



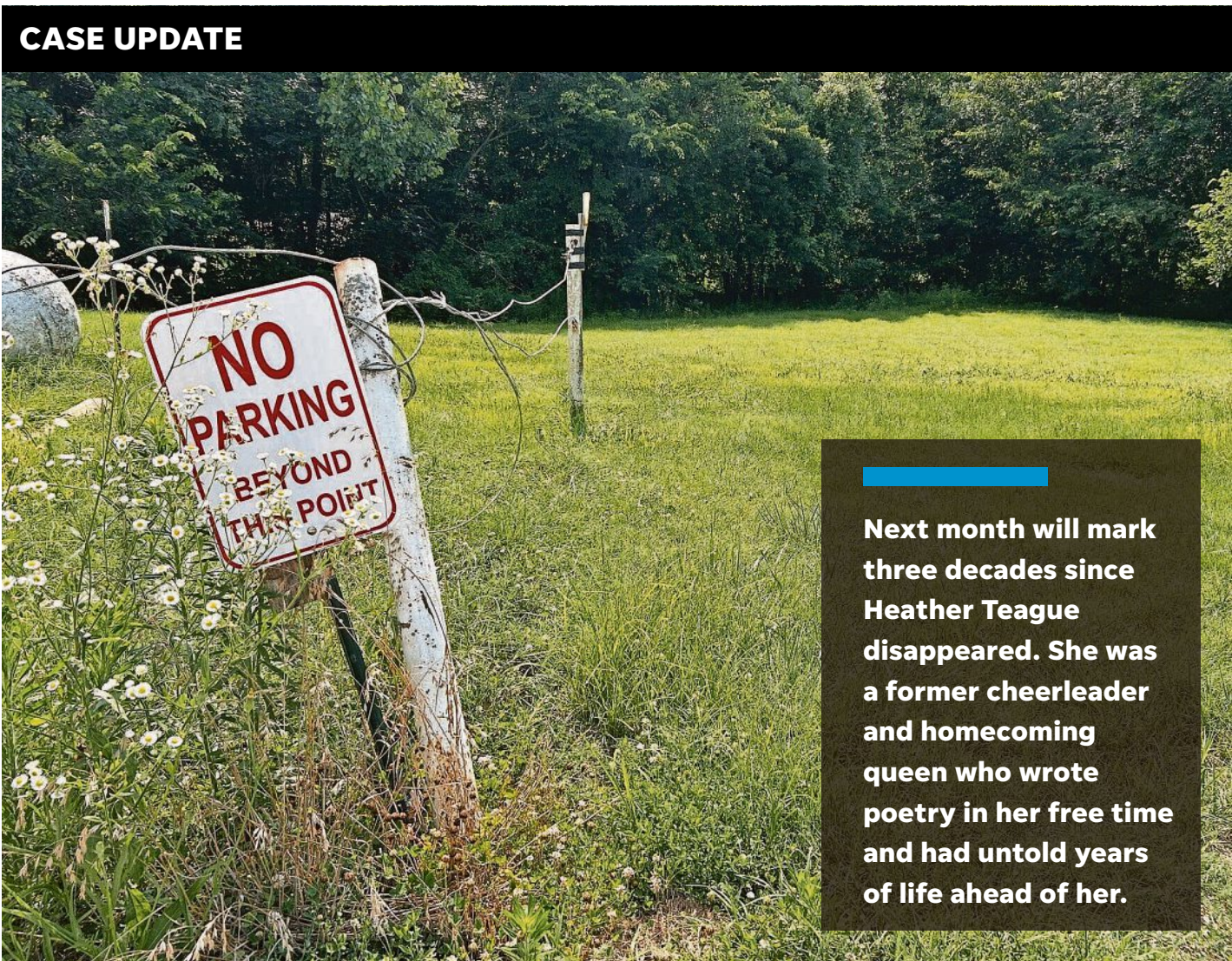
Trump-Putin bromance flowered, then soured

NEWS, 5A

Evansville COURIER & PRESS

MONDAY, JULY 14, 2025 | COURIERPRESS.COM

PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK



A piece of land in Reed, Kentucky, is seen on July 3. According to a tip reportedly given to Kentucky State Police, the land could contain the partial remains of Heather Teague. JON WEBB/COURIER & PRESS

HEATHER TEAGUE

Tips spark new search for missing woman

Jon Webb Evansville Courier & Press | USA TODAY NETWORK

A small slab of concrete that might hide a well. A shallow but thick grove of trees. ● Catherine Frederick has studied them both – first on Google Maps, where she could watch them change over the years with just a few clicks. Then she came in person and noticed numerous things she thought might be strange: a random pipe in the middle of the woods; places that appear sunken. ● On July 3 she was at it again, in this spot near Cagey’s General Store. She hoped to help a dear friend – and play a part in solving one of the most terrible mysteries in Tri-State history.

See TEAGUE, Page 2A



Heather Teague. The 23-year-old Webster County, Kentucky woman went missing on Aug. 26, 1995 after an eyewitness said he saw a man drag her away from Newburgh Beach. PROVIDED BY SARAH TEAGUE

Evansville father sentenced for fatally neglecting newborn son

Houston Harwood
Evansville Courier & Press
USA TODAY NETWORK

EVANSVILLE — A Vanderburgh County judge sentenced an Evansville man to serve a 10-year sentence in connection with the 2023 death of his newborn son, court records show. The man, 24-year-old Jacob Samuel Washington, pleaded guilty to one count of neglect of a dependent resulting in death, a Level 1 felony, May 27 less than a week before he was scheduled to stand trial. During a hearing Wednesday, Magistrate Judge Joshua Orem sentenced Washington to serve five years in a state prison followed by a five-year

stint in a community corrections program, the judge’s sentencing order states. Washington will receive credit for time served while awaiting trial, according to the order. A Courier & Press reporter called a number listed for Orem’s office to inquire about two different time-served figures cited in the order, but a Circuit Court official said all media inquiries must be submitted in writing. Washington’s conviction and sentencing comes more than two years after Evansville police and paramedics found Washington’s 2-week-old son unresponsive inside his family’s Washington Avenue home the evening of Feb. 8, 2023.

Despite rendering aid to the newborn for more than an hour, emergency medical personnel pronounced the boy dead at the scene. From the start, investigators said Washington’s account of what preceded his son’s death didn’t add up. Neither did statements given to detectives by the boy’s mother, Denaya Harris, police allege. During initial interviews, Washington and Harris both said their son’s breathing had worsened in early February and that he struggled with feedings, sworn affidavits filed by the Evansville Police Department state. Harris reported that because the boy

See SENTENCED, Page 3A

PUBLIC BROADCASTING

Letter of support signed by leaders

Sarah Loesch
Evansville Courier & Press
USA TODAY NETWORK

EVANSVILLE — Local elected officials have signed on to a letter circulated by the Alliance of Rural Public Media asking Congress to oppose cuts to public broadcasting. The Senate is expected to vote on a bill next week which includes President Donald Trump’s directive to take back \$1.1 billion set aside for public broadcasting via the Corporation for Public Broadcasting. CBS News reported this week that the White House has targeted the entities, including in a May executive order that instructed the CPB to cease federal funding for PBS and NPR, claiming they have “spread radical, woke propaganda disguised as ‘news.’” The House approved the rescission package last month, and the Senate has a July 18 deadline. “Clawing back funding for (public broadcasting) that Congress has already approved would undermine our state’s ability to provide public services to our constituents,” the letter states. “Our public broadcasters are essential partners in administering public education programs to our most vulnerable rural communities, ensuring emergency alerts are broadcast efficiently to all corners of our state and telling stories that reflect our constituents’ unique voices and concerns.” Locally, city, state and county officials signed onto the letter which is addressed to Senate Majority Leader John Thune and Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer. This included: ● Vanderburgh County Commissioner Amy Canterbury, R-District 3 ● Vanderburgh County Commissioner Mike Goebel, D-District 1 ● Indiana State Representative Alex Burton, D-District 77 ● Indiana State Senator Vaneta Becker, R-District 50 ● Evansville Chief of Police Phil Smith ● Vanderburgh County Sheriff Noah Robinson, D ● Evansville Mayor Stephanie Terry, D ● Evansville City Councilor Ben Trockman, D-First Ward ● Evansville City Clerk Laura Windhorst, D ● Evansville City Councilor Mary Allen, D-At-Large Robinson was also directly quoted in the letter discussing the impact public radio has direct emergencies. “As sheriff, I’ve seen firsthand how public radio keeps our communities informed, connected, and engaged, especially during emergencies and times of crisis,” he stated. “Its unbiased reporting and local programming serve as a vital public safety resource and a trusted voice for citizens. Continued federal support ensures that even the most rural and underserved areas have access to reliable,

See LETTER, Page 2A

