

Pain, loss lingering

A decade later, effects of terrifying storms still have impact.

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File photo | Associated Press

Backing Boone

Benton High School brings home alum to coach boys basketball team.

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Federal agents raid Rudy Giuliani's home and office, escalating criminal probe.

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St. Joseph News-Press



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PRESIDENT GIVES FIRST ADDRESS TO CONGRESS, NATION



Quinn Ritzdorf | News-Press NOW

Downtown parking garages rarely have more than half capacity on a daily basis.

Downtown parking not fully utilized

By QUINN RITZDORF
News-Press NOW

Many shops and businesses Downtown are fully open after a year of online orders and curbside pickups, but as more people make their way to Felix Street, attention is returning to the parking situation.

Downtown has three garages — all within a few blocks of each other — that rarely reach half capacity. Instead, many people opt to park on the street, but this affects local businesses.

“A lot of the problems we have are that the free spaces in front of the businesses that should be for customers are being taken up by people that live Downtown and by people that work Downtown,” said City Councilman Brian Myers. “If you have some sort of an incentive to get these people from parking where customers should park into the garages, then the garages can actually pay for themselves.”

The lack of people utilizing the parking garages has hit the city's pocket-book. Parking attendants were cut from the budget, and the two older garages are falling behind structurally.

“There's a fixed cost involved in operating garages,” said Andy Clements, the city's director of public works and transportation. “The garages haven't had maintenance on them — well, significant maintenance on them — in 10 or 15 years, so the condition of those garages is not stable. It is getting slowly worse.”

Before the pandemic, a Downtown parking committee was formed to address the situation and present possible solutions to the St. Joseph City Council. But when COVID-19 hit, the group disbanded as many places in Downtown closed.

“There's no easy solutions to the parking issue,” said Cris Coffman, the owner of Nesting Goods

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Associated Press

Vice President Kamala Harris, left, and House Speaker Nancy Pelosi of California, right, stand and applaud as President Joe Biden addresses a joint session of Congress on Wednesday in the House Chamber at the U.S. Capitol in Washington, D.C.

‘America is rising anew’

Biden marks 100 days in office with first joint session of Congress

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Joe Biden declared Wednesday night in his first address to a joint session of Congress that “America is rising anew,” and pointed optimistically to the nation's emergence from the pandemic as a vital moment to rebuild the U.S. economy and fundamentally transform government roles in American life.

Biden marked his first 100 days in office as the nation pushes out of a menacing mix of crises, making his case before a pared-down gathering of mask-wearing legislators because of pandemic restrictions.

Sen. Hawley, Biden endorse payments to working families.

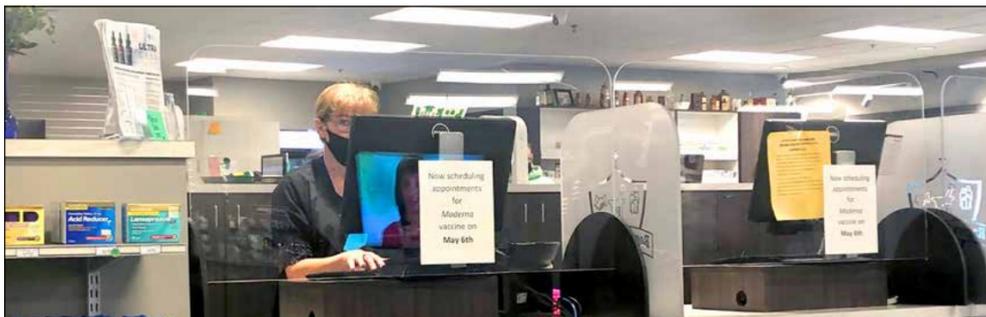
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Speaking in highly personal terms while demanding massive structural changes, the president urged a \$1.8 trillion investment in children, families and education to help rebuild an economy devastated by the virus and compete with rising global competitors.

He speech took place in a setting unlike any other presidential address in the familiar venue, with the U.S. Capitol still surrounded by fencing after the building was stormed in January by insurrectionists protesting his election. The nationally televised ritual of a president standing before Congress for the first time was one of the most watched moments of Biden's presidency so far, a chance to sell his plans to voters of both parties, even if Republican lawmakers prove resistant.

“America is ready for takeoff. We are working again. Dreaming again. Discovering again. Leading the world again. We have shown each other and the world: There is no quit in America,” Biden said.

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Rogers Pharmacy is still taking appointments for both the Moderna and the Johnson & Johnson vaccine and will be administering Moderna on May 6.

Clayton Anderson
News-Press NOW

Pharmacy sees overall vaccine demand decrease

By CLAYTON ANDERSON
News-Press NOW

Rogers Pharmacy has continued to administer the Johnson & Johnson vaccine after the state resumed administration Friday. However, the pharmacy is seeing an overall decrease in demand for both the Moderna and the Johnson & Johnson vaccines.

Rogers Pharmacist Rex Robinson said he thought demand would increase as the last tiers opened up, but he said that has not been the case.

“The demand here locally, from our standpoint, is it's starting to dry up,” Robinson said. “At one time, we were working off a waiting list that was several thousand people long. But now we've contacted all those folks and were still willing to give the shot, but the demand has not been great.”

Robinson said, while demand for the vaccine has not been high, he has not seen outward concern regarding the Johnson & Johnson vaccine, and he said the people

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INSIDE TODAY'S ST. JOE LIVE

› FESTIVAL BLOSSOMING BACK

Apple Blossom Parade returns after COVID-canceled year

› LET THE GAMES BEGIN

Robidoux Resident Theater to perform 'Game Show'

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