

Selig likes K.C.'s All-Star chances



MLB commissioner visited Kauffman Stadium on Thursday.
Details in SPORTS



SOUTHSIDE FALL FESTIVAL RETURNS THIS WEEKEND

Details in St. Joe Live

Fed move spurs 410 point Wall Street surge

Details in BUSINESS

St. Joseph News-Press

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'Heroes come from all walks of life'

Man with special needs alerts staff to resident's need for medical attention

By **JIMMY MYERS**
St. Joseph News-Press

Tom Ferguson is a Chiefs fan. He loves his dogs, professional wrestling, and the rodeo. But most of all, he loves to help people.

Mr. Ferguson, 27, who has special needs, was helping deliver Meals on Wheels Monday at the Fountains at Corby Place when one of the residents fell as she answered her door. He immediately ran to a balcony and using sign language, alerted staff to call 911.

"I helped a girl," said a proud Mr. Ferguson, who recently decided he prefers Tom over Tommy.

"Heroes come from all walks of life," said his mother, Ladonna Ferguson. "People with special

needs have a place in this world."

Mr. Ferguson waited for the ambulance to arrive before going on with his day. The fallen resident is said to be doing just fine.

Mrs. Ferguson described her son as a happy fellow Thursday as she waited for the bus to drop him off at their rural home south of St. Joseph. As the OATS van pulled up the drive, Mr. Ferguson proved her right, smiling and waving out the window. He hurried inside to show his family a Christmas stocking embroidered with a Pittsburgh Steelers insignia that he's giving to his older brother, Jason, who is a Steelers fan.

"Chiefs!" Mr. Ferguson

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Homeless count shows fluctuating numbers



ERIC KEITH/St. Joseph News-Press

Barb Bigelow from Community Missions visits with Patrick while Fred cleans up several months' growth of beard by dry shaving. According to Fred, who has lived in his tent encampment for a year and a half, 'There's homeless and there's hopeless.'

HYPERMILING | Dangerous driving technique



ERIC KEITH/St. Joseph News-Press

One way to improve gas mileage on the interstate is to slipstream a larger vehicle, just don't follow too closely.

Fuel-saving tactics cut costs, add risks

By **MEGAN TILK**
St. Joseph News-Press

In an effort to conserve gas and their wallets, some motorists are risking their lives.

Sgt. Sheldon Lyon with the Missouri State Highway Patrol recently was made aware of a new driving tactic and, after a little research, has decided to speak out about a possible growing trend.

Hypermiling, sometimes called ecodriving, involves techniques used by some motorists to increase the fuel efficiency of their vehicles. The techniques save fuel but are dangerous and, according to Mr. Lyon, should not be used.

"There are things you can do that work and are safe, but we just wanted to

let the public know about the unsafe techniques," Mr. Lyon said.

Some of the techniques include: not coming to a complete stop at a stop sign, shifting the vehicle into neutral or turning the car off to coast down a hill, timing traffic lights and drafting.

While slowing instead of stopping may save gas, a traffic ticket — or worse, a crash — will negate any savings, the Highway Patrol said. Timing lights can be dangerous due to the sequencing of intersections. Some intersections have turn-only lights while others allow both the turning and cross traffic the right of way.

Drafting, also known as

Please see **DRIVERS/Page A5**

Agencies try to provide more transitional, permanent housing

By **ALONZO WESTON**
St. Joseph News-Press

Robert E. Bishop has had bad luck with women so far.

Breaking up with a live-in girlfriend put him out on the street seven years ago. Hurricane Rita put him out of Beaumont, Texas, in 2005. Today, he's 56 years old and homeless, living at the Juda House and hoping to get both back to Beaumont and his girlfriend back.

"I realize now that the women in my life have played a significant part in the decisions I've made and the route I've taken," said the

twice-married Texas native.

Now Mr. Bishop hopes that the counseling he receives and the help he gets from Juda House will give him another route to take back home. A route that leads to a new life.

"The first thing I'll do is have my own place and then deal with the relationship," he said.

Mr. Bishop is like many of the people found in a recent homeless count in the city done by the St. Joseph Continuum of Care. People, who through circumstances beyond their control, find themselves on the street. Others get there through

drug abuse, mental illness or both.

The reasons vary as much as the people, and so do the numbers, the study found. Numbers are up in certain areas and down in others.

Shelters such as the Salvation Army, Juda House and the YWCA remain constantly full. For example, Jean Brown executive director of the YWCA, said she has seen a significant increase in the homeless population at the women's shelter. In fact, she said the number has increased almost fourfold from 2000 to 2007.

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inside today



CHINESE PARENTS DEMAND BABY FORMULA REFUNDS

Hundreds of parents are demanding refunds and asking what they can safely feed their children.

Details on Page A2

Search for 'God particle' likely to further technological advances

By **JIMMY MYERS**
St. Joseph News-Press

Some people fear that the search for the "God particle" will bring the end of the world.

But area physicists are quick to debunk the idea.

What's more likely is that the search for the how the universe was made will further technological advances — indirectly.

It's big stuff, but it won't kill you. It's more the opposite — it gets closer to explaining life.

The hubbub about man-made black holes

swallowing the Earth is a byproduct of the biggest scientific endeavor in the world — the Large Hadron Collider, or LHC.

The project, which was originally intended to be constructed in Texas before the expense and politics got in the way, is located on the French/Switzerland border near Geneva. It consists of a circular tunnel dug deep underground with a 17-mile circumference, called a particle accelerator. After years of construction, scientists fired

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Transformer glitch

In a statement Thursday, the European Organization for Nuclear Research reported that a 30-ton transformer that cools part of the collider broke, forcing physicists to stop using the atom smasher. The faulty transformer has been replaced and the ring in the 17-mile circular tunnel has been cooled back down to minus 459.67 degrees Fahrenheit.

— **Associated Press**



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OUTSIDE



TODAY
HIGH: 81° LOW: 54°

A few clouds to start, then sunny and beautiful.
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