

Our 2026 Joplin Area Guide and Annual Progress Forecast is out with today's paper

You can read about many of the major investments and projects underway in Joplin, some of which will come to fruition this year, others of which will break ground. We brought it all together in this annual format, along with columns from community leaders offering their perspective.



# THE JOPLIN GLOBE

Reporting the news for 125 years

APRIL 25-26, 2026

WEEKEND EDITION

joplinglobe.com | \$3.50

## Probe sought by Joplin council member of Jackson treatment

Jackson alleges he was given 'ultimatums'

BY DEBBY WOODIN  
dwoodin@joplinglobe.com

Another investigation of some members of the Joplin City Council is being conducted following allegations made against them by censured member Ryan Jackson and

newly elected councilwoman Mary Price. Price this week asked for a probe into the treatment of Jackson by other council members who were trying to look into Jackson's recent conduct. Price, near the end of a council meeting Monday where a disciplinary hearing regarding Jackson's behavior was conducted, called for the preservation of any records and a probe

into allegations that former Mayor Keenan Cortez and former Mayor Pro Tem Josh DeTar allegedly mistreated Jackson. Price said they had Jackson escorted to an office after an April 13 council session, where she said alleged council leaders used "threats and intimidation." It was at that meeting that dozens of people gathered outside Joplin City Council chambers to

protest comments recently made by Jackson. Others also protested in the meeting. Price alleged the council members violated the council's code of ethics by trying to force Jackson to resign his seat following complaints that he belittled some LGBTQ candidates in the April 7 election and threatened a television reporter who called Jackson for an ex-

planation regarding his comments. There is a photo on social media of Jackson walking between two police officers that evening as he is escorted to the office where the council leaders went to discuss his behavior with him. He was not in police custody or wearing any type of restraints. Jackson was admonished Monday by a majority vote of the City Council

for violation of the council ethics regarding his comments and actions toward LGBTQ candidates Natasha Klue-Michael, Jamie Jukebox Hammond, and self-identified transgender candidate Ellie Wolsey. Wolsey was listed on the ballot as Mathew Wolsey because law requires a person's birth name be used on election ballots.

SEE **PROBE**, 2A



An arborist clears damaged limbs from a large tree Friday at Schifferdecker Golf course. GLOBE | LAURIE SISK

## EF1 tornado causes damage to park, more

FROM STAFF REPORTS  
news@joplinglobe.com

City crews continued cleaning up Friday following a short-lived tornado that hit Schifferdecker Park in Joplin. No injuries were reported, according to the city of Joplin.

"It lasted about two minutes," said Eric Wise, meteorologist with the National Weather Service in Springfield. "It wasn't on the ground very long."

Wise said the EF1 tornado touched down just after midnight with top winds of 95 mph.

"Most of the damage was to trees," Wise said. "There was some minor damage to roofs."

No sirens were sounded in the city because city officials said there was no warning.

"There was a severe thunderstorm warning with a 'tornado possible' tag," Wise said of their warning.

Joplin fire Chief Gerald Ezell said Friday, "We rely on the National Weather Service and all we got was a severe thunderstorm warning with a 'tornado possible' tag."

He has asked the weather service to put out a tornado warning anytime they see radar rotation over Joplin.

"We want to give our citizens the biggest safety net we can," he said.

He said they also are reviewing their policy to see if they want to issue a tornado warning when a "tornado possible" tag is used by the weather service.

The back nine holes on Schifferdecker Golf Course were closed part of Friday but later reopened, the city said.

"Trees are being cut up but cannot be transported out yet by large equipment due to wet/soft ground, which means equipment would damage the course," the city said in a statement.

A maintenance storage building was a total loss after winds flipped the pole barn. Parks equipment stored there was not damaged.

The Parks Maintenance and Cemeteries Office building also had its roof peeled back on the northeast corner.

Other trees also were down through the park.

Other buildings in the park, including the museum and clubhouse for the golf course, were not damaged.

The city's tree limb drop-off facility at 1702 N. Schifferdecker Ave. is open for tree debris only, not building debris or other trash. It will remain open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Saturday and Sunday.



Laurie Anderson, owner of Joplin's Carnegie library building, stands at the old front desk recently. The building will be on the Downtown Lofts Tour on May 2. GLOBE FILE

## Spring loft tour

Downtown Joplin Alliance announces properties on May 2 event

FROM STAFF REPORTS  
news@joplinglobe.com

The Downtown Joplin Alliance has announced the lineup of historic and restored buildings for its spring tour of downtown lofts.

Tickets are now on sale for the annual fundraiser

for DJA. The tour will be held 2-6 p.m. Saturday, May 2.

It will give participants a glimpse of what it is like living downtown by highlighting historic properties that are available to rent or own.

"We want to have people who can walk out their door and visit a coffee shop or Club 609," Ivy Hagedorn, assistant director of DJA, told the Globe recently.

Tour sites this year include:

SEE **TOUR**, 2A



Brad and Kate DeGraff opened the Moss-DeGraff Building in downtown Joplin last year. GLOBE FILE

## Kehoe, Deaton reluctant to shift funds from Capitol renovation to schools

BY RUDI KELLER  
Missouri Independent

A Missouri Senate decision to use money set aside for Capitol renovations to shore up funding for public schools isn't popular with Gov. Mike Kehoe or the budget chief in the Missouri House.

But they aren't dismissing it outright.

Speaking to reporters at a news conference in his office, Kehoe said lawmakers who set \$600 million of surplus general revenue aside in

2022 and 2023 had done a service to the state to preserve and restore the Statehouse. The money has been largely unspent as a plan is developed.

Kehoe said he's reluctant to use money in the Missouri State Capitol Commission fund for two reasons.

"It's a little bit about trying to make sure we restore the Capitol for future generations," Kehoe said. "It's also about using one-time money to fix an ongoing problem."

SEE **MONEY**, 2A



Lawmakers are debating using money set aside for the Missouri Capitol for education funding. AP FILE

