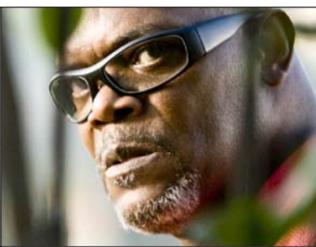


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FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2008

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## Stocks soar as feds promise rescue

Plan still to be worked out, but Dow rallies 410 points

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### ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON – The stock market finally found reason to rally Thursday, and Congress promised quick action as the Bush administration prepared a plan to rescue banks from the bad debt at the heart of the worst crisis on Wall Street since the Great Depression.

Details of the plan were still being worked out, but Treasury Secretary Henry Paulson emerged from a late meeting on Capitol Hill to say he hoped to have a solution “aimed right at the heart of this problem.”

As word of a government plan began to reach Wall Street earlier in the day, the Dow Jones industrial average jumped 410 points, its biggest percentage gain in nearly six years.

The rebound also came after an



**Trader Theodore Weisberg works the floor of the New York Stock Exchange. Wall Street rallied Thursday in a stunning late-session turnaround.**

Associated Press

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## Toddler goes for a spin in downtown Auburn



Cathie Rowand | The Journal Gazette

Hayden Widner, 16 months, drives past the 1950 Ford truck of his parents, Chris and Erica Widner, at the Downtown Auburn Cruise-In, which took place Thursday at the DeKalb County Courthouse Square.

## County budgets less as tax cap looms

AMANDA IACONE  
 The Journal Gazette

Allen County taxpayers will see the county portion of their property tax bills shrink in 2009, but Wayne Township property owners could see a slight increase in the cost of providing township relief.

The County Council on Thursday passed its annual budget, which limits spending to meet the requirements of a new state law. The law caps the amount property owners can pay in taxes at 1.5 percent of their property's worth.

The \$163 million budget is down

from \$177 million this year. But the county's main operating fund increased to \$88 million from this year's \$85 million. Property taxes only fund half that.

About \$2.8 million in the general fund won't be spent until 2010, when the tax cap lowers to 1 percent, Auditor Lisa Blosser said. The county is expected to bring in \$3.6 million less in 2010 because of the cap, so the council held down spending for 2009 to prepare for the drop in revenue.

At least one county government employee has been laid off because of the budget cuts, and the county

commissioners considered cutting money for the Soil and Water Conservation District, the Maumee River Basin Commission and the local 4-H.

Most of the funding was restored after some budget changes, Commissioner Nelson Peters said.

Those proposed cuts, however, prompted one council member to vote against the budget. Roy Buskirk, R-at large, said he was not pleased with the way the commissioners handled the soil and water conservation budget.

Buskirk also does not want countywide property tax dollars

used to pay for \$3 million in small bridge repairs throughout unincorporated areas. He said income taxes or other special taxes generated from unincorporated residents should be used instead.

Despite the budget limitations, the council approved a 3 percent cost-of-living increase for county employees. An additional \$842,000 is available if the council decides to adjust employee salaries so they better match up with those paid by other local employers.

In 2008, the average homeowner

Budget, Page 6A

## Crying boy irked suspect in fatal beating: Affidavit

JEFF WIEHE  
 The Journal Gazette

Javon LaWayne Southall stood on the sofa inside his family's south-side home Tuesday and cried.

His mother, Mandy Campagnari, had to leave for the eye doctor. It was 2 p.m., and her 3-year-old son showed his frustration the only way he could. He stood on the sofa, watched her leave, called for his mom and cried. It would be the last time mother and son saw each other, according to a probable cause affidavit.



Goroumi

battery to a child causing death.

The newly released affidavit, filed Thursday and written by Fort Wayne police Detective Kenneth Clement, offers details of what Goroumi said happened before Javon was taken to a hospital with bruising about his head and a handprint on his face.

Goroumi denied to police that he beat the child. He said the child was upstairs most of the time he was watching him and that any bruising came from his attempts to revive the boy using cardiopulmonary resuscitation, according to the affidavit.

“When asked if the victim fell or was jumping around, the defendant stated he never heard any loud bumps or noises coming from the upstairs, and he never saw the victim

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Angola restaurant must pay workers about \$40,000

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High in the upper 70s.

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### GENERAL ASSEMBLY

## Add limits on teenage drivers, panel told

More rules praised as way to save lives

NIKI KELLY  
 The Journal Gazette

INDIANAPOLIS – A legislative study panel Thursday heard from Hoosiers advocating the state strengthen its teen driving laws, including further nighttime and passenger restrictions and delaying the driving age several months.

“Young drivers are not bad drivers. They're inexperienced, immature and overconfident,” said Sherry Deane, a public affairs specialist for AAA Hoosier Motor Club. “We're not trying to penalize teens. We're trying to keep them alive.”

Vehicle crashes are the No. 1 killer of teens in the state and across the nation, with 16-year-olds having the highest crash risk of any age group of drivers.

Last year, 151 teens died in car crashes in Indiana.

Indiana first implemented a graduated driver's license system in 1998, but since then, other states have moved ahead of Indiana. A national AAA study found Indiana had only two of seven recommended components of a strong graduated driver's license law.

The Interim Study Committee on Learner's Permits and Graduated Drivers' Licenses is led by Sen. Tom Wyss, R-Fort Wayne, who hopes that the bipartisan panel can agree on recommendations for a bill to change Indiana's system in the 2009 session.

“It's very controversial, there's no question,” he said. “We've lost a lot of kids across the country and in Indiana. I think it's time we really address this issue and do it well.”

The system currently is a bit complicated, depending on the route you take to get a driver's license.

At 16, a teen can get a learner's permit without taking a driver's education course. Or a 15-year-old can get a driver's education learner's permit, which requires enrollment in a BMV-approved class.

Either way, teens have to hold the learner's permit for at least 60 days, and during this time they are not allowed to drive alone.

Teens with driver's education learner's permits can get their license at 16 years and 30 days; teens with a regular learner's permit have to wait until they are 16 years and 180 days.

Anyone younger than 18 is said to have a probationary driver's license and can't drive past 11 p.m. on weekdays and 1 a.m. on weekends unless for work, school or church. Additionally, they are not allowed to have passengers in the car for the first 90 days unless they have an adult in the

Drivers, Page 6A