

LIBERTY: Utility proposes reduction in adjustment clause. **3A** | **PINK GAMES:** Teams boost breast cancer awareness. **1B**

Allo, Lumos officials address council about fiber-optic transition

BY DEBBY WOODIN
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After receiving a \$5 million grant from the city of Joplin two years ago to help build a fiber-optic system in Joplin, Allo Fiber shut down its local operations and was sold to Lumos on Oct. 1, which said it would finish the system.

City officials brought Allo Fiber to Joplin in 2024, providing \$5 million in

grant-funded backing to help pay for construction of a \$40 million fiber network to be built by Allo.

Representatives of Lumos came to Joplin in July. They sought an agreement with the city to use rights of way to install a fiber-optic communications network. Lumos Fiber, based in High Point, North Carolina, is jointly owned by T-Mobile telecommunications and a private equity firm,

EQT Infrastructure.

The July right-of-way agreement allows the company to install approximately 2.4 million feet of fiber through primarily buried routes. Lumos also will have to work with pole owners on potential aerial routes where cable has been strung.

Lumos has been looking for places to expand its fiber broadband services in the East and Midwest.

Representatives from both Allo and Lumos spoke to the City Council at a meeting Monday night.

Al Schroeder, vice president of outside plant engineering for Allo Communications, thanked city leaders Monday for “the excellent partnership we have had.”

He said that when Allo first considered Joplin, “We saw a very strong community that would benefit

from a better broadband service” than the city had at the time. “Our vision was to build the city and then grow this area into an Allo region,” Schroeder said. “However, other providers have been moving very quickly, limiting the footprint and forcing us to reconsider our strategy for the region.”

As a consequence, Allo decided to sell, Schroeder said. Schroeder said that the \$5

million in city grant funding had been used to help pay for several installations for the broadband network.

Allo has installed 32 miles of fiber-optic cable that would serve more than 5,000 residences and business locations, Schroeder said. Additionally, the company installed 11 1/2 miles of connections to two offices to provide resiliency and

SEE **FIBER**, 2A

ELECTION LOOMS

Deadline to register to vote in November is Wednesday

BY JOHN HACKER
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CARTHAGE, Mo. — With the election less than a month away, another deadline for voters arrives this week.

People who want to vote in the Nov. 3 midterm need to be registered by Wednesday.

Jasper County Clerk Charlie Davis said people wanting to register can do so in person at the Jasper County clerk’s offices in the courthouse in Carthage and in the Courts Building in Joplin until 5 p.m. Wednesday.

No-excuses absentee voting starts two weeks before the election, which will be Oct. 20.

Absentee voting started Sept. 22.

Tuesday was a busy day for Davis and his staff in Carthage as they worked to prepare the 46 vote-count-



Jasper County Clerk Charlie Davis checks some of the bags and other equipment Tuesday that will be needed to run the Nov. 3 general election at 46 polling places in the county. GLOBE | JOHN HACKER

ing boxes that will be distributed to polling locations around the county.

Davis said they plugged each of the machines in to test their batteries, charge them up and program

them for the Nov. 3 election.

The Nov. 3 ballot includes 15 races between individuals, four constitutional amendments, one proposition and two judicial

confirmations, one for the state Supreme Court and one for the state’s Southern District Court of Appeals.

SEE **VOTE**, 2A

Joplin police solve series of car thefts, arrest 5 teens

19 of 20 stolen vehicles recovered

BY DEBBY WOODIN
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Joplin police recently solved a series of 20 car thefts and other alleged crimes and arrested five juveniles.

Officers said they have responded to “an alarming number of vehicle thefts and thefts from vehicles” since August, according to Capt. Austin Wolf.

He said that officers discovered that the majority of the thefts involved Kia and Hyundai vehicles that had been manufactured between 2005-2018. Since the start of the reports, the Joplin Police Department has responded to 20 motor vehicle thefts and 22 thefts from vehicles involving those vehicles since mid-August.

Noticing this was a trending crime, the Joplin Police Department began a more thorough review, according to Wolf.

The department’s Flex Platoon was assigned to investigate. That effort resulted in primary suspects being developed and identified. The suspects were found to be juveniles who live in Joplin. Flex detectives further learned that the juveniles had stolen firearms left in unoccupied vehicles. Evidence was obtained that suggested

SEE **THEFTS**, 2A

Hall of Carthage Heroes to induct its 15th class Saturday

BY JOHN HACKER
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CARTHAGE, Mo. — With 112 plaques on the walls at the Fair Acres Family Y, the Hall of Carthage Heroes is a who’s who of people who made their mark in Carthage.

The hall will hold its 15th induction ceremony at 10:30 a.m. Saturday at the Fair Acres Family Y gymnasium to honor the

class of 2026 — four individuals and one couple who were chosen by an independent selection committee.

Established in 2012, the hall has two divisions, one to recognize pioneers and people of distinction, the other to honor outstanding athletes.

“We have a couple and an individual going into the hall of citizens with distinction and three individuals going into

the athletes hall,” said Chanti Beckham, coordinator for the Hall of Carthage Heroes. “The hall is a good symbol of all of the people that have helped make Carthage what it is, whether it be through their contributions to the city or their amazing athletic talent that’s gotten them up here. I just think it’s great for people

SEE **HALL**, 2A



Jonathan Roberts, CEO of the Fair Acres Family Y, and Chanti Beckham, affiliate coordinator with the Carthage Community Foundation, which manages the Hall of Carthage Heroes, talk recently about some of the existing plaques. GLOBE | JOHN HACKER

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