

**Aspire Large Group
November 29th 4pm
Timbergate Golf Course- Edinburgh**

Welcome-Steve Jarosinski, round robin

Financial Center First Credit Union- Dusty Simmons- Vice President of member development. New to group and proud to be a partner. Values very much align with education to the community. FCFCU will be implementing an online financial literacy program.

Meet Edinburgh, Nineveh, Trafalgar

Betty Davis-Trafalgar

Been a Hoosier since 1957, originally from Texas. Then moved to Terre Haute. Then moved to Greenwood while she worked in Indianapolis. After several careers in Indy, took a job to start a senior center in 1979 in Greenwood. Entrepreneur there for 33 years- built the Social. Eventually, her dream was to have her own dinner theater- landed in Trafalgar where she could afford to build. Didn't want to travel in retirement. People were supporting her and helping to build a community in Trafalgar. Loved being a part of Aspire- young people were not being taught how to find a job and train, and stay in Indiana. She didn't live in Trafalgar for very long when a place came up on the town council. Betty is now halfway through her 2nd term. She got to know everything about the council; wanted to see the guidebook on what she was supposed to do...they didn't have one. Council right now, works as well as she's ever seen. Council president is very organized and looks after them. Trafalgar got money from TIF and from farm bureau to create a park- can look out her window and see multiple generations enjoying the park. Residents don't realize that they don't really have discretionary funds.

Outline of boundary is very jagged 135/ 252 comes across. Town is right in the middle. Fantastic school system- parents move into town to send their kids. Growth has been obvious in 2016- 2017, 17 new houses each year. Most beautiful library in anywhere! 3 new businesses each year, new gas station, new restaurants...The only way you can do something of major importance in the town is applying for a grant. The most expensive thing in Trafalgar is using water. The council has lowered the cost for water 2x over the last 4 years. Population is at 1150 right now. Wonderful people in Trafalgar- residents who've always lived there or those raised there and then returned. Encourage anyone to come to Trafalgar and get involved. Betty announced that she will be moving to Vancouver WA to run a bed and breakfast with daughter.

Wade Watson-Edinburgh Town Manager

Edinburgh is the oldest community in Johnson County. They exist in 3 counties and are 3 sq. miles and virtually land locked between flood-plane, Atterbury, the outlet mall. Explosive growth in the last 60 years! 1890- population 2800, 1950- 3293 people. Now today- just under 4500, 2 1/2 times growth in the last 50 years! Can't handle too many more residents; most land is taken up. In 1822, earliest settler arrived

March 4, 1880, 80-acre parcel and built cabin there. Mary, daughter, was the first female born. 1822, first female death in Johnson County- Lucy Barnett Townsend. Edinburgh was established on the banks of the blue river. Rivers were the interstate that allowed people to come in and settle. A mill was established in 1826. Later taken down in 1880's and rerouted the river when they put in the new dam in 1884. 1845- Madison/ Indianapolis railroad was completed to Edinburgh. Made them leading producers of grain and pork to southern Johnson county. During the civil war, awarded grant to provide food to civil war soldiers. Because of vast timber, quickly became known as provider for quality hardwoods. 1976 - known as the black walnut veneer capital of the world. Still do this- Veneer in a Jaguar, probably came from Edinburgh. Largest prisoner of the war hospital was found at Camp Atterbury during WWII. Atterbury provides a boost, and very vibrant part of the local economy. Edinburgh earned it's reputation as a tough town, but it's full of wonderful people. The hidden gem of blue river. They have 3 historic districts- South Walnut historic district, East Toner district, Downtown Commercial business district- reflects opulent wealth of that time and are on the National Register of historic places. All of their buildings are still intact. Small communities are a blessing; Sometimes like family- everyone knows what is going on. 5 member elected council- appoint town manager to run day to day. 3 people in administrative office that does all the same things that Greenwood does; you have to know how to do it all as a town employee. Volunteer fire department -3 full time employees. Some of the best responses times in all of the county. Police are very good. They work with all 3 counties- police have to know what county they are in when an arrest takes place, so they know where to take them for processing. West Haven cemetery owned by city. Also have a street department that maintains 25 miles of roads. Recreationally - Town owns and operates the Timbergate Gold course. In 2015, golf course was voted number one links course in the state by Golf Digest. Very active parks and recreation department- 6 ball diamonds that stay full from March to November. This year had a team come down and play from Canada. Town of Edinburgh operates pool and 3 different parks- one by blue river has primitive camping as well as hook-ups. Very active with festivals and events- December 9th- Holiday of Lights. Luminaries will be out and carriage rides. Gets a lot of help from the youth- in the pool, sports complex and with luminaries. June 1st 2018 -opening one of the downtown buildings as the John R. Drybread Community Center. Events for seniors, events, welcome center, and embracing the community heritage. They also run a before and after school program with 60 kids. Allow parents to drop off at 6:30am, provide breakfast, give after school snack, crafts, etc. and then can be picked up as late as 6:30pm. Very low cost- has a waiting list to participate. Edinburgh also has it's own utilities started in 1899. 1929- well started pumping and it is still going to provide water. Waste water treatment plant is state of the art! Doesn't smell- looks beautiful! IDEM brings people here to give them tours. They don't add in chemicals - uses bacteria and ultra violet light to treat the water before it goes back into the river. 12 different churches that offer addictions, soup kitchens and other outreach. Lions club, American legion, historic society that are very active. Industry has always been a part of Edinburgh- over 35 companies in the community. Lots of small industries that employ 200-300 down to 15 people. 40

commercial businesses! Need to go to Not Just Popcorn- over 400 flavors; between now and Christmas will pop 2 1/2 tons of popcorn!

Edinburgh's vision is to be a safe and orderly community where families raise children who respect our national and local heritage, who enter adulthood as productive civic-minded citizens, who embrace strong work ethics, love their neighbors and contribute back to the community who invested into their lives. And while continuing to support our current Commercial, Industrial & Business partnerships, to actively encourage further development.

All of the objectives have to support that vision. Want to participate in the Tourism group, rebuild East Main Cross, sidewalks, trails, infrastructure upgrades.

Told a story about a horse name Red Cloud. In 1886, April Red Cloud was born to a resident named James Wade. Red Cloud raced first race as a 6-year-old in 1871. Became nationally known as a hero! By 1874 had a reputation coast to coast. Won a purse of \$7500- equates to \$151,000! 1876 Wade family couldn't bear to get rid of him after he became lame from a race in Cleveland. At a fairground 1881, Red Cloud was 16, participated in a race- finest race at any fairground in the state. December in 1881 got out of his stall, ate so much corn he died. Buried with great pomp and circumstance at the farm. Cut off all 4 of his hooves to preserve. 3 are lost- still have one remaining hoof in the library- invited us to all come down and see it sometime.

Nancy Voris- Nineveh

Worked at the Daily journal in 1999 doing a history column. Nineveh is landlocked, Camp Atterbury to the east and south. Has a population similar in size to Edinburgh's. Back in 2007, started Nineveh heritage committee. Nancy did an interactive quiz with Kahoot online using our cell phones to answer questions. A few of the facts: Nineveh didn't have an art school in the 1800s, but did have a distillery. Nineveh High School in 1879 was believed to be the first township high school. Nineveh was settled right after Edinburgh. William Merritt Chase grew up and influenced artists like Georgia O'Keefe; he ended up at art school in New York. Nineveh school was recreated as Hickory school in the movie Hoosiers.

Tim Edsel-Indian Creek Schools

Indian Creek School District covers 3 townships- Nineveh, Hensley, Jackson. It's spread out and very rural. They are a medium sized school corporation with big opportunity. Tim loves his school and very vested- has a junior and a freshman in the school system. He's been with the school corporation for 4 years. Showed a video from the school website.

Excellence in education is an expectation! Constantly telling his leadership team this. Outstanding academics, outstanding fine arts, outstanding athletics. Athletics and Fine arts are hooks that keep kids in schools sometimes. 1865 kids, including preschool. 1833(k-12) up 50 students from last year. Over 300 students are out of district transfer...not many leave. Elementary - 428, 640 students at high school. 2017

budget: just under \$19 million. 29 bus routes to transport in district students. 32% free and reduced lunch- probably higher than Center Grove...most school systems are closer to 65% free and reduced.

2016-17 school year B school rated school .003 points away from being an A. 2014 schools were rated a D.

1-to-1 Chromebook initiative, but the device doesn't replace the teacher. If they are going to be successful, the students have to know how to use a device/ technology. Did have iPads, but switched to Chromebooks for 6-12th grade. Goal to have some E-learning days - for snow makeup days- goal to go live next year.

Proud of graduation rate 94%. 75% of seniors get either a core 40 diploma or academic honors diploma. Indian Creek School will be the authorizing agent for virtual agribusiness charter school- their students will have access to those programs, so they don't anticipate losing any students. More info forthcoming. Plan to start fall 2018.

Tim is looking at data/ assessments constantly- always strive to do better.

Proud of what they offer in athletics- joined Western Indiana Conference.

Successful in fine arts- marching band numbers have grown every year. Love Veteran's Day program- over 100 veterans attend. great musicals, plays- pack the auditorium.

Safe and secure, nurturing learning environment.

NHJ education foundation - grown every year.

Brand new Prek- 2nd grade elementary building.

No Aspire meeting in December

Adjourned at 6pm

Minutes submitted by Jennifer Hollingshead