



SPRINGFIELD NEWS-SUN

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WAWA PULLS OUT OF DOWNTOWN SPRINGFIELD PROJECT. A2



'NO KINGS' PROTESTS DRAW LARGE CROWDS ACROSS U.S. B1

SAYIN TOSSES FOUR TDS AS OHIO STATE SHUTS OUT WISCONSIN. C1

CLOSER LOOK

The resurgence of independent bookstores

Comeback is fueled by community, nostalgia and 'BookTok.'

By Michael D. Pitman and Michael Kurtz
Staff Writers



Bobby Minelli, owner of Household Books, opened his second location in downtown Hamilton, filling a void in the city. It's now the only independent bookstore in the city, and one of only a couple of independent or used bookstores in Butler County. MICHAEL D. PITMAN / STAFF

any replacement on the horizon," said Stephanie, an elementary school teacher and avid reader. She and her husband, Steve, the fire chief of the Miami Valley Fire District, found an available space at 55 S. Main St. Star City Booksellers now features a curated selection of books, three book clubs and the couple's French bulldog, Eddie George, who has become the unofficial store mascot. The best part, Stephanie Johnson said, is the incredible feel-

ing of community the store has. In its short history, Star City Booksellers has hosted signings by bestselling authors, such as Mia Sheridan, and has become a launching point for independent local authors, such as Trina Burkhart. She will have a signing on Nov. 1 for her debut children's book, "Eli the Eel." Stephanie Johnson said in addition to hosting the book clubs, the store's backroom is rented out for craft parties, baby show-

ers and other local events. Star City Booksellers is also part of the Independent Bookstore Book Crawl every year, and joins forces with other Miamisburg businesses in citywide events. Currently there is a large selection of ghost books offered to coincide with Miamisburg ghost tours and the Halloween season. "I try to watch what my people are buying," Stephanie Johnson said. **Book continued on A6**

CLOSER LOOK

Poll shows Americans concerned about job market, inflation

47% said they are not confident they could find a good job.

By Josh Boak and Linley Sanders
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Americans are growing increasingly concerned about their ability to find a good job under President Donald Trump, an Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs poll finds, in what is a potential warning sign for Republicans as a promised economic boom has given way to hiring freezes and elevated inflation. High prices for groceries, housing and health care persist as a fear for many households, while rising electricity bills and the cost of gas at the pump are also sources of anxiety, according to the survey. Some 47% of U.S. adults are "not very" or "not at all confident" they could find a good job if they wanted to, an increase from 37% when the question was last asked in October 2023. Electricity bills are a "major" source of stress for 36% of U.S. adults at a time when the expected build-out of data centers for artificial intelligence could further tax the power grid. Just more than one-half said the cost of groceries are a "major" source of financial stress. **Poll continued on A6**

LOCAL IMPACT

Husted introduces bill to pay military during shutdown

By Thomas Gnau
Staff Writer

Two senators, including Ohio's Sen. Jon Husted, have introduced a bill to pay members of the military during the government shutdown. The Pay Our Military Act would appropriate funds to pay active-duty and reservists in the Air Force, Space Force, Army, Navy, Marine Corps and Coast Guard during a government shutdown. The bill's passage also would pay civilian employees and contractors at the Departments of Defense and Homeland Security who support the armed forces, Husted's office said. The current lapse in funding for the federal government began Oct. 1. "There are 10,792 active-duty military members who call Ohio home, and we owe it to them to ensure they receive their pay, regardless of what is happening in Washington," Husted said in a statement. In an interview Thursday, Husted said the military could

be paid in three ways. First, if Congress passes what he called "a clean CR (continuing resolution)," funding the government for seven weeks. Second, the military could be paid through passage of the full defense appropriations bill. Husted called that option "How government is supposed to work." But if Congress can't or won't take those two traditional measures, then Husted says he has signed on to this bill, which also

Husted continued on A6



Sen. Jon Husted (R-Ohio) speaks in Dayton on Sept. 26. He is one of two sponsors of the Pay Our Military Act, which would appropriate funds to pay military personnel and some civilian employees and contractors. BRYANT BILLING / STAFF

THE LATEST

Trump commutes sentence of George Santos in fraud case. **B1**

Higher Obamacare prices become public in a dozen states. **B2**

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