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VA TO CUT 25K UNFILLED POSITIONS. A3



HOLIDAY HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL EVENTS, TOURNAMENTS FILL SCHEDULE. D1

ROB REINER'S SON APPEARS IN COURT ON 2 COUNTS OF MURDER. B1

TOP STATE STORY

DeWine: Springfield faces workforce shortage

End of TPS on Feb. 3 will affect a large number of area's Haitian workers.

By **Josh Sweigart**
Staff Writer

Ohio Gov. Mike DeWine is warning that Springfield-area employers will face severe workforce challenges following the expi-

ration of legal status for untold thousands of Haitians on Feb. 3. "As I talk to employers, I know what's going to happen on that Feb. 3 day," DeWine said. "That is employers tell me on that date many of these – maybe most – of the Haitians who are working there will no longer be legal. Once they go from legal, which they are now, to not being legal, they cannot employ them.

"Then you're going to have a lot of unfilled jobs. You're going to have, whatever the consequences are of 10,000 – or who knows how many, no one knows really – people who are no longer being able to be employed."

DeWine was responding to questions from this news outlet at a holiday breakfast with

DeWine continued on **A6**



Gov. Mike DeWine speaks during a news conference at the Dayton City Commission Office on Dec. 1. **BRYANT BILLING / STAFF**

ONLY IN THE NEWS-SUN

Springfield officers lend a hand with holiday shopping



Ashley Sly (left) and children Elijah, 8, and Addison, 6, shop with Springfield police officer Wendy Kibler at the Springfield Walmart on Bechtel Avenue on Wednesday as part of Operation Santa. **MARSHALL GORBY / CONTRIBUTED**

TOP NATIONAL STORY

Trump announces \$1,776 military 'warrior dividend'

Move gives a holiday boost for 1.45 million amid inflation woes.

By **Jennifer A. Dlouhy**
Bloomberg News

President Donald Trump looked to reassure Americans concerned about the rising cost of living by announcing plans to award a special holiday payment to military service members and roll out new housing reforms in the new year.

Trump announced the plans Wednesday during a prime-time address from the White House, which he used to extol his accomplishments from his first year back in the White House and convince voters they should still blame his predecessor for persistent economic anxieties.

"Eleven months ago, I inherited a mess, and I'm fixing it," Trump said.

Trump's biggest announcement was a move to award service members \$1,776 payments, a decision that should provide a holiday boost to 1.45 million Americans.

"Military service members will receive a special – we call Warrior Dividend – before Christmas – a Warrior Dividend," Trump said. "In honor of our nation's founding in 1776, we are sending every soldier \$1,776. Think of that. And the checks are already on the way."

But he also sought to allay fears that his economy had not yet taken off, telling vot-

Shelter continued on **A6**

NEW DETAILS

City will fund Hartley House through winter

Springfield's only men's homeless shelter was facing Jan. 2 closure.

By **Jessica Orozco**
Staff Writer

Springfield's only dedicated men's homeless shelter will remain open through the winter after the city approved funds to avoid an imminent closure.

The Hartley House, 440 W. High St., had planned to close Jan. 2 to allow Sheltered Inc. to continue operations at its women and family shelter – Norm's Place – until around March. Sheltered Inc. administrators said previously the closure was due to the loss of financial support from Clark County and its lawsuit against the nonprofit.

The Springfield City Commission on Tuesday approved up

to \$67,500 in federal Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds to cover expenses for January and February.

Assistant Mayor Dave Estrop said he was pleased with city staff's work to find funding during a time where funds are tight.

"I just want to commend the staff for working so hard to find these dollars in what we clearly know is a really tight budget atmosphere," Estrop said. "But these

are some of our most in need citizens of this community, and I'm pleased that we have found a way to provide for them."

Sheltered Inc. Board President Ross McGregor said during the meeting the funds are "desperately needed" to shelter individuals and families during the coldest months of the year. He said the men's shelter will stay

Shelter continued on **A6**

THE LATEST

Smith tells lawmakers his team has proof against Trump **B2**

Rob Reiner's best films, and where to watch them. **C1**

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