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'Until I receive the funding'

15-foot gold Trump statue is stuck in Zanesville amid payment dispute

Shawn Digny
Zanesville Times Recorder
USA TODAY NETWORK

ZANESVILLE – All that glitters is gold – or maybe more the opposite could be true – as a 15-foot-tall statue of President Donald Trump completed in January 2025 slumbers in an Old Coopermill Road foundry.

The statue, now newly gilded with gold leaf, lies in the midst of an eight-month payment impasse and copyright infringement rift between Zanesville sculptor Alan Cottrill and an upstart cryptocurrency group heading \$PATRIOT, a memecoin honoring Trump.

Once completed, the bronze statue, which was first commissioned in August 2024, was initially supposed to be on a two-year tour across the U.S. visiting Republican conventions before arriving at its final spot at either a presidential library or the Republican National Committee headquarters.

The Patriot group still owes a little more than \$90,000 for the \$300,000 undertaking, Cottrill told the Times Recorder. Around \$75,000 of that comes from 15 months' worth of copyright misuse after the memecoin started using the statue as its logo when it launched on Election Day 2024, and unbeknownst to Cottrill.

"I felt that they tried to take advantage of me and the statue that I made," Cottrill said. "That statue isn't leaving Zanesville until they pay."

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Alan Cottrill stands next to his work during the early phases to create a 15-foot-tall bronze statue of President Donald Trump. It started in August 2024 and was completed in January 2025. The statue, now gilded in gold leaf, is still in Zanesville waiting to be installed at Trump National Doral Miami.

PROVIDED BY ALAN COTTRILL



Hailey Buzbee, 17, of Fishers, Indiana, was last seen by her parents on Jan. 5. Buzbee's remains were found on Feb. 1. PROVIDED BY BEAU BUZBEE

New details revealed in Buzbee death

Bethany Bruner
Columbus Dispatch
USA TODAY NETWORK

Search warrant affidavits filed in a Franklin County court are providing new details into the multi-jurisdictional investigation into the disappearance and death of a 17-year-old Indiana girl, including that she had been talking to a Columbus man online for more than a year.

Columbus police homicide and missing persons detectives filed the two warrants related to Tyler Thomas, 39, who is accused of being involved in the death of Hailey Buzbee.

Buzbee, of Fishers, Indiana, was last seen on Jan. 5. Thomas was arrested on Jan. 31. He is charged in Franklin County Municipal Court with pandering sexually oriented material involving a minor and tampering with evidence.

The newly filed search warrant affidavits were approved by a judge on Jan. 22 and Jan. 26 and both had returns, or information about what was recovered during the searches, filed in Franklin County Municipal Court on Feb. 3.

How Hailey Buzbee, Tyler Thomas communicated

The Jan. 26 affidavit resulted in digital data being recovered from Thomas' cellphone after he allegedly admitted to meeting Buzbee through

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Here are the candidates, issues that made primary filing deadline

Jeff Barron
Lancaster Eagle-Gazette
USA TODAY NETWORK

LANCASTER – It would appear voters on May 5 will see a light ballot regarding Fairfield County candidates and issues.

The filing deadline for the primary election was Feb. 4, and several local candidates made it.

However, this is not the official primary ballot because the county elec-

tions board must meet by Feb. 17 to officially certify the ballot. Just because someone filed in time does not necessarily mean they will be on the ballot, elections board director Jane Hanley said.

Here are the candidates who filed in time:

- In the 73rd Ohio House of Representatives race, Democrats Andrew Foltz and Whitney Wood filed, as did Incumbent Republican Jeff LaRe, R-Violet Township.

- In the county, auditor Carri Brown and county commissioner Jeff Fix met the filing deadline.

- Common pleas court judge David Trimmer and juvenile/probate judge Terre Vandervoort filed.

The following issues were also filed before the deadline:

- Pickerington Local School District-Proposed Income Tax, annual income tax of 1.25%, continuing period of time, current expenses.
- Puerto De Vallarta, applicant for

D-5 & D-6 liquor permits, 1001 S. Main St., Baltimore.

- Twins Tavern, applicant for D-6 liquor permit, on/off premise sales, 8220 Refugee Rd., Suite 8, Pickerington.

- Liquor sales on/off premise in Pickerington Precinct C.

- Spirituous liquors by the glass in Pickerington Precinct C.

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Volume 117 | No. 34
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