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Good job,
Hudson!

Local boy gets both words right, but can't advance in National Spelling Bee.

Local
A3

75¢

Animal care ordinance is amended

By Erin Blasko
South Bend Tribune

SOUTH BEND — The Common Council voted Wednesday in favor of a measure amending South Bend's three-decades-old animal care and control ordinance in its entirety.

The vote was 8-0, with council member Derek Dieter, D-at large, absent.

Among other things, the new law:

- Places an increased emphasis on spaying and neutering;
- Replaces breed-specific language with behavior-specific language;
- Provides for greater regulation and oversight of dog breeders;
- Provides for the practice of trap-neuter-return as a way of controlling the feral cat population;
- Strengthens enforcement and more severely punishes repeat offenders;
- Requires that pets caught running at-large more than once be spayed or neutered; and
- Abolishes pet limits and reduces licensing fees for people whose pets are altered and vaccinated.

A special Animal Care and Control Committee headed by council member Valerie Schey, D-District 3, worked on the new law for more than 12 months, since May of last year.

During that time, the committee met 14 times and organized various outreach and public education efforts.

"The bill has been very well vetted," Schey said Wednesday.

The new law is intended to improve the quality of life for both animals and residents and reduce the euthanasia rate — more than 60 percent in 2012 — at the city's animal shelter.

Though the new law passed with unanimous

support, there were some questions and concerns about the changes, along with one suggested amendment.

"All I ask as a compromise is that we have a muzzle and fence law for pit bulls," Fred Ferlic, D-District 4, said, noting bites from such dogs send about 6,000 people to the hospital each year.

That suggestion drew boos and jeers from the audience and a quick response from Schey.

"There are many, many causes for aggression," Schey said, such as fear or an innate impulse on the part of a dog to protect food or territory, "and I would argue that breed is not one of them."

"We feel strongly our dogs should be treated equally and have a fair shot at life," said Gabrielle Thompson, founder of Pit Bulls South Bend, a local advocacy group for the breed.

Pit bulls "don't deserve to be punished for another dog's crime," Mariah Covey, a veterinarian with Kryder Veterinary Clinic, added.

In addition to Covey and Thompson, seven other people spoke in favor of the new law, including Nancy Meyer of South Bend.

"This may not be perfect ... (but) please don't let that stand in the way of doing the right thing," Meyer said. "We really need this ordinance. We need it for the animals, we need it for the people."

Addressing Meyer and other supporters, council member Dave Varner, R-District 5, said the new law "only works if it's enforced ... so I hope you are willing to participate into the future if you want this to be successful."

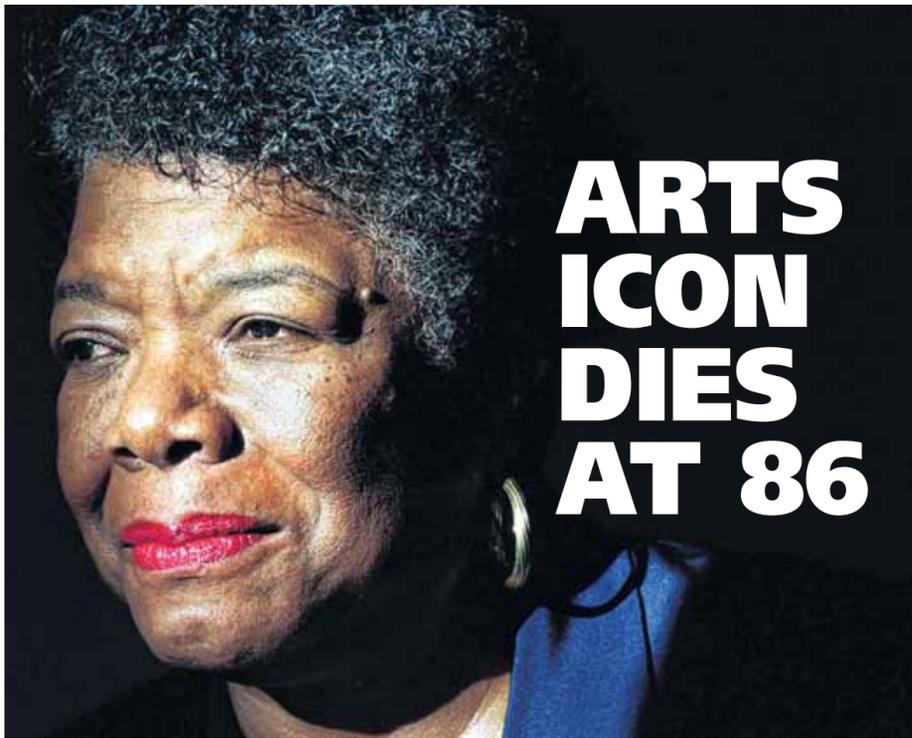
The new law takes effect Aug. 1.

"Have enough courage to trust love one more time and always one more time."

"The first time someone shows you who they are, believe them."

"Listen to yourself and in that quietude you might hear the voice of God."
(final tweet May 23)

— Quotes from Maya Angelou



ARTS ICON DIES AT 86

Maya Angelou overcame harsh life

By Hillel Italie
Associated Press

NEWYORK — Maya Angelou, a modern Renaissance woman and cultural pioneer, who survived the harshest of childhoods to become a force on stage, screen, the printed page and the inaugural dais, died Wednesday, her son said. She was 86.

Angelou's son, Guy B. Johnson, said the writer died at her home in Winston-Salem, N.C., where she had been a professor of American studies at Wake Forest University since 1982.

Tall and regal, with a deep, majestic voice, Angelou defied all probability and category, becoming one of the first black women to enjoy mainstream success as an author and thriving in virtually every artistic medium. The young single mother who worked at strip clubs to earn a living later

See **ICON, A2**



ABOVE: President Barack Obama kisses Maya Angelou after awarding her the Medal of Freedom on Feb. 15, 2011.

AP File Photo/
PABLO MARTINEZ MONSIVAIS

TOP: Angelou pictured in December 1998.

Los Angeles Times/GARY FRIEDMAN

Local writers inspired

By Howard Dukes
South Bend Tribune

Maya Angelou was a gatekeeper.

At the same time, the writer, actress and activist opened doors that empowered and inspired two generations of writers, two members of the local arts community say.

Angelou, who died Wednesday at the age of 86, became a force on the literary scene with the publication of her autobiography "I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings" in 1970.

That was the first book written by a black woman to be read by De Bryant, a

See **WRITERS, A2**

Read a larger collection of Maya Angelou quotes on Page A2 and at southbendtribune.com, which also has a gallery of photos of Angelou.

Costco construction near start

Store still planning October opening

By Heidi Prescott
South Bend Tribune

MISHAWAKA — Although Costco still has not officially announced plans for a new Mishawaka store, the retailer appears ready to break ground early next week.

Costco recently received a building permit so it can start construction of the



roughly 150,000-square-foot store and fueling center in the 500-600 block of East University Drive.

The company is awaiting only the completion of a city sewer line extension project on its property before Costco contractors move in, said Ted Johnson, a Costco project designer based in suburban Chicago.

See **COSTCO, A2**



A crew from Lowe Construction Co., based in Horton, Mich., prepares Wednesday to extend a city sewer line from south of the Indiana Toll Road across the Costco property on University Drive in Mishawaka. Costco is expected to break ground on its new store next week. SBT Photo/HEIDI PRESCOTT

More calls for VA boss to quit

Probe uncovers 'systemic problems'

By Richard Simon
Los Angeles Times (MCT)

WASHINGTON — An investigation of medical care at Veterans Affairs facilities has found "systemic" problems and "manipulation" of waiting lists, prompting new calls for VA Secretary Eric Shinseki to resign.

"We are finding that inappropriate scheduling practices are a systemic problem nationwide," the VA inspector general said in an interim report Wednesday that disclosed that the investigation has expanded to 42 sites from the previously reported 26.

See **BOSS, A2**



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