

MIDTERMS: Latinos viewed as swing group in election. **6A** | **FOOTBALL:** MSSU defeats Upper Iowa 21-19. **1B**

Ballot deadline complicates GOP appeal of decision

Changes cannot be made after Tuesday

BY RUDI KELLER
Missouri Independent

The U.S. Supreme Court appeal filed late Friday by Missouri Republicans could be the surprise plot twist that results in a GOP triumph or an epilogue to a saga of a goal that stayed

tantalizingly out of reach. In the filing, Republicans surrendered on the question of whether Missourians will see a referendum on the gerrymandered congressional map muscled through a 2025 special session. The filing from Republican Attorney General Catherine Hanaway in the name of Republican Secretary of State Denny Hoskins asks just that the revised map, used to nominate

candidates in eight districts Aug. 4, be the controlling boundaries for the Nov. 3 general election. “On the one hand, Richard von Glahn — the referendum petition’s proponent — will get his referendum vote on Missouri’s congressional map regardless of what this court does,” wrote Lou Capozzi, the state solicitor general, in the application for an emergency stay. “The only question is

whether he (joined by a small minority of the state’s voters) can void a congressional map before he gets his vote. On the other hand, Missouri cannot run a timely, lawful federal election absent a stay.” The court is being asked to stay the effect of Thursday’s Missouri Supreme Court decision that found People Not Politicians, the political action committee that sponsored the referen-

dum petition, had submitted enough signatures for a constitutional use of the referendum power. As a result, Judge Ginger Gooch wrote, the new congressional map passed by the General Assembly had not taken effect and the court ordered Hoskins to conduct the general election in the boundaries used for elections in 2022 and 2024. The redistricting plan passed in 2025 “is not the

law and has never been the law,” Gooch wrote in a footnote to the unanimous opinion. “There is only one valid congressional redistricting in effect — the congressional redistricting the General Assembly established in 2022.” If the Supreme Court does not intervene, the election is expected to result in six Republicans and two

SEE **BALLOT**, 2A

Unanimous pick



Louise Secker is running for the 161st District seat in the Missouri House of Representatives. Secker will face Democrat Aaron Metzger in the November election. COURTESY PHOTO

Committee names Louise Secker as GOP candidate for Missouri House District 161

BY JOHN HACKER
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The Jasper County Republican Central Committee announced Saturday that its 161st Legislative District Committee unanimously picked Louise Secker as the Republican nominee for Missouri House District 161 in the Nov.

3 general election. Thomas Ross, the nominee who won the August primary by less than 1% of the vote, withdrew from the race Friday. Ross was arrested Wednesday and transferred to federal custody Thursday after the U.S. attorney for the Western District of Missouri revealed Ross was being charged with conspiracy to

distribute a controlled substance for allegedly asking his former campaign manager to plant cocaine and Adderall on Secker, his challenger in the primary. Ross won the August primary by 33 votes, 1,589 to 1,556. Secker will face Democrat Aaron Metzger, who ran unopposed in the primary and got 1,212 votes. Secker told the Globe on Saturday that she was ready to get back to work on the campaign trail after a week like no other in Missouri election history.

“Yeah, it’s definitely not how I expected this to unfold, but I’m ready to go to work,” Secker said. “I plan to spend the next few weeks talking with voters across the district listening to their concerns, earning their trust. And I’m honored to accept the local Republican nomination and grateful to the committee for putting their trust in me. I promise to work hard.” Missouri House District 161, currently held by Lane Roberts, who cannot run because

SEE **SECKER**, 2A

Webb City event back after long break

Mining Days set for Saturday

BY JOHN HACKER
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WEBB CITY, Mo. — Mining Days, a staple in Webb City’s King Jack Park for decades, returns Saturday after a nearly 20-year absence. Webb City Parks and Recreation Director Bryan Waggoner said the event will be held around the W Club and Paradise Lake in King Jack Park from 10 a.m. to around 8:30 p.m. “It’s a one-day event,” Waggoner said. “Vendors will be set up at the W Club parking lot. We’re looking to make the parking lot like a little town square. That’s also where the all-day live music will be from different bands on the W Club parking lot. We will have a car show on one side of the W club and then carnival style games on the other side.” Waggoner said food trucks and inflatable bounce houses will be set up around Paradise Lake, which is closer to the pavilions so people can eat in the shade. “The Missouri Department of Conservation will also be out there,” he said. “They were going to do a couple different things, either like a fishing derby or maybe my-first-fish, something like that.” Mining Days was held every fall beginning in the 1980s to raise money to build the Mining Days Community Building in King Jack Park. That goal was met and Mining Days was held for a few years around that community building until 2008.

Waggoner said the new version won’t be exactly like the old one, but it will still be a chance to celebrate the start of fall. He said the city decided to bring it back as the second event to replace the Route 66 Cruise-A-Palooza, which was discontinued. Waggoner said the fireworks featured in that late July event were replaced this year by the July 3 fireworks display, also held in King Jack Park. “Every September, I’d think about wanting to have some kind of fall festival like the ones we had when I was a

SEE **BACK**, 2A

Bluegrass festival returning to Carl Junction park

Bassist Gary Cook, of Monett, performs with his bluegrass band, Spillwater Drive, at a previous Carl Junction Bluegrass Festival. The festival returns Sept. 26. GLOBE FILE



Event scheduled for 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sept. 26

BY KAYLEA M. HUTSON-MILLER
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The sounds of bluegrass will fill the air as a longstanding bluegrass tradition returns to Carl Junction. The 29th annual Bluegrass Festival, hosted by the Carl Junction Chamber of Commerce, takes place from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 26, in Center Creek Park in Carl Junction. The event, which has grown

throughout the years, includes live music, vendors, food trucks and a kids area. Hayden Fox, chamber executive director, said the festival is one of the biggest single-day bluegrass gatherings in the nation. “Our goal is for the community to come out for an amazing, fun, safe time,” Fox said. “We bring people to the community from the surrounding area and states to showcase how special our community is, and hopefully they enjoy something together.” The festival features the music of six bands throughout the day. All of

SEE **FESTIVAL**, 2A

