steve Hollenbeck Athletic Complex Friday evening as they hosted Tindley Academy. The good guys were victorious on the evening, winning 14-6.

On their first offensive possession of the year, quarterback Caleb Murphy hit Caleb Dewey for 64 yards and ended the drive by finding Dewey again, this time for 19 yards, to put Edinburgh up, 6-0. The visitors then tried to answer by putting together a long drive of their own but that was stopped by a Jarrett Turner interception. Two Tindley possessions later the Lancers forced them to punt but were the victims of a roughing the punter penalty that gave Tindley new life and they scored just before the half to knot the game at 6-6.

A Tiger QB change at the start of the second half was greeted by a Dewey interception which gave the Lancers the ball

deep in Tindley territory but the Lancers couldn't capitalize as a penalty and a failed fake punt doomed the opportunity. Late in the third period however, a Keegan Smith fumble recovery set Edinburgh up for another Murphy-to-Dewey strike that resulted in a 42-yard touchdown to give the Lancers the lead at 12-6. Just before the beginning of the fourth period, four straight Tiger penalties backed them up to their one yard line and the Edinburgh defense was able to score on a safety to make the final, 14-6. The Lancer defense stood strong in the fourth to seal the victory.

Varsity tennis played in the Connersville Invitational on Saturday morning. They lost the opening match to the host Spartans, 5-0 and then were downed by Hagerstown 3-2. Max Blandford at number one singles and Austin Brockman at number two were the Edinburgh winners.

Varsity volleyball traveled to Henryville on Saturday and lost a heartbreaker to Hauser in the morning contest, 25-23, 16-25, 13-15. They went on to defeat Henryville 25-17, 25-18 and also Paoli, 21-25, 25-23, 15-9.

At the Jeremy Wright Small School Invitational host by Southwestern on Saturday the middle school boys were led by a 30 place from Kendall Bennett, 82nd

SEE LANCER, PAGE 6



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Today is deadline to enter Fall Festival Queen contest

The 2022 Edinburgh Fall Festival will be held Sept. 14-17 at various downtown sites. Many of the events will tie in with Edinburgh's yearlong bicentennial celebration.

Organizers are asking for participants or registration in the various contests held during the festival.

CONTESTS

Festival Queen

The registration deadline is today for the 66th Annual Fall Festival Queen Contest. Contestants should attend a meeting at 6 p.m. at the John R. Drybread Community Center. Photos will be taken and canisters will be distributed.

The queen will be crowned Sept. 17. Registration forms are available in the Edinburgh Community High School main office, the John R. Drybread Community Center or by contacting 317-661-0600.

To be a candidate, girls must be:
Between the ages of 13-19, single and never married
Enrolled in school or a recent high school graduate
A resident of Edinburgh, Johnson County or the surrounding area

Previous contestants can run again, but not previous queens. There will be a meeting in August that all contestants must attend.

All contestants will participate in the Fall Festival Parade. The queen will receive a tiara and roses as well as \$500 and the runner up will receive \$300. All contestant will receive a gift from Tri Kappa. Participants can also use this experience as a community service project when filling out college and scholarship applications.

Proceeds are used for the charitable causes that Tri Kappa supports in the Edinburgh community.

Baby contest

Registration is now open for the baby contest, which will be held Sept. 15 at 6 p.m.

Age divisions are 0-6 months, 7-12 months, 13-24 months and 25-36 months. Boys and girls will be judged separately and there will be a winner in each category for cutest baby/Mr. Personality/Miss Personality/best outfit or costume. One baby will be chosen as the overall winner.

To register, stop by the Park & Rec office, 722 S. Eisenhower Drive, from noon to 8 p.m. The registration form can also be downloaded at www.edinburgh.in.us/egov/documents. Registration deadline is Sept. 13. Entry fee is \$5.



Prince and Princess

Registration will be conducted through Aug. 26 for the Lions Club's Fall Festival Prince and Princess contest. Registration forms are available at the Edinburgh Wright-Hagemen Public Library and the John R. Drybread Community Center.

Registration is open to 3, 4 and 5-year-olds living in Edinburgh and surrounding areas. 5-year-olds may not turn 6 prior to Sept. 18. Only one child per family may register unless they are twins. The first eight girls and eight boys to register will be accepted. The Lion's Club reserves the right to cancel the event if there is a lack of interest.

The 2022 Prince & Princess will be crowned on Sept. 17 following the Fall Festival Parade. Each registered child will receive a ride bracelet and at the completion of contest, a \$50 Build-A-Bear gift card and an 8-by-10 framed picture. Prince and Princess winners will receive a grand prize and the runners-up will receive a runner-up prize. A gift card will be given for best decorated canister.

Information: Cathy Hamm, 812-343-4352

Parade

The Fall Festival Parade is set for Sept. 17. The 1.2 mile route starts at the ECHS Sports Complex through historic downtown and Main Cross Street and ends at East Side Elementary. Top three floats win cash prizes of \$300, \$200 and \$100. Forms are available at www.edinburgh.in.us or at the John R. Drybread Community Center.

Past queens

Past Festival queens are invited to join the parade. Tri Kappa will provide sashes. Contact Lili Ervin at 812-344-8932 by Aug. 26 to let her know.

If you are riding on the float, they will have signs with your name/year on the float. If you are providing your own transportation, please make your own sign if you'd like to have one.

Call 317-661-0600 for details.

Red Cloud 5K

The Inaugural Red Cloud 5K Trot will kick off at 8 a.m. Sept. 17 at the John R. Drybread Community Center. The route begins in downtown Edinburgh, goes through Timbergate golf course and returns to downtown.

Register through the community center Facebook page. Deadline is Aug. 29 to register and receive a T-shirt.

Fees: Adult Runner/Walker with shirt \$20, without shirt, \$10; child under 12 with shirt, \$12, without shirt, \$5.

Participants all receive a medal, keepsake runners bib and post-race refreshments. Free breakfast will be available one block east at Presbyterian Church.

The event honors Edinburgh's equestrian history. Red Cloud was a racehorse from Edinburgh that held the world record as a trotter in the 1870s. He's buried on North Walnut Street.

FOOD

The American Legion Fall Festival Fish Fry will be held Sept. 16, 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. or until the food is gone at 500 Memorial Drive. Prices are fish sandwich, \$8; french fries, coleslaw and baked beans, \$2 each. Proceeds benefit the Legion Post, Sons of the American Legion and the Auxiliary.

OTHER EVENTS

If you would like your event to appear in the weekly Fall Festival listing in the Courier, email the details to courier@dailyjournal.net. Info: Amy May, 317-736-2726

OVERDOSE AWARENESS/RECOVERY

Turn the Town Purple

A community event to remember those who have died from overdose, as well as to provide resources and information about recovery from substance use disorder is set for Aug. 27, 6-10 p.m. at Irwin Park.

Organized by Recover out Loud, activities include a kickball game between members of Recover Out Loud and Edinburgh first responders, live entertainment by Twisted Tiara and Jim Jam and the Scrim Scrums, food, a bounce house, games, resources, testimonials and more.

An overdose awareness walk through the town will be held at 7 p.m. and a ceremonial lantern release is scheduled for 10 p.m.

To get involved or to help sponsor the event, contact Misty Hogan at 463-201-6522.

Family Fun Day

The public is invited to Celebrate Recovery Family Fun Day Sept. 24, noon to 4 p.m. at Edinburgh Nazarene Church, 716 S. Eisenhower Drive.

The day includes music, bounce house, free food, games and door prizes donated by local businesses.

Information tables in support of recovery awareness and Celebrate Recovery Christ-centered program will be on hand and guest speakers Jason Davis, Destrey Brown, Mark Oliver and more will discuss the topic of substance abuse and recovery.

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.

- 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 (starting Sept. 12) 6:30-8:30 p.m. at The Crossing, 8728 S. Nineveh Road, Nineveh.

- 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).

- Recover Out Loud (addiction support): An open meeting is held 6-7 p.m. Tuesdays at the Edinburgh Parks and Recreation building, 722 S. Eisenhower Drive. Info: recoveroutloudinc.org

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

VASIA needs volunteers to serve incapacitated adults in area

By Ryan Trares
DAILY JOURNAL STAFF WRITER

Local adults unable to care for themselves or make decisions on their own face a precarious situation.

County residents afflicted with conditions such as dementia, Alzheimer's disease and mental illnesses are at high risk for exploitation, without a trustworthy guardian to ensure they receive the care and support they need.

To protect the community's most vulnerable people is the mission of Volunteer Advocates for Seniors and Incapacitated Adults, or VASIA.

"To know that their wishes are going to be expressed in a way they want them to is a wonderful feeling — to know we fulfilled their life in a way they wanted to when no one else was around," said Lauren Rynerson, executive director for Johnson and Shelby County VASIA.

Those guardians are high demand. Johnson and Shelby County VASIA is in need of volunteers to help protect the most vulnerable residents. The public guardianship program provides assistance for those in need of advocacy, helping them make decisions in order to be as independent as possible while still maintaining their health, comfort and safety.

Appointed by the local courts, VASIA advocates are paired with clients deemed unable to care for themselves, spending considerable time with them helping make decisions on everything from finances to medical needs to what they want to happen when they die.

Currently, 12 volunteers are signed up with VASIA. As the organization is serving about 40 clients in the two counties, officials hope to bring in an additional 20 people, Rynerson said.

"Our program depends on volunteers. Not enough volunteers means not accepting additional people in need. Like every other volunteer-based program and business, we are struggling to find people to fill an essential role," Rynerson said. "We need additional eyes and ears on our most vulnerable citizens. They deserve to be honored, develop healthy friendships and receive care in a dignified manner."

The VASIA program was created in 2016 at the behest of Superior Court 1 Judge Kevin Barton. The state Supreme Court requested grant money from the legislature to create a program, and that request was granted.

Oversight of the VASIA program is done locally by the courts, and the guardianship process entails much thorough research and evidence that this is needed. The



PHOTO BY RYAN TRARES | DAILY JOURNAL

Lauren Rynerson, executive director for Johnson and Shelby County VASIA, in her office at the Johnson County courthouse. VASIA is a public guardianship program that provides assistance for those in need of advocacy.

adults in need of advocacy are referred to the court and to Rynerson, usually by nursing homes or other care institutions.

The people in need of a guardian may include people with dementia, Alzheimer's, mental illness, substance abuse issues, traumatic brain injury, developmental disabilities, autism, and any other incapacity that limits their ability to make decisions about their financial and medical care.

A majority of their clients are elderly, but the program is open to anyone older than 18.

"The people we serve will be without a willing, able or suitable relative or significant person to serve as guardian," said the Rev. Peter Jessen, board chair for Johnson

and Shelby County VASIA. "A county judge must rule that the person needs guardianship and will then assign VASIA to the case."

VASIA leadership and paid staff are the main overseers of their clients — investigating referrals, presenting cases before the judge for guardianship ruling, applying for benefits and coordinating services with other agencies. But a key component of the system is volunteers, who meet with the clients on a regular basis to determine their needs.

"We don't need them to make the financial or medical decisions — we handle those in-office. We just need them to focus on the interaction between the client and the volunteer to have that relationship," Rynerson said.

Joe Erickson, who was the VASIA director prior to Rynerson, has maintained his involvement in the organization through volunteering.

To him, it was important to give assistance to those who needed help.

"There is a segment of our population who get lost in the cracks. Those are the individuals who are seniors with dementia or some other kind of illness, or just an

adult who is incapacitated due to disability," he said. "They get placed in nursing homes and residential facilities, and people think that once they're in there, everything goes 100%. That doesn't necessarily occur."

Sitting with the clients he volunteers with is incredibly rewarding, getting to know about their lives and who they are as people.

"We try to search out who that person was before their incapacity, so we get an idea of how they would want to decide on different things," Erickson said.

Applications to volunteer can be found on VASIA's website. Volunteers should be over the age of 21, and expect to put in an average of eight to 10 hours each month in meeting with clients, though people can set their own hours.

Activities include monthly visits, personal shopping, recreational activities, service monitoring, and advocacy.

"Most of our clients have had some type of neglect or exploitation have to them. They don't trust a lot of people. There is definitely a lot of trauma. you have to

SEE VASIA, PAGE 6

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Officials brace as COVID cases rise again in Johnson County

By Ryan Trares
DAILY JOURNAL STAFF WRITER

Two years into the COVID-19 pandemic, local health officials are prepared for the ebb and flow of cases caused by new variants.

Cases of COVID-19 are on the rise in Johnson County, as are hospitalizations. Though the situation is still manageable and only a fraction of what the county has faced at other points of the pandemic, officials are guarded about what this recent surge could become.

"The thing that raises some trepidation is that the hospital has been pretty full over the past month, and this is a time, historically, when hospitals aren't as busy in the summer months," said Dr. David Dunkle, president and CEO of Johnson Memorial Hospital. "You do start to worry as you head into the fall and winter, when you see increases in other respiratory illnesses, will you have the beds to take care

of those patients?"

Across the country, COVID-19 cases have been rising throughout the summer. The increase is fueled by a spike of BA.5 sub-variant cases, which emerged in the United States in May. According to the Indiana Department of Health, 2,121 cases were reported across the state as of Aug. 11; 22% of those cases were reinfections.

As of Aug. 11, Johnson County was reporting 68 total cases. The county is at a "high" risk level, during which the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention advises that people wear a well-fitting mask or respirator. People who are at high risk of getting very sick are also recommended to consider avoiding non-essential indoor activities in public where they could be exposed.

This month so far (as of Aug. 15), there have been 860 cases reported in Johnson County, compared to over 1,300 in July, which could signal cases will surpass that total. Cases in the county have been increasing in number each month since the March lull when only 129 cases were reported in the county that month. That

was a steep drop-off following the county's all-pandemic high January infection rate of over 9,400 cases.

The latest numbers likely don't illustrate the whole picture, said Betsy Swearingen, director of the Johnson County health department.

"We have seen a slight uptick in the number of cases. However, there is so much home-testing that it really isn't an accurate depiction of the true number of cases that are out there right now," she said. "If they're taking an at-home test, I don't think we're getting accurate numbers for the cases we have right now."

"The thing that's most concerning from a health care provider standpoint is seeing more people whose primary diagnosis is COVID. They're coming in with COVID pneumonia, hypoxia, diagnoses directly related to COVID," Dunkle said. "Previous to this, we'd have people test positive for COVID, but that wasn't why they were here. They were asymptomatic. But we've definitely seen a change in the last month."

At this point, the surge is not threaten-

ing Johnson Memorial's capacity; they still have available beds and space for all of the patients coming to the hospital, Dunkle said. The increase in hospitalizations has made the existing nursing and staffing shortages more pronounced.

"We're able to handle this now. But this whole country is facing a nursing shortage and labor shortage in general. It is tough," Dunkle said. When you see COVID circulating in the community more, that's more of our employees that risk getting ill. And as illness circulates in schools, sometimes employees can't work due to childcare issues."

In the face of a new wave of cases, many people seem to have discarded the guidelines and recommendations from the past two years.

"I think a lot of people are just over it. They're not following the safety protocols that we put in place two years ago, or even this time last year," Swearingen said. "People aren't being safe. If you're sick, you need to stay home, get healthy and stay away from those you love so you don't get them sick as well."

JAIL BOOKINGS

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

Britian Alexia Ridge, 19, Edinburgh; arrested on a charge of bond forfeiture; held without bond.

Patrick W. Belser, 38, Edinburgh; arrested on a charge of possession of marijuana/hash oil/hashish/salvia and warrants for failure to appear in court; \$3,116 bond.

Tammy Jo Money, 52, Edinburgh; arrested on a charge of probation violation; held without bond.

Samantha Sueanne Gail Snyder, 32, Edinburgh; arrested on a charge of theft from a building and

wanted on an out of county warrant; held without bond.

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

Timothy J. Goldsmith, II, 33, Edinburgh, arrested on a warrant for body attachment; released on \$750 bond.

Saul Badillo Gonzales, 51, 105 S. Walnut St., Edinburgh, arrested on charges of operating a vehicle while intoxicated, operating a vehicle without ever obtaining a license; released on \$5,000 bond.

Thursday

Varsity tennis, at home vs. Indian Creek, 4:30 p.m.

MS volleyball, at home vs. Indian Creek, 6 p.m.
MS football at North Decatur, 6 p.m.

Friday

Varsity football, at home vs. Cloverdale, 7 p.m.

Saturday

Varsity volleyball at Brown County Invitational, 9 a.m.

Varsity cross country at Rushville Invitational, 9 a.m.

Monday

Varsity tennis at Hauser, 4:30 p.m.

Tuesday

Varsity golf at Columbus East, 4:30 p.m.

MS cross country at Waldron, 5:30 p.m.

Varsity & JV volleyball, at home vs. Oldenburg, 6 p.m.

MS volleyball at St. Bartholomew, 6 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.

VASIA

FROM PAGE 5

work for a while to have them fully open up to you and trust you," Rynerson said.

While volunteers top the list of needs VASIA is facing, Rynerson is also working to secure supplemental funding to support the program. Johnson County funds the director's salary and benefits along with providing office space in the courthouse, while a state VASIA grant of \$75,000 covers the assistant director's salary and benefits, as well as operating expenses. In addition, the organization receives \$10,000 from Shelby County.

A huge cost for VASIA is attorney fees, Rynerson said.

"That is our main fee besides the salary of our assistant director. We do get a reduced rate because our attorney knows what our program is and we are limited on funding," she said. "Different cases can have several court hearings that take several hours. There's preparation time, there's attorney time after court hearings."

Donations to VASIA can be made at the Johnson County Community Foundation or the Blue River Community Foundation.

Those funds do end up making a big difference, Rynerson said.

"It's really rewarding. You are making very big decisions in someone's life, and that's why it's imperative to have those relationships and try to figure out what they'd want you to do in that situation, and

How to help

Johnson County Volunteer Advocates for Seniors and Incapacitated Adults is in need of volunteers to be public guardians for its program.

Anyone 21 and older can volunteer.

A volunteer should expect to put in an average of 8 to 10 hours monthly. The time commitment will vary depending on the need of the protected person and their issues.

What do they do: Identify and advocate for the person's needs and preferences; promote and monitor the well-being of the person; maximize independence in the least restrictive setting; communicate with family members and health care providers; consent to and monitor medical treatment; consent to and monitor non-medical services, such as education and counseling; inventory assets and personal belongings; sell homes, land, vehicles, coin collections, stocks and bonds; submit an annual report to the court; prearrange funeral services; make end-of-life decisions; VASIA staff on call 24/7

Learning luncheons: If you are interested in becoming a volunteer, join the volunteers for lunch at Greeks Pizzeria, 18 E. Jefferson St., Franklin from 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. on Sept. 7 or Oct. 5

Anyone interested can contact Johnson County VASIA executive director Lauren Rynerson at lryneron@co.johnson.in.us or 317-346-4414.

try to fulfill that as best as you can, as long as it's safe and healthy for that person," she said.

Lancer

FROM PAGE 3

place from Kayden Talbott, 124th place from Julian Espino and a 132nd place by Mason Burton.

The middle school girls were the only Lancer team to score and earned a 15th place finish. Scoring for them were, 119th place Adalyn Johnson, 120th place Gracie Burton, 130th place Nora Wilkinson, 133rd place Avery Swallows, and 135th place Reece Smith.

In the high school races, Shyleigh Goble was the lone Edinburgh girl and placed 162nd, while the boys finishing were, 234th Place Brian Cajellas, 238th Place Irving Luis-Orozco, and 267th Place Ethan Campbell.

On tap

Today

Varsity golf at Johnson County Meet, 1 p.m.

COMMUNITY CHATTER

Car show

The Wounded Hero Car Show will be held Sept. 11 in Irwin Park. All vehicles are welcome.

Registration begins at noon; awards will be given at 3 p.m. Awards include best hot rod, best truck, best muscle car, best modern car, best motorcycle and best of show.

The show will also include music, food vendors, door prizes and raffles

Proceeds will go to the Camp Atterbury Sportsmen's Club for the Wounded Hero Hunt.

Information: Tim Bailey, 812-374-8444

Pie contest

Edinbakers of all ages are invited to participate in PIEcentennial on Sept. 29. Registration forms are available at the John R. Drybread Community Center and are due by Sept. 26.

Pies must be brought to the center by 5:30 day of the event. The winners will be announced at 6:30 p.m.

PARP recertification

The Central Indiana Field Day Private Applicator Recertification Program will be held Sept. 9, 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at Fischers Farm Inc, 3387 S. 375 East, Shelbyville. Registration begins at 8 a.m. Lunch will be provided. Topics to be covered include crop disease, weeds and more. Fred

Whitford will talk about tie down safety.

Cost is \$10.

RSVP by Sept. 4: 317-392-6460

Shelby County Farm Fest

Shelby County is celebrating its bicentennial. On Sept. 10, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., for a tour of five agriculture operations will be offered.

Information: <https://www.bicentennialshelbycounty.com/farm-fest-2022>

Purse bingo

The Gals for Girls Purse Bingo will be held Sept. 28 at the Greenwood Moose Lodge, 813 Smith Valley Road. Doors open at 5:30 p.m. The event is a benefit for Girls Inc., which organizes programs for girls, including an annual summer camp in Edinburgh.

The event includes cash bar, snacks, 50/50 raffle and bingo for designer bags from Michael Kors, Kate Spade, Coach and more.

Cost is \$30 per person. Reserve a VIP table for eight for an additional \$10.

Reservations can be made at amy@girlsincjc.org and mail check to Girls Inc of Johnson County, 200 E. Madison St. Franklin IN 46131.

Information: 317-736-5344 or the above email.

Nineveh rummage sale

The Nineveh Senior Center, 3208 Rodeo Drive, Johnson County Park (next to horse park), will have its annual rummage sale fundraiser and ham and bean dinner Sept. 23-24.

Friday hours are 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday hours are 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Event includes the rummage sale, ham and beans and chili, hot dogs, homemade desserts and drinks for purchase.

Calling all cooks

The Daily Journal's Southside Neighborhood Cookbook will be published Oct. 15 and is asking you to share your favorite recipes for publication.

Include your name, your hometown and a contact number in case we have questions.

Recipes can be sent via email to dj-recipes@dailyjournal.net or mailed to Daily Journal c/o Cookbook, PO Box 699, Franklin IN 46131 or brought to 30 S. Water St., second floor Ste. A, Franklin.

Please submit your recipes by Sept. 16.

Halloween festival

Edinburgh Halloween Festival 2022 will take place Oct. 28 from 6 to 8 p.m. at Edinburgh Community High School.

Sponsored by Edinburgh Parks and Recreation, the event includes trick or

treating with area organizations and free hot dogs, walking tacos and drinks.

Donations of bags of candy are requested and can be taken to Parks and Rec.

Regular residential trick-or-treating will take place on Oct. 31

Fish fry

The Amity Fire Department's second fish fry of 2022 will be on Oct. 1, 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Meal will be served carry out only, which has proven to work better for getting everyone through the lines. Cash, checks, and credit/debit cards are accepted.

Free Fishing Days

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

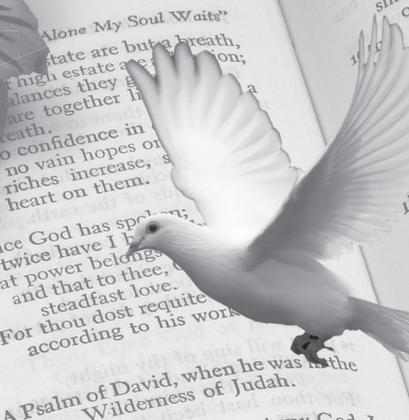
The program applies to all public waters in Indiana. You can find public places to fish at on.IN.gov/where2fish.

Farmers market

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.

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