

COVID contrast

Situations in the U.S. and Europe improve as India struggles with cases.

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File photo | Associated Press



File photo | Associated Press

FDA looks for OK

Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine expected to be authorized for use on teens ages 12 to 15.

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St. Joseph News-Press



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MIKE DALSING ANNOUNCES RETIREMENT AFTER 41 YEARS



St. Joseph Fire Chief Mike Dalsing, center, chats with contractor Chris Herner, left, and a local official in April at the ground breaking for the new Fire Station 8.

St. Joseph fire chief to retire

By QUINN RITZDORF
News-Press NOW

Fire Chief Mike Dalsing will retire June 10 after 41 years with the St. Joseph Fire Department.

City Manager Bryan Carter announced Dalsing's retirement at the end of the city council meeting Monday.

"I'd actually planned

to go a couple years ago," Dalsing said. "When COVID hit, it was just kind of one of those things that didn't really feel comfortable leaving in the middle of a pandemic."

Dalsing began his tenure with the department in 1979 and was named chief in 2008. He taught several classes and improved the department by

requiring EMT licenses. He loved that every day was different.

"It's the kind of job that whenever you come you're not making widgets or wadgets, every day is different," Dalsing said. "You don't know if you're going to get a cat out of a tree or help somebody on a medical call or have a fire."

Dalsing also saw the

completion of three new fire stations and recently broke ground for the new Fire Station 8. He said his staff and the city made those accomplishments happen.

"I'm gonna miss the people the most," Dalsing said. "I've been really lucky. The citizens of town and the council's have been

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BUCHANAN COUNTY COVID-19 CASES CLIMBING

By CLAYTON ANDERSON
News-Press NOW

Daily COVID-19 cases are again climbing locally, and health officials are urging people to remain on guard against the virus as the pandemic continues.

St. Joseph Health Director Debra Bradley said this is the first time since the end of March that daily cases of COVID have been in the double digits in Buchanan County. Last week there were multiple days with cases in the 20s, and the 14-day average, 10-day average and seven-day average all are trending upward now.

Bradley said a high number of recent cases have involved people in

Director of advocacy for the AARP said Missouri fared worse than other states in protecting its nursing home residents from COVID-19.

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their 20s, and she is urging that demographic to go and get vaccinated as there is a high supply of shots available.

"I want to encourage people 18 and over who have not received their vaccine to go ahead and get their vaccine, because that not only protects you, it protects your family and your friends, your

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File photo | News-Press NOW

The St. Joseph Health Department will host a vaccination clinic May 4 and May 11 at the Civic Arena.

ST. JOSEPH SCHOOL DISTRICT

Educators do it the MSTA way

Local state teacher associations grant honors, tap new leaders

By MARCUS CLEM
News-Press NOW

The largest group on educator activities and interests in the St. Joseph School District lauded on Monday leaders in its own organization, and in the classroom.

The regional branch of the Missouri State Teachers Association and the St. Joseph Community Teachers Association met together for

an annual transition of power at the Troester Center. This served as among the first in-person, indoor after-school educator gatherings to occur this year. Staff anticipate a fall semester — fortified by the increased availability of vaccine — in which pre-COVID-19 conditions may be restored. Noah Bielby, Spring Garden Middle School science teacher

Please see **TEACHER/Page A3**



Marcus Clem | News-Press NOW

Melissa Mollus, Hyde Elementary School teacher, carries a \$100 grant check for classroom items she received Monday at the annual reorganization meeting of the St. Joseph-Missouri State Teachers Association at the Troester Center.



Anthony Crane | News-Press NOW

Golden Eagle domination

Bishop LeBlond golf wins third-straight MEC Championship by 44 strokes over Maryville.

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INSIDE TODAY



Relish magazine takes a look at seven simple ingredients needed for any celebration-worthy dessert! Plus, a look at the best shortcuts for the grilling season.

Just The Facts

Educators receive special funding

- › \$100 for classroom supplies, other materials
- › \$500 for professional development scholarships
- › Community Teachers Association taps six new officers

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INSIDE



Classified B6-8
Business A5
Dear Abby B4

TODAY

HIGH: 62° | LOW: 40°

Overcast early in the day with a chance of light rain, clearing by the afternoon.

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