STATE | **A2**
Braun extends fuel tax suspensions

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Indiana executes Weisheit for 2010 murders

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County football teams are thriving



PHAROS-TRIBUNE

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DANCING QUEENS



Josh Flynn | For the Pharos-Tribune

Lewis Cass seniors Gracie Spicer, Maddy Willis and Raegan Mundy prepare to bring their high school theater careers to a close as the school performs the ABBA jukebox musical "Mamma Mia" this weekend.

Lewis Cass theater seniors save best for last in 'Mamma Mia'

JOSH FLYNN
FOR THE PHAROS-TRIBUNE

The senior year of high school, ultimately, is one long goodbye. The last game, the last dance, the last test. Even by the start of November multiple lasts have been checked off the list.

For a very talented group of young women at Lewis Cass High School, the next box on their list is the last school musical.

Maddy Willis, Raegan Mundy, Mia Hall, Gracie Spicer and more will take their final bows this weekend as Lewis Cass performs the ABBA jukebox musical "Mamma Mia."

Over the past few years the local theater landscape has been dominated by Logansport and Pioneer High Schools. Then the young women of Lewis Cass lifted their powerful voices in song and put the school on the map as yet another theater hot spot in Cass County.

They will close this chapter in their lives with a show that unleashes their talent in "Mamma Mia."

"Mamma Mia" tells the story of Sophie (Hall), who, as she prepares for her wedding, searches for her father. She invites three men she suspects could be her dad to her wedding, much to the surprise of her mother, Donna (Willis).

The musical hit the stage in 1999 on London's West End before arriving on Broadway in 2001. In 2008 it was adapted into a film starring Meryl Streep and Amanda Seyfried as mother and daughter. A film-only sequel followed in 2018. The show was last performed in Cass County at Logansport High School in 2022.

"It took [us] a long time to decide if we were going to do this show but we knew we had a bunch of seniors who were really good," said co-director Joyce Bower, a Lewis Cass elementary teacher, who is directing alongside her daughter, Lewis Cass choir director Abby Guy.

"It came down to the music," said Guy. "And then some of the characters, especially the female characters, we just knew the kids would do an excellent job portraying them."

Hall brings innocent exuberance and angst to the role of Sophie

See **CASS** on A3



Pharos-Tribune

Mrs. Claus greets a child at the tree lighting at Iron Horse Park following the Light Up Logansport parade on Nov. 28, 2025.

Holiday activities include ice rink

Friday night market begins November 27

STAFF REPORT

With Halloween behind us, some Cass County residents are beginning to look forward to the Winter holidays.

Light Up Logansport will expand holiday celebrations this year with a new ice-skating rink next to The Pavilion and Friday night holiday markets.

Celebrations will be held over the course of six weeks.

"The rink will bring a new winter experience to Logansport, offering families, friends, and visitors another way to gather, make memories, and enjoy the magic of the holiday season," a press release from the Cass County Community Foundation said. "Its addition is part of a larger community-wide effort to transform Light Up Logansport into a season-long celebration."

Beginning November 27, the day after Thanksgiving, a holiday night market will be held at The Pavilion every Friday through December 18. Visitors will be able to find local vendors, holiday gifts and seasonal treats.

The expanded celebration is meant to encourage residents and visitors to explore downtown, the press release said, and support the community throughout the holiday shopping season.

See **HOLIDAY** on A3

Braun: Election results are a 'wake-up call' for GOP

MACKENZI KLEMANN
INDIANA CAPITAL CHRONICLE

Gov. Mike Braun hinted Republicans should pick statewide candidates through public primaries, backed off mid-decade redistricting and dismissed concerns about his administration's performance in wide-ranging comments Thursday about this week's midterm election results.

The governor described Democrats' sweeping gains Tuesday as a "wake-up call" and an "opportunity" for Republicans to refocus their agenda on issues of affordability, speaking of his desire to reach across the aisle to Democrats on issues like healthcare, education and childcare.

But Braun, who is expected to announce his re-election campaign Nov. 16, repeatedly blamed the GOP's losses on national issues rather than a referendum on his administration, saying voters were preoccupied with inflation.

"They were cranky, irritable and we did not read that well," Braun said.



Mike Braun

Indiana Democrats broke the GOP supermajority by flipping 16 seats in the House, ousted House Speaker Todd Huston and picked up seats in the state Senate. The party also claimed two statewide offices and picked up a congressional seat.

Braun suggested Republicans suffered fewer losses in Indiana than in states like Texas because his administration paid more attention to inflation, touting his gas tax suspension and firings at the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission as examples.

"That is a question I anticipated, and I think that is where you're completely wrong, because here, what they say out of the gate, it was nationalized, and my administration has done nothing other than emphasizing the big issue out there," he said.

Still, Braun conceded Republicans lost support in places like Hamilton County because "we weren't listening enough there."

He seemingly retreated from his support of mid-decade redistricting — months after backing President Donald Trump's retribution campaign to oust Republican state senators who opposed the effort last year.

"I think that was probably clearly litigated by the results of the election Tuesday," he said.

Braun also suggested support for selecting future statewide GOP candidates through public primaries following the election of Secretary of State-elect Beau Bayh and Comptroller-elect Jessica Bailey — the first Democrats elected to statewide office since 2012.

Currently, state convention delegates choose the GOP's nominees for secretary of state, attorney general, comptroller, treasurer and lieutenant

See **ELECTION** on A3

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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

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