



Ball State football game-by-game prediction

SPORTS, 1B

The Star Press

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‘BE INFORMED’



In the spring, the Nature Conservancy’s Rhode Island chapter erected roughly 80 signs at trail entrances warning hikers of ticks and outlining protective measures. PROVIDED BY THE NATURE CONSERVANCY

Spread by ticks, alpha-gal syndrome causes red meat allergy

Antonia Noori Farzan and Sylvia Woodbury
Providence Journal
USA TODAY NETWORK

BLOCK ISLAND, RI – Fueling up for a long day as a delivery driver, Travis Jaeger started a mid-June morning with a hearty breakfast of steak, eggs and bacon. Around 11:30 a.m., he paused to eat a roast beef sandwich for lunch. Jaeger was unloading paper products at The Yellow Kittens about six hours later when he started feeling itchy. He ran back to his truck, looked in the mirror and saw his face swelling up. Within a matter of minutes, Jaeger was struggling to breathe. His vision went dark. Before he knew what was happening, he was being rushed to Rhode Island Hospital by helicopter. Lab tests later revealed that he’d contracted alpha-gal syndrome, which is spread by ticks and can result in a potentially life-threatening allergy to red

See SYNDROME, Page 2A



Some Block Island residents say the number of people using the island’s Greenway trails seems to be down.

JOHN KOSTRZEWA/SPECIAL TO THE PROVIDENCE JOURNAL

Clerk held after theft of lotto tickets

Muncie man accused of stealing from store

Douglas Walker
Muncie Star Press
USA TODAY NETWORK

A Muncie man is accused of stealing \$5,000 worth of lottery tickets from the local convenience store where he worked. Syed Ahmed Ali, 40, was arrested on Wednesday, Aug. 26, on suspicion of theft. He continued to be held in the Delaware County Jail on Friday under a \$5,000 bond. A manager at the Village Pantry, 603 W. Jackson St., told city police on Wednesday evening that Ali was hired to work at the convenience store on Aug. 10, and since that time the store’s lottery ticket sales “started to be off,” according to an affidavit.

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Audubon Society opens annual award nominations

Jane Imbody
Muncie Star Press
USA TODAY NETWORK

People and organizations that have made a difference in conservation and environmental education across East Central Indiana can be nominated for annual awards presented by the Robert Cooper Audubon Society. The organization is accepting nominations through Sept. 20 for five conservation honors, according to a community announcement. The awards recognize contributions made during the past year in conservation, wildlife habitat preservation, public service and environmental education. Recipients are traditionally recognized in early December. The Robert H. and Esther L. Cooper Conservation Award is the chapter’s highest honor and recognizes overall

See NOMINATIONS, Page 3A

MuncieArts sees collaboration as key to creative growth

Jane Imbody
Muncie Star Press
USA TODAY NETWORK

MuncieArts, a Ball Brothers Foundation grantee, is entering a new phase focused on strengthening Muncie’s creative economy, expanding public art and positioning itself as a connector for artists, organizations and residents across Delaware County. The nonprofit arts organization, established in 2011 as the Muncie Arts and

Culture Council, is developing a new strategic framework after completing several major public art projects and reviving community engagement efforts, according to a community announcement from the foundation. Executive Director Tania Said said one of the organization’s biggest accomplishments during the past year has been rebuilding relationships across the community. “When I joined MuncieArts in February of 2025, the board had successfully



Said

guided the organization for six months while searching for a new executive director,” Said said. “My priority was to build on that stability by reconnecting with artists, creatives, arts organizations, supporters, and community partners.” Those conversations have helped strengthen partnerships, secure additional funding and increase MuncieArts’ visibility as an advocate for the

local creative sector. The organization is also seeking public input as it develops a new strategic framework and community priorities. Said said a Creative Space Action Plan developed after extensive community listening sessions continues to influence MuncieArts’ work. See MUNCIEARTS, Page 6A

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