



MIDMISSOURI

Volunteer opportunities

Heisinger Bluffs seeks volunteers in the memory care unit to help with music, crafts, games, reading, children's groups, church groups, tea parties and coffee club. Contact Rita Rivera at 636-6288 ext. 2501.

Heisinger Bluffs Senior Living Community seeks volunteers who enjoy visiting with residents while assisting with activities in all areas of the community. For more information call Rita Rivera or Kelley Hagemeyer, 636-6288.

Not-for-profit groups that would like to be added to the database for periodic inclusion may contact News Tribune Co., 210 Monroe St., Jefferson City, Mo., 65101, by telephone at 761-0240 or send an email to edasst@newstribune.com.

Tell us about your event or news! You can submit stories for News Tribune briefs by emailing them to nt@newstribune.com. If you prefer to submit items via hand delivery, email, fax or mail, call 761-0240 for assistance.

COMINGEVENTS

TODAY

- **Central Missouri Honor Flight Craft/Vendor Show Fundraiser**, 9 a.m.-3 p.m., Wardsville Lions Club, Wardsville.
- **African Children's Choir Concert**, 10:15 a.m., First Church of God, 1614 Southwest Blvd.
- **Bittersweet Garden Club 18th annual Garden Tour**, 12:30-5 p.m., Jefferson City.
- **Bookmobile Show: "The Day Smokey Died,"** 2 p.m., Scene One Theatre, 619 E. Capitol Ave.

MONDAY

- **Cool Stop**, 10:30-11:30 a.m., Missouri River Regional Library, 214 Adams St.
- **Bingo**, 4 p.m., St. Martins Knights of Columbus, St. Martins.
- **Novice Duplicate Bridge**, 6:30-9:30 p.m., Hy-Vee, 3721 W. Truman Blvd.
- **Bomb Defusing**, 6:30-8:30 p.m., Missouri River Regional Library, 214 Adams St.
- **Tail Waggin' Tutors**, 7-8 p.m., Missouri River Regional Library, 214 Adams St.

TUESDAY

- **Storytime at the Bookmobile**, 10:30-11 a.m., Memorial Park, West Main Street.
- **Art of Martial Arts**, 10:30-11:30 a.m., Missouri River Regional Library, 214 Adams St.
- **Learning@11: "The Osage,"** 11-11:45 a.m., Missouri State Museum, 201 W. Capitol Ave.
- **Tuesdays@2: "The Osage,"** 2-2:45 p.m., Missouri State Museum, 201 W. Capitol Ave.
- **Cole County Farmers Market**, 4-6 p.m., Capital Mall, 3600 Country Club Drive.
- **Sports Physicals**, 5:30-8 p.m., Sam B. Cook Healthplex, 1432 Southwest Blvd.
- **Let's Make Music: Maker Camp**, 5:30-6:30 p.m., LabSpace Robotics at Capital Mall, 3600 Country Club Drive.
- **Bookmobile Show: "The Day Smokey Died,"** 7 p.m., Scene One Theatre, 619 E. Capitol Ave.

WEDNESDAY

- **KNLJ Television 10-year Anniversary**, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., KNLJ Television, 311 W. Dunklin St.
- **Kid Sight**, 10-11:30 a.m., Missouri River Regional Library, 214 Adams St.
- **Hoopla**, 10:30-11 a.m., Missouri River Regional Library, 214 Adams St.
- **Family Fun: My World**, 10:30-11:30 a.m., Missouri River Regional Library, 214 Adams St.
- **Ancestry at the Annex**, 1-4 p.m., Missouri River Regional Library annex, 209 Adams St.
- **Yoga**, 5:30-6:30 p.m., Missouri River Regional Library, 214 Adams St.

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Post your event in this calendar and online at newstribune.com/go or by emailing the details to nt@newstribune.com. If you prefer to submit items via hand delivery, email, fax or mail, call

761-0240 for assistance.

Certification hearing set for teen suspect in murder case

By Bob Watson
bwatson@newstribune.com

Cole County Circuit Judge Jon Beetem will be asked Thursday morning to certify a 16-year-old as an adult, so he can face second-degree murder charges in the April 21 death of Jerry Robertson, 63.

The teen has not been named because he is a juvenile.

However, unlike most juvenile hearings, a Missouri Supreme Court ruling several years ago in a

St. Louis case makes the certification hearing open to the public.

However, Beetem said, it's still a hearing of the juvenile court — and those hearings are never open to cameras or recorders.

Beetem said Friday unless there are last-minute complications, the hearing will begin at 9 a.m. Thursday in the main courtroom on the third floor of the Cole County Courthouse.

He also said people will not be prohibited from bringing their cellphones into the courthouse —

but those devices may not be used to take pictures or record the proceedings.

A notice posted by the entry door to the courthouse reads: "Live broadcasting, as well as any audio and/or video recording of court proceedings, is prohibited unless done in accordance with Supreme Court Operating Rule 16."

That rule — also known as the "Cameras in the Courtroom" rule — allows members of the news media to take pictures and audio recordings of

Please see Hearing, p. 7



Emil Lippe/News Tribune

Sweet treats, sweet rides

ABOVE: Beth Nivens and her husband, Ryan, prepare caramel corn Saturday at their "Kettle Corn Kids" booth as part of the Taste of Osage event at Linn City Park. "It's kind of neat just to see what everybody makes," Beth Nivens said. "It's nice because we get to meet other vendors and find out about other events and what they make." The event featured local candy and other foods close to home, as well as pony rides, live music and home furniture. LEFT: Anya Attkisson, 4, enjoys a ride as part of the Taste of Osage County event. Larry Lubbert, a Linn resident, gave rides to children on a "tractor train" he made himself and has been giving rides at the event for three years.



Summer feeding program begins Monday

Officials suggest ways to use city wheels to get to summer meals

By Phillip Sitter
phillip@newstribune.com

Now that summer school in the Jefferson City School District is over, families in need might be wondering not only where their children can go to get a meal but also how they're going to get there.

All of Jefferson City's public schools with summer students would feed any school-age child who walked in the door for breakfast and lunch, even if they weren't enrolled in summer school. Bus-eligible summer students also received free

transportation, which is a need some families may not be able to afford on their own.

With school doors now closed for the rest of the summer, Stacey Brown of the Food Bank of Central and Northeast Missouri said the Food Bank's summer feeding program will begin Monday and run through Aug. 16, five days a week for lunch from noon-1 p.m.

Brown is the children's programs coordinator for the Food Bank, which works with 132 food pantries, soup kitchens, shelters and other agencies across a 32-county area.

She told the News Tribune last month that the Food Bank will have four distribution points in Jefferson City: the playground in the 1000 block

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JCHS wrestling coaches plan ride and raft for charities

By Phillip Sitter
phillip@newstribune.com

Two Jefferson City High School wrestling coaches are raising awareness and funding for two organizations this summer by cycling to one end of the state, circling back around down the Missouri River on a canoe and then biking back home.

David Ganey and Tod Wilson have taken the name of Team 680 in this year's MR340 river race. The "680" refers to the rough total distance they

will travel, half of which will be on bicycles with their canoe in tow from Jefferson City to Kansas City, and then from St. Charles to Jefferson City after the river race ends.

The MR340 begins Aug. 8, and Ganey said they anticipate leaving Jefferson City via the Katy Trail either the Saturday or Sunday before.

He said they'll take the Katy Trail to Boonville, then Missouri 41 past Arrow Rock to Marshall; from there, U.S. 65 north to U.S. 24 into the Kansas

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Local LGBT students find support in one another, allies

By Phillip Sitter
phillip@newstribune.com

Issues surrounding the LGBT community have been in the spotlight lately, particularly in schools. However, it can be easy to lose track of individual students' voices in the cacophony.

This past spring, bills designed to define who can use what restroom or locker room were floated in the state Legislature. Lawmakers heard emotional public testimony from transgender students and their families and other advocates. In many ways, their testimony tried to make legislators understand and accept the realities of the transgender community as much as trying to protect transgender students from the harassment they feared the proposed laws would have generated.

The Catholic Diocese of Jefferson City also found itself as the subject of public debate recently as it created guidelines to, whenever possible, admit students and families from lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender communities and other "non-traditional" backgrounds into its schools. The diocese had to balance that desire with the church's strict moral teachings on sexuality and gender, but even that act of moderated outreach made some diocese members uncomfortable.

"At my old school, there wasn't any kind of GSA (Gay-Straight Alliance) or anything like that.

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LGBT:

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And I knew a lot of people that were LGBT, but you never knew for sure because there wasn't a place where people could go to feel safe and talk about things. And then in Jefferson City, there was," Finn Stout said.

Stout, 18, graduated from Jefferson City High School in May. He plans to go to Stephens College to study musical theater in the co-educational professional conservatory program. "My dream is to be on Broadway, but I also plan to get a degree in education so I can teach, either music or theater, or both," he said.

He's the middle child among four other siblings, all but one of whom live out of state. He spent his senior year in Jefferson City after coming to Missouri from Michigan.



Submitted photo

Finn Stout is a 2017 graduate of Jefferson City High School.

He's also a transgender male; Finn is not the name given to him at birth or read at his graduation.

"I came out as transgender in August of 2016, and I started school as Finn, and not as who I used to be. It was really cool, and I told people when I got really close to them, 'You know, I was born as female.' And they didn't care at all, and I was really excited. I got to build who I am now throughout the whole year at Jefferson City. It's been a crazy journey."

He said most of his family accept his being transgender.

"It's just an adjustment, because after you've seen this person (in one way) for so long, it's hard to change that view. I understand that. I'm not going to be like, 'You guys have to call me Finn today; it's unacceptable that you don't,' because they saw me as who I used to be for a long time. I think they'll probably have an easier time with it once I start hormone therapy and stuff like that, because I'm going to change a lot, and they're finally going to be like, 'Oh, this is real, and it's happening.'"

Having those personal supporters outside of school doesn't make his life easy all the time, though.

Stout said, "A lot of people just assume that I have no idea what I'm talking about," when it comes to being transgender. People tell him he's going through a phase or a cultural moment he'll get over in a few years, "and if you do anything permanent, you're going to regret it. I just wish people would take time to think (that) I know who I am."

"I mean, there are still things that I'm figuring out; I'm 18. I'm not perfect. I don't know everything about myself, but there's a lot of things that I do know about me that I have always known about who I am. And one of the things that I've always known is that I don't align with being female. It's just not me at all."

GSA at school gives him a space to be himself and talk in confidence with LGBT peers and fellow students who are allies — straight people who are willing to stand up with and for their LGBT peers and otherwise offer support.

Spenser Bartholomew, the 17-year-old co-president of the club last year, added, "I think being an ally is an extreme responsibility, just because there is so much negativity (against LGBT communities), but you have to work to make sure people are uplifted and are feeling confident being who they are."

Stout said of GSA, "It helps to know that if you say something, you know that at least three or four other people are going to back you up with it. Even if they're not in that classroom right there, as soon as we have our meeting and talk about it, something is going to happen. They're going to help you with it, whether it just be to talk about it or maybe go do something about it."

He said one of the things the student-run, self-funded club did in the past year was host a clothing drive, as there were students who talked about not having access to clothes that matched their gender identity.

It may seem like a trivial need, but outward expression is an important part of how Stout displays his masculinity to the world, even if others don't notice. "When I dress — the way I dress, the way I style my hair, the cologne and stuff I use is all chosen so that I can represent who I am, and a lot of people ignore all of those signs."

"I think it's extremely important for me, and I think that it opened a lot of doors for people to talk to, as well as making me more aware of other people who I didn't necessarily know anything about. I've made a very large group of friends because of it and also just a really nice, strong teacher connection with Ms. McKee," Bartholomew said of what GSA means to her.

Rhiannon McKee is the club's sponsor and supervisor, as well as a teacher of biology and bio lit, an integration of biology and English. She's been the club's sponsor for all of her seven years at JCHS, and she's also a co-adviser for Student Council. An information packet on all clubs provided by the school district explains GSA is active in all Student Council club events and also plans projects to educate students about LGBT issues and combat homophobia and transphobia.

Last November, McKee told the JCHS student newspaper, "Red & Black," that "this year is bigger than it's ever been during my time" for GSA.

Bartholomew said educational outreach is important to garner support for the LGBT student community because "a lot of people probably don't even know what a GSA is. That was a big thing when I was stepping into (the) co-presidency."

She said GSA has a spot on the school's club wall where they leave pamphlets for people to pick up. "We don't get to have announcements or anything because we're not a co-curricular club, and so I thought it was so cool that we were able to have the representation on the club wall."

She explained, however, GSA's presence is not always accepted by everybody. "The little brochure would get flipped around so it wasn't even visible; you couldn't see anything on it, or covering it with other club signs and things like that."

"It's not like a huge act of oppression or anything, but it's definitely not a nice feeling," she added.

In his year at JCHS, Stout said, "people would call me names every now and then, which is kind of expected. You just have to brush it off and move on."

He doesn't want to hide who he is. "I think education is really important in getting people to understand (but while) also accepting that some people are never going to listen," he said. He's fine being asked most questions, and he said watching people learn is something that gives him satisfaction.

"I think it's OK to take time to figure out who you are for a while before you speak, but I think it is an important thing to stand up and speak for people who are too afraid to do it," he said.

For other people in the LGBT community, Bartholomew said, "I think everyone needs to be proud of who they are."

For everyone else, she said, straight people too can play important roles in supporting people and looking out for them. "Whether or not you respect it or like it, I think it is good to just recognize and appreciate that people are different, and people are allowed to be different."



Shelby Kardell/News Tribune

Floppy fish

Parker Korsmeyer, 6, catches a fish Saturday during the Missouri Department of Conservation's Kids' Fishing Derby.

Coaches:

Continued from p. 1
City metropolitan area.

He said the most challenging part of the bike ride will be navigating the Kansas City metro area to the confluence of the Kansas and Missouri Rivers at Kaw Point Park just across the state line in Kansas, where the MR340 beings. That will mean biking on city streets and Kansas City bike trails with a 27-foot-long canoe in tow, named "Serenity Now," which is made of a composite of carbon fiber and Kevlar. He said the way back from St. Charles should be easier, because they can take the Katy Trail the whole way.

Ganey, Wilson and Nate Redcay competed in the MR340 in 2015 "to demonstrate to (their) athletes how to set and achieve a goal," a news release said. Ganey is also a science teacher at JCHS. "We set a goal of finishing the MR340 race in under 50 hours. We ended up winning the team division of the race and posting the second fastest team division time in race history — 41 hours and 10 minutes," the news release said.

To put that time in perspective, that assumes a constant speed on the water of about 8 mph — only powered by muscle and the downstream current — and assumes the trio never stopped.

This time around, with the combination of biking and canoeing, Ganey said he and Wilson just have the goal of finishing. "Sometimes, you're in a race and you work and you plan to win," but other times, accomplishing a personal goal is enough. "We're thinking 65 hours maybe on the river, after biking," he said.

Last time around, they raised more than \$4,500 for the Jay Wrestling team. This time, they're raising money for the Jefferson City Public Schools Foundation and the Yellow Ribbon Suicide Prevention Program.

Ganey said he's seen the work both organizations have done for students and teachers in the Jefferson City district.

"You will be helping students and teachers maximize their potential in and out of the classroom, as well as helping to prevent suicides," the news release told potential donors.

Team 680 believes they will be the first to cross the state by

bicycle and then race down the Missouri River in a canoe with their bicycles aboard, too.

According to the news release, three levels of sponsorship of the team are available:

- Gold: \$250 or more guarantees a donor's name and/or logo will be on the team boat and uniforms.

- Silver: \$200 or more guarantees a donor's name and/or logo on the boat.

- Bronze: \$100 or more guarantees a donor's name and/or logo on the uniforms.

There are two ways to sponsor Team 680, the team's GoFundMe page — gofundme.com/team680 — or through a bank check.

Ganey said those wishing to mail a check can contact him for more information at david.ganey118@gmail.com.

All donations will be divided between the JCPS Foundation and Yellow Ribbon, and their boards will direct the funds to the programs they deem most worthy.

Ganey said the GoFundMe page has been active, but now that they've gotten the bikes and trailer for the canoe working, they're confident enough to start informing people about their endeavor.

People can follow Team 680's progress on Twitter @PaddleTeam680 and can visit rivermiles.com.

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