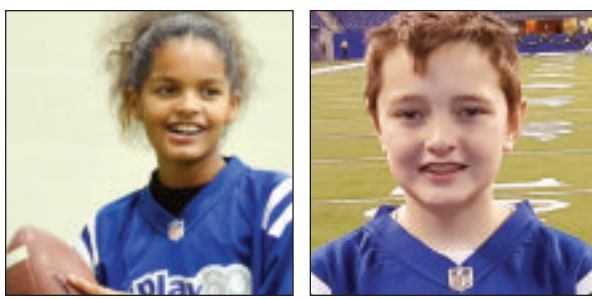


Local athletes on national stage  
A pair of area children will participate in Punt, Pass and Kick national finals. **SPORTS, 1S**



Biggie leads Boilers in win  
Caleb Swanigan gets double-double against Spartans. **SPORTS, 1S**

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Fort Wayne, Indiana

## CITY COUNCIL APPROVES REQUEST 7-2

# The Landing project gets a \$2.5 million Legacy loan

It also gets its first restaurant, locally owned Bravas Burgers

By **KEVIN LEININGER**  
kleininger@news-sentinel.com

The proposed \$32 million redevelopment of a historic downtown block received its make-or-break \$2.5 million loan from the city's Legacy fund Tuesday — and its first publicly announced tenant.

Steve Smith, president of the Model Group, the Cincinnati-based developer of the project to convert the mostly vacant Columbia Street "Landing" into trendy apartments, restaurants, bars, offices and shops, told City Council that locally based Bravas Burgers, which currently operates a restaurant at 3412 Fairfield Ave., has committed to operating on The Landing should the project come to fruition.

That outcome took a giant step forward with council's 7-2 approval of the funding request — the first loan made from the fund created through the sale of the city's former electric utility.

Dissenting were Paul Ensley, R-1st, and Jason Arp, R-4th who regularly oppose economic projects



The \$32 million redevelopment of the Columbia Street "Landing" will create 72 residential units and 22 storefronts that could accommodate coffee shops, bars, restaurants, offices and shops.



Ensley

because they believe government should not pick "winners and losers." Ensley was most pointed in his questions, calling the loan "the sweetest of sweetheart deals."

Funding for the project would also come from several other sources, including about \$7 million from the state Regional Cities program and about \$6.7 million in federal New Market Tax Credits. As The News-Sentinel first reported, Fort Wayne was unable to secure the credits last year, but Smith told council he has received a commit-

ment for credits from other sources.

Ensley and other council members expressed concerns that public dollars account for 75 percent of the project's proposed funding sources. Smith disagreed, saying tax credits sold to private investors should be counted as private dollars,

See **COUNCIL**, Page 5A



By Tom Davis of The News-Sentinel

A helicopter prepares to land in the outfield at Parkview Field as it transports United States Olympic great Michael Phelps for a speaking engagement to a group gathered for a Masters Spa corporate event Tuesday.

## Michael Phelps is done training, not swimming

Legendary athlete makes appearance in Fort Wayne and talks on motivation, future.

By **TOM DAVIS**  
tdavis@news-sentinel.com

The notion that United States Olympic legend Michael Phelps is finished with the sport of swimming would be referred to by the Trump administration as an "alternative fact."

Phelps is adamant that he is finished training for athletic competition at the highest level. However, he is also just as adamant that he is never going to be finished with training for fitness, and that involves still getting into the pool.

Phelps made an appearance at Parkview Field Tuesday at a corporate event for Fort Wayne-based Master Spas, with which he has had an endorsement deal since 2010.

"Now as a retired swim-



Phelps

mer," Phelps told The News-Sentinel, "I feel differently getting back into the pool. It's peace for

me."

Since Phelps concluded the most successful Olympic career in the history of the Games last summer at the 2016 Summer Olympics in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, he has spent his time on a whirlwind tour helping to strengthen the Michael Phelps Foundation, as well as his marketing brand. He travels as much as three weeks each month and said Tuesday that in the initial three to four months following the Games, he "probably spent 10 days at home."

The pool has brought him to this hectic point in his life, and ironically, it is that same place that is now going to be used to allow him to maintain the next chapter in his life while having some

See **PHELPS**, Page 5A

## Canterbury adds 'limited police presence' after former student's comments

News-Sentinel staff reports

An email sent to Canterbury School parents and guardians by Headmaster Bill Ennist on Tuesday addressed increased safety protocols after "incendiary comments" were made by a former student.

"I wanted to inform you that there will be a limited police presence on the high school campus (Tuesday)," said Ennist in the email. "This police presence is precautionary and results from

information the school received (Monday)."

The email did not include any details on the nature of the comments or if a specific threat was made.

When reached for comment, Ennist had no additional information regarding the situation.

"To be safe, we are exercising an abundance of caution, and police protocol is to provide a presence on campus in such situations," stated Ennist.

## August homicide trial moved to March

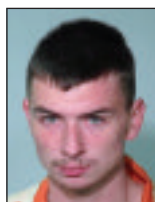
Defendant accused of killing man, 18, during drug deal.

By **SHERYL KRIEG**  
skrieg@news-sentinel.com

The trial for a man accused of killing an 18-year-old man last August during a drug deal has been moved to March.

Kevin Hamilton, 18, of the 8400 block of Lionsgate Run, is now scheduled for trial March 7-9 before Allen Superior Court Judge Fran Gull.

Hamilton, who appeared ready for trial Tuesday, is charged with mur-



Hamilton

der; felony murder; robbery resulting in serious bodily injury, a Level 2 felony; and for a firearm used in the commission of the offense for the Aug. 14 shooting death of Brian Quintana in a parking lot at Woodbridge Apartments on River Run Trail, according to court documents.

Citing court congestion and an

already scheduled speedy trial, Gull continued Hamilton's trial to March. The prosecution only had nine days left to try the speedy trial case or have the defendant released and opted to proceed with that case instead of Hamilton's, even though Hamilton's was the older case.

Hamilton, who was 17 at the time that he was charged, was waived into adult court.

According to a probable-cause affidavit:

See **HAMILTON**, Page 6A

## Trump moving forward with wall

He's expected to sign a measure to jumpstart construction.

By **JULIE PACE, VIVIAN SALAMA AND RACHEL ZOLL**  
of The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Donald Trump will begin rolling out executive actions on immigration today, beginning with steps to build his proposed wall along the U.S.-Mexico border, according to two administration officials. He's also expected to

target so-called sanctuary cities and is reviewing proposals that would restrict the flow of refugees to the United States.

The president is expected to sign the first actions — including the measure to jumpstart construction of the wall — today during a trip to the Department of Homeland Security. Additional actions will be announced over the next few days, according to



Trump

one official. Trump is said to still be weighing the details of plans to restrict refugees coming to the U.S. The current proposal includes at least a four-month halt on all refugee admissions, as well as temporary ban on people coming from some

See **TRUMP**, Page 6A

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Business **1B** Features **2B**  
Classifieds **4L** Lotteries **2A**  
Comics **4-5B** Obituaries **2L**  
Editorials **4A** Television **3B**



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## Prep hoops hub

Keep up to date on local boys and girls high school basketball scores, news, recruiting notes and more from the tipoff to the final buzzer.

7-DAY FORECAST, 5A

TONIGHT: Rain changing to snow and a low of 34.  
**Sunset at 5:50 p.m.**

THU: Snow showers.  
**HIGH 37 || LOW 26**

FRI: A chance of snow.  
**HIGH 29 || LOW 24**