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TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2026 | COURIERPRESS.COM

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COMMENTARY

PRESS UNDER
PRESSURE



While the press faces continued attacks from the leaders it covers, Americans' faith in the news media has plummeted to an all-time low. PATRICK T. FALLON/AFP VIA GETTY IMAGES FILE

Powerful leaders have long attacked the media to deflect criticism

Heather Hendershot Northwestern University | THE CONVERSATION

I

n his White House Correspondents' Association dinner speech on July 24, President Donald Trump made his usual diatribes against the news media. He derided the "failing" New York Times and reiterated his complaint that CNN reporter Kaitlan Collins doesn't smile enough. He dismissed the award she received at the dinner as "fake" and celebrated the recent firing of top CBS News employees.

Such ongoing hostility from the president has contributed to Americans' loss of faith in the news media, which has plummeted to an all-time low.

While the situation is in many ways unique to this moment, a perceived crisis around the very notion of "objective reporting" – and presidential use of that idea to denigrate and delegitimize the press – has a long history.

First Amendment

WHITE HOUSE
CORRESPONDENTS'
ASSOCIATION



President Donald Trump used his White House Correspondents' Association dinner speech on July 24 to criticize news outlets and reporters, including The New York Times, CNN and CBS News. ERIC LEE/GETTY IMAGES

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Board
votes down
proposed
Walmart
market

Sarah Loesch

Evansville Courier & Press

USA TODAY NETWORK

Members of the Evansville-Vanderburgh County Area Plan Commission voted unanimously against a proposed commercial development near the intersection of North Green River Road and Millersburg Road after hearing that neighbors didn't want it.

APC members voted 8-0 against the proposal for a Walmart neighborhood market and a fueling station, which requests a portion of 4605 Millersburg Road and adjacent areas be rezoned from agriculture to commercial. The APC received dozens of comments from neighbors, both via email and in person Thursday, all in opposition of the

See WALMART, Page 2A

New site
tracks
Evansville
shelter beds

Sarah Loesch

Evansville Courier & Press

USA TODAY NETWORK

The Evansville-Vanderburgh Commission on Homelessness has launched a public dashboard to help the community identify available emergency shelter resources.

The dashboard shows each shelter and its bed capacity, along with how many are open with the date and time stamp of the update. Local shelters are asked to update their information daily, even if the number doesn't change.

Individuals should still reach out to the shelter to confirm availability and any eligibility and intake requirements.

"One of the challenges we hear repeatedly is that when someone needs shelter, they often don't know where to

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