

Trick-or-treat comes early

Event in downtown Valparaiso offers trick-or-treating, food, music and other fall fun.

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VALPARAISO EVENTS

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New Caring Place shelter opens in Valparaiso as work of late client services director saluted



AMY LAVALLEY/POST-TRIBUNE

Supporters explore the new facility for The Caring Place after a ribbon cutting Thursday in Valparaiso.

A celebration and a remembrance

BY AMY LAVALLEY

In a ceremony that was celebratory and tearful, officials held a ribbon cutting Thursday for The Caring Place's new facility for victims of domestic violence that was as much about the legacy of the late Debbi Reynolds as it was about how the shelter could better serve its clients.

Reynolds, 67, who died unexpectedly Tuesday, was a volunteer at the Valparaiso shelter before being hired as its legal advocate in 2001. For the past

10 years, she served as director of client services.

"The new shelter was Debbi's dream for our clients," said Joanne Urschel, chair of the facility's board. "She would want today to be a happy day for all of us and our clients."

Reynolds was married to Porter County Sheriff David Reynolds. He and the couple's children attended the program, along with a contingent of representatives from the sheriff's department, as well as city and county officials, volunteers and community supporters.

David Reynolds said his wife loved her family and also had a love of The Caring Place and a commitment there for many years, often sharing details about the deteriorating condition of the old building.

"I know this was an accomplishment and if she was here, she would be so proud," he said.

Officials said in early September, 14 parents and six children moved into the new shelter on Valparaiso's north side.

The \$3.2 million building, funded with grants and com-

munity donations, doubles the shelter's capacity to 48 beds, as well as being fully accessible to people with disabilities, including bedrooms and bathrooms to accommodate the differently abled.

The shelter, the only one for victims of domestic violence in the county, previously was in a house that was more than 100 years old that was too small to offer clients the space and privacy they needed and had a growing list of structural woes,

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SCHERERVILLE

Lawyer indicted for \$2M in taxes

Allegedly did not pay between 2007-18

BY ALEXANDRA KUKULKA

A Schererville lawyer was indicted Wednesday for owing \$2 million in unpaid taxes for more than 10 years.

Raymond Gupta, who practiced personal injury law through Ray Gupta and Associate LLC in Schererville, was accused of evading payment of federal income taxes and six counts of failure to file a federal tax return, according to the indictment.

Gupta did not pay his taxes between 2007 through 2018, according to the indictment. By the end of tax year 2018, Gupta owed the IRS nearly \$2 million dollars in taxes, penalties and interest, according to the indictment.

Gupta did not respond to requests for comment Thursday.

In March 2010, the United States Tax Court ordered Gupta to pay the IRS more than \$116,000, including penalties and interest, for tax years 2002 and 2003, according to the indictment. Gupta refused to pay, and by the end of 2018 he owed close to \$260,000 for tax years 2002 and 2003, according to the indictment.

The IRS sent Gupta more than 40 forms, notices and letters directing him to file tax returns and pay the balance of taxes, penalties and interest owed, but Gupta did not pay or respond, according to the indictment.

The IRS issued levies with financial institutions holding his money and seized some funds, but Gupta avoided the levies by keeping money out of the banking system, according to the indictment.

Gupta attempted to avoid income tax payments by buying and holding cashier's checks, using a land trust to buy a \$1.1 million home and using a relative and friends to hide money from the IRS, according to the indictment.

Additionally, Gupta would pay personal expenses from his law firm's bank accounts including the purchase of vehicles, rent for an apartment in downtown Chicago, a \$150,000 payment for an option to buy a home, furniture for two homes, monthly mortgage payments and the pur-

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NATION & WORLD

Trump aide shifts on quid pro quo

Acting chief of staff Mick Mulvaney admits, denies remarks on Ukraine military aid, a shifting new explanation about events at the heart of the impeachment inquiry. Page 6

FOOTBALL

Consider Hobart's Lipke a throwback

In an era when coaches tend to put their best athletes on defense, Hobart's DJ Lipke always wanted to carry the football. This season, he's doing that — with aplomb. Sports



MICHAEL CONROY/AP

Gov. Eric Holcomb, right, talks with Ron Baumann, center, general manager of Indiana Grand Racing & Casino, and Shelbyville Mayor Tom Debaun at the Indiana Grand Racing & Casino in Shelbyville.

Addicted to football again — for the wrong reason

Legalized sports gambling can turn a silly hobby into a habit

Winning is the most dangerous outcome from any bet, as any honest gambler knows. Case in point, I've been winning most of my bets since our state began legalized sports wagering through its casinos last month. I'm doomed.

I haven't wagered much money, so far strictly on college and professional football games. Mostly \$5 bets, the minimum. And a couple of \$20 bets, using house money. I lost my first bet, picking the Bears over the Packers in the season opener, learning



JERRY DAVICH

once again to bet with my hunch, not my heart.

I'm currently up only \$150 through the DraftKings sportsbook app on my iPhone. But it's the weekly excitement — potentially winning — any amount of money — that has me addicted to betting on a handful of football games every weekend.

A quick back story: I've been

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