

### Trump plays blame game in address

INSIDE, 4A

# The News Leader

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 19, 2025 | NEWSLEADER.COM

PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK

**SCENE ON MAIN STREET** 



Owners of Essentially Zen, Sherrie and Robert Brown, opened their new shop, Ovid & Lane, on 20 E. Beverley St. in Staunton on Dec. 11. PHOTOS BY MONIQUE CALELLO/THE NEWS LEADER

## Ovid & Lane opens

#### **Monique Calello**

Staunton News Leader USA TODAY NETWORK

Scene on Main Street is a weekly series that gives you an on-the-street view of what's happening in downtown Staunton and surrounding areas. Designed to be a fun and engaging series, we welcome participation from our readers and those we run into along the

STAUNTON – It was six years ago in December when owners Sherrie and Robert Brown opened their shop Essentially Zen at the wharf in Staunton. Now, six years later, they have rebranded the business and opened their new shop Ovid & Lane at 20 E. Beverley St. in

See OVID & LANE, Page 2A



### Waynesboro basketball hosting fundraiser

#### Patrick Hite

Staunton News Leader
USA TODAY NETWORK

A crosstown basketball rivalry will include a fundraiser that's much bigger than basketball this season.

Skylar Napier, in her sixth year as head coach of Waynesboro's varsity girls' basketball team, recently announced that the Little Giants matchup with the Staunton Storm on Dec. 19 will serve as a fundraiser for Waynesboro Area Refuge Ministry (WARM) executive director Alec Gunn.

A 1991 graduate of Waynesboro, as well as a former Army sergeant, Gunn has coached track, football, wrestling and basketball at Waynesboro as well as Fishburne.

Gunn was diagnosed with liver cancer and needs a transplant.

Gunn and Napier both attend the same church, but their relationship spans decades prior.

"I've known him since I was younger," Napier said. "He was really good friends with one of my best friends growing up, and then (Gunn was) always interacting with the sports and the youth. I feel like it's another important thing going on. Anything I can do to help Alec — or anyone for that matter — bring awareness to our community while trying to help Alec is why we

See FUNDRAISER, Page 2A



Alec Gunn, the executive director of WARM in Waynesboro, is in need of a liver donor. PROVIDED BY ALEC GUNN

### Man charged with stabbing woman in alleged road rage incident

#### Brad Zinn

Staunton News Leader
USA TODAY NETWORK

The Waynesboro Police Department said a man is in custody amid allegations he stabbed a woman during a road rage incident, a release said.

Police arrested John Rodgers, 59, of Waynesboro, on Dec. 16, charging him with aggravated malicious wounding.

The incident took place about a week before Rodgers' arrest. According to police, on the night of Dec. 10 in the 1200 block of West Broad Street, he was reportedly involved in a traffic-related dispute

with a 37-year-old Augusta County woman. The dispute allegedly escalated into a physical altercation, and Rodgers is accused of using a "long-bladed weapon" to stab the woman, the release said.

The victim was taken to UVA Health in Charlottesville with injuries that were not considered life-threatening, police said.

Rodgers is being held without bond at Middle River Regional Jail in Verona.

Brad Zinn is the cops, courts and breaking news reporter at The News Leader. Have a news tip? Or something that needs investigating? You can email reporter Brad Zinn (he/him) at bzinn@newsleader.com.



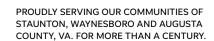
# 18 MONTHS 0% INTEREST\* OR SAVE 10%

540-215-3651 | bath-fitter.com/18save

Tub-to-shower conversions and fiberglass replacements typically require a two-day installation. \*Lifetime warranty valid for as long as you own your home. \*Offer ends 1/31/26. All offers apply to a complete Bath Fitter system only and must be presented and used at time of estimate. Minimum purchase required. Terms of promotional financing are 18 months of no interest from the date of installation and minimum deposit, Interest accrues from date of purchase but is waived if paid in full within 18 months. Monthly payments are required during the 18 months, and making only the required monthly payments will not pay off the amount financed. See representative for details. Qualified buyers only. May not be combined with other offers or applied to previous purchases. Valid only at select Bath Fitter locations. Offers and warranty subject to limitations. Fixtures and features may be different than pictured. Accessories pictured are not included. Some Plumbing work done by PULL.SE. Plumbing, MD Licensed Plumber #1499, NJ Plumbing Lic. # 368I01065500, DE MPL #PL-0002303, MD Licensed Plumber #82842, IL MPL #058-120395, VA MPL #2710064024, IA MPL #25077, OH Plumbing Contractor's License #37445, SD MPL #CLS-MD-R0823-19-2078C, WV MPL #PL-07514, MI MPL #8111651, MI CL #8111651, PA HIC #PA017017, NJ HIC #13VH03073000, WV HIC #WV053085, MHIC #129436, VA HIC #2705155694, IA CR #2132306, IA CL #52609-CL, IL CL #055-043646, NE CR #52729-24, WV HIC #WV03808, MHIC #12995, VA HIC #2705146537, DC HIC #420213000044. Each Franchise Independently Owned and Operated by Bath Saver, Inc, Iowa Bath Solutions, LLC, Ohio Bath Solutions, LLC, Ohio Bath Solutions, LLC, Ohio Bath Solutions, LLC, Ohio Bath Solutions, LLC, Wild Atlantic Bath Solutions, LLC.

#### Subscriber-only eNewspaper

The eNewspaper is an electronic copy of your print newspaper. Enjoy every page by going to newsleader.com/enewspaper or scan this code on your mobile device. You will also find late news and sports in the bonus sections. Check it out today!





Volume 135 | No. 298 Subscribe 877-424-0032

