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INFLATION: Bump may be beginning of tariff impact. 2A

BASEBALL: Keaton Anderson on mound for Outlaws now. 1B

Area man sentenced in stabbing death

BY DEBBY WOODIN

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A rural Seneca man has been sentenced to life in prison for the stabbing death of a Carl Junction man.

Scott Burleson, 32, pleaded guilty Monday in Jasper County Circuit Court in Joplin to a charge of second-degree murder in a plea agreement. In Missouri, a life sentence for second-degree murder can range from 10 to 30 years before parole is granted, depending on factors that include the person's criminal record and behavior in prison.

The charge was filed in connection with the March 2, 2024, stabbing of Seth Langford, 36, at a house on State Line

SEE LIFE, 2A

VOTE417 seeks to fill House seats

BY DEBBY WOODIN

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NEOSHO, Mo. — A nonpartisan organization, VOTE417, is calling on Missouri Gov. Mike Kehoe to take action to fill vacant positions in the Missouri House of Representatives, including one in Southwest Missouri.

In District 160, which encompasses much of Newton County, including Neosho, the seat is open after Rep. Ben Baker resigned to accept appointment to lead Missouri operations of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Rural Development.

A seat in District 95 has been open since late January when Rep. Michael O'Donnell, R-Oakville, resigned from the Missouri House after being sworn in to become the state's commissioner of securities.

Angela Thomas, Democratic chairman in Newton County, had asked after

SEE SEATS, 2A



Rob Thomas (from left), Sam's Club manager; Aimee Daily, president and CEO of Children's Miracle Network Hospitals; Carrie Buehler, Sam's Club lead cashier; and Emily Hornak, vice president of CMN's Foundation Partnerships, look at banners highlighting CMN children Tuesday.

GLOBE | ROGER NOMER

Heartwarming moment

Children's Miracle Network CEO visits Freeman Health System, Sam's Club

BY ROGER NOMER

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Walking into the Joplin Sam's Club on Tuesday, Aimee Daily said she couldn't stop looking at the banners of CMN children.

A wall of yellow Children's Miracle Network banners is at the front of the store. Dozens of smiling faces look down at customers, representing the many years the store has spent supporting local children through CMN.

“When I walked in and looked up, it just was a moment,” said Daily, president and CEO of Children's Miracle Network Hospitals. “It

kind of takes your breath away. The work that we do, it can be heartbreaking at times. But it's also very heartwarming, and walking

in here was one of those moments for me. What an incredible testament to this community, to how they feel about taking care of one another.”

Throughout the United States, Canada and Puerto Rico, 170 hospitals are in the network. Their partnership with Freeman Health System dates to 1987, when Freeman became a CMN member hospital.

Brandy Miller-Turner, Freeman Development and Children's Miracle Network director, said the main thing CMN does at Freeman is provide family assistance. It helps with things such as providing travel assistance, medication, prescriptions

SEE CMN, 2A

U.S. Bank partners with Joplin Area Habitat for Humanity for work day

BY ROGER NOMER

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On Tuesday, U.S. Bank joined Joplin Area Habitat for Humanity to work on two houses, one on West Fourth Street in Joplin and the other a Veterans Build site in Webb City.

There were 24 volunteers across the two locations, some from as far as Branson and Arkansas, and Scott Clayton, executive director of Joplin Area Habitat for Humanity, said there were so many volunteers they had to expand the workday to two sites.

Joplin Area Habitat for Humanity is a nonprofit organization that collaborates with the community to provide housing and has worked with U.S. Bank for as long as Clayton can remember.

“We've been fortunate to have U.S. Bank as a partner for a long time,” he said. “They've been helpful in assistance with grants and also through volunteerism. Pretty much every year we have U.S. Bank either working on houses or helping with repairs.”

In Joplin, the morning crew was installing vinyl siding. Holly Stump, branch manager at the

bank's Northpark location, said the construction work was a new experience for her.

“This has been super fun,” Stump said. “I think one thing I thought is that you would have to have some experience. Not a single one of us has had any experience, but it's really cool that we can come in and make a difference without that experience in carpentry. Anybody can volunteer.”

In addition to volunteers, the U.S. Bank Foundation gave a



SEE WORK, 2A

Jeremy Goebel, district manager for U.S. Bank, installs siding Tuesday during a Joplin Area Habitat for Humanity project in Joplin.

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