

DAYTON NAACP
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CONTINUING COVERAGE

NEW DETAILS

Flynn murder trial:
What to know this week

Testimony about affair
reveals animosity
toward wife, jealousy.

Jen Balduf
Staff Writer

Text messages reveal love overtures sent by Caleb Flynn to both the woman with whom he was formerly engaged in an extramarital affair and the wife he is accused of fatally shooting and staging the scene to look like a home invasion.

Testimony during the murder trial for the music pastor and “American Idol” contestant also showed a darker side of hatred, jealousy and death wishes.

Caleb Flynn, 40, is charged in Miami County Common Pleas Court with aggravated murder, two counts of felonious assault and three counts of tampering with evidence.

His wife, Ashley Flynn, a middle school volleyball coach, educator and mother of two daughters, was shot twice in the head, apparently as she slept early Feb. 16 at the family’s Cunningham Court home in Tipp City. The shooting happened about a week before her 38th birthday.

107,000 text messages exchanged

Alleigha Botner outlined a yearslong relationship marked by intense animosity toward Caleb Flynn’s wife during testimony Wednesday, Sept. 23, and Thursday, Sept. 24. Botner and Caleb Flynn met at the Christian Life Center in Butler Twp. when she

Alleigha Botner testifies during the murder trial of Caleb Flynn in Miami County Common Pleas Court on Wednesday, Sept. 23. SOURCE: COURT TV VIA YOUTUBE

Caleb Flynn appears in court Friday, Sept. 25. COURT TV, VIA YOUTUBE

was a 20-year-old intern and he was a member, volunteer on the worship team and a contracted worship leader. She later was

hired as the church’s worship leader, and their relationship became less than professional in March 2022. They bonded over Harry Potter and in March 2024 they got matching lightning bolt tattoos, hers on her arm and his in his armpit to hide it from his wife. They became intimate later that spring, several months after she broke up with another member of the worship team.

When asked how she felt about him now, she said, “I hate him” and “I believe that he murdered his wife.”

Botner said that when Caleb Flynn told her he had feelings for her, he said it was OK because his wife cheated on him two years earlier and that he was only with her because of the girls. However,

FBI special agent Andrea Kinzig testified Friday, Sept. 25, that there was no information on Ashley Flynn’s iPhone to indicate she was involved in an extramarital affair.

“He would say that he hated her, that he wanted her dead. He would say so many awful things along the lines about hating her,” Botner said.

She, too, admitted saying awful things about Ashley Flynn.

Over the span of a year, Botner and Caleb Flynn exchanged approximately 107,000 text messages. Printouts were bound into about three dozen books stored in three cardboard boxes wheeled into the courtroom.

Trial continued on A8

Work begins on new STEM facility

11,000-square-foot addition will focus on manufacturing.

Thomas Gnau
Staff Writer

An expansion of the Dayton Regional STEM School will introduce students to the magic of making things.

An 11,000-square-foot addition to the Kettering campus’ middle and high school buildings northeast of Woodman Drive and Research Boulevard will become the Larry R. & Elaine A. Dosser Center for Manufacturing Sciences.

The new center will be a haven for students to design, build, test, experiment and solve real-world problems using modern technologies.

It will also be a place to explore something Larry Dosser himself spent a career exploring – light.

“There is always information in light, and that’s one of the critical factors we have to remember,” said Dosser, founder of Mound Laser and Photonics during a groundbreaking ceremony Friday, Sept. 25. “We just have to know how to decipher it.”

The moment is right, said Joe Sciabica, the former civilian leader of Air Force Research Laboratory at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base who today leads workforce development efforts for the Dayton Foundation. Children must be connected to the ever-changing worlds of technology and manufacturing, he said.

“The question is, how early do we begin connecting people to that ecosystem?” Sciabica said.

This new center is one answer to that question, he said.

The expansion was made possible through a gift from Dosser and his late wife, Elaine.

“It does mean a lot,” Dosser told the Dayton Daily News before Friday’s ceremony. “We’ve supported education, I’ve supported it, so has my wife, for her entire life. We’re firm believers in it. It’s really led me down the path from where I started in high school to where I am now.”

STEM continued on A8

OHIO POLITICS

Senate Republicans hope to give boost to Husted

Lawmakers looking to get final vote this week on his data centers bill.

Jamie Dupree
Contributing Writer

Worried about GOP prospects in Ohio, Senate Republicans hope to use one final week of pre-election work on Capitol Hill to give U.S. Sen. Jon Husted an extra push for November, by voting

on a plan that makes data centers pay for electricity costs – not local communities in Ohio and other states.

While the bill was overwhelmingly approved on a vote of 417-3 in the House, it’s unclear if it can get a final vote this week in the Senate – as some Democrats are leery of giving Husted an easy win that he can tout on the campaign trail.

“Data centers would be forced to pay their own way,” Husted said. “If Senate Democrats want

to be the obstacle to passage, then shame on them. That shows that they don’t really care about affordability.”

Husted drew a lot of attention on Capitol Hill last week when he seemed to voice some impatience with the Iran War, which has helped to drive up prices for gasoline and diesel fuel. But he still voted against a call to withdraw U.S. forces.

“We want to make sure that we win the war, and we want to make sure that gas prices are

under control as soon as possible,” Husted said while walking back to his office.

With many Republicans desperate to do something – almost anything on affordability questions – other GOP senators were eager to get Husted a vote on his plan, known officially as the Ratepayer Protection Act, even if they quibbled over the impact.

“It’s good policy,” said U.S. Sen. Thom Tillis, R-North Carolina.

Husted continued on A8

THE LATEST

Trump rejects Iranian proposal for ceasefire, opening of strait. **B1**

Court halts Missouri congressional map backed by Trump. **B2**

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