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BREWERIES **BRING BIG WIN AT NATIONAL**

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Sales associate Roberta Pitman folds merchandise at Rally House Dayton Mall. The store is hiring four positions for the holiday season. MICHAEL KURTZ PHOTOS / STAFF

Fewer seasonal jobs for holiday workers, but they're out there

Some companies are offering regular employees more hours.

By Michael Kurtz Staff Writer

There are seasonal jobs available for people who want to make a few extra dollars around the holidays, but not as many as last year.

Retailers – including big box stores such as Target - are expected to add fewer than 500,000 seasonal positions for the holiday shopping season, according to global outplacement firm Challenger, Gray & Christmas.

For comparison, there were approximately 543,100 jobs added in the final quarter of 2024, according to that firm. That was a 4% drop from 2023. According to the firm, this year may be the weakest holiday hiring performance in 16 years.

Seasonal employers are facing a confluence of factors this year: tariffs loom, inflationary pressures linger, and many companies continue to rely on automa-



Madelyn Bailey, manager of Carter's OshKosh B'Gosh in Bridgewater Falls, said her store offers seasonal employees the same perks as regular staff.

tion and permanent staff instead of large waves of seasonal hires," said Challenger, Gray & Christmas Senior Vice President Andy

Challenger in a statement. Target has announced it is offering more hours to its existing staff while also accepting applications for seasonal roles through a dedicated portal on

the company website. Other companies are following the Target model of offering more hours to existing staff in lieu of hiring seasonal employees, Challenger said.

Seasonal continued on A8

CLOSER LOOK

Cannabis sellers sue state, calling guidance 'invalid'

Plaintiffs say Ohio's restrictions are being improperly applied.

By Sydney Dawes Staff Writer

Ohio cannabis businesses in a recent lawsuit argue the Ohio Division of Cannabis Control's rules for advertising are too stringent and go against the voter-approved recreational cannabis law.

"I think we'll keep seeing more and more of Ohio sales continue to grow, but I think it's also been hindered a little bit without really being able to get good advertising out," said Brian Wingfield, co-owner and co-founder of the Ohio Cannabis Company. "And really, our hope is that we are able to use the rules that have been set forth for the state."

The Ohio Cannabis Co. operates a dispensary in Piqua. It and Wilmington-based Ancient

Roots LLC, a business that transforms cannabis-plant material into cannabis products, were among several Ohio-based cannabis businesses included as plaintiffs in the lawsuit.

The affidavit, which was filed in Franklin County in recent weeks, says the state cannabis division is applying medical cannabis rules to recreational, adult-use cannabis, calling guidance issued to cannabis businesses this summer that related to advertising "invalid and unenforceable."

"Specifically, the DCC was required by Issue 2 to prescribe rules related to inventory control, packaging and labeling, and advertising," the affidavit states. "The DCC did not provide any notice or hearing on the 'Guidance' it has been issuing.'

A spokesperson of the Ohio Division of Cannabis Control declined to comment on the lawsuit, citing pending litigation.

Cannabis continued on A6

NEW DETAILS



Signs inside and outside **Best Buds** in Trotwood inform customers Tuesday that no Delta-8 products are available. BRYANT BILLING /

THC hemp ban paused, sales continue, but businesses concerned

Governor's ban paused by court order after legal challenge.

By Cornelius Frolik Staff Writer

Smoke shops, vape shops, gas stations, convenience stores, liquor stores, beer outlets and other establishments across the region had empty shelves Tuesday after Gov. Mike DeW-

ine's 90-day ban on intoxicating hemp-derived THC products went into effect at a minute past midnight.

Business owners and managers said they fear a temporary ban and future prohibitions could lead to job losses, store closures and consumer anger and outrage, especially if these products were to be removed from the market permanently.

Hemp continued on A8

THELATEST

Former president enters fight for U.S. House control. **B1**

Man pleads guilty in arson attack at Gov. Shapiro's mansion. **B2**

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