

TRAINED AND CERTIFIED
BASEMENT
 WATERPROOFING EXPERTS

FOUNDATION REPAIR > CRAWL SPACE REPAIR
 BASEMENT WATERPROOFING > CONCRETE LIFTING

LIMITED TIME OFFER
\$500 OFF*

INDIANA
FOUNDATION
 SERVICE
 A Groundworks Company



FREE INSPECTION

765-273-2942

*Ten percent off any job over \$2500 up to a max of \$500. Coupon must be presented at time of inspection. Offer may not be combined with any other offer. Limit one per customer. Ask inspector for further details. Promo valid through 06/30/2026. For state licenses visit Groundworks.com/licensing



The Star Press WEEKEND

SUNDAY, JUNE 7, 2026 | THESTARPRESS.COM

PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK



Amanda and Andrew Bashi said their son's combination of heart defects are so rare, there are only a few surgeons nationally with the skill to handle the complexity – and two of them happen to work at University of Michigan's C.S. Mott Children's Hospital. DAVID RODRIGUEZ MUÑOZ/DETROIT FREE PRESS

Contract deal brings relief for Michigan baby's family

Patients caught in middle of hospital, insurer dispute

Kristen Jordan Shamus
 Detroit Free Press
 USA TODAY NETWORK – MICHIGAN

DETROIT – Relief is how Andrew Bashi, of Detroit, described the feeling that washed over him and his wife, Amanda, upon hearing the news May 27 that Michigan Medicine and Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan had reached an agreement on a five-year contract.

Their 7-month-old son, Jibrán, had everything to lose as two Goliaths in the state's health care landscape clashed in

a monthslong, public contract dispute that would have forced about 300,000 Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan members out of network with Michigan Medicine if a deal couldn't be reached.

The academic medical center of the University of Michigan set a June 30 deadline to either settle a new contract with the state's dominant insurer, which has about 70% of Michigan's commercial health insurance market, or it would no longer accept commercial Blue Cross insurance plans as in-network.

Caught in the middle were Michigan Medicine patients with commercial Blue Cross plans like Jibrán, who was born nearly two months premature in October with a cluster of rare congenital heart defects. Weighing just 2 pounds, 13 ounces at birth, his tiny heart was the size of a peach pit, said Dr. Jennifer Ro-

mano, one of the pediatric cardiac surgeons caring for him at the University of Michigan's C.S. Mott Children's Hospital.

His doctors told the Bashis that Jibrán would need a series of carefully timed, complex surgeries to survive – with the first just 10 days after he was born.

Amanda and Andrew Bashi said their son's combination of heart defects are so rare, there are only a few surgeons nationally with the skill to handle the complexity – and two of them happen to work at Mott.

"I remember getting chills when I learned more about the defects and learned how few surgeons can treat them," said Amanda Bashi, 38, a federal

See DEAL, Page 5A

MUNCIE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

Daisy Dale appointed to council

Douglas Walker
 Muncie Star Press
 USA TODAY NETWORK

Local activist Daisy Dale has been named to the Muncie Human Rights Commission.

The Muncie resident received the Muncie City Council appointment on Monday, June 1, after being nominated by council member Sara Gullion.

Dale won the appointment in a 5-4 vote. Linda Pang Benner, a retired special education teacher, had also been nominated.



Dale

Dale, an employee at Bracken Library on the Ball State University campus, has been active with Muncie Queer Alliance, providing advocacy and services for members of the LGBTQ community.

At Monday's council meeting, Dale recalled an ancestor, George R. Dale, was Muncie's mayor in the 1930s and was a local newspaper publisher and outspoken foe of the Ku Klux Klan.

Daisy Dale's father, Andrew Dale, is local Democratic Party chairman.

The younger Dale said she was "especially against the (human rights) commission being perceived as partisan."

When the vote on the appointment began, council member Ro Selvey at first asked to abstain, saying both candidates were qualified.

After the eight other council members split 4-4 in support of Dale and Benner, Selvey cast the deciding vote.

Also Monday, the council voted unanimously to recommend Ball State University reappoint WaTasha Barnes Griffin to the Muncie Community School Board.

Council members also expressed

See DALE, Page 3A

Candidate argues social media posts should nullify votes

Cate Charron
 Indianapolis Star
 USA TODAY NETWORK

A Trump-backed state senate candidate is still fighting to win a tight election by making an unusual legal claim that voters' social media posts exposed that they voted illegally under an ob-

scure state law.

Republican Paula Copenhaver was one of many primary challengers seeking to defeat Indiana senators who defied U.S. President Donald Trump's demand to redraw Indiana's congressional district boundaries to favor Republicans. She was vying to unseat incumbent state Sen. Spencer Deery of West

Lafayette, but lost by three votes in the May 5 primary.

In her request for a recount, Copenhaver argues that social media posts and interviews with a journalist prove that several Democratic voters wrongfully crossed over to the Republican primary, swinging the election in Deery's favor. The crossover voting warrants in-

vestigation, she claims.

Her argument hinges on a largely unenforced Indiana law that many voters, advocates and experts say they have never heard of. Her method of challenging voters in a recount is likely a first in Indiana and appears to conflict with the

See STATE SENATE, Page 2A

addressUSA

Find Out What Your Home Is Worth

Call Today for an Expert Valuation and Make Your Next Move

888-438-0750
 Mon-Sun: 8:00 AM - 5:30 PM

Discover more at addressUSA.com

Subscriber-only eNewspaper

The eNewspaper is an electronic copy of your print newspaper. Enjoy every page by going to thestarpress.com/enewspaper or scan this code on your mobile device. You will also find late news and sports in the bonus sections. Check it out today!



Volume 127 | No. 87
 Subscribe 800-783-2472
 ©2026 \$3.99

