

THE JOPLIN GLOBE

THURSDAY | JUNE 18, 2026

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FEDERAL RESERVE: Key interest rate left unchanged. **4A** | **NSU:** Wrestler enters next stage of her athletic career. **1B**

3 Miami officers on leave after shooting

2 dead following pursuit on I-44

BY JOHN HACKER
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MIAMI, Okla. — The shooting that closed Interstate 44 from Joplin to Miami for much of Tuesday resulted in the deaths

of two people, according to the Miami Police Department.

Three Miami officers who were involved in the shooting were placed on administrative leave, which is standard practice, the department said in a written release.

“The names of the officers are not going to be released at this time,” the

department said in the release Wednesday. “The investigation is ongoing and more information will be released upon its completion. The Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation is the lead agency for this investigation.”

The OSBI issued a written release late Tuesday saying the Ottawa County Sheriff’s Office and Miami police

asked the bureau to investigate the shooting.

According to the OSBI’s release, the Joplin Police Department notified the Quapaw Nation Marshals Service of a stolen vehicle from Joplin.

“Just after 9 a.m., officers located the vehicle at the Downstream Casino and Resort,” the OSBI said. “While attempting

to make contact with the vehicle, the adult male driver sped away, leading to a pursuit. During the pursuit, the Miami Police Department, Ottawa County Sheriff’s Office, and the Miami Nation Police Department assisted. As the pursuit continued, the male suspect brandished a

SEE SHOOTING, 2A

Editor’s note

BECAUSE THERE is no mail delivery Friday for June-teenth, The Joplin Globe will not print a paper. Breaking news and sports stories will continue to be posted to our website, joplinglobe.com.

Judge named to Missouri Court of Appeals

Joseph L. Hensley has been finalist for position in past

BY JOHN HACKER
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Jasper County District Court Judge Joseph L. Hensley has been appointed to the Missouri Court of Appeals Southern District by Missouri Gov. Mike Kehoe, who made the announcement Wednesday.

Hensley, who was elected Division 1 court judge for the 29th Judicial Circuit in Jasper County in 2024, has been a finalist for the Court of Appeals in the past.

In 2024, he was named one of the three finalists for the appeals court shortly after filing for election as the Division 1 judge

when Gayle Crane decided not to run for reelection to the seat.

Hensley, of Webb City, served as presiding juvenile court judge when he was an associate circuit judge.

He graduated from the University of Missouri-Columbia in 1995 and received his law degree in 1998 from the University of Missouri School of Law. After practicing in Springfield for four years, he came



Joseph L. Hensley

SEE JUDGE, 2A

NEARLY FINISHED



Alejandro Acevedo, of Webb City, with Evans Painting, surrounds cables on the new Tin Cup Trail suspension bridge with tape as the bridge is being readied for painting Wednesday.

GLOBE | JOHN HACKER

Joplin’s 1st suspension bridge to be anchor attraction on trail

BY ANDY OSTMEYER
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Joplin’s first suspension bridge is nearly complete. The foot bridge, at the

north end of the Tin Cup Trail and just behind the Joplin Family Y, 3404 W. McIntosh Circle, is awaiting some painting, but that’s about it. A ribbon-cutting ceremony is set for 3 p.m. Friday, June 26.

The bridge contains 1,200 feet of main and hanger cable, and turnbuckles so large that the construction company, Joplin-based Elements Construction Concepts, had to design and build its own wrenches

for them, said Bo Bennett, owner and president.

Bennett said his company has built a lot of municipal and residential projects in the area, including bridges, but this was its first suspension bridge.

SEE BRIDGE, 2A

Entertainment announced for Carver Day in July

FROM STAFF REPORTS
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DIAMOND, Mo. — Entertainers and speakers have been announced for Carver Day, a signature event at George Washington Carver National Monument. It will be held from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, July 11, at the monument. Guest speakers and enter-

tainers this year include:

- **PETER DUNCAN BURCHARD**, Carver scholar and author of “George Washington Carver: A Great Soul.”
- **SANDRA KNAUF**, a nature writer, author and publisher whose presentation is titled “The Gospel of Regeneration: George Washington Carver’s Legacy in Soil, Society and Soul.”
- **ARLECIA ELKAMIL** and band.

Elkamil is a multi-instrumentalist and singer.

- **KUFARA MARIMBA BAND**, a Zimbabwean-style ensemble. Local church choirs are also invited.
- **GOSPEL SINGING GROUP** Sensational Wonders.
- **PAXTON WILLIAMS** performing as George Washington Carver in his original one-person show called “Listening to the Still Small Voice.”

There will be Junior Ranger activities for kids.

This will mark the 83rd anniversary of the event held at what is the first national monument in the country dedicated to an African American and the first dedicated to someone other than a former president.

The monument is the

SEE CARVER, 2A



Arlecia Elkamil performs with the eight-member Kufara Marimba Band during Carver Day. They will be back in the area July 11 for Carver Day. GLOBE FILE

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