

FARMS: Financial health strained by many factors. **4A** | **BASEBALL:** Jailbirds make it to semifinals with 20-3 win. **1B**

Seeking nod



Missouri House District 161 candidate Louise Secker spoke during the Jasper County Republican Central Committee's candidate forum Thursday in Carthage.

GLOBE | JOHN HACKER



Missouri House District 161 candidate Thomas Ross spoke during the Jasper County Republican Central Committee's candidate forum Thursday in Carthage.

GLOBE | JOHN HACKER

161st District hopefuls speak at Jasper County Republican candidate forum

BY JOHN HACKER
jhacker@joplinglobe.com

Two people are running in the Aug. 4 Republican primary to replace Rep. Lane Roberts, who served in the 161st District of the Missouri House for eight years but cannot run for reelection because of term limits. The winner of this race will go on to face Democrat Aaron Joseph Metzger in the November general election.

The district covers most of Joplin. Thomas Ross and Louise Secker are seeking the Republican nomination, and they were questioned Thursday during the Jasper County Republican Central Committee's candidate forum at the Carthage Water & Electric Plant Community Room in Carthage. The candidates were allowed one minute each to introduce themselves and then one minute each

to answer three questions posed by the Jasper County Republican Central Committee. Ross, who is top on the ballot in this race, introduced himself first. He said he was a lifelong resident of Joplin, a father of two children and a small-business owner. "I am heavily involved in this community, and I feel like I'm bringing things to the table as far as a problem-solver's aspect," Ross said. "I worked for the city of Joplin for nearly a decade, solved a lot of problems, saw a lot that were unsolvable in those positions. I'm looking to try to get to the

state to protect our constitution, to protect our budget, to protect the taxpayers' money." Ross blamed omnibus bills, or larger legislative bills with many separate items attached to them, for causing lawmakers to overlook things. "We have an increased budget that needs to be reduced because we're putting the burden on the taxpayers, and it's just not acceptable," he said. "And I would really appreciate your vote so I can get up there, run through it line by line and protect our state."

SEE 161ST, 2A



The Peace Star on top of the Jasper County Courthouse in Carthage shines brightly after it was removed for repairs then put back up when those repairs were finished.

COURTESY PHOTO

Courthouse roof repair finished in Carthage

Parking spaces reopened

BY JOHN HACKER
jhacker@joplinglobe.com

CARTHAGE, Mo. — Parking spaces have reopened, the chain-link fence is gone and Western District Commissioner Mike Landis said Monday that the roof replacement project for Jasper County's crown jewel, the courthouse on the Carthage square, was finished last week on schedule and on budget. Landis said the project included replacement of the courthouse roof along with critical repairs to protect the integrity of the building for years to come. The Peace Star, installed at the top of the clock tower by the late Carthage radio and television pioneer Ruth I. Kolpin and dedicated in January 1963 by the governors at the time of Missouri, Arkansas, Oklahoma and Kansas, was also taken down and repaired before

SEE COURTHOUSE, 2A

Celebrity goat in Table Rock community falls into lake, dies

Crisco, often seen by boaters at Table Rock Lake, died recently. COURTESY | SHELLY CHILDRESS EAGER



Crisco a staple of area for years

BY DEBBY WOODIN
dwoodin@joplinglobe.com

KIMBERLING CITY, Mo. — Since the 1970s, herds of goats were kept by farmers who lived on hills above Table Rock Lake along the Missouri-Arkansas border.

Over time, those herds were moved away from the cliffs by their owners. Except for one lone goat. While others in his herd were captured and moved, Crisco became famous because his owners couldn't seem to round him up. He had a way of wandering, you might say. No one knows for sure how the goat got his name, but there are two theories. The favorite is that the goat's

fur was as white as a can of shortening, a staple found in many kitchens around these parts. The other theory is that the goat earned the moniker because he was so slick at evading capture. Lake sightseers became fond of the lone wild goat that navigated the steep cliffs for 15 years. In fact, boat captains routed their cruises to the cliffs where passengers could enjoy spotting Crisco, take

photos and and hear tales of the stubbornly unconquerable long-horned billy goat. Some tourism folks called him a local landmark. Others tabbed him as a popular celebrity. He remained the lone old goat of the herd, often seen and photographed on his favorite place to sun himself and rest, Backbone Bluff,

SEE CRISCO, 2A

If you're feeling stretched, you're not alone.

Reach out to our Customer Care team. They can connect you with resources that may help with your utility bill.

We're here to help.



Learn more

