

Historical Society gets grant for new exhibit

House seeks interns for 2026 legislative session

Girls volleyball: Pioneer earns win



PHAROS-TRIBUNE

New Turning Point chapters surge across Indiana

Kirk’s assassination spurs new requests

CARSON GERBER
CNHI STATE REPORTER

TERRE HAUTE — Andrew Bowen had toyed with the idea of starting a Turning Point USA chapter when he enrolled as a freshman this year at Vincennes University.

But that idea turned into a burning conviction on Sept. 10 when he watched a bullet strike and kill Charlie Kirk, founder of the right-wing

political nonprofit, during a debating session with students at Utah Valley University.

The 31-year-old was an outspoken Christian conservative and a key ally of President Donald Trump, helping him make inroads with college students that aided in his election last year.

Police say the assassination was carried out by Tyler James Robinson, a 22-year-old college dropout who prosecutors say was politically motivated to kill Kirk.



Andrew Bowen



Kameron Winters



Mackensi Schneider



Jack Pupillo

to get out in our communities and preach about ... how civil disagreement is much better than the alternative.”

That’s exactly what the 18-year-old legal studies student plans to do after receiving approval last week to start a Turning Point chapter at Vincennes University, allowing the club to hold events and meetings on campus.

Within an hour of official status approval, more than 30 students had signed up to join, according to

Bowen, the chapter president.

“We’re on a liberal campus, so it wasn’t surprising to know that there was going to be people that would push against us,” he said. “It was actually even more surprising to know that there was that many people that wanted us to be here.”

‘A GROUNDSWELL’

Similar stories are playing out across the state as grief and outrage over Kirk’s assassination has led to a surge of new Turning Point chapters at colleges and high schools.

See **SURGE** on A3

‘A HUMAN COST’



Photos by J. Scott Applewhite | Associated Press

Students from Columbus, Ohio, wait outside a barrier as U.S. Capitol Police watch over the East Plaza where congressional leaders will have a news conferences on the government shutdown at the Capitol in Washington, Wednesday, Oct. 15, 2025.

Judge temporarily blocks the Trump administration from firing workers

JANIE HAR
ASSOCIATED PRESS

SAN FRANCISCO — A federal judge on 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 can not 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 not immediately respond to a request for comment.

The American Federation of Government Employees and other federal labor unions had asked Illston to block the administration

See **FIRINGS** on A8



Speaker of the House Mike Johnson, R-La., and the GOP leadership talk to reporters about their positions on funding the government as the shutdown reaches the third week without a solution in sight, at the Capitol in Washington, Wednesday, Oct. 15, 2025.

Stellantis to invest \$10M into Kokomo

Facility will produce an all-new engine

ALEX VEIGA
ASSOCIATED PRESS

Stellantis says it will invest \$13 billion over the next four years to expand its manufacturing capacity in the United States, a move that the automaker says will increase its domestic vehicle production by 50% and add more than 5,000 jobs.

The world’s fourth-largest carmaker said Tuesday the investment will support the introduction of five new vehicles, including a Dodge Durango to be built in Detroit and a midsize truck to be assembled in Toledo, Ohio. The new jobs will be spread across plants in Illinois, Ohio, Michigan and Indiana.

Kokomo should see \$10 million of that investment as the facilities here will produce the all-new GMET4 EVO engine.

Production on the GMET4 EVO engine is expected to begin next year. The investment, which will add more than 100 jobs, was initially announced in January.

UAW heralded the announcement as a victory for workers in the Midwest.

“A year ago, Stellantis was on a fast-track to moving their U.S. operations out of the country. Their decision today proves that targeted auto tariffs can, in fact, bring back thousands of good union jobs to the U.S.,” UAW President Shawn Fain said in a statement. “Wall Street and supposed industry experts said this was impossible. But race to the bottom created by free trade is finally coming to an end.”

Stellantis, which was created 4½ years ago from the merger of Fiat Chrysler and PSA Peugeot, is hoping to counteract some of the expected 1.5 billion-euro (\$1.7 billion) cost of tariffs this year on cars produced in Canada and Mexico by boosting North American profitability with new model launches like the discontinued Jeep Cherokee.

The new product launches will be in addition to 19 “refreshed” products

See **KOKOMO** on A3

INSIDE

CLASSIFIEDB3-B4 OBITUARIES..... A2
COMICS.....A6 OPINION A4
LOCAL A3 SPORTS..... B1-B2

FIRST AMENDMENT

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.

WEATHER

Mostly sunny. **High 71, Low 53.**
Complete forecast on Page A8.



Vol. 181, No. 205

Subscribe: 574-722-5000 or 800-676-4125 Advertise: 800-676-4125 or 574-722-5000 Classified: 800-382-0696 Office hours: Mon.-Fri. 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

3D Mammograms Are Now Available
1 in 8 Women Will Be Diagnosed With Breast Cancer In Her Lifetime

Speak with your primary care provider about the benefits of a 3D Mammogram, and then call Pulaski Memorial Hospital to schedule an appointment!



Pulaski
Memorial Hospital

To schedule an appointment,
please call (574) 946-2193

616 E 13th St. Winamac, IN 46996 • www.pmhnet.com

OCTOBER
Breast
Cancer
Awareness
Month