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HOSKINS: 2nd class action suit filed against official. 6A

FOOTBALL: Webb City, Nixa to meet at Cardinal Stadium. 1B

‘Place for ideas’



Rob O'Brian, mayor of Joplin, and Betsy Mense, president and CEO of the Joplin Area Chamber of Commerce, were among those who spoke Thursday when the chamber marked the 20th anniversary of the Joseph Newman Innovation Center.

COURTESY | JOPLIN AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Chamber event honors legacy of Joseph Newman

BY DEBBY WOODIN
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Work done by civic leader Joseph Newman to cultivate business growth in Joplin was celebrated Thursday by members and associates of the Joplin Area Chamber of Commerce and the Newman family and friends. Next to the chamber is a two-story brick building named for the late business leader, the Joseph Newman Innovation Center, 407 S. Pennsylvania Ave. Chamber President and CEO Betsy Mense told those who attended a ceremony recognizing Newman and the business incubator named for

SEE **CHAMBER**, 2A

Center has filled numerous roles

BY DEBBY WOODIN
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The Joseph Newman Innovation Center has not only been a resource for business startups, it has served other key roles over its two decades of existence, including providing a place where government and military contracts could be privately transacted and where businesses could start their recovery from the Joplin tornado of 2011. Current Joplin Area Chamber of Commerce President and CEO Betsy Mense said at

SEE **CENTER**, 2A

Sarcoxie man gets 18-year prison term

Sentence follows plea of guilty to molestation, sexual misconduct

BY JOHN HACKER
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NEOSHO, Mo. — A Sarcoxie man was sentenced in Newton County Circuit Court on Wednesday to 18 years in prison after pleading guilty to one felony count of second-degree child molestation and one felony count of sexual misconduct involving a child. Glenn Jump, 64, was sentenced by Newton County Circuit Judge Kevin Selby after his Aug. 5 guilty plea in which he admitted to both crimes. The Newton County Sheriff's Office conducted the investigation and found that the two victims of the abuse were provided marijuana, alcohol and pornography by Jump between the summer of 2020 and the summer of 2024. When interviewed by Detective Daniel Martin, Jump admitted to soliciting the minors and exchanging marijuana for sexual acts. The Children's Center of Southwest Missouri conducted forensic interviews of the victims in the spring of 2025 following their disclosures. Martin also recovered messages between Jump and the victims to corroborate the information they provided. "Mr. Jump will now spend 18 years in the Missouri Department of Corrections, and given his age, this sentence should ensure he spends the remainder of his life in prison, something I wish had been accomplished when he was convicted of similar crimes in 1995," Newton County

SEE **PRISON**, 2A

Carthage Economic Development Corp. offers grants to homeowners

Money intended for those planning to make improvements worth at least \$2,000

BY JOHN HACKER
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CARTHAGE, Mo. — The Carthage Economic Development Corp. and Old Missouri Bank have teamed up to offer \$1,000 grants to homeowners willing to match that for a total of at least \$2,000 to spend on their own homes. The Carthage Economic Development Corp. and the bank received a Member Impact Fund grant for \$20,000 in July with \$5,000 coming from OMB and \$15,000 from the Federal Home Loan Bank in Des Moines, Iowa, for a matching grant program that brings people and partnerships together to make a meaningful difference in a community, according to the Des Moines bank. Jeff Meredith, CEO of the Carthage Economic Development Corp., said the local program is called Restore My Block and will offer 20 \$1,000 grants to homeowners who live in Carthage who plan to make improvements worth at least \$2,000 for beautification and curb appeal. "There are a lot of homes in Carthage (that) could use some small improvements, little curb appeal or whatever," Meredith said. "Basically, my board said there are lots of homes that could use some touch-ups in Carthage, and we talked through whether there would be some interest in this if people were willing to put their own money in their homes and we could match up to \$1,000 of that." Meredith announced the program at a recent Carthage City Council meeting. He said Thursday that a committee made up of members of the Carthage Economic Development Corp. board had reviewed the first batch of applications Thursday afternoon and that the first five grants were awarded. He said the review committee decided that the application deadline would be the 10th of the month starting in October and that the review board would look at applications until

SEE **GRANTS**, 2A

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