

Center Grove,  
Whiteland girls  
clash on court

# HIGH HOPES

INDIAN CREEK GRAD KEY FOR HUSKIES



SPORTS B1



# HOTEL HOUNDS

ACCENT A6

# DAILY JOURNAL

dailyjournal.net

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 7, 2015

Johnson County, Indiana

75 cents

## WEATHER

Today

Skies: Partly sunny, windy  
Temps: High 5; low minus 9

MAP, PAGE A8

## 2-HOUR DELAYS

The following schools have announced two-hour delays for today:

- Center Grove schools
- Central Nine Career Center
- Clark-Pleasant schools
- Franklin schools
- Greenwood schools (There will not be the normal early dismissal today.)
- Edinburgh schools
- Nineveh-Hensley-Jackson schools

## YOU SHOULD KNOW



SUBMITTED PHOTO

A gun was found that police believe is connected to a recent armed robbery.

## Police: Shotgun suspected in recent robbery found

Franklin police are looking for information about an old shotgun that might have been used in a recent robbery.

On Monday, police found the Stevens Model 335 double-barrel shotgun near the Phillips 66 gas station, 400 E. Jefferson St. The station was robbed on Friday morning with a long gun that looks similar to the shotgun, police said.

In security video from the store, the robber appears to have some sort of bag covering the back half of the gun, but the long barrel was exposed, Detective Ray Tice said.

The gun appears to be very old and has a wooden butt and a black grip near the trigger. Since the gun is old and has distinct features, police hope someone will recognize it, Tice said.

"It's an older model that people may be able to recognize as something that they owned, that they didn't know was missing, that they had reported stolen or if it's something they know belongs to someone else," Tice said.

Anyone with information should contact Tice at 346-1143.

## DEATHS

### Franklin

Otha Bryant 'O.B.' Grider, 56  
Carol Lynn Hamilton, 66

### Greenwood

Joe Max Valentine, 92

### Indianapolis

Julie Anne Bowman-Thacker, 43  
Mary C. Rebennack, 87  
Donald Warren 'Pete' Sickels Sr., 91

### Trafalgar

Kenneth G. 'Kenny' Conway, 78

### Elsewhere

Judy J. Ennis, 73

## CALL US

Main switchboard  
736-7101

Delivery: 736-2777,  
888-736-7101

Advertising: 736-2700  
News tips: 736-2712

DAILY



6 01442 20050 0

# Pence asks to widen I-65 in county

## Governor seeks \$200 million for roads, lanes from Greenwood to Franklin



PENCE

By ANNIE GOELLER  
DAILY JOURNAL STAFF WRITER  
agoeller@dailyjournal.net

The governor wants to spend another \$200 million on road work, and a big chunk of that money would improve the daily drive of southside commuters who face backups and bottlenecks along Interstate 65.

Gov. Mike Pence plans to ask a state committee to spend the remaining money from the Major Moves construction program on three proposed road projects, including adding a lane to Interstate 65 between Greenwood and Franklin.

For the thousands of commuters who head to and from

Marion County daily, that would mean a wider I-65 from Franklin to the southside.

This spring, construction will begin to add a north- and southbound lane on I-65 between Southport and Greenwood, which previously was approved by the state. If the new funding gets final ap-

proval, the state will start the process to hire a company for work to widen the highway farther south to Franklin.

That will mean more construction on I-65 for commuters, coming after work at the interchange with Interstate 465 last year and continued construction this year to add

an interchange in Greenwood at Worthsville Road.

But that also would mean I-65 would be at least three lanes wide throughout more than half of Johnson County, where up to 77,000 vehicles use the highway every day, according to Indiana

(SEE I-65 PAGE A8)



## OLD TOWN HITS

# SPEED BUMP

## Greenwood council members ask for more options

By STEVE GARBACZ  
DAILY JOURNAL STAFF WRITER  
sgarbacz@dailyjournal.net

Greenwood City Council members balked at a plan to improve the downtown because they want more options, including the possibility of demolishing buildings if needed.

Some council members were concerned that the plan doesn't have enough detail and alternative ideas on specific issues, such as how to improve traffic or which buildings should get fixed up.

Specifically, council members including Brent Corey and David Hopper were concerned that the plan didn't include the option to add downtown roundabouts or widen traffic lanes — both of which would likely require some buildings to be demolished.

Members also questioned whether some downtown buildings were worth fixing up with new facades if they have other structural problems or whether storefront work really would encourage owners to improve the interiors as well.

The mention of demolition, which was unpopular with residents in the past, wasn't met well Monday night either. A crowd of about 50 residents and business owners grumbled when the council mentioned

roundabouts and demolition and applauded loudly when residents spoke about preserving and repairing buildings. Residents also expressed concerns that if the council stalled or turned down the plan, it would be yet another failed attempt to kick-start revitalization work downtown.

### PLAN PRESENTED

The detailed plan was presented Monday by HWC Engineering and Axis Architecture, which were hired by the city to gather information to draft a long-range guide for how to improve the downtown as well as create drawings and estimate costs for potential facade improvements. The proposal is the result of about a year of work, including meetings with residents, business owners and city officials. The study was funded with a \$40,000 planning grant that the Restore Old Town Greenwood group helped the city get.

The plan contains 12 ideas of how to improve the downtown, including fixing historic buildings, improving traffic flow, widening sidewalks and renovating parks. Those ideas were formed directly from feedback consultants received during brainstorming sessions, focus groups and interviews, said Cory Daly of HWC Engineering.

(SEE BUMP PAGE A8)

### WHAT THEY SAID

"Its charm starts in Old Town. There is actual momentum that has not happened in the past 25 years."

BRAD NEMETH  
RESTORE OLD TOWN GREENWOOD

"A postponement in no way means a 'no' vote."

THOM HORD  
CITY COUNCIL MEMBER

"If you have a downtown streetscape with holes in it, you have nothing."

JOANNE STUTTGEN  
REDISCOVER MARTINSVILLE

"I learned real quick when I got elected, it's not what I want. It's what the people who elected me, what they want. You saw a room full of people who support saving (downtown)."

MAYOR MARK MYERS

"I am very opposed to demolition unless a building is vitally damaged."

JO ELLEN VILLENES  
GREENWOOD RESIDENT

Above: The Main Street and Madison Avenue intersection is shown Tuesday. SCOTT ROBERSON

## THE PLAN

The Greenwood City Council postponed a decision on whether to approve a new downtown revitalization plan. Here's what the 120-page plan includes:

### GOAL

Nine goals were based on feedback received from residents, business owners and officials, including making downtown pedestrian-friendly, improving traffic flow, maintaining the historic character of buildings and attracting new businesses.

### IDEAS

Twelve projects are suggested, including changing the traffic flow downtown, widening sidewalks, renovating building facades, improving and beautifying Old City Park and the Pleasant Run Creek and creating small gathering spaces. The plan also includes drawings and cost estimates for renovating facades on more than 30 buildings.

### NEXT STEPS

The plan includes suggestions for the next steps the city would need to take. For example, a detailed traffic study would be needed before deciding what downtown road improvements should be built.

# Franklin schools chief set to get raise, contract extension

## Board: Clendening's 'outstanding job' merits \$10,000 pay increase



CLENDENING

By TOM LANGE  
DAILY JOURNAL STAFF WRITER  
tlange@dailyjournal.net

The leader of Franklin schools has helped improve students' test scores and chosen strong leaders and deserves an extended contract with a \$10,000 raise, school board members said.

Superintendent David Clendening currently is paid \$139,500 in base salary, along with a \$2,400 health insurance stipend. On Monday, the school

**INSIDE:** Learn more about Clendening's raise and contract. A8

board conducted a public hearing to consider increasing Clendening's salary by 7 percent and extending his contract now, 18 months before it expires.

The board also wants to nearly double taxpayers' contribution to Clendening's retirement account by putting in \$6,000 annually. The school district puts \$3,500 into that account now.

Clendening's current contract goes through June 2016, and the contract extension would keep him on as superintendent until at least June 2019. The board will vote on the proposed raise and contract extension at its meeting Monday.

The raise and contract extension are intended to reward Clendening for the work he has done and to make sure he doesn't leave the school district, school

(SEE RAISE PAGE A8)

# Teacher ratings results released

## Majority of local school instructors get high marks

By TOM LANGE  
DAILY JOURNAL STAFF WRITER  
tlange@dailyjournal.net

In all public schools across Johnson County, nearly every teacher was rated as either effective or highly effective at teaching students language arts, math and other essential lessons, according to the state.

Evaluations done during the 2013-14 school year show that 93 percent of local teachers and administrators received the top two rankings, according to data released by the Indiana Department of Education.

And of the 1,529 teachers and administrators at Center Grove, Clark-Pleasant, Edinburgh, Franklin, Greenwood and Nineveh-Hensley-Jackson schools, 14 received ratings that they either needed improvement or were deemed ineffective, according to the state data. Five of those teachers were from Center Grove, four were from Edinburgh, three were from Greenwood, and Franklin and Indian Creek each had one, according to the state.

Those numbers were nearly the same as last year's evaluations, though more teachers were ranked under the highly effective ranking than in the year before.

At Center Grove, for example, the number of educators rated as highly effective increased by about 49 percent, when the school district's staff grew by about 10 percent. No one was ranked in the categories for needs improvement or ineffective, the data showed.

And in Greenwood schools, the number of highly effective educators more than tripled — from 43 in 2013 to 143 in 2014 — while staffing stayed nearly the same, according to the data.

About 6 percent of teachers from all six school districts didn't have their evaluations apply. That's because those teachers may have retired, left the school district, gone on leave or had a long-term substitute teacher take over their classes, department of

(SEE RATINGS PAGE A2)

## WHAT THEY EARN

Here is a look at the salaries of other local schools superintendents:

Center Grove Superintendent Richard Arkanoff: **\$187,622**

Clark-Pleasant Superintendent Patrick Spray: **\$140,000**

Edinburgh Superintendent William Glentzer: **\$94,348**

Greenwood Superintendent Kent DeKoninck: **\$135,263**

Nineveh-Hensley-Jackson Superintendent Tim Edsell: **\$105,000**