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# Record-Courier

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PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK



Protestors gather along Beck Road across from an open house for area residents hosted by Geis Companies and Bitdeer to get a look at the proposed Technology Information Center campus in Shalersville Township on May 29.

PHOTOS BY MIKE CARDEW, AKRON BEACON JOURNAL

## Shalersville residents skeptical of data center

**Diane Smith**  
Ravenna Record-Courier  
USA TODAY NETWORK

Numerous residents filed into an empty industrial building in Shalersville to learn about a data center proposed for their community.

Many said they weren't impressed with what they heard.

Geis Companies and Bitdeer hosted an open house at Geis' industrial building at Turnpike Commerce Center in Shalersville.

Outside the entrance, protesters gathered on both sides of the road, holding signs such as "Bitdeer TICs spread LIE disease" and "Farms Feed Us, Data Centers Bleed Us." Half a dozen people collected signatures for an effort to ban data centers statewide.

Protesters said they were at first permitted to park on the property, but then told they couldn't park on site if they were protesting. All entering the site

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Gary Gorenc listens to Paul Hanson, senior project manager for Bitdeer, answer a question at an open house for area residents hosted by Geis Companies and Bitdeer to get a look at the proposed Technology Information Center campus in Shalersville.



Geis Companies President Bob Friedrich talks to area residents about the proposed Technology Information Center campus in Shalersville Township.

## Federal student loan rates rising next year

**Medora Lee**  
USA TODAY

Federal student loan rates are edging up next year, but that shouldn't be surprising, experts said.

Elevated inflation has pushed Treasury yields higher as investors increasingly forecast the Federal Reserve's next rate move to be an increase instead of a cut. Government student loan rates are determined by the Treasury's May auction of 10-year notes plus a fixed margin set by Congress. Last month's auction produced a 10-year yield of 4.47%, up from 4.34% in 2025.

The jump in the 10-year yield pushed up federal student loan rates for families planning to take out a federal student loan for the 2026-27 academic

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## Ohio student develops biomedical breakthrough

**Cole Behrens**  
Columbus Dispatch  
USA TODAY NETWORK

Since he was a child, Nikhil Bhimireddy has always been a tinkerer.

And he's graduating high school with a novel biomedical development of his own.

Bhimireddy, 18, created a prototype cap for infrared brain scans that solves a problem he discovered while interning at Nationwide Children's Hospital: that the existing caps used for noninvasive brain scanning aren't very effective for people with darker skin or thicker hair.

When he tried use the brain scan on himself during the internship, the calibration of the device failed.

"I was really shocked, to have that experience, because how many other children and individuals are being left out or having data that isn't fully representative of what their brain is actually going through?" he said. "It wasn't that this was intentional. It's just that it wasn't built with people of all sorts in mind."

So working out of his home north of Columbus, Ohio, Bhimireddy developed a cap that would be more effective when used on someone with darker skin or with thicker hair. His design traps more light inside the system and can be tightened to fit a head evenly.

Using a special fabric, 3D-printed parts and part of a child's shoe, he was able to develop his prototype for

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