

Spartans dig deep



Homestead
downs Carroll
in OT in
boys soccer
regional semis



Unger has rapid rehab

Komets goalie's
discipline, resolve
tested in offseason

The Journal Gazette

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THURSDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2025

FORT WAYNE, INDIANA ♦ LOCALLY OWNED SINCE 1863

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10 groups get youth violence funds

Micro-grants part of Tucker's plan to counter spike in teen crime

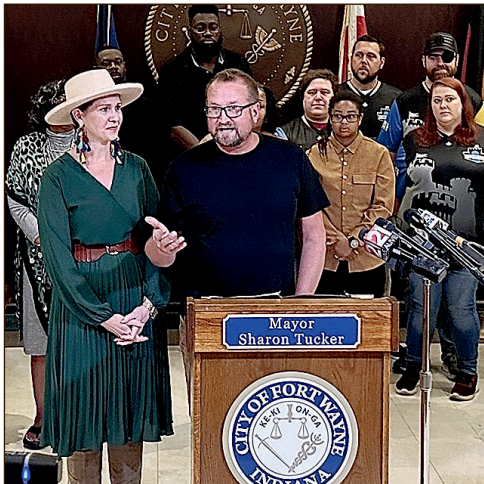
DEVAN FILCHAK
The Journal Gazette

Ten organizations will receive micro-grants of up to \$10,000 for services, including gaming, time with horses and mentoring, that could divert youth from violence. Mayor Sharon Tucker announced the recipients were awarded a combined \$77,355 in grant funds. She proposed the micro-grant program in August as part of a plan to prevent youth violence after

the city saw a spike in crimes among teens this year. Tucker said it was important to avoid using taxpayer dollars for this program. It uses money from interest generated by the \$51 million the city received from the American Rescue Plan Act after the height of the pandemic. "I can't tell you how many times I've heard an individual say, 'If I had just \$5,000 more, ... I would have been able to serve X number of

kids and have a positive impact on them,'" she said. "These micro-grants will give an opportunity for young organizations to be able to expand their program and serve more kids." Recipients will first receive about half the funding awarded, city officials have said. The city will work with recipients to ensure they are meeting goals and objectives outlined in their proposal before they receive half the funding.

Most of the grants will help organizations expand existing programs, but at least one is new. Three organizations that were awarded the maximum \$10,000 - FortLAN, Hooley Family Farms and The Bloom Project - were featured during the announcement. Cory Hooley said the farm will launch the Hooley Horse Youth Initiative, which will use horse care and



Devan Filchak | The Journal Gazette

Cory Hooley of Hooley Family Farms explains how the organization will use a \$10,000 grant for youth violence prevention. It was one of 10 organizations to receive micro-grants.

Grants, Page 6A

Marine's family visits base; dad deported

ASSOCIATED PRESS

SAN DIEGO - Parents of a U.S. Marine were detained by federal immigration officials and one of them was later deported after visiting family members at a California military base, a case that has drawn attention to how the government's immigration crackdown is touching military families. Steve Rios, a Marine from Oceanside, California, told KNSD-TV in San Diego that his parents, Esteban Rios and Luisa Rodriguez, were taken into custody late last month while picking up his pregnant sister, Ashley Rios, and her husband, who is also a Marine, at Camp Pendleton. The couple, who came to the United States from Mexico three decades ago and had pending green card applications, were stopped by immigration agents and later released with ankle monitors, Steve Rios said. At a later check-in with federal immigration officials, they were detained and taken into custody, he said. Esteban Rios, who had been wearing a hat and shirt that read "Proud Dad of a U.S. Marine," was deported on Friday, his son said. "He said, 'Yeah, this is my lucky shirt, so we'll be fine,'" Rios recalled his father saying. Marine Corps recruiters

Deported, Page 6A

Plenty of fun within reach at Science Central



Photos by Stan Sussina | The Journal Gazette



Above: Armani Delapaz, 7, left, reaches for a flying scarf as he and his siblings Giani, 6, middle, and Persephone, 5, check out the Air Tubes exhibit at Science Central on Wednesday afternoon. Left: Mattie Irwin, 5, from Bloomington, interacts with magnetic pendulums.

Firing of federal workers blocked

Judge decries 'human cost' during shutdown

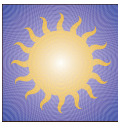
ASSOCIATED PRESS

SAN FRANCISCO - A federal judge Wednesday temporarily blocked President Donald Trump's administration from firing workers during the government shutdown, saying the cuts appeared to be politically motivated and were being carried out without much thought. U.S. District Judge Susan Illston in San Francisco repeatedly pressed the assistant U.S. attorney to explain the administration's rationale for the more than 4,100 layoff notices that started going out Friday even though furloughed workers cannot access their work emails and there are no human resources specialists to assist with next steps. "It's very much ready, fire, aim on most of these programs, and it has a human cost," she said. "It's a human cost that cannot be tolerated." She granted a temporary restraining order blocking the job cuts, saying she believed the evidence would ultimately show the cuts were illegal and in excess of authority. Asked for comment, the White House referred The Associated Press to the Office of Management and Budget. The budget office did

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WEATHER



Sunny
High in the upper 60s.

FORECAST, PAGE 2A

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Heat up
NIPSCO sees bills rising 16%
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Israel receives remains of 2 more hostages

Military says body turned over earlier was not hostage

ASSOCIATED PRESS

JERUSALEM - Israel received the remains of two more hostages Wednesday, hours after the Israeli military said that one of the bodies previously turned over was not that of a hostage. The confusion added to tensions over the fragile truce that has paused the two-year war. The remains were transferred by the Red Cross from Hamas. After the two coffins arrived in Israel, the military in a statement cautioned that the hostages' identities had yet to be verified. Meanwhile, the Gaza Health Ministry said it received 45 more bodies of Palestinians from Israel, an-

sions over the fragile truce that has paused the two-year war. The remains were transferred by the Red Cross from Hamas. After the two coffins arrived in Israel, the military in a statement cautioned that the hostages' identities had yet to be verified. Meanwhile, the Gaza Health Ministry said it received 45 more bodies of Palestinians from Israel, an-

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Mourners walk near the car carrying the coffin of slain hostage Guy Illouz during his funeral procession Wednesday in Rishon Lezion, Israel.

Associated Press