

WEDNESDAY  
DECEMBER 21, 2022



FREE



MERRY CHRISTMAS  
&  
HAPPY NEW YEAR

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# Edinburgh Courier

## THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

“People think that stories are shaped by people. In fact, it’s the other way around.”  
— Terry Pratchett

## WHAT’S UP?

### Lancer cards

The Edinburgh Athletic Department is selling Lancer Discount Cards to raise money for athletics at Edinburgh Community Schools. The cost is \$10 and includes discounts for restaurants, services and retail items, along with one high school varsity regular season game (value \$6). The Lancer Cards can be purchased at the John R. Drybread Community Center, the Edinburgh Utility Office, the Edinburgh Community School District Office and the high school office.

### Firewood sale

Johnson County Park will have a firewood sale 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Dec. 21 at the park, 2949 E. North St., Nineveh.

Firewood, which is mixed but mostly seasoned ash, is \$50 per rick, limit two per household and first-come first-served while supplies last. Customers must load the wood themselves. Pay at the park office before loading.

Information: 812-526-6809

### 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, Ste. A, Franklin.

## 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  
Advertising fax ..... 317-736-2754

## DEADLINES

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

CIRCULATION 317-736-2777

## Discovering artistic skills

# Seniors get creative in free-time pursuits

By Tom Jekel  
THE REPUBLIC

People in the autumn of their lives are discovering artistic skills they didn’t even know they had. They consider it a stroke of good fortune.

Three days a week, you can find older art students inside Patchworks Art Studio and Gallery on the Hope Town Square, perched in front of easels for four hours of painting and drawing lessons. Instructor Rena Dillman, 78, who has been teaching art classes for 41 years, welcomes them into the stimulating environment of her bright and colorful studio.

### Learn how to paint

Two local art galleries provide lessons to help students learn how to paint:

**Tri-State Artisans**, 422 Washington St., Columbus, has classes available for ages 6 and older. For details and schedules, call 812-528-5748

**Patchworks Art Studio and Gallery**, 308 Jackson St., Hope, offers classes for adults. For details and schedules, call 812-546-4707

“There’s something missing in their lives that this fulfills,” said Dillman, 78, who took lessons herself — initially right out of high school, then again after leaving a nursing career in 1984 to pursue her dream of being a full-time artist and art instructor. About 80 percent of Dillman’s 25 students are 55 and older, and the numbers are growing.

“They have the time for it. Financially, they can afford it,” said Dillman, who then adds a third reason senior citizens from various walks of life are flocking to art lessons: “It’s the camaraderie.”

Typically, about eight students participate in each of three weekly sessions — held Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays, when Dillman provides group and one-on-one direction. Students can utilize oil, acrylic, watercolor, pastel or charcoal in their creations.

“I usually start everyone out with oil because it’s the easiest, then we go from there,” Dillman said.

The first painting assignment is always a purple iris, which takes about two weeks for new artists to complete.

“Everyone can do it,” Dillman said. “It’s lovely.”

The second painting is typically a barn or other landscape.

“After that, they can choose,” Dillman said. “People do better work when it’s something they have an interest in.”

Brenda Elkins Parker was a journeyman tool designer for Cummins



PHOTO BY CARLA CLARK/THE REPUBLIC

Rena Dillman, owner and instructor, is shown with student Bob Davie and a painting that he is working on at Patchworks Art Studio and Gallery in Hope.

SEE ARTISTIC, PAGE 4

## OBITUARY

EDINBURGH

### Gary Roupp

Gary W. Roupp, 69, of Edinburgh passed away Dec. 14, 2022 at Silver Oaks Health Campus in Columbus. He was born Nov. 2, 1953 in Shelbyville. He was the son of George Ransom and Betty L. (Snyder) Roupp.

He is survived by his cousins.

He was preceded in death by his parents.

Gary was a member of Old Union United Church of Christ. He was a 1972 graduate from Columbus North High School, a 1976 graduate of Franklin College, and received his masters from IU in 1981 and was an IU fan. He was also a fan of the New York Yankees, Cleveland Browns, and Washington Wizards.

Gary was an elementary school teacher in the Southwestern School Corp. He retired after teaching for 31 years in 2007.



ROUPE

He enjoyed coaching fifth and sixth boys and girls basketball, junior high boys and girls track, girls varsity track, and one year of seventh grade boys basketball. He attended all Columbus High School's basketball games from 1963-2020. After retiring, he volunteered at Taylorsville Elementary school 2008-2020 and volunteered at Silver Oaks Health Care Center. Gary served on the board of directors for the German Township Fire Department and was the Old Union United Church of Christ representative for Love Chapel. He enjoyed being outdoors, watching "Leave It to Beaver" and the Andy Griffith shows and spending time with his dog, Chip.

A funeral service was conducted by Pastors J. Kirby Rupp and Al White at Old Union United Church of Christ. Burial was at Old Union Cemetery in Edinburgh.

Eskew-Eaton Funeral Home in Edinburgh handled arrangements.

Memorial contributions may be made to Bartholomew County Humane Society or donor's choice.

## GOOD OLD DAYS

75 years ago: Edinburg students Kenton Roush, Juanita Phillips and Patsy Harrison all reach the speed of 30 words per minute in the beginning typing class.

70 years ago: Wayne Richards and Dick Depp each score 13 points to lead the Edinburg Maroons to a hard fought 64-63 victory over Hope in their home gym.

65 years ago: Mr. Adams, with the assistance of student directors Gay Lee Bush and Jeffrey Gosney, directs the annual Edinburg Band and Chorus Concert.

60 years ago: Dan Whitlock, John

Shehorn, Gary Smith, Robert Smith, Marlin Smith and Mark Johnson all receive their Edinburg athletic sweaters.

55 years ago: Edinburg Community School Superintendent Lewis Jacob announces that schools will dismiss Wednesday at 1 p.m. for Christmas vacation.

50 years ago: Allen Pendleton scores 23 points and grabs 11 rebounds to lead Lennie Krebb's Edinburg Lancers to 79-43 victory over the Indiana School for the Deaf.

## AT THE LIBRARY

The following events are scheduled at the Edinburg Wright-Hageman Public Library, 119 W. Main Cross St.

Info: 812-526-5487, [www.edinburgh.lib.in.us](http://www.edinburgh.lib.in.us)

### Toy drive

The 8th Day Riders are conducting their annual toy drive for children in the Edinburg community. The library has a collection box to leave a toy.

### Free meal

Two Shirts Kitchen, sponsored by Edinburg 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. Meals are carryout only at this time. Go to the south door of the library.

### Library hours

The library has switched to its winter hours. Until March 1, hours will be Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Saturday, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Computers will shut off 45 minutes before closing.

## MARRIAGE LICENSE

John Kemp and Erika Bowling, both of Edinburg

## COMMUNITY CHATTER

### Good Cheer Fund

The Edinburg Good Cheer Fund will be in need of funds to help pay for cheer baskets and toys for children in need in Edinburg. Anyone or group that would like to help with this may contact Nancy West, 812-343-4609, or mail a donation to Edinburg Fellowship of Churches, P.O. Box 83, Edinburg IN 46124. Donations can also be accepted at Horizon Bank & deposited in the Cheer Fund Acct. If you would like your donation to go to food baskets or toys, make a notation on your check or a note with cash.

### Hunter education

A free Indiana Hunter Education Course is scheduled for Friday, Jan. 20 and Saturday, Jan. 21 at the Dubois County 4-H Fairgrounds, which is located at 4157 S. State Road 162, Huntingburg.

Classes will run from 6 to 9 p.m. Jan. 20, and 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Jan. 21. Participants must attend both days to complete the course. Completion is required for anyone born after Dec. 31, 1986, to purchase an Indiana hunting license.

All instruction will be by DNR conservation officers and certified Indiana volunteer hunters. The course will cover ethics, safety, laws, survival, and safe handling practices for archery, black powder and firearms.

Registration is required for the course and can be completed at [passitonindiana.com](http://passitonindiana.com). There is a 150-student limit. This course is being sponsored by the Dubois County Shooting Sports Instructor Council.

For more information, call Patoka Lake at 812-685-2447.

### The Edinburg 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.TheEdinburgPixy.com](http://www.TheEdinburgPixy.com) or advance tickets for some shows at [www.brownpapertickets.com](http://www.brownpapertickets.com)

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

Dec. 23: Anthony of Eden Cafe show

April 15: Wyatt Massingille (country)

April 22: Martin Branden and Rye Davis (country)

### Johnson County Museum

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](http://johnsoncountymuseum.org).

Through Dec. 30: Dec-A-Tree featured themed Christmas trees from 30 nonprofits. Vote on favorite.

Dec. 17: Holiday open house, treats and punch and Matinee Musicale. Free admission.

### Nineveh Senior Center

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

Dec. 21: Pizza provided by Compass Park of Franklin, 11:30-12:30 p.m.

Dec. 31: New Year's Eve party, 7 p.m.

Jan. 13: Blood pressure checks, 11:30 a.m. to noon.

## SCHOOL NOTEBOOK

### Job Corps expands programs

The U.S. Department of Labor announced an initiative to expand its pre-apprenticeship opportunities for Job Corps students and connect them to Registered Apprenticeship programs.

The effort will allow Job Corps campuses throughout the nation to emphasize pre-apprenticeship programs in green energy, health care, information technology and other high-growth industry sectors.

Currently, Job Corps offers more than 300 pre-apprenticeship programs in the construction, advanced manufacturing, renewable resources and energy, transportation, and automotive and machine repair industries.

There are two Job Corps campuses in Indiana: Atterbury (in Edinburg) and IndyPence (in Indianapolis). They offer career skills training in high-growth industry sectors, including advanced man-

ufacturing, automotive and machine repair, construction, finance and business, health care, homeland security, hospitality and transportation. Atterbury Job Corps offers pre-apprenticeship training in building construction technology, bricklayer, carpentry, cement masonry, glazing, painting, heavy construction equipment mechanic and heavy construction equipment operations.

Information: <https://www.jobcorps.gov/recruiting/enrollment-interest>

### GED classes

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

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

### Calendar

Jan. 3: Teacher records day, half day

# Hoops season rolls on with wins and losses for all teams

Edinburgh's seventh grade boys carded a nice win early in the week, and after a rough start to the weekend on Friday, both the reserve and varsity Lancers came away from Saturday with victories.

Playing at home on Dec. 12, the middle school Lancer boys hosted Jennings County. The seventh grade lead off with a nice, 10-point win over the young Panthers, 31-21, to raise their season mark to 4-5. Xander Pruit led the team in scoring with 10, Carson Siegelin added nine, Noah Parkhurst four, Max Dodson four, Brody Cox two and Colton Luttrell two.

The tables turned on the eighth grade boys as they fell to Jennings County, 30-20 with Xavier Suns scoring 13 and Ayden Swallows seven. This loss dropped them to 1-9.

The varsity girls were at home on Dec. 13 with Hauser. The Jets jumped out to a 10-point lead at the half and that proved to be a margin the good guys couldn't overcome, losing 53-31.

Bella Turner and Gracie Crawhorn each scored eight points to lead the Lancers, Kenna Streeval put in six, Cloee Britton five, Shyleigh Gobel two, Lillie Goff one and Jada Sanders one.

The girls were next up on Thursday evening playing host to Jac-Cen-Del. The offense had trouble getting untracked all evening and they fell to the visitors, 56-24. The loss dropped their record to 5-8.

Kenna Streeval led this one with seven points, Bella Turner had six, Gracie Crawhorn five, Shyleigh Gobel two, Lillie Goff two and Cloee Britton two.

The fifth and sixth grade boys opened their season on the road Thursday evening, going to Custer Baker in Franklin. Edinburgh's fifth graders fell to Custer Baker's B team 32-13 as Kendall Bennett scored 11 and Caiden Coy had two.

The sixth graders fell also in the second game, 47-27. Charlie Roberts led the team with 13 points, Mason Burton scored seven, Bentley Roseberry three, Kayden Talbott two, and Landon Garris.

Friday evening had the Lancer boys JV and varsity travelling to Hope to take on the Hauser Jets in MHC play. The JV led off the night slowly, trailing the Jets 33-8 at the half. That proved to be all the momentum Hauser needed as the Lancers fell, 60-36.

Rylan Londeree led Edinburgh with 12 points, Milas Burkman scored 10, Eli Smith six, Bailey Totten four, Caleb Murphy two and Tyler Branigin two.

In the varsity game, the Lancers looked to be in the driver's seat through the first



Brian Ingels

## Lancer Notebook

two quarters. Their 10-point lead at half-time dwindled to just four points at the end of the third period and the Jets just kept chipping away and tied the game at the end of regulation. Hauser was then one point better in the overtime period and the Lancers lost their second MHC contest by a single point, 67-66.

Senior Caleb Dewey had another strong scoring performance as he led all scorers with 26 points, Jarrett Turner chipped in 14, Connor Ramey 12, Keegan Smith seven, Austin Brockman four and Braylon Bryant three.

The two teams looked to right the ship on Saturday, playing Trinity Lutheran at Lancer Arena. In the night's undercard the Lancer reserves started a bit slowly but came storming back in the contest's third and fourth quarters to notch a 52-39 victory. Rylan Londeree had the hot hand and led his team with 26 points, Bailey Totten scored 13, Milas Burkman six, Eli Smith four and Tyler Branigin three.

The Lancer varsity was in control the entire way versus the Cougars and notched a sound 62-45 win. Connor Ramey stepped up and led the Lancer scoring attack with 21 points, Caleb Dewey added 16, Jarrett Turner 15, Austin Brockman six, Bailey Totten two, and Keegan Smith two.

## On tap

Both the girls and boys varsity teams will host their own holiday tourneys. Both events are sponsored by Johnson Memorial Health, Sports Plus, Amos Hill, Summers Heating and Cooling and United Industrial and Welding.

The girls tournament kicks off this morning at 10 a.m. with Edinburgh facing Knightstown. Win or lose, they will play again at 6 this evening. The final rounds will start at 10 Thursday morning and will conclude with the championship at 4 p.m. Thursday.

The boys tourney will kick off at 10 a.m. Dec. 27 with the Lancers scheduled to open against Hagerstown at 2 p.m. This tournament will wrap-up next Wednesday.

*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.*

## A PIE IN THE FACE



SUBMITTED PHOTO

East Side Elementary School held a "pie in the face" event as a reward for students donating 8,415 cans during the canned food drive and raising \$10,034.28 during the walkathon. Students who raised the most money and donated the most cans were able to pie a staff member in the face.



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PHOTO BY CARLA CLARK/THE REPUBLIC

Rena Dillman, owner and instructor, poses next to her painting called "Anticipation." Rena painted this in 2007 while caring for her husband, Don Dillman, during the last year of his life. The painting is on display at Patchworks Art Studio and Gallery in Hope.

## Artistic

FROM PAGE 1

from 1978 through her 1998 retirement. Early on, she used pencils to draw pictures of engine parts. Later, she relied on computer-aided design to create three-dimensional models.

But Parker, now 80, never had any training as a painter until she started taking lessons from Dillman five years ago.

"She can teach anyone to paint," said the Waynesburg woman, who was Dillman's artist of the month in October, when a student's best work is showcased in the gallery's front window.

"She has an uncanny sense of (knowing) when you have a problem," Parker said of Dillman. "When you know there's something that's just not right, she shows you how to fix it - and then you learn."

Parker's painting skill under Dillman's tutelage progressed quickly.

One of Parker's most admired oils is a portrait she painted of her father, Clarence F. Elkins, utilizing a World War II era photograph of the Army lieutenant who was sent to occupied Japan.

The painting — her 18th — was done in 2018, one year after starting lessons with Dillman.

"Everyone is drawn to that one," Dillman said of Parker's tribute to her dad, which contains a lot of detail in his uniform.

The woman could paint at her home, but Parker prefers creating art among others like her in Dillman's studio.

"They are the kindest, most loving group of people you'd ever hope to meet," said Parker, who describes herself as "happy, content and joyful."

One of Dillman's newer students is Bob Davie of Columbus, an 85-year-old native of Scotland, who has been taking classes for about a year.

Davie, a senior technical adviser for Cummins from 1972-1987, was on a summer 2021 shopping trip with wife Sandra to Swiss Maid Country Market on the Hope Town Square when they peered inside the next-door window of Dillman's art studio and saw students' paintings on display.

"You need something to do. You should check it out," Sandra Davie told her husband.

Davie has long enjoyed the arts as a 50-year euphonium player with the Columbus City Band, but had never tried his hand at painting until he started taking lessons with Dillman.

"I'm amazed at what I've done," Davie said.

Davie is on his 12th painting, and recently had an inquiry from his dry cleaner to purchase one he did of a Scottish Highland cow and her calf — a pastoral memory from a 2019 trip to Scotland with his wife.

"If she still wants it, I'm going to sell it," Davie said. And then he's going to paint another one just like it for Sandra.

### Teacher's journey

Dillman's earliest memories of painting were as a child growing up in the small, eastern Indiana community of Metamora.

"My parents bought me a lot of paint-by-number painting kits," Dillman said. "I painted and painted."

While maintaining an interest in art while growing up, she didn't take painting lessons until early adulthood.

Lythia Armbrister, the coordinator for Rena Blake's 1963 wedding to Don Dillman, gave the couple a painting she created as a wedding gift.

"I kept after her — a friend of my husband's parents — and asked if she would teach me," Dillman said.

That persistence resulted in art training over the next few years, utilizing an easel and box full of paints and brushes that had been a present from her husband their first Christmas together.

But once her two young sons were old enough to be in school, Dillman set aside her interest in art and instead pursued nursing as a profession. She spent 1973-1984 in different stints as a pediatric, industrial and geriatric nurse.

While working at Miller's Merry Manor nursing home in Hope, fellow staff members were struck by Dillman's artistic ability after seeing a painting she made for a fundraiser and encouraged her to not only keep painting, but to teach them and others. The Hope woman took their advice and began working with art students in 1981 — and hasn't looked back.

Dillman estimates that she has completed about 1,000 of her own paintings, an average of two per month since then. She is best known for her landscapes, but refers to portraits as her favorite.

One painting that Dillman did and has strong feelings about is "Anticipation," which is on display - but not for sale — in the lobby of her gallery.

Dillman painted it in 2007, during short breaks she took while caring for her husband of 45 years in the final year of his life. Don Dillman, a community leader in Hope for more than 35 years, died at age 68 in April 2008.

Watching her husband die was very traumatic, Dillman said, so she painted "Anticipation" for therapeutic relief.

"When I paint, I rest my mind," she said.

Dillman, who uses a walker to get around, appreciates her students' kindness in volunteering to help clean the studio, pick up her lunch or help her get to her car.

"These people are like my family," she said. "I really feel this was God's plan for my life all along ... It's been my great joy to help other people express themselves artistically."



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# I Love a PARADE

Edinburgh Holiday of Lights was Dec. 3. This year's theme was "Bicentennially Bright," celebrating Edinburgh's 200th Anniversary. Here are some scenes from the parade.



PHOTOS BY WARRIE DENNIS



## HOLIDAY HAPPENINGS

The following holiday events are set in surrounding areas:

### Cerabration of Lights

Cera Sports and Campground in Columbus will hold its Cerabration of Lights show daily through Dec. 30 (except Christmas day.) Cost is \$30 per vehicle.

The park is at 3989 S. 525 East.

Info: 812-377-5849, [ceraland.org](http://ceraland.org)

### MegaTree

Details: 5 to 10 p.m. through Dec. 31, Tracy Road and Ashland Avenue, New Whiteland

One of the newest additions to Johnson County's holiday traditions is the creation of the MegaTree, a 50-foot digital tree that will be mounted just off of Tracy Road on the west side of New Whiteland. The programmed light show experience features ever-changing colors and images, making the nights from late November through New Year's Eve merry and bright.

### Lighted Trail

Details: Lights go on at 5:30 p.m. through Dec.

31, Greenwood Amphitheater, 100 Surina Way  
The parkland around the Greenwood Amphitheater receives an illuminated glow-up during the holiday season, with lighted displays set up for a free stroll through the greenspace.

The trail, which was created by the Greenwood Parks & Recreation Department during the pandemic, has become a new tradition in the city. Residents and visitors can tour the lights with their families and friends at their own pace.

Along the way, people will pass by 85 trees of lights, 18 standing figures of various sizes, five archways of lights, a 12-arch candy cane tunnel and more than 3,600 lights on the bridge near the amphitheater. In total, the display features nearly



43,000 lights.

### "National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation"

Details: The movie "National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation" at the Historic Artcraft Theatre, 57 N. Main St., Franklin. Dec. 16-18. Friday and Saturday, 2 and 7:30 p.m.; Sunday, 2 and 5:30 p.m. Tickets: [historicartcrafttheatre.org](http://historicartcrafttheatre.org), 317-736-6823.



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## NEWS ROUNDUP

## DAILY JOURNAL AND REPUBLIC STAFF REPORTS

## Edinburgh seeking new fire chief

Edinburgh town officials are searching for a new fire chief again.

Current Chief John Henderson's last day was Sunday and several people at Edinburgh Fire & Rescue are going to fill in until a new chief is hired, said Wade Watson, interim town manager and planning director.

Henderson has been chief since May 2021 and helped plan the new fire station under construction on County Road 900 North, which will give the firefighters accommodations better suited to 24/7 shifts. The \$3.5 million dollar station is expected to be completed by spring 2023.

Henderson, an Edinburgh resident, has worked for Edinburgh's fire department since 1993 and also spent 20 years with Franklin's fire department, including three years as chief.

Henderson gave notice he was resigning to take a position with Johnson Memorial Health two weeks ago, Watson said.

Though Henderson is the second chief in three years, Watson doesn't think there is a retention problem at the fire department. That's because all of the chiefs left for different reasons — one for retirement, one for health reasons and one to take another job, he said.

Town officials are now accepting applications for a new chief. Applications are due by Dec. 30.

According to the job posting: "The individual selected for this key role will lead a fire department of approximately 50 personnel with an annual budget of \$1.3 million. Applicants should have extensive experience in fire service and manage-

ment of personnel," the posting says.

The new chief will also oversee the rest of the fire station construction and have the unique opportunity to outfit it to suit the department's needs and their taste, Watson said.

The application process will include executive session interviews with town officials after the strongest applicants are chosen. The new chief will be introduced in a public meeting after the process plays out in the coming months.

## Area hotel employee honored by state tourism department

Sixteen tourism industry representatives received the Hoosier Hospitality Award for their high level of service in tourism-related jobs at hotels, restaurants, attractions and other destinations. Four in Johnson County, including the Hilton Garden Inn Columbus/Edinburgh, were honored.

Nominations for the awards are submitted by community members and destination patrons before being reviewed and selected by the Indiana Destination Development Corp. Outstanding service is a significant factor in determining whether a customer returns to an individual business or destination, IDCC officials said.

"These individuals dedicate their time and service to showcase to visitors and their communities what a great place Indiana is to work, live and visit," IDCC secretary and CEO Elaine Bedel said in a statement.

For more than three decades, Hilton Garden Inn Columbus/Edinburgh Banquet Captain Linda Meek has been serving Hoosiers and visitors in Bartholomew County as an employee of the Edinburgh

hotel. Her efforts led to her being nominated for the 2022 Hoosier Hospitality Award.

Janeen Sprague, Sprague Hotel Developers' president and CEO, expressed her gratitude for Meek in a news release, saying she was proud to have Meek on her team. The Hilton Garden Inn was developed and is managed by the Columbus-based company, which has also developed multiple hotels across central Indiana.

"It means a lot to our company that Linda has earned this award and is recognized for her excellent hospitality she gives to our guests," Sprague said.

Meek started as a banquet manager at the hotel in 2018 and has been in the hospitality industry for over 30 years. She is a pivotal reason why the hotel has been ranked as the No. 1 Hilton Garden Inn in Indiana, Daniel Arnold, the hotel's general manager, said in a statement.

## One pleads guilty, one dismissed in catalytic converters case

Charges filed against an Edinburgh man accused of concealing a valuable metal purchase were dismissed by a county judge last month.

Following a motion filed by prosecutors, Johnson County Superior Court 3 judge Douglas Cummins dismissed nine counts of the Level 6 felony filed against Glen David Johnson Jr., 36, on Nov. 21. The charges were dismissed without prejudice, meaning the Johnson County Prosecutor's Office could refile charges at a later date.

In April, Johnson was one of five people charged in connection to the illegal purchases of catalytic converters following a joint investigation between the Johnson County Sheriff's Office, Edinburgh Police Department and the prosecutor's office.

While Johnson was investigated as part of the sting operation, the charges filed against him were based solely on documentation of his prior transactions with the buying facilities involved. Johnson allegedly sold an "overwhelmingly greater" amount of converters than he could properly document, but there was not enough direct evidence showing the sales involved stolen converters, said Joe Villanueva, Johnson County prosecutor.

"While that provides a strong inference that the source of those converters was illegal in nature, in the end, we were unable to provide any direct evidence demonstrating those particular sales involved stolen converters," Villanueva said. "The lack of documentation which gives rise to the offense is, unfortunately, the same kind of documentation which would be needed to successfully prosecute the same offense."

A situation like this is not expected to happen again as state lawmakers have tightened the restrictions on the sales of converters.

Latona D. Bryant, 31 of Columbus, pled guilty to a Class A misdemeanor before Judge Cummins on Nov. 3. As part of a plea agreement, a Level 6 felony charge of concealing a valuable metal purchase was amended to the misdemeanor charge, according to online court records.

Bryant will serve one year on probation, almost all of which was suspended. She received a one-day jail credit, and two days were executed, online court records say.

Three other people charged have cases pending.

For more information on these stories, go to [www.dailyjournal.net](http://www.dailyjournal.net) or [www.therepublic.com](http://www.therepublic.com).

## RESTAURANT INSPECTIONS

The information below was compiled from reports of the health departments of Bartholomew and Johnson counties. Critical violations may expose customers to illnesses and typically must be corrected immediately or within days. Noncritical violations, if not corrected, could lead to critical violations or make critical violations more likely to occur.

**Comfort Inn**

11711 N. US 31, Edinburgh  
Nov. 29  
Critical violations: None  
Noncritical violations: 1  
**Max and Erma's**  
12105 N. Executive Drive,  
Edinburgh  
Nov. 25  
Critical violations: None  
Noncritical violations: None

**Sabor De La Vida**

11700 N. US 31, Edinburgh  
Nov. 22  
Critical violations: None  
Noncritical violations: 4  
**Hampton Inn**  
12161 N. US 31, Edinburgh  
Nov. 21  
Critical violations: None  
Noncritical violations: 2  
**Max and Erma's**  
12105 N. Executive Drive,  
Edinburgh

Nov. 21  
Critical violations: 1  
Refrigerated ready-to-eat, potentially hazardous food prepared and held in a retail food establishment for more than 24 hours shall be clearly marked to indicate the date or day by which the food shall be consumed, sold or discarded based on tempera-

tures and time. The day of preparation shall be counted as day one for 41° Fahrenheit or less for a maximum of seven days. Food located in the walk in cooler expired on 11/19/22.

Noncritical violations: 7  
**Hilton Garden Inn**  
12210 N. Executive Drive,  
Edinburgh  
Nov. 18  
Critical violations: 1  
Equipment food contact surfaces and utensils shall be clean to the sight and touch. The can opener was soiled with debris and residue.

Noncritical violations: 3  
**Get Go**  
11940 US 31, Edinburgh  
Nov. 16  
Critical violations: None  
Noncritical violations: 3

## JAIL BOOKINGS

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

Kameron John Mason, 24, Edinburgh; arrested on a warrant for failure to appear in court; released on \$500 bond.

Zackery Payne, 18, Edinburgh; arrested on charges of criminal mischief; held on \$2,000 bond.

Patrick Jay Eoff, 33, Edinburgh; arrested on charges of possession of methamphetamine, possession of paraphernalia, disorderly conduct, possession of cocaine or narcotic drug and possession of controlled substance-schedule V; held on \$8,800 bond.

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

Nathan O. Garrett, 49, Edinburgh, arrested on a charge of invasion of privacy; \$7,500 bond.

Nathan O. Garrett, 49, Edinburgh, arrested on a Bartholomew County warrant; \$10,000 bond.

Christopher S. Starnes, 52, Edinburgh, arrested on an out-of-county warrant; no bond.

Kenisha L. Jackson, 25, Edinburgh, arrested on two Bartholomew County warrants; \$120,000 bond.

Margaret A. Ramey, 37, Edinburgh, Bartholomew County warrant, 2:06 p.m., by the Bartholomew County Sheriff's Department, held in lieu of \$10,000 bond.

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# HANGING OUT

## Best hanging plants for your home



By Hunter Boyce  
THE ATLANTA JOURNAL-CONSTITUTION

One of 2022's top interior design trends is all about bringing the outdoors in. Following years of being cooped up at home with minimal social interaction due to the pandemic, many homeowners and professional designers are looking for ways to make the home feel more relaxing, inviting and natural.

From mixing and matching different types of metal fixtures to slapping on a fresh coat of a verdant green, there are a number of clever ways to bring the outside in. But, adding some plant life to your living space is easily the most obvious.

### POTHOS

If you are willing to shoulder the necessary maintenance, plants can be a great way to breath new life

into the home. For starters, consider the pothos plant.

According to By Brittany Goldwyn, pothos plants are classic choices for hanging decor and can be found at most nurseries. Common choices are the golden pothos, marble green pothos, jade pothos and neon pothos.

### SPIDER PLANT

Zia Allaway, co-author of the RHS "Practical House Plant Book," said that the spider plant is one of the easiest house plants to take care of.

"I love it for its fountains of variegated foliage and little baby spider plants that dance around the leaves on their curved stems," she said, as reported by Country Living. "It takes some shade, survives drought, and you can feed it occasionally, but it will be happy with very little pampering."

### CALATHEA (PRAYER PLANT)

Another popular choice is the prayer plant. Costa Farms representative Justin Hancock said that it's

a great choice for inside the home.

"Earning its moniker from the fact the leaves fold at night like a set of praying hands, it tolerates low light and adds a little excitement and contrast to any houseplant collection," he told Real Simple.

### LIPSTICK PLANT

For those looking to add a little color to their collection, it's hard to go wrong with the lipstick plant. According to Gardening Etc, you should hang the plant in a bright position away from direct sunlight. Water the plant when the top of the compost feels dry. Mist the foliage every few days and apply fertilizer once a month during the spring and summer.

### LOBELIA

For a lot of color, house plant lovers need to look no further than the lobelia plant. The plant blooms in blues, purples and whites. According to Bob Vila, the plant does best in part-shade. The plant can be found at most nurseries.

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