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Pioneer gears up for regional title game

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Airport opens new corporate hangar

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PharosTribune.com

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Officials address state of local healthcare

Panel sees a need for more resources

JAMES BENNETT III
PHAROS-TRIBUNE

Organizations like the Emmaus Mission were created to be the safety net that catches the community's less fortunate. Lately, executive director Jason Mitchell said, organizations like the Emmaus Mission seem to be taking on more responsibilities. Mitchell was among four panelists

who gathered in the library's meeting room Wednesday evening to discuss the state of local healthcare organizations in a League of Women Voters round table. Joining Mitchell on the panel were Mandi McMinn, practice manager of Indiana Health Centers; Rosa Perez, case manager for Indiana Health Centers; and Serenity Alter, Cass County Health Department's administrator.

BUILDING TRUST

Representatives from all three organizations said Cass County still

needs expanded access to mental health resources and transportation. Perez also said the county could also use more people to help patients navigate Cass County's healthcare ecosystem. The most important factor, the representatives said, is reaching people who could benefit from the organizations. Indiana Health Centers, a non-profit organization that aims to promote wellness regardless of a patient's ability to pay for services,

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James Bennett III | Pharos-Tribune

From left, Mandi McMinn, practice manager of Indiana Health Centers; Jason Mitchell, executive director of the Emmaus Mission; Rosa Perez, case manager for Indiana Health Centers; and Serenity Alter, the Cass County Health Department's administrator, speak at a League of Women Voters event to discuss the state of local healthcare organizations



Jacquelyn Martin | Associated Press

President Donald Trump signs the funding bill to reopen the government, in the Oval Office of the White House Wednesday night in Washington.

BACK TO WORK

Trump signs funding bill, ending shutdown after a record 43 days

KEVIN FREKING,
JOEY CAPPELLETTI
AND MATT BROWN
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — President Donald Trump signed a government funding bill late Wednesday night, ending a record 43-day shutdown that caused financial stress for federal workers who went without paychecks, stranded scores of travelers at airports and generated long lines at some food banks. The shutdown magnified partisan divisions in Washington as Trump took unprecedented unilateral actions — including canceling projects and trying to fire federal workers — to pressure Democrats into relenting on their demands. The Republican president blamed the situation on Democrats and suggested voters shouldn't reward the party during next year's midterm elections. "So I just want to tell the Ameri-

can people, you should not forget this," Trump said. "When we come up to midterms and other things, don't forget what they've done to our country." The signing ceremony came just hours after the House passed the measure on a mostly party-line vote of 222-209. The Senate had already passed the measure Monday. Democrats wanted to extend an enhanced tax credit expiring at the end of the year that lowers the cost of health coverage obtained through Affordable Care Act marketplaces. They refused to go along with a short-term spending bill that did not include that priority. But Republicans said that was a separate policy fight to be held at another time. "We told you 43 days ago from bitter experience that government shutdowns don't work," said Rep. Tom Cole, the Republican chairman of the House Appropriations Committee. "They never achieve the objective that you announce. And guess what? You haven't achieved that objective yet, and

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J. Scott Applewhite | Associated Press

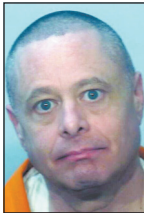
Speaker of the House Mike Johnson, R-La., walks from the chamber to speak with reporters after the final vote to bring the longest government shutdown in history to an end on Wednesday.

Evidence released as appeal continues

Allen's defense team suggests Odinism link

KIM DUNLAP
CNHI NEWS INDIANA

INDIANAPOLIS — A year after being sentenced to 130 years with the Indiana Department of Correction for the February 2017 murders of Delphi teenagers Libby German and Abby Williams, court officials have now released more than 1,200 pages of evidence as part of Richard Allen's appeals process.



Richard Allen

That evidence, released earlier this week, was requested by Allen's appellate team who claim it relates to potential "third party involvement," as well as an alleged connection to Odinism. Odinism refers to a modern pagan religious movement, a branch of Heathenry that centers on the worship of the Norse god Odin and other figures from Old Norse religion. Some interpretations of Odinism are associated with racist ideologies, while others, like the Odin Brotherhood, actively distance themselves from such views. Practitioners often adhere to a moral code like the Nine Noble Virtues and may engage in rituals and worship. In September 2023, a few weeks before Allen's jury trial began, Allen County Judge Frances Gull ruled that the evidence could not be used in court due to what she called at the time a lack of "nexus" and connection to the case. But according to Allen's legal team, that evidence is key to their client's claim of innocence. Many of those pieces of evidence contain Facebook posts and other pictures shared by a Carroll County man whom Allen's attorneys claim had ties to the pagan Norse religion and whose son was a friend of Williams. For instance, in one of the Facebook posts highlighted in the new evidence released last Monday,

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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

Sun and clouds.
High 64, Low 37.
Complete forecast on Page A2.



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