



GOP: New voting map still has chance

Appeals court to take up federal case next week

BY JACOB BARKER
St. Louis Post-Dispatch

In one week, the U.S. Supreme Court twice shot down Missouri Republicans’ attempts to implement a 2025 gerrymandered voting map aimed at wresting a congressional seat from Democrats.

The secretary of state, Denny Hoskins, was forced by the state’s high court — during an unprecedented Thursday

contempt hearing that could have resulted in his jailing — to concede and use the state’s existing congressional map, which was drawn in 2022.

Still, some of the state’s GOP leaders continue to suggest there is a path to implement their preferred map and give the party a 7-1 edge in congressional seats, rather than the current 6-2 advantage.

That path, they say, is through the 8th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals.

The court next week is scheduled to take up the federal case out of St. Louis that had

kept the redrawn GOP map alive for several days this week.

The last-ditch effort to revive the 2025 map comes in spite of a U.S. Supreme Court stay that legal scholars say gives it final say over any effort to overturn the Missouri Supreme Court’s unanimous decision. That decision found Hoskins inappropriately blocked a citizen referendum petition to suspend the new map until a public vote.

The 8th Circuit on Thursday — on its own motion, rather than a request from any of the parties to the case — ordered

briefs on the civil lawsuit by U.S. Rep. Bob Onder, R-Lake Saint Louis, and a Republican House candidate.

“An 8th Circuit opinion here is legally stayed until (the U.S. Supreme Court) lifts its ruling,” said Justin Levitt, a law professor at Loyola Marymount University. “And since today’s (U.S. Supreme Court) order came without any noted dissent, that’s not going to happen.”

Onder had not given up Thursday, even after Hoskins conceded.

Please see MAP, Page A5

KIRKWOOD

TRAIN STATION SET TO REOPEN



DAVID CARSON, POST-DISPATCH

Raineri Construction carpenters Brad Notz, left, and Chip Arnold install woodwork on the platform canopy at the Kirkwood train station on Friday, Sept. 11, 2026. The 133-year-old station is nearing completion of a \$4.7 million renovation and restoration.

Historic structure underwent a \$4.7 million restoration

BY SETH NELSON
St. Louis Post-Dispatch

KIRKWOOD — A historic train station here is set to reopen next week after a year of renovations.

The overhaul, planned for more than a decade, included many improvements aimed at maintaining the structure of the 133-year-old station and turning it into a micro-museum of Kirkwood’s rail history.

The station is set to reopen during a Tuesday morning ribbon-cutting ceremony, the city said in a news release.

The building has seen sweeping changes as part of the \$4.7 million project: A new roof has been installed. The train platform has been restored to its 1940s look. And a public courtyard is being completed next door.

It’ll also house display cases containing artifacts from the station’s past, and murals by Washington, Missouri-based artist Bryan Haynes will adorn the interior walls of the building.

“With this project, we want to emphasize the history,” Zoe Perkins, chair of the Kirkwood’s arts commission, told City Council members last month. “It’s an

opportunity for us to tell more of the history of Kirkwood.”

Less front-facing renovations have been made too: A new HVAC system was installed, the exterior and interiors were repaneled, and the building itself was stabilized.

The site of the current station has been an important stop for St. Louis-area passenger rail since Kirkwood’s founding.

Train service through Kirkwood began in 1853 — the same year the city was incorporated — when the Pacific Railroad’s tracks were laid through the area and the first train arrived, according to a history of the station compiled by the Kirkwood Train Station Foundation.

Rail was so vital to the city that it was named that year after the Pacific Railroad’s chief engineer, James Kirkwood.

A shabby, wood-framed depot was built a decade later, meant to be a stop for passengers heading west on the rail, according to the foundation’s history. The depot was eventually replaced with the current station building in 1893.

Please see TRAIN, Page A5

September heat hit new highs across Mo.

62 daily records were set in the first week of month

BY BRYCE GRAY
St. Louis Post-Dispatch

Missouri sweated through a scalding start to September, as soaring mercury sparked a range of impacts, from canceled high school football games to a challenging home stretch for summer crops.

It was the latest heat wave to the grip the region this year, piled on top of others that have been notable for their humidity.

Sixty-two daily temperature records were set in the first week of the month in towns across Missouri as triple-digit heat hit the Midwest, said Zack Leasor, the state climatologist, along with a handful of monthly temperature records. On Sept. 5, Spirit of St. Louis Airport in Chesterfield registered 102. On Sept. 6, the small town of Marshfield, outside of Springfield, hit 106 — Missouri’s hottest temperature reading of the year.

Please see HEAT, Page A5

Riverview is without its police force

St. Louis Co. patrolling ‘until further notice’

BY NASSIM BENCHAAABANE
St. Louis Post-Dispatch

RIVERVIEW — St. Louis County is taking over policing here after the suburb’s police department furloughed its officers, officials say.

St. Louis County Executive Sam Page announced late Thursday the county was stepping in to help Riverview after its own police department “dissolved.” County Police spokeswoman Vera Clay said in a separate statement that the department would take over emergency response for Riverview “until further notice.”

But interim Riverview police Chief Brandin Neil told the Post-Dispatch the city had only temporarily disbanded its police department to a “financial crisis.” The city has a tight budget and faces several lawsuits, he said.

The Board of Aldermen voted Thursday night to furloughed Neil and the 12 other officers for three months, he said. He said he hopes to call officers back to work sooner than that, he said.

Please see RIVERVIEW, Page A5

Inside

MARKETS	A6
NATION & WORLD	A7
OPINION	A8
OBITUARIES	A9
SPORTS	B1
EVERYDAY	B7

Activate your digital subscription

Scan to set up your digital login.
STLtoday access is included in your subscription.
STLtoday.com/activate



Weather

Plan your week:
For a 5-day weather forecast for our region as well as the national outlook, please see **Page B10**

Sweating it



POST-DISPATCH WEATHERBIRD®



Vol. 148
No. 255
©2026

T-5