

POLICE TACTICS

St. Louis police are giving protesters room to have their say, at least until trouble starts. Critics are skeptical of the approach.

LOCAL B5



SWEEPING

The Jefferson City Lady Jays and the Helias Lady Crusaders each won their home volleyball matches in straight sets Tuesday night.

SPORTS C1

JEFFERSON CITY, MISSOURI

News Tribune



75¢

WEDNESDAY
SEPTEMBER 20, 2017

VOL. 152, NO. 172

WWW.NEWSTRIEBUNE.COM

New owners set Fulton hospital path

By Jenny Gray
For the News Tribune

The path forward for Fulton Medical Center and its clinic was made clearer Tuesday morning at a town hall meeting conducted by the hospital's new owner.

"I always believe in doing the right thing, surrounded by good people," new owner Jorge Perez told a large group gathered in the Fulton City Council chambers.

The hospital will be associated with Rural Community Hospitals of America, which manages small rural hospitals. RCHA is in the process of changing its name to EmpowerHMS, according to company officials in Kansas City.

"We're two companies in one," Perez said Tuesday. "The National Alliance of Rural Hospitals and EmpowerHMS. HMS stands for 'hospital management services.'"

Fulton Medical Center CEO Mike Powell will continue to be employed by the hospital's former owner, NueHealth (also known as NueTerra of Leawood, Kansas). Isabel Schmedemann started her new job as FMC's new CEO on Monday, she

Please see Fulton, p. 3

Piercy gets 10 days in jail, probation in man's drowning

By Ceil Abbott
For the News Tribune

VERSAILLES — A former Missouri Highway Patrol trooper was sentenced to 10 days in jail and two years of supervised probation Tuesday after pleading guilty to a misdemeanor in July.

Fourth Circuit Judge Roger Martin Prokes also sentenced Anthony Piercy to pay a \$300 fine.

Prokes said he would leave it up to

Piercy's probation officer to determine when the jail sentence could be served "so it does not interfere" with Piercy's employment.

Piercy was charged with involuntary manslaughter in December 2015 following the drowning death of Brandon Ellingson, a 20-year-old Iowa man, at Lake of the Ozarks the previous summer. Piercy had taken Ellingson into custody for boating while intoxicated, and while in custody, Ellingson fell from the Highway Patrol boat

Piercy was operating.

State prosecutors alleged Ellingson died from drowning after Piercy handcuffed him behind his back, then failed to properly secure a lifejacket he had placed around Ellingson's shoulders. Ellingson drowned when he fell from the patrol boat.

After several judges recused themselves from hearing the case, it was sent to the Missouri Supreme Court for assignment.

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Kids just wanna have fun



Shelby Kardell/News Tribune

Cheria Galbreath, 11, hula hoops Tuesday at the Kids United FunFest at Memorial Park. The festival was a free event for children whose families were served by United Way partner agencies.

DOC employee gets \$1.97M in harassment case

By Bob Watson
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Missouri's Corrections Department still owes Debra Hesse nearly \$1.97 million in damages, attorney fees and litigation costs, a state appeals court panel ruled Tuesday.

And the court sent the case back to the trial court in Kansas City to determine how much more Hesse should get for her attorneys' fees during the appeal process.

Hesse sued the department in 2014 for gender harassment and retaliation, while she worked at both the Tipton Correctional Center and the Kansas City Release Center.

Although the appeals court ruling has no details, Hesse's case was one of several highlighted by Kansas City's weekly newspaper, the Pitch, in November 2016, providing some of the first public details about numerous harassment complaints in the department that runs Missouri's prisons and the probation and parole programs.

Hesse's case went to trial in January 2016.

The Pitch reported Hesse testified, while working in

Please see Harassment, p. 3

Safe and smiling

Chase Czeschin, 1, isn't quite sure what to think but seems to be entertained by Jefferson City firefighter Clint Hays as he inspects the child safety seats in the family's vehicle. His mom, Paige Czeschin, drove them to MoDOT's Central District Office for the free inspection event in which seats were tested for proper installation, sturdiness and durability.



Julie Smith/News Tribune

JCPS: Disciplinary action taken for 'racially insensitive' photo

By Phillip Sitter
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Jefferson City Public Schools confirmed Tuesday that three of the youths posing in a photo circulating on social media that shows "racially insensitive" and other offensive imagery on a car are JCPS students.

JCPS Director of School-Community Relations Amy Berendzen said in a news release the incident did not occur on school grounds nor during a school activity, but "our administration takes these matters seriously and are working to address the situation."

Berendzen added "disciplinary measures

are being taken."

The language and images drawn into dirt and dust caked on the trunk of the vehicle in the photo include a derogatory racial slur against African-Americans and swastikas. It's not clear whether the youths drew it themselves or found the car that way and posed for the picture.

Either way, the photo has caused concern at Jefferson City High School and in the wider community.

"By law, we cannot measure the disgracefulness or how upsetting and frustrating what is done away from school. What

Please see Offensive, p. 3



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OUTSIDE



Summer heat sticks around

Today's high: 92
Today's low: 69

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INSIDE

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FLAVOR



Dorm room eats

Small budget? Lack of cooking time or equipment? No problem. Try these simple recipes every college student can make for dinner. **PAGE E1**

WATERCOOLER

Amazon returns giant cactus

Amazon has rejected the 21-foot Saguaro cactus that southern Arizona economic leaders planned to send as a gift to CEO Jeff Bezos, in a bid to attract the company's second headquarters. Amazon said it is instead donating the cactus to a Tucson museum.

Sun Corridor Inc., an economic development group, said it was sending cactus last week in a publicity stunt, saying it symbolizes Tucson has the room to grow with the online retailer. Tucson is one of many cities competing for Amazon's second headquarters, which the company said will result in up to 50,000 new jobs and a \$5 billion investment.

Amazon said on Twitter it couldn't accept gifts and would be donating the cactus to the Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum instead.

In UN speech, Trump threatens to 'destroy' N. Korea

UNITED NATIONS (AP) — President Donald Trump vowed Tuesday to “totally destroy North Korea” if the U.S. is forced to defend itself or its allies against the renegade nation’s nuclear weapons program, making his case in a debut speech to the U.N. that laid out a stark, good-vs-evil view of a globe riven by chaos and turmoil.

Trump’s broadsides against “rogue regimes,” North Korea chief among them, drew murmurs from the assembled world leaders and served as a searing salute to his nationalism during diplomatic prime time. He said it was “far past time” for the world to confront Kim Jong Un, declaring the North Korean leader’s pursuit of nuclear weapons poses a threat to “the entire world with an unthinkable loss of human life.”

“Rocket man is on a suicide mission for himself and his regime,” Trump said, mocking the North Korean leader even as he sketched out potentially cataclysmic consequences. The president himself decided to work the nickname into his speech just hours before he took the dais, according to aides.

Trump spoke of his own nation’s “patience,” but said if “forced to defend itself or its allies, we will have no choice but to totally destroy North Korea.”

Trump’s language was rare for a U.S. president at the rostrum of the United Nations, but the speech was textbook Trump, dividing the globe into friends and foes and taking aim at America’s enemies. North Korea’s ambassador and another top diplomat left the General Assembly chamber before he spoke to boycott his speech, leaving behind two empty chairs.

The president urged nations to work together to stop Iran’s nuclear program and defeat “loser terrorists” who wage violence around the globe. He denounced “radical Islamic terrorism,” an inflammatory label he had shied away from in recent months after trumpeting it on the campaign trail. He called Syrian President Bashar Assad’s government a “criminal regime.” He said violence-plagued regions of the world “are going to hell.” He made little mention of Russia.

For all of that, he said there was still hope the United Nations could solve “many of these vicious and complex problems.”

But he focused more on the problems than the hopes.



President Donald Trump speaks Tuesday during the United Nations General Assembly at U.N. headquarters.

His lashing of North Korea was a vigorous restatement of what’s been said by U.S. leaders before, but delivered with new intensity in the august setting of the General Assembly. After a litany of accusations — the starvation of millions, the abduction of a Japanese girl and more — he questioned the legitimacy of the communist government by referring to it as a “band of criminals.”

Trump, who has previously warned of “fire and fury” if Pyongyang does not back down, claimed “no one has shown more contempt for other nations and for the well-being of their own people than the depraved regime in North Korea.” And he said it was “an outrage” to enable and trade with North Korea, seeming to point a finger at China, although he did not mention it by name.

The speech signaled little in the way of policy change. Trump stopped short of demanding regime change, which North Korea regards as the ultimate American intention and treats as a reason for its development of nuclear weapons. That may offer some reassurance to China and

Russia, which have urged the U.S. to tone down its rhetoric and restart dialogue with North Korea.

Trump, who frequently belittled the U.N. as a candidate, urged the world leaders to embrace their own “national sovereignty to do more to ensure the prosperity and security of their own countries.”

“I will always put America first. Just like you, the leaders of your countries, should and always put your countries first,” he said. “We can no longer be taken advantage of or enter into a one-sided deal in which the United States gets nothing in return.”

Trump’s blistering speech came just minutes after U.N. Secretary-General Antonio Guterres put “nuclear peril” as the gravest threat facing the world and warned “fiery talk can lead to fatal misunderstandings.”

On Iran, Trump called the government a rogue state whose chief export is “violence, bloodshed and chaos.” He accused Tehran of squandering Iran’s wealth by supporting Syria’s Assad, Lebanon’s Hezbollah militia and Yemen’s Houthi rebel group.

S. Korea: Trump’s N. Korea rhetoric shows US resolve

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — South Korea seemed to play down the latest rhetoric aimed at North Korea by President Donald Trump, calling his words a signal of Washington’s strong resolve to deal with the North’s march to nuclear weapons mastery but essentially a repetition of a basic U.S. policy.

Trump told the U.N. General Assembly in a speech Tuesday the United States would “totally destroy North Korea” if it had to defend itself or its allies. He has previously threatened the North with “fire and fury.” Pyongyang responded to those past remarks with a string of weapons tests, including its sixth and most powerful nuclear detonation and two missiles that flew over U.S. ally Japan.

A South Korean presidential official told Yonhap news agency Trump’s comments are mostly a repetition of a basic stance all options will be considered when confronting North Korea.

Park Soo-hyun, a spokesman of South Korean President Moon Jae-in, said the amount of time Trump spent on North Korea in his speech shows how seriously Washington takes the issue.

Trump’s comments “reaffirmed the need to put maximum sanctions and pressure against North Korea’s nuclear and missile provocations,” so Pyongyang realizes denuclearization is the only way forward for the future, Park said.

Pyongyang tested its first two intercontinental ballistic missiles in July and claims it can now accurately reach the U.S. homeland, though outside experts say the North may still need more tests before its weapons are fully viable.

QUICK NATION

Nominee for EPA chemical safety post has deep industry ties

WASHINGTON (AP) — An Associated Press review of financial records and published work finds President Donald Trump’s nominee to oversee chemical safety at the Environmental Protection Agency has for years accepted payments for criticizing peer-reviewed studies that raised concerns about the safety of his clients’ products.

A Senate committee on Tuesday abruptly postponed its consideration of the nomination of Michael L. Dourson as head of EPA’s Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention. Its hearing had been scheduled for early today. If confirmed, ethics experts say, Dourson’s industry work could pose a conflict of interest.

Dourson’s research has been underwritten by industry trade groups representing the makers of plastics, pesticides, processed foods and cigarettes.

9th person dies week after Florida nursing home evacuation

HOLLYWOOD, Fla. (AP) — A ninth person has died nearly a week after the evacuation of a Florida nursing home that Hurricane Irma left without air conditioning.

Gov. Rick Scott’s office announced a 93-year-old man who had been a patient at the Rehabilitation Center at Hollywood Hills died Tuesday.

Eight people died and 145 patients had to be moved out of the facility, many of them on stretchers or in wheelchairs.

3 members of Congress arrested at Trump Tower protest

NEW YORK (AP) — Three Democratic members of Congress have been arrested for disorderly conduct at a protest outside Trump Tower.

U.S. Reps. Raul Grijalva, of Arizona; Luis Guterres, of Illinois; and Adriano Espaillat, of New York, were among a small group of demonstrators who sat down in the street Tuesday on New York’s Fifth Avenue and refused to move.

The protesters were demanding Congress pass legislation protecting thousands of young immigrants from deportation.

Drowning:

Continued from p. 1

Prokes, of Missouri’s Fourth Judicial District, was assigned to the case in July after state prosecutors reduced the original charge of involuntary manslaughter to “criminal negligence in the operation of a motorboat,” a misdemeanor.

At Tuesday’s sentencing, Prokes allowed Ellingson’s father to speak to the court about how the drowning had affected the victim’s friends and family. Craig Ellingson then spent more than 20 minutes relating anecdotes from his son’s life and speaking about his son’s future

plans. However, when he began addressing his comments directly to Piercy — saying, “You are the reason my son is dead,” and detailing information he had gleaned from witnesses to the incident — the judge warned him he was speaking outside the agreed-upon bounds of his statement.

The prosecuting attorney then addressed the judge, calling for “two years supervised probation, a jail sentence and the withdrawal of Piercy’s POST certification for the remainder of his life.”

POST, or Peace Officer Standards and Training, certification is a standard set by the state of Missouri to determine an individual’s fitness to serve as an officer

of the law.

Following the prosecutor’s statement, Piercy’s attorney suggested because Piercy had “lived an exemplary existence as a lifelong member of the Versailles community” the judge should suspend the sentence and allow Piercy to serve “a period of unsupervised probation.”

Piercy expressed sympathy to the Ellingson family, saying he regretted the incident.

The judge also offered his sympathy to the Ellingson family.

“I don’t know if this has ever been done before, but Officer Piercy was a state employee, so I think it is important that I offer the condolences of the state

of Missouri to the victim’s family,” the Prokes said.

The judge added it was his sincere hope the training problems, which had surfaced when the Missouri Highway Patrol and Missouri Water Patrol merged in 2011, “have since been rectified so nothing like this happens again.”

After pronouncing the sentence and dismissing the court, a member of Ellingson’s family asked Prokes why he had not addressed their request for Piercy’s peace officer certification to be revoked.

“That isn’t something that is in my jurisdiction,” Prokes replied. “POST certifications can only be handled through the state’s Department of Public Safety.”

Offensive:

Continued from p. 1

we’ve got to do is measure the impact on the building and the level of disruption it causes to teaching,” JCS Director of Secondary Education Gary Verslues explained.

JCPS Chief of Learning Brian Shindorf added: “When those things bring disruption to the school setting, we have the ability to address those issues. ... This (incident) obviously brought issues to the school site, so we have a responsibility, an obligation to address it.”

The 2017-18 JCHS student handbook states the Board of Education’s discipline code addresses consequences “for students whose conduct is prejudicial to good order and discipline in the schools or impairs the morale or good conduct of other students,” which also applies to “off-campus miscon-

duct and speech that substantially and materially disrupts the educational climate.”

Shindorf and Verslues said Jefferson City High School students came to Principal Robert James with concerns about the photo.

Superintendent Larry Linthacum said an incident like this raises the specter of all kinds of effects on the learning environment: the possibility of fights, students afraid to come to school, parents not wanting to send their children to school, trouble controlling classes and issues in parking lots.

No serious issues had arisen as of Tuesday afternoon, to the administrators’ knowledge.

“All in all, I was very pleased with how our staff and students are handling the situation,” Verslues said.

He and Linthacum encouraged students hurt by the photo to speak with counselors or trusted teachers.

“You don’t ignore it. You give students a way to

cope with whether it’s anxiety or frustration, mad, whatever. Counselors know that better, and they then help the administrators to get teachers key talking points in their classrooms for when the conversations come up,” Verslues said.

He noted an email sent to teachers Monday “acknowledged we had a situation, there might be some questions or conversations, and here are the key talking points in how to talk to each of your classes.”

“Every elementary school in this city has social skills curriculum, bullying curriculum, that they use in the classroom as part of their instruction to hopefully educate kids on inclusion and what bullying looks like, whether that’s about your age, or your sex, your race. And we do that at the elementary level hoping that we educate them well enough that as they get older and get to make their own decisions, and begin making their own decisions outside of us, that they make good deci-

sions,” Shindorf said of education efforts that start in kindergarten.

Administrators said they cannot discuss individual students’ disciplinary action.

“I feel confident moving forward that it’s been addressed,” Linthacum said.

Verslues said immediate lessons from this incident are “twofold.”

“I think the content of what was in the picture was alarming, very disappointing, and then, the social media aspect is second. Our focus is on the content of that,” Verslues said.

Social media sense for students about what’s acceptable to share is important, Verslues explained, but it’s not everything: It’s not just about getting caught.

“I can’t emphasize enough that we have to separate things here — the content and then the social media part. The content is more alarming,” he said.

Fulton:

Continued from p. 1

said, while still performing her former job duties as chief nursing officer of the facility.

She said the hospital remains open. Also, 120 of its former employees are on the payroll, some of whom had resigned when NueHealth announced last month the hospital would be closing Sept. 22.

“We’re ready — bring it on,” Schmedemann said, adding she had planned to start another job then changed her mind. “Some (employees) have already come back.”

EmpowerHMS is associated with the National Alliance of Rural Hospitals, of which Perez is chairperson. NARH President Mike Murtha also spoke at Tuesday’s gathering.

“Rural hospitals are constantly in a state of crisis across the country, and this has to stop,” he said, adding rural hospitals by nature drive rural economies. “We’re aggressive and we’re tough — tough as woodpecker lips.”

Also at the gathering was J.T. Lander, a vice president with EmpowerHMS.

“We are very honored to be in the position of keeping a hospital in Fulton,” he said. “We’ve never closed down a

hospital; we’ve got 20 of them. We have never taken away a service offered at one of our hospitals. ... This hospital is a community hospital; it belongs to you.”

Mike Alexander, president of EmpowerHMS, commented about the size of the gathering, which included hospital employees, Callaway Chamber representatives and ambassadors, and city and county officials.

“Look around; you’re here because you’re excited you’re not going to lose your hospital,” he said. “It means more than most people realize.”

Alexander said he’s spent 30 years working in rural hospitals.

“We manage rural hospitals in communities like this,” he said. “It’s what we do. It’s our ministry.”

Under the new ownership, the hospital will remain a for-profit entity, according to Alexander, who called Perez “a man with a vision.”

“We’re not here to get rich and make money,” Alexander said. “We do need to make money so we can stay here and survive.”

Perez, who said he was currently looking at deals with four other hospitals, also talked about the for-profit model in health care.

“I’ve been a big preacher of saying health care should not be for profit,” he said. “Something like health care should not be for profit. Unfortunately,

my company is for profit so we can grow it.”

Aaron White, pastor at First Presbyterian Church in Fulton, asked Perez if he would consider associating a community advisory board with the hospital.

“Communication is something that seems to have been lacking,” White said. Perez said he would be open to that, along with suggestions for a new name for the facility.

Schmedemann was upbeat about the new ownership and her new role within it.

“Today is a day of new beginnings,” she said. “It’s a day of hope and a day of promise.”

She said she hopes employees who left the hospital will return, and word will spread about patients with good experiences at the hospital and clinic, which will retain several doctors. She also said she hopes EMS and paramedics recommend the facility to patients they transport via ambulance.

“I promise I will lead with my heart and I will give the community the best of me,” Schmedemann said. “I promise to be a visible leader both inside and outside of our hospital.”

For now, the geri-psych unit is undergoing painting and will reopen next Monday or Tuesday. The rest of the hospital, she added, is open for business.

Harassment:

Continued from p. 1

the Tipton prison, she had filed several complaints of abuse and harassment, angering supervisors.

After transferring to Kansas City, Hesse said, she was identified as being “trouble” and was warned by a supervisor she just needed to “sit back and go with the flow.”

A co-worker, Tina Gallego, told the jury at Hesse’s trial it was commonplace for male employees to call women “whores and other derogatory names,” and retaliation to complaints was the norm.

Gallego’s testimony was one of the department’s complaints in its appeal — trial Judge W. Brent Powell, now a member of the state Supreme Court, should not have allowed Gallego’s irrelevant and prejudicial “me too” testimony.

Citing a 2015 state Supreme Court case, Appeals Court Judge Anthony Rex Gabbert wrote: “Evidence is logically relevant if it tends to make the existence of any consequential fact more or less probable (or) if its probative value outweighs any prejudicial effect on the jury.”

Since Gallego’s testimony corroborated Hesse’s case theory, Powell didn’t make a mistake in allowing it, the court ruled.

“The two women had both worked for the same facility, reported to several of the same superior officers, suffered harassing and retaliatory conduct based on their sex, attempted to avail themselves of the same anti-discrimination policy, and had their complaints summarily dismissed,” Gabbert wrote for the appeals court.

“While the (department) is correct that there were also differences in their experiences, those differences were less relevant than their commonalities.”

After the jury’s verdict and post-trial motions, Powell awarded Hesse \$500,000 in actual damages and \$1 million in punitive damages.

She also received \$463,323.75 in attorney fees, \$1,389.15 in litigation expenses and \$5,168.75 in other court costs.

The department’s appeal argued Powell had abused his discretion by awarding Hesse attorney fees unreasonable under terms of the Missouri Human Rights Act.

The appeals court disagreed because Powell’s judgment was “properly considered, given the case size and the excellent results obtained by Hesse’s counsel.”

And the department said Powell had no legal authority to award the litigation expenses.

“The trial court’s discretion to determine court costs is broad,” Gabbert wrote.



APPLES

Apple season is upon us, and good growing conditions this year should make for tasty fruit.

■ **STYLE E1**



LIFTOFF

An area resident takes to the sky at Jefferson City Municipal Airport where he's been taking flying lessons.

■ **LOCAL B1**

JEFFERSON CITY, MISSOURI

News Tribune



\$1.25

SUNDAY
SEPTEMBER 24, 2017

VOL. 90, NO. 31

WWW.NEWSTRIBUNE.COM

Engaging in good amid tensions

JCPS community meetings aimed at healing, constructive words of wisdom

By Phillip Sitter
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In light of the recent pain and consternation caused by a racially insensitive photograph three Jefferson City High School students were involved with, Jefferson City Public Schools is launching community engagement initiatives to chart a healthy course forward.

District officials and one community member shared with the News Tribune what they hope the initiatives achieve.

JCPS Board of Education President Steve Bruce admitted he initially had his misgivings about the upcoming community meetings publicly announced Thursday by Superintendent Larry Linthacum.

Bruce doesn't want accusatory screaming matches that could bring up old traumas or inflict new ones. However, he said Friday he expects "purposeful" conversations with the community — actions structured and productive yet remaining

Please see JCPS, p. 3

City considering new parking garage downtown

By Nicole Roberts
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Jefferson City might be getting a new parking garage soon to address a deficit in downtown parking.

Britt Smith, operation division director for the city's Department of Public Works, presented the results of a downtown parking study during last Thursday's Public Works and Planning Committee meeting.

In 2016, Jefferson City contracted with Rich and Associates to update the city's Parking Planning Study, focusing on the downtown area. The company was originally contracted in 1999 to do the study, and the city updated the plan internally between 2004 and 2005.

Rich and Associates studied a 37-block area bordered by Rex Whitton Expressway, Marshall and Bolivar streets, and the Missouri River.

Please see Parking, p. 3



Shelby Kardell/News Tribune

Ileah Chambly, left, gives candy to Avery Larson, 4, Saturday during Lincoln University's homecoming parade.

Memories highlight progress

LU grand marshal talks baseball, race relations

By Philip Joens
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Shelby Kardell/News Tribune

Parade Grand Marshal Ted Savage waves to the crowd during Lincoln's homecoming parade. Savage is a 1958 LU graduate who went on to play nine seasons of Major League Baseball.

On a balmy fall morning with not a cloud in the sky, hundreds of area residents, Lincoln University fans, and alumni lined the streets of downtown Jefferson City for the university's annual homecoming parade.

People of all colors and creeds lined the streets, marched in the parade and danced with the spirit squad; seemingly unaware of the past barriers that once separated them.

To the parade's grand marshal, though, the past didn't feel that far away.

Ted Savage played basketball at Lincoln University for three years, before graduating from the school in 1958. He later played for eight teams during a nine-season Major League Baseball career.

When Savage attended the school in the mid-1950s, black patrons could not sit with white patrons at a movie theater downtown. Instead,

Please see Lincoln, p. 3

Soybean yield predicted above average despite dry spell

Corn harvest could be reduced this year

By Philip Joens
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Central Missouri farmers do not expect recent dry conditions to affect crop yields significantly this fall.

Parts of Cole and Callaway counties have been abnormally dry for the first time since late April, according to the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Regional

farmers said dry and hot conditions this summer could hurt corn and soybean yields slightly. Still, farm experts expect to see above-average yields for corn and soybeans.

The USDA said Sept. 12 that all of Callaway County and small portions of northeastern Cole County had entered "abnormally dry" conditions, the first stage of drought on the department's five-tier drought scale. After spotty heavy rains Monday, the department's report this week removed those portions of Cole

County from the map of areas with abnormally dry conditions.

Joni Ross Harper, an agronomy specialist who covers Morgan and Moniteau counties for the University of Missouri's Cole County Extension office, said while it's been dry recently, soybean yields should be higher than expected.

"On average, we're in pretty good shape coming into harvest time," Ross Harper said. "We have been dry. We were getting rain at pretty good times throughout the growing seasons."

Gary Wheeler, executive director of the Jefferson City-based Missouri Soybean Association, said soybean yields statewide look good. Late-planting farmers in northern and north-central Missouri could see yield reductions if dry conditions continue because the reproduction stage — where soybean crops produce beans — could have been interrupted.

"The majority of the state looks pretty good," Wheeler said. "North-central, northeast (Missouri) has been hit for the last three weeks. Unfortunately, some of

those reproductive phases could be moderately hit through yields."

Jay Fischer, who farms a couple thousand acres in the Missouri River bottoms just northeast of Jefferson City, said dry and hot conditions in July could hurt yields for May-planted corn.

National Weather Service data shows parts of Jefferson City, including the area where Fischer's farm sits, received about 1-2 fewer inches of rain than normal. Hotter than average temperatures also

Please see Yields, p. 3



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OUTSIDE



Sunshine and warm temps

Today's high: 89
Today's low: 65

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SPORTS



Tiger loss at home

It was an ugly Saturday night for the Tigers at Faurot Field as Auburn rolled to a 51-14 win against Missouri.

■ **PAGE C1**

WATERCOOLER

Graveyard plaque of Wild West figure was buried, not stolen

It turns out the graveyard plaque of the common-law wife of legendary gunfighter John Henry "Doc" Holiday was just 6 inches under, not stolen from a cemetery.

The plaque at the Arizona Pioneers' Home Cemetery in Prescott had been reported stolen recently. But the Prescott Daily Courier reported a voluntary caretaker found the plaque in mud under a hole at the grave of Mary Katherine Horony-Cummings, also known as Big Nose Kate.

Holiday played a central role in the infamous gunfight at the O.K. Corral in 1881 in what was then the Arizona territory.

Pioneers' Home interim Superintendent Dale Sams said the plaque had sunk into the ground, which had been softened and waterlogged by monsoon rains, and then covered by flowing mud.

Volunteer caretaker Denise Meyers said the plaque needs cleaning but is intact.

Horony-Cummings died Nov. 2, 1940, at age 89.



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Lincoln:

Continued from p. 1

Savage said African Americans were sent to sit in the much smaller balcony. Elsewhere in Jefferson City, Savage said African Americans couldn't stay in hotels downtown, but they could work in them.

"We couldn't live together; we couldn't do nothing together," Savage said. "All the kids that came here to college would go to the movies, and we couldn't get in there."

Today, Caucasians make up 48 percent of the student population, while blacks make up just 40 percent. Since those dark days, Savage said the city and the university have changed for the better.

"There's not too big of, or any at all, race problems here anymore," he said. "A lot of people have finally realized we deserve the same rights they have, and everybody is getting along pretty good."

These days, Savage comes back to Lincoln once every two to three years; he was inducted in the Lincoln Athletics Hall of Fame in 2013. The parade went well, though he did have one problem.

"I needed some more candy to toss to the kids because I ran out of candy," Savage said.

Raised in East St. Louis, Illinois, Savage first fell in love with basketball. He first went to the University of Illinois on the advice of a scout. After lasting only one semester though, he ended up at Lincoln, which is where several of his high school friends attended.

Savage played basketball at Lincoln for three years and led the team in scoring in 1957 and 1958. At the time, the school did not have a baseball program. It later added baseball, but dropped the sport again in 2016.

After graduating from LU, Savage entered the U.S. Army medical service and played baseball and basketball



Left: Members of the Women's Resource Center throw candy Saturday during Lincoln University's homecoming parade in downtown Jefferson City. Right: Dancers walk down High Street during the homecoming parade.



Shelby Kardell/News Tribune

around the country for the U.S. Army. Eventually a scout called, saying the Philadelphia Phillies purchased his contract.

During his Major League career, Savage played for eight teams in nine seasons, hitting a career .233 batting average and 34 home runs in 1,375 at-bats. His career included parts of three seasons in his hometown St. Louis Cardinals, for whom he played 55 games between 1965-67.

As a child, he loved baseball too, but the discriminatory culture of the time bothered him, he said.

"I always wanted to be like Jackie Robinson, but things were so different from what I thought it would be because of the way things were," he said.

Savage broke into baseball at a unique time in the game's history. Though Jackie Robinson broke the color barrier 15 years before Savage played his rookie season

with the Phillies, holdouts like the Boston Red Sox, which became the last club to integrate in 1959, took years to play athletes of color. The Phillies integrated in 1957, just three years before Savage's first season in the team's minor league system.

Savage said blacks weren't allowed to stay in hotels with white players until 1966. "The managers and coaches would say 'Teamwork! We've got to be together,' and as soon as we got off the airplane, they went downtown to the beautiful hotels, while we had to stay in the hood," Savage said.

Now, Savage wears his Cardinal pride on his sleeves. He's worked in the Cardinals front office since 1987, and he rattles off story after story from his time playing and working for the team.

Even when covered in a royal blue Lincoln University polo and jacket, Savage

walked with a cane that had a Cardinal shaped handle. For the occasion, he also wore his 2011 World Series ring.

In 2015, African Americans made up 13.3 percent of the U.S. population, according to the U.S. Census Bureau. Participation by African Americans in baseball peaked at 19 percent in 1986, according to the Society of American Baseball Research. The percentage of African American players dropped from 8.27 percent in 2016, though, to 7.73 percent in 2017.

Savage created the St. Louis chapter of MLB's Reviving Baseball in Inner Cities program, which provides grants and equipment for youth baseball and softball programs created by the organization. MLB expanded upon its RBI program with its MLB Urban Youth Academies that include fields, grandstands, lights

and other facilities to cultivate interest in the game among urban youths.

Savage said both programs are working. When the RBI started though, he noticed parents were with their children more than they seem to be now, he said.

"I think it's working to some degree," Savage said. "Kids want to play, but somebody's got to be there supervising."

As early-afternoon turned to late-afternoon Saturday, Lincoln staff escorted Savage upstairs in the sparkling new Lincoln wellness center to the President's Room to watch the Lincoln football team play Truman State in its annual homecoming football game.

In the suite, people of all races mindlessly ate, drank and bonded together over sports. Since Savage's days at the school, things had changed, in big ways and small.

Parking:

Continued from p. 1

The downtown area is short almost 1,500 parking spaces, according to the updated report. The 1999 study also found a deficit in parking.

There are currently 9,596 parking spaces in the downtown area, 2,800 of which are public spaces. The city manages and controls only 29 percent of the parking, while private parking makes up 71 percent of the downtown area — the state owns 37 percent, and the remaining 34 percent is owned by other private entities, according to the study.

To successfully manage municipal parking, Smith said, Jefferson City needs to control at least 50 percent of downtown area parking.

"That makes sense because then it can make strategic decisions for short-term and long-term, and you're having an effect on a large portion of the downtown area," he said. "When you get less than that 50 percent, you're only affecting a small percentage of the people parking there. For instance, when we have parking, we can say that the parking is free and open at night and it can be used for events and stuff; but we can't make those decisions about private parking because they're not ours."

Ward 3 Councilman Ken Hussey said the public can use some of the state-owned parking for big events and in the evenings.

Rich and Associates reported some members of the public and stakeholders said while these events attract people to the city, they can cause parking issues downtown.

Even if the study didn't take into account the state's downtown parking, Smith said, Jefferson City



Shelby Kardell/News Tribune

Christy Hake feeds a parking meter Friday in the downtown area. With a shortage of downtown parking, the city is considering a new parking garage.

would still own less than half of downtown parking.

There are currently more than 40,000 square feet of building space and 31 residences vacant in the downtown area. If the city fills 80 percent of the vacant square footage and abandoned buildings, then the downtown area could be short more than 1,600 parking spaces, the report states.

The study found peak parking occupancy downtown is 9-11 a.m., with 11 a.m.-1 p.m. as a close second. However, even at peak occupancy, the report notes there is still about 50 percent of parking still

available. Smith said this is most likely skewed because the available parking is farther away from high-demand areas like the Capitol.

During public and stakeholder meetings, several individuals agreed the downtown area needs more parking and downtown parking is hampering future development, the report states. They also said they thought a parking garage was needed in the area.

City staff recommended the city conduct a feasibility study for a new parking garage, which would include location analysis and construction and operation-

al costs. The committee agreed the study constituted a feasibility study. Smith said they will start the study as soon as possible.

In 2014, the Jefferson City Council rejected a conference center proposal from Ehrhardt Hospitality Group which included a new city-built and operated garage. The 250-space garage was proposed for West McCarty Street, but city staff and some council members said they thought the location was not ideal because people would not want to walk up the hill from West McCarty Street to East High Street. City staff suggested at the time the proposed parking garage have 400-500 parking spaces.

A new parking garage would allow the city to increase available parking downtown and increase the percentage of downtown parking the city owns, Smith said.

"If we were to try to knock down a block of buildings to build a surface parking lot to get any size number of parking spaces, that would be counterproductive because we would be taking away our demand and then providing a supply. We're looking for a strategically located area that will have a minimal impact on existing buildings, and a garage will allow that," Smith said.

Providing more parking might help promote businesses, Smith said, because people won't be discouraged from going into businesses because of a lack of parking.

"The Parking Division's job is providing cost-effective parking to our customers; and our customers are not only the state worker working downtown, but it's the customers who go into the businesses and the employees of those businesses and the businesses themselves," he said. "Our job is to provide parking; and by promoting those businesses, our business grows."

JCPS:

Continued from p. 1

honest and open enough for people to share their voices.

Linthacum said three local pastors have said they'd be willing to host community discussions in October: the Rev. Cassandra Gould of Quinn Chapel A.M.E. Church; Bishop James Howard of One in Christ Baptist Church; and the Rev. Jon Nelson of Soma Community Church.

Linthacum said the discussions won't be only for the congregations of those churches, though, but for anyone in the community.

"It's not something folks naturally want to talk about," he said of discussions about race and diversity, but he wants the meetings to be mechanisms for "folks to feel how we can move forward."

"We do diversity training, but how can we make it better?" he said, noting one example of what could be explored.

Bruce said Friday that what pushed aside his trepidation about the public meetings were his reflections on his own fatherhood. More specifically, he thought about the kind of pain and fear he and his children have never had to deal with.

"It's something we've never experienced" as a family not composed of people of color or other groups who've faced marginalization, he said.

"Despite the unfortunate way it's come about," he said, he hopes the incident can "give us an opportunity to look at deeper issues" beyond the photo itself.

He added he hopes Jefferson City could "be a better community because of this," and more representative of the kindness, compassion and empathy he believes

are valued by local people. "If we don't teach the good and what we want for our community — because we are a diverse people — someone else is going to come in and teach hate," Patsy Johnson warned Tuesday.

Johnson was born and raised in Jefferson City, has been active with PTA and other volunteer work, is a JCHS alumna and has nieces and nephews attending JCHS.

She's been engaged in conversations with community members and district officials since the photo came to attention.

"I actually would like to have time to sit down and talk to different people about different types of tools," she said Thursday of what she hopes the upcoming meetings yield. She wants discussions to incorporate and produce locally tailored diversity training and discussions instead of one-size-fits-all approaches.

She wants something "that will purposefully move this city to a better place" and that can be a model that will outlast the current moment. "It has to continue."

"Things like that happened when I was in school," the 56-year-old Jefferson City resident said Tuesday. She said similar racially charged incidents in the past were not dealt with "in a way to really get to the root of the problem." However, she sees this moment as an opportunity for the district to set an example for its students.

"All students are going to be looking at how this is handled," she said.

Bruce said anyone willing to engage in the discussion at the meetings is "more than welcome at our table."

"This is something we need to do," he added.

Specific dates and information for the meetings is not yet available.

Yields:

Continued from p. 1

didn't help.

Jefferson City's average July temperature of 80.2 degrees was 1.7 degrees above normal, according to an August National Weather Service report. In July, temperatures topped 90 degrees 18 times. Temperatures reached 90 degrees or more on 13 days in July 2016, 14 times in July 2015 and four times in July 2014.

"If the corn was planted in April, it pollinated before the dry spell in July. I think that corn is going to be average," Fischer said. "The corn planted in May pollinated during that dry time in July, and it certainly cut the yield some."

Brian Lehman, who farms about 500 acres of corn and 500 acres of soybeans near Versailles, also said he thinks the heat hurt corn crops more than dry conditions.

"It's going to hurt the yield on corn," Lehman said. "Beans, I don't think they were hurt any. Corn will be down a little in spots. Definitely not a real bad drought we encountered."

Fischer also replanted some corn in June because of early season flooding. That corn made it through the summer in good shape, he said.

Still, Wheeler said these conditions are not abnormal for this part of the state, and soybeans can weather droughts.

"The soybean plant can withstand adversity for a

period of time," Wheeler said. "It can deal with wet feet. It can deal with dry feet. But the drought stress during vegetation doesn't necessarily impact the soybean yield for short-term basis."

During the reproductive phase of their growth, when soybeans create the edible beans in pods, the soybean uses lots of water that helps fill out the growth. Wheeler said subsoil moisture conditions are good, though topsoil lacks moisture now.

Lehman said, though, there could be a handful of soybean plants that produce fewer beans than normal.

"There will be some pods not filling out completely because we didn't have that late rain and now they're starting to turn," Lehman said. "The size of the bean in the pod will be down a little."

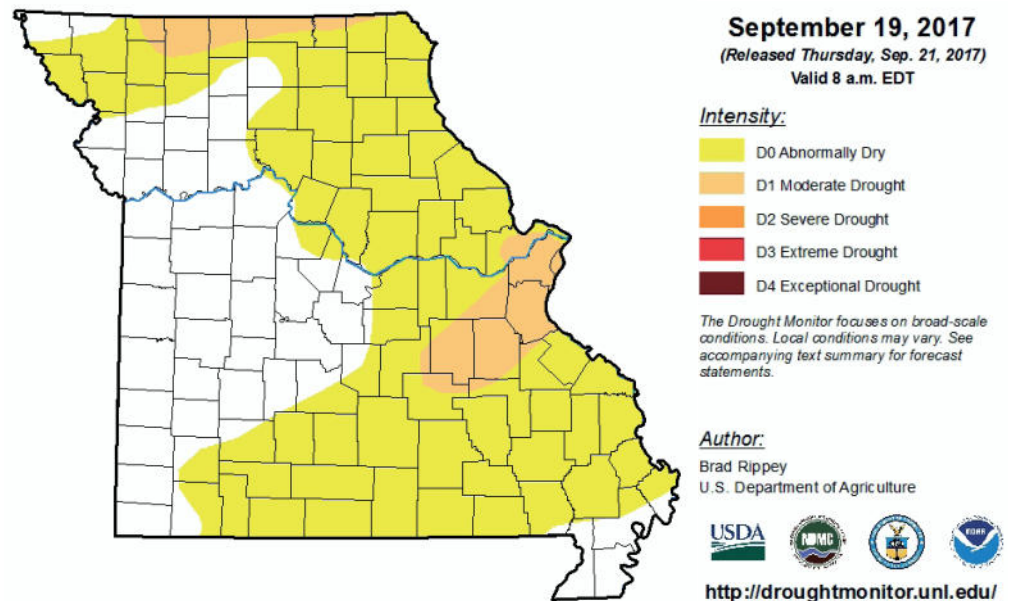
With corn harvests beginning, dry conditions could help corn farmers. Lehman said most farmers prefer to let corn dry in the fields if they can.

"It helps cut the cost a little by having it mature out in the fields versus harvesting it a little earlier," Lehman said. Fischer said he harvested his earliest planted corn about two weeks ago.

"Corn that's done, you don't want any rain at that point," Fischer said. "The corn itself was dry. It was really nice."

On Sept. 12, the USDA lowered its 2017-18 price forecast for average U.S. corn prices by 10 cents to a range of \$2.80-\$3.60 per bushel. U.S. average soybean prices were lowered by 10 cents to a range of \$8.35-\$10.05 per bushel.

U.S. drought monitor: Missouri



The U.S. Drought Monitor is jointly produced by the National Drought Mitigation Center at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, the United States Department of Agriculture and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.



MOVING

The Moving Wall, the Vietnam Veterans Memorial replica, will be in Versailles during the Apple Festival. **LOCAL B1**



LIFE X 3

Scene One Theatre's latest production, "Life X 3," features a small cast performing in the round. **ESCAPE B6**

JEFFERSON CITY, MISSOURI

News Tribune



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THURSDAY
SEPTEMBER 28, 2017

VOL. 152, NO. 179

WWW.NEWSTRIBUNE.COM

Combating inequities

Town hall on racial disparities draws large crowd

By Phillip Sitter
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The pews of Quinn Chapel A.M.E. Church were nearly full Wednesday night — not for a worship service, but for voices and experiences to be acknowledged by local institutions at the beginning of a long and long-awaited journey toward progress on racial disparity in Jefferson City.

The panel at the front of the church consisted of two tables. Boys & Girls Club of the Capital City's Director of Operations Christopher Sutton, Jefferson City Public Schools Board of Education member Michael Couty and JCPS Superintendent Larry Linthacum were at one. Missouri and local NAACP President Rod Chapel, Quinn Chapel A.M.E.'s Rev. Cassandra Gould and

5th Ward City Councilman Larry Henry were at the other table.

Susan Cook-Williams was the moderator, but the night was about much more than questions fielded by the panel.

The most passionate and raw emotions came from crowd members given a chance to speak about issues people of color in the community face — and not exclusively at school.

Wednesday's town hall meeting is the first of three planned and independent of future school district-sponsored community outreach events. The next meeting is scheduled for 6:30 p.m. Oct. 9 at One in Christ Baptist Church.

That's the same date and time as a JCPS school board meeting, but Superintendent Larry Linthacum assured the

Please see Disparities, p. 3



Shelby Kardell/News Tribune

Tahtiana Lane, center, speaks Wednesday during Quinn Chapel A.M.E. Church's town hall meeting on race relations in Jefferson City. The meeting was prompted following the circulation of a racist photo on social media by Jefferson City High School students.

State chamber sues over PAC contribution limits

By Philip Joens
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The Jefferson City-based Missouri Chamber of Commerce has challenged the legality of a 2016 ballot initiative.

The chamber filed a lawsuit Wednesday in Cole County Circuit Court asking the court to rule limits on contributions to company-connected political action committees illegal. The challenge says the law does not expressly contain language prohibiting companies from donating to PACs created by businesses. It also asks the court to rule the Ethics

Commission erred when it interpreted the law to read that it in fact banned contributions to PACs connected to the business that created the PAC.

In November's general election, Missouri voters overwhelmingly approved Constitutional Amendment 2, which placed limits on personal and corporate campaign donations to candidates for state and municipal offices and placed restrictions on donations to political parties.

About 70 percent of Missourians voted for the initiative. Prior to and since the election, the initiative so far has survived several lawsuits challenging the constitutionality of the \$2,600 limit on

contributions to individual candidates.

Section 23 of the Missouri Constitution bans corporations and labor organizations from making donations to PACs.

The chamber said in its lawsuit this provision actually allows donations from corporation-created PACs.

"Section 23.3(a) in fact explicitly permits donations directly from the corporation," the chamber contends.

It also said PACs shall only receive money from individuals, unions, federal political action committees, corporations and associations.

The chamber also said this section just limits campaign contributions.

"Section 23.3 explicitly permits contributions from a corporation to connect a PAC. It merely limits contributions from one PAC to another," the chamber said in the suit.

The lawsuit also challenged two advisory opinions by the Ethics Commission that conclude a corporation may not donate to its connected PAC. In March, the Ethics Commission wrote companies may establish PACs, which may accept donations

Please see PACs, p. 3

Trump plan promises huge tax cuts

Big questions remain

WASHINGTON (AP) — Promising big tax cuts and a booming economy, President Donald Trump and congressional Republicans unveiled the first major revamp of the nation's tax code in a generation Wednesday — a sweeping, nearly \$6 trillion tax cut that would deeply reduce levies for corporations, simplify everyone's brackets and nearly double the standard deduction used by most Americans.

Trump declared repeatedly the plan would provide badly needed tax relief for the middle class. But there are too many gaps in the proposal to know how it actually would affect individual taxpayers and families, how it would be paid for and how much it might add to the soaring \$20 trillion national debt.

There clearly would be seismic changes for businesses large and small, with implications for companies beyond U.S. borders. The American middle-class family of four could take advantage



AP

Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer, of New York, and Sen. Ron Wyden, D-Ore., discuss the Republican tax plan Wednesday during a news conference on Capitol Hill in Washington.

a legislative win after a yearlong drought, shrugged off the specter of adding billions to the federal deficit. Failure on taxes, after the collapse of health care repeal, could cost the GOP dearly in next year's midterm elections with its House majority at stake.

"This is a now-or-never moment," said House Speaker Paul Ryan, R-Wis., who built his reputation on tax and budget issues.

Likewise, Trump said in Indianapolis, "This is a once-in-a-generation opportunity."

But the bitterly divided, Republican-led Congress faces critical decisions on eliminating or reducing tax breaks and deductions, with

of a heftier child tax credit and other deductions but face uncertainty about the rate its household income would be taxed.

"Under our framework, we will dramatically cut the business tax rate so that American companies and American workers can beat our foreign competitors and start winning again," Trump boasted at a speech in Indiana.

Democrats predictably felt differently.

"Each of these proposals would result in a massive windfall for the wealthiest Americans and provide almost no relief to middle-class taxpayers who need it most," Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer, D-N.Y., said at the Capitol.

Some Republicans, once fiscally demanding but now desperate for

Please see Tax, p. 3

LU announces 'Emergency Book Fund'

Lincoln University announced Wednesday it's creating a new "Emergency Book Fund," thanks to a \$10,000 donation from the LU National Alumni Association.

The fund is designed to offer assistance to students who otherwise would not be able to purchase textbooks.

And it's already operational. For more information, or to apply for assistance, students are asked to visit lu.mo.formstack.com/forms/emergency_book_fund.

That site will ask for specific information, and notes "completing this form does not guarantee books will be purchased. Books will be supplied based on need."

A student's financial aid will be verified, the website promises.

Students also are required to upload copies of their class schedule and their MBS Direct bookstore "shopping cart."

The Alumni Association's \$10,000 donation was matched by the LU Foundation — and one

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OUTSIDE



Autumn has arrived

Today's high: 72
Today's low: 52

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SPORTS



Softball winners

The Jefferson City Lady Jays and Helias Lady Crusaders both won Wednesday at home in softball.

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WATERCOOLER

Teacher transferred after asking for gender-neutral pronouns

A Florida elementary school teacher who asked students to use gender-neutral pronouns in the classroom is being transferred to an adult education program.

According to a Tallahassee Democrat report, Leon County Schools officials announced Tuesday that Chloe Bressack would no longer teach fifth grade at Canopy Oaks Elementary School. Superintendent Rocky Hanna said Bressack agreed "given the complexity of the issue," a transfer would be best for the teacher's career and the fifth-graders.

District spokesman Chris Petley said a handful of students transferred from the class this month after Bressack sent parents a letter asking students to use gender-neutral pronouns and "Mx." — pronounced "Mix" — when addressing the teacher.

Trump's plan: Business owners win, deficit hawks lose

WASHINGTON (AP) — Small business owners, large corporations and the super wealthy could fare well under President Donald Trump's tax plan. The middle-class could come out ahead, too, but the plan has too many holes to determine how individual taxpayers would be affected.

The plan would reduce the number of tax brackets from seven to three — 12 percent, 25 percent and 35 percent. But it doesn't specify the income levels for each bracket. Those are important details, which will be sorted out by Congress.

Trump unveiled his tax plan Wednesday at an event in Indiana.

The plan has more winners than losers, largely because Trump is leaving it to Congress to figure out how to pay for it — or whether to pay for it.

THE WINNERS

- **Corporations.** Trump's plan would lower the top corporate income tax rate from 35 percent to 20 percent. This would be a huge tax cut for most corporations, even if their tax breaks are severely limited.

- **Business owners who report business income on their individual tax returns.** This is the overwhelming majority of American businesses, from small mom-and-pop outfits to large partnerships. The top tax rate for these taxpayers is currently 39.6 percent. Trump's plan would lower the top rate to 25 percent.

- **The super rich.** Trump's plan would eliminate the federal estate tax. Under current law, the first \$11 million of an estate is exempt for a married couple, meaning only the wealthiest Americans pay it.

- **U.S.-based international corporations.** Trump's plan would end the U.S. practice of taxing the foreign profits of U.S.-based corporations. Under current law, the money is taxed if it is brought back to the U.S.

- **The middle-class — maybe.** Trump's plan would increase the standard deduction to \$12,000 for individuals and \$24,000 for a married couple, presumably eliminating the personal exemption. Under current law, the personal exemption is \$4,050 and the standard deduction is \$6,300, for a total of \$10,350.

This provision would allow middle-class families to shield more of their income from taxation. However, it's impossible to say how they would fare overall because Trump's plan doesn't specify the income levels for each tax bracket. Administration officials said Trump's plan would be "at least as progressive as the current tax code."

THE LOSERS

- **The national debt.** Trump's plan doesn't include enough details to precisely project its impact on the government's finances. But the rate cuts for businesses and individuals are sure to add to the nation's mounting debt. Administration officials said the plan would not add to the debt, when economic growth is taken into account. However, many experts say the administration's projections for economic growth are unrealistic.

- **Taxpayers who itemize their deductions.** About 30 percent of U.S. taxpayers itemize their deductions. The rest take the standard deduction. Trump's plan would eliminate most itemized deductions, with the exception of deductions for mortgage interest and charitable donations. If Trump's plan became law, many of these taxpayers would probably start taking the larger standard deduction.

- **U.S.-based international corporations.** They show up as winners and losers because Trump's plan would impose a one-time tax on an estimated \$2 trillion in foreign profits U.S. corporations have invested overseas. Trump's plan does not specify a tax rate, leaving it to Congress.

Trump unhappy with HHS chief over travel

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Donald Trump declared Wednesday he's "not happy" with his top health official, putting Tom Price's job in jeopardy after his costly charter flights triggered a congressional investigation of administration travel.

Asked whether he's planning on firing Price, Trump responded: "We'll see."

A former GOP congressman from Georgia, Price played a supporting role in the fruitless Republican effort to repeal Barack Obama's health care law, which has been another source of frustration for the president. Price is known as a conservative policy expert, but his penchant for taking private charter aircraft on the taxpayer's dime is creating new headaches for the White House.

Prompted partly by controversy over Price, the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee on Wednesday sent requests for detailed travel records to the White House and 24 departments and agencies, dating back to Trump's first day in office.

The letters were signed by the committee's

chairman, Rep. Trey Gowdy, R-S.C., and its ranking Democrat, Elijah Cummings, of Maryland. Lawmakers are demanding information on political appointees' use of government planes for personal travel, as well as their use of private charters for official travel. The committee wants details by Oct. 10.

The president vented his displeasure with Price to reporters as he left the White House for a trip to sell his tax overhaul in Indianapolis.

"I was looking into it, and I will look into it, and I will tell you personally I'm not happy about it," Trump responded when asked about Price's travel. "I am not happy about it. I'm going to look at it. I'm not happy about it and I let him know it."

Trump's comments seemed to take the health secretary's office by surprise. There was no immediate response from the Health and Human Services Department.

Price's travels were first reported last week by Politico, which said it had identified 26 charter

flights at a cost of hundreds of thousands of dollars. Cheaper commercial flights were a viable option in many cases.

On a June trip to Nashville, Price also had lunch with his son, who lives in that city, according to Politico. Another trip was from Dulles International Airport in the Washington suburbs to Philadelphia International Airport, a distance of 135 miles.

The HHS inspector general's office began a review last week to determine if Price complied with federal travel regulations, which generally require officials to minimize costs.

Price's office said the secretary's demanding schedule sometimes does not permit the use of commercial airline flights. Officials said Price is cooperating fully with the inspector general's probe and will stop using charter flights until that investigation is complete.

Trump's publicly expressed displeasure — or ambivalence — has been a sign in the past that the tenure of a key aide will soon be over.

Maria, again a hurricane, swirls over North Carolina beaches

WAVES, N.C. (AP) — Maria regained strength and became a hurricane again Wednesday, pushing water over both sides of North Carolina's Outer Banks and taking its time to slowly turn away from the U.S. Atlantic coast.

No injuries have been reported, but the surge of ocean water washed over eroded beaches, flooding properties and state Highway 12, the only road

through the narrow barrier islands of Hatteras and Ocracoke.

No ferries were moving, cutting off access to Ocracoke, and with parts of the highway flooded even at low tide, any travel on Hatteras remains hazardous, Dare County Emergency Management Director Drew Pearson said in an email. He said the worst problems were on Hatteras Island, where more than 10,000 visitors left under

an evacuation order, but hundreds of local residents were allowed to stay.

The National Hurricane Center said an Air Force Reserve reconnaissance aircraft measured Maria's top sustained winds at near 75 mph, with higher gusts. Its center was about 180 miles off Cape Hatteras at 2 p.m. Wednesday.

While Maria's most punishing hurricane-force winds remained offshore,

tropical storm-force winds extended for as much as 230 miles from the center, churning up the surf on both sides of the islands. The hurricane's forward speed is just 6 mph, so the storm was lingering before swinging out to sea.

On Hatteras, a fine rain fell Wednesday, with patches of blue sky occasionally showing through. Police set up a check point to block all traffic except for residents and reporters. As the winds picked up, waves crashed up to and beyond ocean-front homes between the communities of Rodanthe and Avon, where the water was washed under waterfront homes and onto side streets since Tuesday at high tide.

This weather is only the latest tropical blow to the Outer Banks, among the most fragile islands in the continental United States. Officials warned the surge of ocean water and waves would overwhelm sand dunes from both the ocean and from Pamlico Sound, which separates the islands from the mainland. Bulldozers were in place to push the sand off Highway 12 when water subsides.

Disparities:

Continued from p. 1

audience the district will have its own series of meetings to address issues brought to light last week by a racist photo circulated on social media and involving three Jefferson City High School students.

The incident spurred Wednesday's meeting to come together in what organizers hoped would start an overdue conversation about disparities in the community and what can specifically be done to resolve them.

"We will not heal in the next two hours," Cook-Williams said at the start. While acknowledging "there are no quick fixes," she added Jefferson City's children are looking for leadership.

The leadership seated on the panel or in the pews represented many of the major public institutions in Jefferson City — public schools, law enforcement and the criminal justice system, and city government.

Those leaders heard from many people in the community about their experiences, the pain and burdens they bring to conversations.

"In order to talk about inequities," community members must learn where people are coming from, Couty said.

There were concerns students in the public schools are not receiving enough education about black history, and many were concerned too that the identities and backgrounds of teachers and administrators in the district don't adequately represent the diversity of the student body.

Raymond Gray advocated the district's hiring process needs to change in order to build the foundation of a more diverse staff. Gray was not alone in that criticism.

Keanette Goodman shared how she felt she had been given a token run-around in the hiring process and had multiple applications denied.

Two mothers who shared their contact information with each other



Shelby Kartell/News Tribune

Missouri NAACP president Rod Chapel, left, speaks during Quins Chapel A.M.E. Church's town hall meeting Wednesday on race relations with the Rev. Cassandra Gould, center, and City Council member Larry Henry.

after the meeting — one white and one black — highlighted the disparities between disciplinary consequences for their children. One said her child had physically injured another student and received no punishment, while the other said her son made a verbal threat and received an eight-day suspension.

The school-to-prison pipeline — a national concern that racial disparities in discipline at schools disproportionately send students of color into the criminal justice system — came up, as well.

There were a lot more questions and concerns than answers. At times, members of the audience felt Linthacum in particular didn't seem connected to what was going on in the district on the level of students, teachers and principals.

He acknowledged he could do better, though other members of the panel pointed out conditions in the community of socio-economic inequities and the legacies of historical racism he inherited were not of his

making.

Still, as Chapel and Gould in particular put it, people don't want any more excuses, just meaningful actions.

"The goal was to engage with parents and community members," Linthacum said after the meeting, and he felt that was accomplished. After the meeting, he was seen speaking with Goodman and the two mothers in particular.

"We're going to consider all options," he said of what processing all the community input and turning it into tangible policy will look like — be it committees, board meetings, both or something else entirely. He added he doesn't want meetings for meetings' sake.

"We need to take that in and take some important time to consider what we heard," school board President Steve Bruce said after the meeting. "Their experiences are nothing I am used to," he said referring to the backgrounds of people of color in the community.

Tax:

Continued from p. 1

the GOP intent on producing a package without Democratic votes by year's end. The last major overhaul in 1986 was bipartisan, and Trump was courting Democrats. One vulnerable incumbent, Indiana Sen. Joe Donnelly, accompanied the president on his trip to Indianapolis.

Trump and the architects of the Republican plan insist the overhaul is aimed squarely at benefiting the middle class and wouldn't favor the wealthy. Still, a cut in the tax rate for Americans making a half-million dollars or more would drop by almost 5 percentage points as the wealthiest sliver of the nation reaped tremendous benefits.

Corporations would see their top tax rate cut from 35 percent to 20 percent. For a period of five years, companies could further reduce how much they pay by immediately writing off their investments. That's all part of an effort Trump said would make U.S. businesses more competitive globally.

The plan would collapse the number of personal tax brackets from seven to three.

The individual tax rates would be 12 percent, 25 percent and 35 percent — and the plan recommends a surcharge for the very wealthy. But it doesn't set the income levels at which the rates would apply, so it's unclear just how much change there might be for a typical family or whether its taxes would be reduced.

"My plan is for the working people, and my plan

is for jobs," Trump told reporters at the White House. "No, I don't benefit. ... I think there's very little benefit for people of wealth."

Reopening the debate over economic inequality that rippled through the 2016 presidential campaign, the Republicans' defense of the plan was met with scorn on the opposite side.

"President Trump's tax plan is morally repugnant and bad economic policy," Sen. Bernie Sanders, I-Vt., said.

In the absence of details on the plan's cost, one back-of-the-envelope estimate by a Washington budget watchdog estimated the tax cuts at perhaps \$5.8 trillion over the next 10 years. The Committee for a Responsible Federal Budget, a nonpartisan group that analyzes spending and taxes, said Republicans had only identified about \$3.6 trillion in offsetting revenues, meaning the cost to the federal deficit could be in the \$2.2 trillion range.

That's more than the \$1.5 trillion debt cost allowed under a tentative agreement by Republicans on the Senate Budget Committee — and the real battles will come as lawmakers quarrel over which tax breaks might be eliminated to help pay the balance.

The plan would nearly double the standard deduction to \$12,000 for individuals and \$24,000 for families. This basically would increase the amount of personal income that is tax-free.

Deductions for mortgage interest and charitable giving would remain, but the plan seeks to end most other itemized deductions that can reduce how much affluent families pay.

A battle is already brewing among Republicans

over a move to eliminate the deduction for state and local taxes, which is especially valuable to people in high-tax states such as New York, New Jersey and California. Republicans from those states are vowing to fight it.

The plan also would:

- Retain existing tax benefits for college and retirement savings such as 401(k) contribution plans.
- Seek to help families by calling for an increased child tax credit and opening it to families with higher incomes. The credit currently is \$1,000 per child. Also proposed is a new tax credit of \$500 to help pay for the care of the elderly and the sick who are claimed as dependents by a taxpayer.
- Eliminate the estate tax — paid by those with multimillion-inheritances, a boon for wealthy individuals who inherit businesses, investments and real estate. Also slated for elimination is the alternative minimum tax, a supplemental tax for certain individuals, corporations and estates that enjoy exemptions that lower their income tax bills.
- Allow companies to pay substantially lower tax rates, part of an effort to make U.S. businesses more competitive globally. The plan would impose a new, lower tax on corporate profits stashed overseas and create a new tax structure for overseas business operations of U.S. companies.
- Give new benefits to firms in which the profits double as the owners' personal income. They would pay at a 25 percent rate, down from 39.6 percent. This creates a possible loophole for rich investors, lawyers, doctors and others; administration officials say they will design measures to prevent any abuses.

TITLE SHOT

The Cole County Commission lends its backing to the CVB's efforts to keep state athletic championships here.

LOCAL B1



VEGGIE TOPS

Don't toss those vegetable tops — there are plenty of ways to use them.

FLAVOR E1

JEFFERSON CITY, MISSOURI

News Tribune



75¢

WEDNESDAY
OCTOBER 11, 2017

VOL. 152, NO. 190

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Greitens: Missouri National Guard to add 800 jobs

Expansion includes creation of trial defense team in JC

By Brittany Hilderbrand
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Gov. Eric Greitens on Tuesday announced plans to increase the Missouri National Guard's ranks by adding 800 new jobs by 2019.

His plan would create six new stand-up units by adding: a trial defense team in Jefferson City, transportation units in Farmington and Perryville, a maintenance team in Kansas City, an engineer support team in Bridgeton and a cyber

protection team in St. Louis.

"Our goal is to make the Missouri National Guard a national model for excellence," Greitens said. "I'm proud to announce the Guard is growing."

He said the expansion is an opportunity for Missouri families to gain meaningful employment where 85 percent of jobs will be for full-time Guardsmen, while the remaining 15 percent is open for civilian employees.

The new jobs would have a \$15 million economic impact of the state, he said.

Steve Danner, adjunct general for the Missouri National Guard, told the News Tribune he is proud to see a "growth spurt."

"We are on a growth spurt in Missouri, and I attribute it to the professionalism of the soldiers and airmen who have done such a great job that the active Army and Air Force look to our state to put more units here because Missouri is top-notch," Danner said.

According to the Missouri National Guard press release, the state has 9,300 soldiers serving in the Guard.

Adding 800 jobs to that total is expected to have a \$15 million impact on the state through additional payroll, as well as incidental contracting associated with the units' activities, officials said.

Please see Guard, p. 3



Gov. Eric Greitens shakes the hand of Missouri National Guard First Sgt. Howard Walker following his announcement of the Guard's expansion. "There are only so many spots that we are able to fill," Walker said, "I think that the expansion will help."

Seeking paths to diversity



Joan Keenan speaks during the second public forum regarding racial disparity in the community Tuesday at One in Christ Baptist Church.

Second town hall examines how to build race-conscious institutional structures

By Phillip Sitter
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The second meeting in a planned trilogy of town halls on racial disparities and inequities in Jefferson City focused on how to translate conversations into tangible actions.

The panel in front of Tuesday's audience at One in Christ Baptist Church consisted of Jefferson City Public Schools Superintendent Larry Linthacum, 5th Ward City Councilman Larry Henry, Mayor Carrie Tergin and Bishop James Howard Jr. of One in Christ. Rev. Jon Nelson moderated.

The racist photo incident last month involving three Jefferson City High School students spurred the creation of the community town halls, in addition to other upcoming community engagement events that the school district has announced.

People in the audience were appreciative such conversations are happening at all, but much of the talk Tuesday night focused on how the community will have

to consciously construct an environment in its institutions and social spaces that fosters inclusion and a better understanding of racial issues.

On the part of the public schools, "we need to do our part and take responsibility," Linthacum said, but in addition to the district looking into how it can improve its hiring processes in an effort to create a more diverse body of staff, he added "I'm going to ask the question, 'what can the schools expect from parents and the community?'" in terms of teaching children the importance of diversity and inclusion.

More diverse staff within local schools and other public services like the city's police and fire departments are not simply going to be delivered from on high; the consensus Tuesday was such an outcome is going to take concerted efforts on the part of institutions, the leaders of those community bodies and the people they serve.

Please see Town hall, p. 3

Hawley announces US Senate bid

ST. LOUIS (AP) — Republican Missouri Attorney General Josh Hawley has made it official: He's running for the U.S. Senate against incumbent Democrat Claire McCaskill in 2018.

Hawley, a 37-year-old in his first year of elected office, released a video Tuesday morning announcing his candidacy against McCaskill, who is among 10 Senate Democrats running in states won by President Donald Trump, and whose seat is considered among the most vulnerable.

He said he wasn't planning to run for Senate. "But we believe we have to do all we can to win a better future for our country," Hawley said on

the video.

"It's time to do something new," Hawley said. "America is an exceptional place, and it's still a young country. Its future is worth fighting for. So let's get ready and do our part."

McCaskill and Missouri Democrats have anticipated the announcement for months. The Missouri Democratic Party in July launched a digital ad accusing Hawley of using the attorney general's office as a stepping stone to higher office.

McCaskill campaign manager David Kirby

Please see Hawley, p. 3

Planned Parenthood, ACLU sue over Missouri abortion law

KANSAS CITY (AP) — Planned Parenthood and the American Civil Liberties Union filed a lawsuit Tuesday seeking a temporary injunction against a portion of a new law passed this summer that tightens abortion regulations in Missouri.

During a special session called this summer by Gov. Eric Greitens, lawmakers approved a bill giving the attorney general new powers to prosecute people who violate abortion laws and enacted several new requirements, such as annu-

al state health department inspections of clinics and approval of clinics' plans for handling complications during medication-induced abortions.

The lawsuit, filed in Jackson County Circuit Court, asks for a temporary restraining order and preliminary injunction to block the law from going into effect on Oct. 24. It also asks for a finding that the law is unconstitutional.

The lawsuit focuses on a requirement the

Please see Abortion, p. 3



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OUTSIDE



Mostly cloudy and cool

Today's high: 62
Today's low: 49

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SPORTS



Lady Falcons in three

The Blair Oaks Lady Falcons defeated the Jefferson City Lady Jays in three sets Tuesday night in volleyball.

PAGE C1

WATERCOOLER

Oregon woman wakes to find bear in living room

A woman in Oregon forgot to latch her front door and awoke to find a 160-pound bear in her living room.

The Baker City Herald reports the bear knocked over a bookshelf but didn't harm the 78-year-old woman.

The 3-year-old male bear was trapped and euthanized. Authorities have determined it was the same bear that was shot in the face last month by another startled resident who found it on his front porch.

It's the third bear trapped and killed around Sumpter — population 204 — since Sept. 23.

Brian Ratliff, a wildlife biologist with the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, said bears may be coming into more contact with humans because a dry summer limited their supply of berries.

QUICKNATION

Jury clears 1 officer, deadlocks on other in shooting trial

PITTSBURGH (AP) — A jury cleared one Pittsburgh police officer of assault allegations Tuesday but deadlocked on whether another officer violated a man's civil rights when he shot him as the man's car sped away from a traffic stop with the officer still inside.

Jurors returned the partial verdict a couple hours after returning from a three-day weekend. The 10-member jury of two men and eight women had told the judge Friday they were deadlocked in the lawsuit filed by 24-year-old Leon Ford, who is black, against white officers David Derbish and Andrew Miller.

The judge instructed the jury, which had no black members, to continue deliberating in the civil rights trial held amid concerns about black men nationwide being shot by officers in recent years.

Motorist falls short in bid to jump car over canal

LEHIGH ACRES, Fla. (AP) — Authorities said a man tried to jump his car over a canal in a Florida neighborhood, but didn't make it.

WFTX reports that the car had been towed from the Lehigh Acres canal on Tuesday after it failed to clear the 20 feet between both sides.

Before attempting the jump, witnesses

were quoted as telling the television station, the man drove to the edge of the canal and got out of the car to observe the distance.

Lee County deputies said the man wasn't injured, but the Toyota Corolla was totaled.

Boy lost at Utah corn maze spends night in welfare custody

WEST JORDAN, Utah (AP) — Police said a 3-year-old boy spent the night in child welfare custody after he got lost at a Utah corn maze.

Police Sgt. Joe Monson said Tuesday the child was apparently left behind while visiting the Crazy Corn Maze in the Salt Lake City suburb of West Jordan with a large family group.

He said the boy was cold and frightened but unharmed when someone else found him at the maze Monday evening.

Staffers called on a bullhorn and searched for his family but couldn't find anyone until his mother called police Tuesday morning. Monson says she later arrived at the police station with about 10 children.

The boy is expected to be reunited with his family.

No blue hair for school picture

ST. JOHNS, Fla. (AP) — A third-grade student in Florida was sent home from school on picture day because he broke the dress code by sporting blue hair.

Dana Sinno told TV station News4 Jax

her 8-year-old son Luca didn't get to have his picture taken Monday at his elementary school near Jacksonville. The principal pointed to a school district handbook which bans "extreme hairstyles."

The mother argues that the word "extreme" is up for interpretation.

She said Luca wanted a bold look for school pictures.

Thus they bleached out his hair, dyed it blue, and the youngster donned a suit before heading to school.

Later, Dana Sinno got a call from the principal's office asking her to pick up her child.

Dad of boy who died after scalding bath gets 7 years

CINCINNATI (AP) — The father of a 4-year-old Ohio boy who died after his stepmother put him in a scalding bath has been sentenced to seven years in prison for involuntary manslaughter and child endangering.

Robert Ritchie was sentenced Tuesday in a Warren County court in Lebanon, roughly 35 miles northeast of Cincinnati. Prosecutors have said the Franklin man failed to get medical treatment that could have saved Austin Cooper's life in March 2016.

Ritchie's attorney, Frank Schiavone III, argued that Ritchie's wife covered up her crime.

Schiavone also characterized Ritchie as another victim and "an abused man."

White House requests \$5B for Puerto Rico

WASHINGTON (AP) — The White House on Tuesday asked Congress for \$5 billion to ease a fiscal crisis striking the government of Puerto Rico in the wake of Hurricane Maria.

Puerto Rico's central government and various municipalities and other local governments are suffering unsustainable cash shortfalls as Maria has choked off revenues and strained resources. The administration's request, so far delivered informally, would provide \$4.9 billion for Puerto Rico and its local jurisdictions.

The White House also requested \$150 million to help Puerto Rico with the 10 percent match required for Federal Emergency Management Agency disaster relief.

A senior administration official confirmed the request, requiring anonymity because it is not yet official. The official stressed that jurisdictions other than Puerto Rico are eligible, though draft language sent to Capitol Hill limited the request to

U.S. territories.

On Saturday, Puerto Rico Gov. Ricardo Rossello sent a letter to lawmakers asking for \$500 million for the community disaster loan program, which is designed to help local governments deal with tax revenue shortfalls caused by disasters. He requested almost \$4 billion in other aid.

"In addition to the immediate humanitarian crisis, Puerto Rico is on the brink of a massive liquidity crisis that will intensify in the immediate future," Rossello wrote.

Puerto Rico was already suffering from a lengthy recession and its government was beset with fiscal struggles to begin with. A financial control board is overseeing its debt problems and austerity plans.

The administration asked for \$29 billion last week for FEMA disaster relief efforts and to pay federal flood insurance claims. House Majority Leader Kevin McCarthy said a vote is likely this week.



Minister Aaron Smith listens to panelists speak Wednesday evening during the second public forum regarding racism in the community held at One in Christ Baptist Church.

Moy joins Revenue as strategy, communications director

Anne Marie Moy, of Kirkwood, is the state Revenue Department's new strategy and communications director.

Moy previously headed the state Senate's Communications office, and began her new post Tuesday.

In her new role, Moy will be part of the department's senior leadership team, a news release said.

She'll be "playing a lead role in setting strategic direction and leading external and internal communications," the release explained.

Her duties will include supervising the public information office, but spokeswoman Michelle Gleba remains the public information officer.

"Anne Marie brings a wealth of experience to the Department of Revenue and will greatly enhance our ability to set a course and deliver enhanced

performance for the citizens and businesses in Missouri," Revenue Director Joel Walters said in the news release. "Moreover, she will help communicate the good work that is being done by our team today and the enhancement of our delivery we intend to deliver over the coming months and years."

Moy has worked more than 20 years in communications and public affairs, in government, corporate, agency and consulting positions.

Before joining the Senate staff, Moy served as communications director for a wide range of political and issues-oriented initiatives including: Better Together, Grow Missouri, Fair Trade

Missouri, Proposition A and the YES for Schools First Coalition.

Throughout her career, the news release reported, Moy provided senior-level, strategic communications counsel for a variety of clients, including the Children's Education Alliance of Missouri (CEAM), the Open Space Council for the St. Louis Region, Carrollton Bank, The Home Depot, Energizer Max brands, Transentric — a wholly owned subsidiary of Union Pacific, King Safety Products and Medicine Shoppe Pharmacies, to name a few.

Moy is a Jacksonville, Illinois, native. She earned a bachelor's degree in journalism from the University of Mississippi.

Town hall:

Continued from p. 1

In terms of finding more diverse applicants for local positions, the question came up of why Lincoln University graduates are not being utilized more.

"For a time, the city never really touched Lincoln University as far as job recruiting," Henry said. "That's a problem. ... Those students at Lincoln have to stop being looked at as step-children in this community."

"We have to step up our efforts when it comes to recruiting as a city."

There's a wrinkle to addressing that: In the midst of Lincoln's financial troubles, the school is not receiving the full funding it could be as a land grant institution, while the University of Missouri is receiving the fund-

ing. "We can certainly advocate," Tergin said in answer to the question of what can the city do to fight harder for that funding, but "we don't have authority" to make a direct decision.

Decisions on the state level also to some extent control what kind of curriculum is available in public schools — curriculum that could better foster a consciousness about privilege and the power dynamics that especially shape the lives of economically disadvantaged people and people of color.

"I don't believe we have a racial diversity class," Linthacum said, although he added teachers have flexibility to decide how to accomplish the objectives required by the Missouri Learning Standards.

At one time, there were local bodies tasked with looking into issues of race. Tergin said she's open to looking into

the idea of bringing back the city's multi-cultural commission, which she said went away years ago because leaders then decided other groups could do a better job than the commission.

To bring the commission back, she said it's going to take staff looking into feasibility and hearing a desire to do so from the community, as well as a willingness to serve on it. "The city could certainly step up, and in fact we're looking into that as we speak," she said.

Linthacum said the school district also had multi-cultural advisory committee that seems to have dissolved at some point in the transitions between the administrations of Linthacum and his predecessors Burt Kimble and Brian Mitchell. "Could we start that committee? Absolutely," Linthacum said. "Is that an option we're evaluating? Absolutely."

Abortion:

Continued from p. 1

doctor who will perform the abortion must give specific information about the procedure to a woman at least 72 hours before the abortion. Currently, doctors, nurses, physicians' assistants, licensed counselors and others can provide women with information about their options, medical procedures and the risks.

The new requirement would force women to make two trips to the clinic — with some having to drive hundreds of miles — while providing the same information they receive under current procedures, according to the lawsuit.

A statement from the organizations noted women in Springfield, for example, would have to make two round trips of 300-400 miles rather than making an initial visit to a local health center.

The organizations noted the state already requires women to make two separate appointments 72 hours apart before having an abortion. Meeting both 72-hour requirements could prevent some women from having an abortion for weeks, the organizations argue, making access to abortion especially difficult for poor, young and

rural women as well as women of color.

"We all want women to have the information and support they need to make a decision about a pregnancy," said Aaron Samulcek, interim president and CEO of Planned Parenthood of Great Plains. "Planned Parenthood health centers provide every woman with accurate information, counseling and support to make personal medical decisions that are best for her health and well-being. This law is political interference at its worst."

Planned Parenthood of the St. Louis Region CEO and president Mary Kogut called the new law "part of a broader effort to ban safe, legal abortion."

The national American Civil Liberties Union and the ACLU of Missouri are also representing two physicians, Drs. David L. Eisenberg and Colleen P. McNicholas, arguing the law also imposes a burden that some physicians will not be able to meet.

Attorney General Josh Hawley's office was reviewing the lawsuit Tuesday, spokeswoman Loree Anne Paradise said.

"(The new law) enacts sensible regulations that protect the health of women in Missouri and it is our duty and privilege to vigorously defend them," Paradise said.

Hawley:

Continued from p. 1

said Hawley broke his promise not to climb the political ladder.

"We applaud Josh for coming clean about his intention to run and look forward to contrasting his record of broken promises with Claire's record of listening to Missourians and breaking through gridlock to get things done for them," Kirby said.

Hawley said on the video he and his wife didn't initially plan a Senate run. "But we believe we have to do all we can to win a better future for our country," he said.

Timmy Teepell, a senior adviser to Hawley's campaign, said in a statement Hawley will formally launch the campaign in 2018 and wait until then to make campaign appearances.

McCaskill, 64, is in her second term in the Senate, but Missouri voters have increasingly favored Republicans in recent years. Just one statewide office holder, Auditor Nicole Gallo-way, is a Democrat, and only two other federal lawmakers are Democrats — congressmen William Lacy Clay of St. Louis and Emanuel Cleaver of Kansas City.



Democratic Sen. Claire McCaskill, left, talks with Republican Missouri Attorney General Josh Hawley during the Governor's Ham Breakfast at the Missouri State Fair in Sedalia.

The Senate campaign figures to be a mirror image of the 2016 campaign involving Missouri's other incumbent senator, Republican Roy Blunt. In that campaign, Blunt, first elected to Congress in 1996, held off a highly-regarded young Democratic challenger, Jason Kander.

Unlike Kander, though, Hawley seems to have momentum on

his side.

Once considered a swing state, Missouri has turned decidedly Republican in recent elections. In statewide races in 2016, Republicans replaced Democrats as governor, attorney general, secretary of state and treasurer, and Trump easily carried the state over Democrat Hillary Clinton. In fact, Repub-

licans haven't lost a statewide race since McCaskill defeated Republican Todd Akin in 2012.

The Missouri race could be crucial in control of the Senate, where the GOP currently has a narrow majority of 52 seats.

Former Sen. John Danforth of St. Louis has publicly announced his support for Hawley and encouraged him to run. But Hawley must also bring in the more conservative wing of the Republican Party, a balancing act that could prove difficult.

The Kansas City Star reported last week Hawley spoke with former White House strategist Steve Bannon after Bannon helped Roy Moore win the Alabama Republican primary in September over incumbent Sen. Luther Strange. A spokesman for Hawley did not immediately respond to a request to confirm if Hawley was seeking the support of Bannon, who left his White House post in August and returned to Breitbart News, which he led before joining Trump's campaign.

Vice President Mike Pence in July called Hawley about the race. Prominent donor David Humphreys also is among high-profile Republicans who released a letter in April encouraging Hawley to run.

LGBT SURVEY

Jefferson City received the lowest possible score in a recent LGBT equality survey by the Human Rights Commission.

LOCAL B1



SUNFLOWERS

Though the market may be limited in Missouri, the state's sunflower crop is growing strong.

STYLE E1

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SUNDAY
OCTOBER 22, 2017

VOL. 90, NO. 35

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Staying in the loop

State, business leaders continue pursuing hyperloop possibility

By Philip Joens

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A proposed hyperloop could change Missouri's perception of distance.

On some sunny day in the future, someone could wake up in Jefferson City, travel to a meeting in St. Louis, jet to Kansas City for lunch, and head to Branson for some sight-seeing, all before dinner.

Missouri, business, state and education leaders on Oct. 3 announced their support for a study that could determine whether building the ultra-fast

ground transit system is possible. Since then, the proposal gained steam as the company that could build the hyperloop re-evaluated Missouri's proposal and state leaders incorporated it into their bids for Amazon's new headquarters.

Most of all, a hyperloop could be an economic engine for the state, according to officials with the Missouri Department of Transportation, and business and education leaders.

In June, Gov. Eric Greitens created the Governor's Innovation Task Force, which sought to make Missouri a better place for business by making it

easier for companies to find employees and making the state a better place to live. Since then, state agencies, business groups and research institutions have tried to be proactive on projects like the hyperloop.

"In the depths of our funding issues, we wanted to make sure that as an organization we were looking to the future even through financial uncertainty to make sure that we were opening to the really exciting things that are coming," MoDOT Director

Please Hyperloop, p. 3

Residents work toward historic district

City faces time crunch to demolish building or risk paying back federal funds

By Nicole Roberts

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A school bus stopped next to the Greenway on East McCarty Street last Wednesday to drop off students who ran to their homes. Each building in the neighborhood was decorated differently — some sporting Halloween decorations, others with plywood over the windows and doors.

What's all involved in the Central East Side plan?

Views, Page A7

Jefferson City residents are working toward making the area between East McCarty, Lafayette, East Miller and Marshall streets a local historic district to protect it from being turned into a park.

Please see Historic, p. 4

JCPS diversity talks to get underway

By Phillip Sitter

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After two town hall meetings at local churches, Jefferson City Public Schools will begin its own series of community meetings on diversity Tuesday.

Tuesday's discussion will be 6-8 p.m. at the Boys & Girls Club of Jefferson City, 1105 Lafayette St.

That meeting is the first of three to be hosted by the school district following a photo shared on social media last month. The photo featured four young people, three of whom were identified as Jefferson City High School students. The youths posed in the photo in front of a car that had racially insensitive and other offensive imagery drawn into dust on the trunk.

The incident sparked a response from the community and the school district that's gone beyond punishment for the students involved and outcry over the photo itself. At the town hall meetings, community members shared their experiences of inequities and disparities in their relationships with the school district and other local institutions; by the second town hall, the conversation had shifted into how to go about fostering diversity within those institutions.

"From my lens, (it's been) positive to start the conversations," JCPS Superintendent Larry Linthacum said Wednesday. While the district did not host the town halls, Linthacum has been among those at the

Please see Diversity, p. 3



In the field learning



Shelby Kardell/News Tribune

Above: Harrison Tolson, front, leads a group of Cub Scouts on Saturday in a group exercise during Cub Scout Field Day at Ellis-Porter Riverside Park.

Left: Adam Sissom, 8, right, learns how to tie a bowline knot during the field day.

Boys & Girls Club awarded STEM grant

By Brittany Hilderbrand
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With the support of a \$1.5 million grant, elementary students who participate in the Boys & Girls Club of Jefferson City's after-school programs now can be exposed at an earlier age to science, technology, engineering and mathematics projects.

The local Boys & Girls Club recently received grant funding to introduce STEM programming to youth in grades K-5 at the Frank and Billie Railton Center and to students attending Callaway Hills Elementary School.

Prior to the grant, federally funded and awarded through the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, the local BGC offered STEM programs only to middle school students.

"We are honored to once again be selected as a 21st Century Community Learning Center," said Stephanie

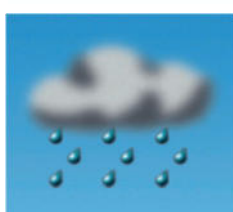
Please see STEM, p. 3



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OUTSIDE



Early rain; getting cooler

Today's high: 63
Today's low: 40

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SPORTS



Lady Falcons defeated

The Blair Oaks Lady Falcons fall to Bowling Green in the Class 2 state softball championship game Saturday in Springfield.

■ PAGE C1

WATERCOOLER

'Zombie' event staged at Okla. Capitol to support taxes

Oklahoma anti-tax "zombies" were pushed away from the state Capitol in a mock event by groups supporting tax increases to prevent cuts to social services.

Saturday's event featuring people dressed as zombies was staged by Together Oklahoma and the Oklahoma Policy Institute. Videos are posted on Facebook and Twitter.

Charles Martin of Together Oklahoma said the group supports increasing gross production taxes on oil and gas from 2 percent to 7 percent, which would raise an estimated \$400 million.

Many Republican lawmakers oppose that and support a \$1.50 per pack cigarette tax increase, which Democrats oppose without a production tax increase to at least 5 percent.

Oklahoma lawmakers are struggling to figure out how to fill a \$215 million budget hole.



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Kansas City's request for bridge funds upsets other cities

KANSAS CITY (AP) — Kansas City's efforts to obtain \$40 million in federal funding to replace an important bridge are unsettling officials for neighboring cities, who think the request would stop them from trying to get funds for their transportation projects.

The city wants the funds from the Surface Transportation Program to help pay the estimated \$200 million cost of repairing the Buck O'Neil Bridge, which carries 44,000 drivers a day across the Missouri River. Mayor Sly James and City Manager Troy Schulte made the request in a letter to the Mid-America Regional Council, which allocates the funds to various projects in the Kansas City metro area.

Normally, MARC would allocate the funds — \$30-\$37 million — to multiple projects in the region, the Kansas City Star reported. Officials from nearby Grandview say Kansas City's request would take most, if not all, of the funds that the Missouri side of the metro region would get for two years.

"Not even having the chance (for the funds) is not fair or appropriate," said Dennis Randolph, public works director for Grandview, which planned to request \$5 million of the funds for transportation projects.

Kansas City leaders, however, say a long clo-

sure of the Buck O'Neil Bridge "would have irreversible and devastating life-safety and economic impacts to the Kansas City region," the letter from James and Schulte warns.

The state has determined the bridge is deteriorating, and there were talks of starting repairs in 2019 but the proposed method would have required closing the bridge for two years.

James said this week "having that bridge closed for two years is the worst thing that could happen."

Replacing the Buck O'Neil Bridge without extensive closures would cost \$200 million but the funding is uncertain. The Missouri Department of Transportation has offered up to \$100 million in matching funds if Kansas City can get the rest.

But the transportation department has not identified where the \$100 million match would come from, said Susan Barry, assistant district manager.

And Kansas City officials aren't sure where they would get \$100 million, even if its \$40 million request was approved.

Dena Mezger, public works director for Lee's Summit, said Kansas City officials at a meeting this week conceded the possibility of splitting its request over more than one funding cycle — each funding cycle lasts two years.



Collin Krabbe/News Tribune

Seniors benefit from spaghetti

Bob Gammon, left, speaks to David Perkins about a spaghetti dinner Saturday at Jefferson Lodge No. 43 to raise money for Jefferson City High School and Helias High School. The money will be used to help fund "Project Graduation," a celebratory all-night event for graduating high school seniors.

STEM:

Continued from p. 1

Johnson, executive director of the Boys & Girls Club of Jefferson City. "Now that we are in our new facility, it is important that we are able to provide impactful, outcome-driven programs that benefit the children of our community."

The money will be used to purchase equipment, supplies and after-school curriculum, as well as the necessary staffing to embed a tutoring program and STEM-based enrichment program at the club, Johnson explained.

The BGC's existing education director will serve as liaison between BGC, the Jefferson City Public School District and local private schools, and will have access to participating children's grades in order to identify areas of deficit by working with their teachers.

"JCPS has been a proud partner of the Boys & Girls Club for numerous years," said Amy Berendzen, district director of school-community relations. "The success of this partnership is again solidified by the receipt of this grant. The efforts of the Boys & Girls Club help the district to fulfill our mission of giving every student hope for a better tomorrow. This grant equips JCPS students to receive STEM program curriculum that is tailored to meet the individual academic needs of each child."

The STEM enrichment program will introduce youth to robotics, engineering projects, 3-D printing technology, science experiments, virtual reality and more. Johnson noted the



Shelby Kardell/News Tribune

T'Qyra Sessioa, 8, front, and Marli Goodman, 8, read after school Friday at the Boys & Girls Club of Jefferson City. The club recently received a \$1.5 million grant for STEM programs.

tutoring programs will focus on improving math and science skills by providing hands-on after-school learning activities.

The grant not only supplies elementary students in Jefferson City an earlier passage into STEM programs but extends the opportunity for students at Callaway Hills Elementary to have BGC after-school programs.

Individualized tutoring and transportation home for children who participate in the after-school program also will be extended to Callaway Hills students.

BGC will hire seven tutors/teachers to work with the children academically, while oth-

ers will teach programs such as robotics and culinary arts, Johnson explained.

The club also will hire five part-time youth development professionals to work with children at Callaway Hills as well as a full-time education director for the site.

"As an elementary school with one of the highest free and reduced lunch rates in our district, we know the students could benefit from Boys & Girls Club services," Johnson said. "Because DESE is fully funding this site, we can offer these services at no cost to the families."

Currently, Johnson said, BGC serves a few middle school

students who live in Holts Summit, but this new grant allows them to have a larger on-site presence in the Holts Summit community.

"The Callaway Hills building staff is super excited about the reception of this grant," Callaway Hills Principal Todd Shalz said. "Our students and families will benefit from having the Boys & Girls Club after-school program at Callaway Hills."

To learn more about applying for one of the Boys & Girls Club's new part-time positions or to volunteer as part of this program, contact the Boys & Girls Club at 573-634-2582 or email admin@bgjc.com.

Diversity:

Continued from p. 1

forefront of the discussions and in receiving feedback from the community.

He wasn't ready to give specific details of the district's upcoming series of discussions, but he said "it's going to be a much different format."

He added there will be time for questions and answers at the discussions, but a lot of what he expects will happen will be to ask for input and solutions from the community once the district gives "an update of where we are and plans moving forward."

JCPS Board of Education President Steve Bruce said Friday one of his main takeaways from the town hall he attended was "that we have some patrons and families that have (had) a totally different experience with our school district" than his own family or others he knows. "That really bothers me," he added.

He gave credit to Linthacum for taking the approach he has since the photo incident. "A lot of other folks might have chosen to do something lesser," Bruce said.

Once the district's three scheduled meetings conclude in the first full week of November, "regardless of what form the discussion takes after that, we have an obligation to ask Dr. Linthacum to put together the information he heard," at all the community discussions and "marry those (perspectives) against areas that the school district can perform better in," Bruce said.

He cited hiring a more diverse JCPS workforce and taking minority history into account as examples of areas to perform bet-

ter in as a district.

He also acknowledged, though, "We can't make decisions and have impacts in a vacuum" — something the town halls have hinted at was lasting change in the institutional cultures of Jefferson City will require people and organizations acting in concert.

Bruce said it's human nature to want to turn away and focus on more comfortable issues to solve or discussions to have, but "you don't have that luxury when you serve in a leadership position." He added it's "very heartening to me" that local people are undertaking the efforts.

The second of the district's three scheduled community discussions on diversity will be 6-8 p.m. Nov. 7 at the Hawthorn Bank Community Room, 3600 Amazonas Drive.

The third discussion will be 6-8 p.m. the following night, Nov. 8, at Mid-America Bank in Holts Summit, 580 Karen Drive.

Quinn Chapel A.M.E. Church is hosting an event of its own Monday. The event, titled "Healing Racism: From Chaos to Community," will be 6:30-8 p.m. at the church, 415 Lafayette St.

The event's description on Facebook invited people to join "as we continue the much-needed conversation on racism and white supremacy in our communities and our institutions, including school and church."

The title of the evening refers to a publication of Martin Luther King, Jr., "Where Do We Go from Here: Chaos or Community?"

The description noted, "Faith Voices will gather to imagine together the next tangible steps that we might take to see real transformation and reconciliation in our community. We believe that together we can 'face the challenge of change.'"

Hyperloop:

Continued from p. 1

Patrick McKenna said.

If built, the proposed hyperloop could ferry riders between Kansas City and St. Louis along a 240-mile track in 25 minutes at 671 mph.

The hyperloop works like a monorail in an airless pipeline.

To reduce friction, the hyperloop's cars levitate above an electromagnetic rail, McKenna said. A vacuum takes the air out of the tube, creating an environment similar to the vacuum of space, further eliminating friction and drag.

"One of the main efficiencies gained is not having wind," McKenna said. "It requires a lot less energy to move through a chamber without having to push wind out of the way."

Passenger features, like safety features and cars, still need to be designed. McKenna said the hyperloop could transport only cargo for a period after completion.

Inspired by the vision of Tesla and SpaceX magnet Elon Musk, Los Angeles-based Hyperloop One is evaluating building about 10 routes around the world, including U.S. routes between Chicago and Pittsburgh along with Cheyenne, Wyoming-Denver and Dallas-Houston.

Its direct competitor is Musk's SpaceX Hyperloop, which is developing similar technology. Still, Hyperloop One appears to have the early edge. It was the first company to complete a full scale hyperloop test. During its recent second test July 29, its test vehicle reached 192 mph on a 500-meter test track in the Nevada desert.

In September, the company did not name the Missouri route as one of its 10 worldwide finalists in the Hyperloop One Global Challenge, but it encouraged MoDOT to keep working on the project.

The Missouri Department of Economic Devel-

opment announced Thursday it would support the Kansas City and St. Louis bids for Amazon's second headquarters and touted the hyperloop as a way to support both cities.

Hyperloop One did not respond to a News Tribune request for comment, but the state's recent efforts appear to have caught its eye. Hyperloop One Global Head of Policy Dan Katz told the Associated Press on Thursday the state is among the top three to five contenders for a hyperloop track.

MoDOT, the St. Louis Regional Chamber, the KC Tech Council, the University of Missouri System and the Missouri Innovation Center in Columbia announced plans Oct. 3 to conduct a feasibility study determining what would be needed to build a hyperloop. Leaders from all groups are looking for private funding now for the study.

The hyperloop itself likely would cost billions of dollars to build and be years away from completion. Documents obtained last October by Forbes showed Hyperloop One estimated a 107-mile route across the San Francisco Bay Area could cost \$9 billion-\$13 billion or \$84 million-\$121 million per mile.

Because of the high cost, McKenna stressed the majority of funding for the hyperloop would need to come from the private sector.

"We are realistic in our approach and with our funding situation," McKenna said. "We have to be cognizant and very aware that public resources being applied to this thing in a direct basis is not really possible. We're more of a facilitator than anything else."

Dan Mehan, director of the Jefferson City-based Missouri Chamber of Commerce and Industry, said the hyperloop would tie the state's cities, towns and economy together like never before.

"For the state, it would be a game changer," Mehan said.

The hyperloop would follow the path of Interstate 70 across Missouri and make a stop in Columbia between Kansas City and St. Louis. Despite its location in the northern third of the state, Mehan



Courtesy of Hyperloop One

The Hyperloop One test track is seen in the Nevada desert.

said the route makes sense. He noted 70 percent of the state's population lives near I-70, and the hyperloop would tie together the two biggest cities.

Still, Mehan said, the hyperloop would shrink travel times for Missourians in places like Jefferson City by eliminating much of the driving currently done and making travel times quicker.

"It's just the most logical route," Mehan said.

One of the state's biggest economic strengths, Mehan said, is the University of Missouri's agriculture program and other ag companies large and small based in the state. Building the hyperloop could make it easier to connect companies and research centers, he said.

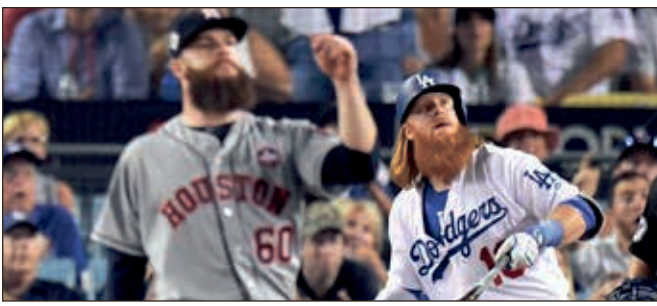
University of Missouri System President Mun Choi threw the UM system's support behind the project. He agrees the hyperloop could help the system's ag schools by making it easier to connect

its four campuses and research farms, like one in Kingdom City.

"It's going to allow people who enjoy working in a metropolitan area like Kansas City or St. Louis, but also live in a rural community, perhaps in Mexico, Missouri," Choi said. "It provides more options."

Choi said the university's schools recognize that to grow the state's economy, Missouri needs to invest heavily in infrastructure programs. He said the university's schools will lend resources and expertise to Hyperloop One and state leaders.

"Students, along with our faculty members, are going to be key drivers in innovation," Choi said. "Innovation is important not only for entrepreneurs who want to start businesses, but every company wants to be innovative so they can compete on the global marketplace."



A FAST START

The Los Angeles Dodgers only needed two hours, 28 minutes to open the World Series on Tuesday with a 3-1 win in Game 1 against the Houston Astros. Game 2 is tonight in L.A.

SPORTS C1

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News Tribune



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WEDNESDAY
OCTOBER 25, 2017

VOL. 152, NO. 202

WWW.NEWSTRIBUNE.COM

JCPS strives to be 'stronger together'

Community input gathered at first diversity discussion

By Phillip Sitter
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Solutions were the focus Tuesday night of the first of three planned diversity discussions to be hosted by Jefferson City Public Schools following an incident with a racially-insensitive photo last month.

About 40 people plus district Board of Education members and staff came together to discuss strategies and ideas for initiatives to promote diversity and inclusion within the school district.

The racially-insensitive photo that appeared on social media last month featured four young people, three of whom are Jefferson City High School students. The youths posed in the photo in front of a car that had racially insensitive and offensive imagery drawn into dust on the trunk.

The incident has spurred wider community discussions encompassing racial issues beyond the photo itself.

Two town hall meetings hosted by local

Please see Diversity, p. 3



Shelby Kardell/News Tribune

Claudine Ruboneka, left, and Eugene Vogel, right, participate in Tuesday's diversity discussion sponsored by the Jefferson City Public School District at the Boys & Girls Club of Jefferson City.

Musical send off



Shelby Kardell/News Tribune

The Jefferson City High School Jay Band practices Tuesday at Adkins Stadium during a send-off event before heading to Atlanta for its final – and biggest – competition of the year.

Renovations underway at new senior center

By Brittany Hilderbrand
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Renovations are underway for the Cole County senior center's second location, which will be in the West Point Executive Center at 2701 W. Main St.

"In our last meeting, we spoke about how we surely thought it would be open by Nov. 1," said Bill Deeken, board president of the Senior Nutrition Council, "but now, we think it would be open closer to the start of year."

Nathan Baysinger, senior administrator at the Clarke Senior Center, said contractors are working on plumbing, electrical work and setting up equipment in the new industrial kitchen at the West Point location.

"A lot of the building ordinance requirements are already in the works," Baysinger said. "We are attempting to meet the necessary requirements for the city code, health inspections, fire inspections; we had them come out and give us some preliminary suggestions."

Deeken said a \$7,500 grant from the United Way of Central Missouri will be used for costs related to kitchen construction. At this point, they are not prepared to give a total cost for the renovations.

The call for a new senior center came in May after a new

Please see Senior, p. 3

Transit needs unchanged in last 5 years

Funding among public's concern at CAMPO meeting

By Nicole Roberts
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Securing more funding for transit services and encouraging more coordination with different human services and transit entities were two of the top recommendations toward addressing transportation needs in the Capital Area Metropolitan Planning Organization's area.

CAMPO held a public meeting Tuesday to hear transit concerns and suggestions from residents in the CAMPO region, which includes Jefferson City and other Mid-Missouri municipalities.

The draft 2017 Coordinated Public

Transit Human Services Transportation Plan looks at current public and private transportation services and the unmet transportation needs in areas like Jefferson City, St. Martins, Taos, Wardsville and Holts Summit. The plan focuses particularly on the elderly, disabled and low-income populations' needs.

The last Coordinated Plan was in 2012, which identified needs for an evening and weekend transportation services, public transportation outside the Jefferson City limits and more funding for transportation services.

CAMPO sent out surveys and held meetings for different transportation providers, human service agencies and stakeholders, and these entities said the unmet needs in the 2012 plan still apply today.

The 2017 draft report states an additional issue is public transportation agencies like JeffTran, OATS and ServeTran thought state funding toward public transportation was insufficient.

OATS is a private nonprofit transportation provider for Cole and Callaway counties, while ServeTran is a Callaway County transportation system provided by a private nonprofit group.

Stakeholders also expressed concerns about overlapping services and wanted to reduce redundancy to increase efficiency and possibly funding that can go toward bettering transportation services. The report suggested the agencies strengthen coordination between each

Please see Transit, p. 3

Public defenders: Too many cases presents ethical dilemma

KANSAS CITY (AP) — Public defenders say two recent high court rulings have left them facing a troubling dilemma: Take on too many cases and risk losing their law license to an ethics complaint, or refuse to take on an excessive workload and risk being held in contempt of court and jailed.

Missouri Supreme Court justices last month disciplined an attorney with a large caseload they said risked client neglect then later told a public defender she must ask permission before denying additional cases. Missouri State Public Defender Director Michael Barrett has long complained the public defender system is underfunded and more attorneys are needed to ethically represent the state's poor.

Public defenders have tried to limit their caseloads since the first ruling in September in which a Columbia-based public defender was placed on probation for a year for failing to properly represent six clients. A judge in Boone County appointed nearly 40 private attorneys to represent criminal defendants. But last week, the state Supreme Court ruled against a southeastern Missouri public defender who wanted the high court to block a lower court judge from forcing her to take on more clients.

Please see Defenders, p. 3



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OUTSIDE



Sunny skies, mild temps

Today's high: 65
Today's low: 45

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FLAVOR



Easy as pie

From choosing the right dough ingredients to rolling and baking tricks, pies don't have to be complicated. Check out these tips before the holiday season. ■ PAGE E1

WATERCOOLER

Woman says she slipped on sandwich leftovers, sues store

A Delaware judge said a woman who said she slipped on the remnants of a sandwich can continue her lawsuit against a popular convenience store chain.

Lisa Donovan said she slipped and fell on "hoagie guts," or discarded sandwich pieces, in the parking lot of a Wawa store in 2014. Defense attorneys asked for summary judgment in their favor, arguing Donovan had failed to identify a liability expert on the issue of whether the store was negligent.

Donovan argued an expert was unnecessary because the need to sweep up trash in a parking lot is something the average person can understand.

The judge agreed with Donovan, saying a splattered hoagie in a parking lot is no different than water on the floor of a grocery store.

Appeals Court: Human Rights Commission must allow 2 employees to sue OA

By Bob Watson
bwatson@newstribune.com

Two state employees must be given the right to sue the Child Support Enforcement Division for employment discrimination, a three-judge appeals court panel ruled Tuesday.

The ACLU of Missouri submitted a "friend of the court" brief supporting the two employees, and said in a news release Tuesday afternoon it was pleased with the ruling.

"This decision recognizes for the first time that Missouri law prohibits employment discrimination on the basis of an employee's failure to conform to sex-based stereotypes," Tony Rothert, the ACLU-Missouri's legal director, said.

"This decision brings Missouri in line with federal employment law and the legal protections offered in most states."

The Missouri attorney general's office didn't comment on the decision.

Harold Lampley, of West Plains, filed sex discrimination charges in 2014 with the state Human Rights Commission and with the federal Equal Employment Opportunity Commission.

In a 10-page ruling written by Judge Anthony Rex Gabbert, the Kansas City-

based appeals court panel noted Lampley, who is gay, alleged the division, which is part of the state Office of Administration, "discriminated against him based on sex, because his behavior and appearance contradicted the stereotypes of maleness held by his employer and managers."

Lampley argued those stereotypes "motivated his employer to harass him and treat him differently from similarly situated employees who conformed to gender stereotypes."

In a separate complaint, Rene Frost, of Cabool — described as Lampley's "close friend and co-worker" in the appeals court's ruling — alleged retaliation based on her association with Lampley.

While the EEOC still was investigating the two cases, the Human Rights Commission ended the proceedings, Gabbert wrote, "stating it lacked jurisdiction over claims based on sexual orientation."

Lampley and Frost each asked the circuit court to review the commission's decision or order it to issue right-to-sue letters so the two employees could sue the state for the alleged discrimination.

Joyce consolidated the cases into one and ruled for the commission with a summary judgment, meaning she found no legal facts that could be argued before the court.

State law prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex but doesn't cover discrimination for sexual orientation, and the commission argued in court it doesn't have authority over sexual orientation complaints.

However, the appeals court ruled, even though Lampley acknowledged he's a gay man, he and Frost argued in all of their legal papers that the discrimination was based on Lampley's gender, not his orientation.

"Because evidence of sex stereotyping can support a reasonable inference of sex discrimination, we conclude there remain genuine issues of material fact precluding summary judgment," Gabbert wrote.

The ruling also noted the commission "did not address Appellants' theory of sex discrimination evidenced by sex stereotyping."

In a detailed analysis citing several previous state and federal cases, Gabbert wrote "sex stereotyping as a theory of sex discrimination was first articulated in" a 1989 U.S. Supreme Court ruling involving the Price Waterhouse company.

In that case, "a female senior manager in an accounting firm was denied partnership in the firm, because partners considered her insufficiently feminine," Gabbert wrote, and the high court said "an adverse employment action motivated by such ste-

reotyping was actionable sex discrimination" under federal law.

Although Missouri courts haven't ruled before on the sex orientation issue, the appeals court said, "even the (commission's) own employment regulations identify sex-based stereotyping as a prohibited employment practice. ... If the (commission) already considers stereotyping a discriminatory hiring practice, it follows that stereotyping can also evidence discriminatory conduct during the course of employment."

The appeals court disagreed with the commission's argument that "a sex stereotyping analysis transforms sexual orientation into a suspect class," ruling "sexual orientation is incidental and irrelevant to sex stereotyping."

Because state law requires an investigation into an employment discrimination complaint to be finished within 180 days — and that deadline passed in 2015 — Gabbert wrote: "The appropriate remedy in light of our ruling is for the (commission) to issue right-to-sue notices."

Lampley and Frost then could sue the state for discrimination, present their arguments and evidence supporting that allegation, and have a judge or jury determine whether the discrimination actually occurred.

Judge won't block part of new abortion law

KANSAS CITY (AP) — A judge won't block a portion of a new Missouri law that tightens abortion regulations from taking effect Tuesday.

Planned Parenthood and the ACLU challenged a requirement the doctor who will perform an abortion must give specific information about the procedure to a woman at least 72 hours beforehand. Previously, doctors, nurses, physicians' assistants, licensed counselors and others could provide women with information about their options, medical procedures and the risks.

The lawsuit said the new requirement will force women to make two trips to the clinic — with some having to drive hundreds of miles — while providing the same information they receive under current procedures.

A Jackson County judge ruled Monday the opponents' arguments didn't meet the bar for the law to be temporarily halted.

Diversity:

Continued from p. 1

churches have taken place in recent weeks. The district wasn't involved in organizing the town halls, but JCPS Superintendent Larry Linthacum was a panelist at both.

Rather than a larger town hall, the format for the district's first community event on diversity Tuesday featured smaller group discussions.

In a large room in the basement of the Boys & Girls Club of Jefferson City, tables were set up with about 10 chairs around each. Each table was given a notepad and pen along with a large paper prompt sheet.

The people at each table had 15 minutes to debate and answer the prompts. Notes were turned in to district staff, and the large sheets with main points were presented to the audience by one person from each table.

The prompts were "As a community, what can we do to become stronger together?" and what roles do schools, parents and the community play "in helping us to become stronger together?"

The responses that discussion fostered included having schools being more open to outside volunteers who can bring diversity to the classroom while the district works to diversify

its staff — and to that end, getting Lincoln University students more involved, perhaps in a mentorship program.

Lincoln student Cameron Blair presented the latter idea and cited too that his Hickman High School in Columbia had a multi-cultural assembly each year.

Blair said the photo motivated him to come out to community meetings, because he "wanted to see what is being done to move the community forward."

He said he advertised Tuesday's event on his social media accounts, but better advertisement for future district events was another idea mentioned by attendees — perhaps through Lincoln, church bulletins or local radio stations.

Other group responses centered around fostering more direct and clear communication and intentionality when it comes to community involvement.

At the beginning of the event, Linthacum shared a list of what the district has been doing to address issues of diversity since the photo incident, including a scheduled meeting with a representative of Lincoln; reaching out to businesses, school districts and state agencies to discuss how those organizations attract diverse job applicants; a decision to bring back the district's multi-cultural advisory committee; plans to host student



Michelle Scott-Huffman participates in a Jefferson City Public Schools-sponsored diversity discussion at the Boys & Girls Club.

discussions at the district's high and middle schools; and likewise, host staff discussions.

Former district board member Jackie Coleman warned though "this is like deja vu."

Coleman said, unlike at similar moments in the past, she credits the different approaches the district is trying this time, but the hard work of promoting diversity and inclusion will still require tangible, action-oriented goals, money and public and

board commitment.

She would like to see the wide array of suggestions and actions presented by community members and Linthacum made into a few concise actions the board can demonstrate leadership on and be held accountable for by the community — things like the institution of K-12 diversity training, measurable improvements in achievement for all students, or changes in the district staff's diversity.

She said people in the community will need to be able to say, "I see the difference. I feel the difference."

The second of the district's three scheduled community discussions on diversity will be 6-8 p.m. Nov. 7 at the Hawthorn Bank Community Room, 3600 Amazonas Drive.

The third discussion will be 6-8 p.m. the following night, Nov. 8, at Mid-America Bank in Holts Summit, 580 Karen Drive.

State Rep. Curtman to seek GOP nomination for auditor

ST. LOUIS (AP) — Republican state Rep. Paul Curtman will run for Missouri auditor in 2018.

Curtman announced his intention Tuesday in suburban St. Louis. He had earlier considered a run for U.S. Senate before ruling it out after Republican Attorney General Josh Hawley officially announced his candidacy for Democratic incumbent U.S. Sen. Claire McCaskill's seat.

Curtman, of Union, is the second Republican to formally announce a bid to unseat Democrat Nicole Galloway as auditor, along with St. Louis attorney and former University of Missouri curator David Wasinger.

Curtman is a former Marine first elected to the House in 2010.

Missouri Democratic Party chairman Stephen Webber said in a statement that Galloway's "independence and dedication to looking out for Missouri taxpayers is unmatched in Republican-controlled Jefferson City."

Defenders:

Continued from p. 1

"Last month, the Missouri Supreme Court warned public defenders that they must follow the ethics rules just like every other lawyer, and that the answer to an excessive caseload was to either quit or decline to accept more cases than can be handled ethically," Barrett told the Kansas City Star. "Now the court tells us that we are indeed not like other lawyers and we must first get the court's permission before declining a case on ethics grounds."

To draw attention to the lack of public defenders for the number of cases requiring state-funded representation, Barrett last year appointed then-governor Jay Nixon as a defense attorney to represent a client. A court rejected the appointment. The American Civil Liberties Union of Missouri filed a lawsuit this

year blaming inadequate funding for indigent clients languishing in jail or appearing in court without attorneys. The organization wants to force the state to increase funding and adequately provide counsel to indigent defendants.

The head of Springfield's public defender office has complained to the courts that attorneys are carrying excessive caseloads and cannot take on several cases, including that of a man charged with first-degree murder, the Springfield News-Leader reported. The letters state the cases will be put on a waitlist until an attorney becomes available.

In Jackson County, about 25 public defenders filled a courtroom last Thursday to support Ruth Petsch, the head of the public defender's Kansas City office. Petsch said public defenders are putting new cases on hold until they can figure out how to ethically take them on without risking their law licenses.

"If I take on more cases than I can ethically handle, I'm open to discipline," Petsch said.

Senior:

Continued from p. 1

Dunham's Sports store filled its previous space at Capital Mall, eliminating the only senior center location on the west side of Jefferson City. With that site no longer accessible, seniors who wanted to get a hot meal and to socialize among their peers had to travel to the Clarke Senior Center located at 1310 Linden Drive.

Since then, administrators said, there have been no real changes to meals served or the entertainment available to the

seniors, but having a west side location is a priority.

"When we move in, we want to do it right and don't want to have to come back in to do anything over," Deeken said.

He thanked Reid Millard and his staff for their assistance in rounding up the plumbers, electricians and helping to get quotes for the necessary work.

"We thank anyone who has had anything to do with the senior center and encourage others to donate to help with ongoing costs," Deeken said. "Every second, everyone becomes one day closer to being a senior."

The new facility could hold

up to 100 people, similar to the capacity of the cafeteria area at the Clarke Senior Center.

"Size-wise, I don't think it will be much of a difference, but it will be a newer and fresher look. I think it would be a big improvement over the mall location because the space at the new place will be just enough for our seniors," Deeken said.

Baysinger added, "One advantage we really have is that the new center will be in a neighborhood, so seniors won't have to worry about traffic or transportation as much."

To donate to the senior center, contact Deeken at 573-619-0974.

Transit:

Continued from p. 1

other and discuss ways to cut back on overlaps.

To address the needs specified in the plan, stakeholders recommended developing a transit group that focuses on bettering transportation in the CAMPO area, providing public and private incentives, and securing more funding for services. During Tuesday's meeting, the public was asked to rank these priority action steps.

City Transportation Planner Alex Rotenberry said the CAMPO staff did not feel comfortable ranking these suggestions themselves and wanted the public's input.

"At a professional level, we can certainly look and say, 'Well, we believe there's problems here,' or something like that, but those aren't necessarily

what we're dealing with on a personal or a day-to-day experience," Rotenberry said. "So, I think it's important to get professionals from the human services agencies and transportation agencies and the general public to come in and guide us and tell us what their priorities are."

Randi Kempker, a health worker at the Community Health Center, and disability advocate Wayne Lee said one of their top priorities was more funding. While all of the action steps CAMPO and stakeholders proposed were important, Lee said, funding is "central" when making improvements to the transit options. Lee added he thought more transit funding should come from the state government.

Those who could not go to Tuesday's meeting can still voice their thoughts and suggestions through CAMPO's survey at survey123.arcgis.com/share/e8925735dd554969b0a34e743682105e.

To apply for Federal Transit Admin-



Shelby Kardell/News Tribune

Wayne Lee exits a JeffTran bus after an Oct. 17 meeting discussing improvements to the Jefferson City transit system.

the plan, and the public can give final comments between November and December, Rotenberry said.

Lee said he hoped the attention on transportation in the CAMPO region, particularly Jefferson City, would help individuals see the importance of transit systems and the need for improvement.

"I think people would realize, without a car, without the ability to drive, they wouldn't have any choice but to take the transit system," said Lee, who is a regular Handi-Wheels and JeffTran rider. "That's exactly how a person feels who doesn't have a car or can't drive because of a medical condition or something like that."



MIDMISSOURI

Bayer fights Missouri lawsuit over birth control implant

JEFFERSON CITY (AP) — An attorney for chemical manufacturer Bayer is fighting a Missouri lawsuit over one of its birth control products, arguing the case does not belong in the state.

Bayer attorney Jonathan Cohn asked Missouri Supreme Court judges Tuesday to dismiss claims by non-Missouri residents or split them off from the case. Only seven Missouri residents are among the 92 women suing Bayer for alleged medical complications from Essure, an implant that permanently prevents pregnancy.

St. Louis Circuit Judge Joan Moriarty ruled in 2016 that the lawsuit could proceed in Missouri. Plaintiffs argue the case belongs in Missouri because of clinical trials in the state and a national marketing campaign based in Missouri.

Supreme Court judge Laura Denvir Stith seemed unconvinced and questioned what ties the out-of-state residents' complaints have to Missouri.

Volunteer opportunities

Cole County Senior Center seeks volunteer delivery drivers to help deliver frozen meals to local homebound seniors. The schedule is 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Mondays through Fridays. For more information call 634-8020 or 634-4120 for Nathan or Lynn.

Cole County Historical Society & Museum seeks volunteers and docents. Docents undergo training to become experts in local history and provide tours for museum visitors. The time commitment is as little as two hours a month. Volunteers are needed for general research, genealogy research, archival assistance and data entry. Volunteers are also needed for maintenance and repair work at the historical society buildings. Call 573-635-1850 or email cchs@socket.net.

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

- **Anger Management Class**, 10-11 a.m., The Redeem Project Ministry, 1406 Missouri Blvd., Suite H (Jefferson Plaza).
- **Family Story Time**, 10:30-11:30 a.m., Missouri River Regional Library, 214 Adams St.
- **Bingo**, 1-4 p.m., Clarke Senior Center, 1310 Linden Drive.
- **Yoga**, 5:30-6:30 p.m., Missouri River Regional Library, 214 Adams St.
- **JCPS Community Diversity Discussion**, 6-8 p.m., Mid-America Bank, Holts Summit.

THURSDAY

- **Veterans Day Observance**, 8:15 a.m., Lincoln University Soldiers' Memorial Plaza, 820 Chestnut St.
- **Yoga**, 9-10 a.m., Missouri River Regional Library, 214 Adams St.
- **Color Your Natural World of Animal Homes**, 1:30-2:30 p.m., Runge Nature Center, 330 Commerce Drive. Registration required to 573-526-5544.
- **"Find A Grave" Computer Class**, 2-4 p.m., Missouri River Regional Library, 214 Adams St.
- **Cole County Mobile Food Pantry**, 4-6 p.m., Jefferson City YMCA (Firley), 525 Ellis Blvd.
- **Millbottom Holiday Mart**, 4:30-8 p.m., The Millbottom, 400 W. Main St.
- **Community Meal**, 5-6 p.m., Holts Summit Soup Kitchen.
- **Table Top Gaming Club**, 5:30-8 p.m., Missouri River Regional Library, 214 Adams St.
- **Science on Wheels**, 6 p.m., University of Missouri Extension Cole County Office, 2436 Tanner Bridge Road.

Please see Events, p. 2



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.

JCPS hosts second diversity discussion

Third scheduled for tonight

By Phillip Sitter
phillip@newstribune.com

The prompts were the same, as were the issues Tuesday night at Jefferson City Public Schools' second community meeting on diversity.

JCPS has been asking the community for input on solutions to its diversity issues for weeks, through the district's own first community meeting two weeks ago and two recent town halls hosted by local churches that included invitations to Superintendent Larry Linthacum.

The discussions have been spurred by a racially-insensitive photo on social media in September. The photo featured four young people, three of whom are Jefferson City High School students. The youths posed in the photo in front of a car that had racially-insensitive and offensive imagery drawn into dust on the trunk.

As at the previous community



Emil Lippe/News Tribune

Eugene Vogel listens intently to a community member about their thoughts on the role of schools when it comes to the topic of diversity Tuesday during the Jefferson City Public Schools' Diversity Discussion in the Hawthorn Bank Community Room. Attendees gathered in groups of six at each table to discuss their viewpoints on diversity in the community.

meeting, three prompts were given to the 45 or so people in attendance in addition to district staff and Board of Education members at the community room of Hawthorn Bank on

Amazonas Drive.

The prompts asked small groups of community members to answer what roles schools, parents and the community play in helping the district

address its diversity issues.

One recurring theme on the schools front was a desire to move away from teaching strictly Euro-centric readings. Please see JCPS, p. 4

Moniteau County Library vote passes easily

By David A. Wilson
For the News Tribune

Once again Moniteau County will have a library, and this time it will be a legal entity.

Two related ballot issues passed easily in Tuesday's Moniteau County election. Both had to pass for the county library district to come into existence.

Voters approved the establishment of the Moniteau County Library by a vote of 1,218-396. They also voted 1,114-494 to approve a tax rate of 12 cents for each \$100 of assessed valuation to fund the library. This tax is the same rate paid by the voters of the city of California and the voters of the Western subdistrict.

The election drew 1,616 voters, more than 20 percent of those 8,050 registered in Moniteau County.

The newly approved library includes the entire county, except for the municipal area of Tipton,

which has its own city library district, approved by Tipton voters in August.

The vote for a county library district came in part as a result of the donation of the Wood Place Library in December 2013 to the old Moniteau County Library, instituted after a 1997 vote appeared to approve it. That vote, however, only covered six school districts, not the entire county.

A 2015 lawsuit was filed against the Moniteau County Library District and the County Library Board by the city of Tipton and three taxpayers.

The lawsuit claimed only a vote in Western subdistrict was valid and all funds should go to the Price James Library in Tipton. The suit held the library board's December 2013 acceptance of a donation of California's Wood Place Library and renaming it as the "Moniteau County Library at Wood Place" was wrong.

Judge Donald Barnes held a succession of hearings and in February ruled the 1997 vote had

Please see Library, p. 4

Sheriff gets approval for computer tablets

By the News Tribune
news@newstribune.com

The Cole County Commission has approved the Sheriff's Department to purchase mobile data terminals (MDTs) for vehicles in the department's patrol and civil divisions.

Sheriff John Wheeler told commissioners at their Tuesday meeting the computer tablets they have been using are nearing the end of their life

span and won't be supported by their computer service in a few years. The mounted MDTs would be more efficient, allowing deputies to do more work in the field, he said.

The total cost for the computers and mounts in the vehicles would be \$81,845, paid out of the Sheriff's Department contingency fund.

Wheeler said it will take some time to get the MDTs in place and for deputies to get training to run the computers.



Emil Lippe/News Tribune

Focusing on the music

Violinists focus on their music Tuesday during a performance of "Carmina Burana" by the Jefferson City Symphony Orchestra and Jefferson City Symphony Chorus at the Richardson Performing Arts Center on Lincoln University's campus.

Ex-lawmaker fighting campaign violation costs

By Summer Ballentine
Associated Press

A former state lawmaker's attorney argued to Missouri Supreme Court judges the former candidate shouldn't have to pay \$230,000 for alleged campaign finance violations.

Former St. Louis Democratic Sen. Robin Wright-Jones' attorney, Bernard Edwards Jr., told Supreme Court judges during Tuesday arguments the charges amount to an excessive fine by the Missouri Ethics Commission, which is responsible for checking compliance with campaign finance laws. He also said the complaint against her ultimately cost her the 2012 election.

An attorney for the commission said the fee issued was reasonable based on the amount of donations and spending Wright-Jones failed to timely report. A 2013 commission decision said Wright-Jones failed to accurately report a couple hundred thousand dollars of expenditures and contributions by state deadlines, received a double reimbursement for vehicle mileage from the state and her campaign fund, and made more cash expenditures than allowed by law.

Supreme Court Chief Justice Zel Fischer said reporting issues meant some campaign money "wasn't disclosed in time for voters to take it into consideration" for the 2012 election.

An independent administrative panel later said Wright-Jones only had to pay 10 percent of that cost as long as she did so quickly, filed any additional

Please see Lawmaker, p. 4

KC voters approve \$1 billion airport project

KANSAS CITY (AP) — After years of contentious debate, Kansas City voters overwhelmingly approved a plan Tuesday to spend \$1 billion to replace the current layout of Kansas City International Airport with a single terminal.

The measure was passing by about a 3-to-1 margin with most votes counted late Tuesday.

Supporters, including a majority of city officials and business leaders, promised voters the new terminal would be paid for by the airlines and user fees, not tax dollars. They contended the current 45-year-old design with three,

horseshoe-shaped terminals is outdated, does not meet post-9/11 security requirements and gives an embarrassing first impression of Kansas City to travelers and corporate officials who might be considering moving to the city or expanding their businesses there.

Mayor Sly James and other supporters argued a more modern airport would help the area's economy and likely lead to more direct flights, and perhaps some international flights, out of Kansas City. Airline officials did not promise to add flights but generally supported the single terminal because the

layout would be able to handle larger passenger jets better than the current configuration. And supporters said the single terminal would be more comfortable for travelers, by providing more retail options, bathrooms and more efficient security checkpoints.

Maryland-based Edgemoor's initial drawings for the new terminal show an H-shaped structure with two concourses and 35 gates. Arrivals and departures would be on separate levels, with curbside service for both, more efficient parking, more retail and a two-story fountain.

Divorced mom mulls overruling dad on daughter's social life

DEAR ABBY: My ex-husband and I have been divorced for three years and share custody of our 10-year-old daughter, who lives with me full time. Her father lives out of state and sees her during the summer months.

Last year, my daughter had an incident (an "I'll show you mine, you show me yours" kind of thing) with a friend at school, and my ex and I decided they should no longer hang out after school alone anymore. A year has gone by, and because they're in the same social circle at school, my ex is refusing to allow her to go to any events this friend attends (birthdays, sleepovers), even though there is always adult supervision.

It makes me sad to see her miss out, and I understand that the incident is normal for kids that age. What can I do? Since she does not live with him, can I overrule? — I'LL SHOW YOU MINE

DEAR I'LL SHOW YOU MINE: I'm sorry your ex-husband doesn't understand that sexual curiosity in children is normal, because it appears he has overreacted. You cannot dictate the rules in his household. However, while your daughter is living with you during the winter months, he cannot overrule your parenting decisions either.

DEAR ABBY: I am a 43-year-old woman

who is trying to win back my high school sweetheart. He contacted me through Facebook seven years ago, and we've been talking off and on ever since.

I have never gotten over him, but he has had two bad past relationships and says he isn't ready for another one at this time. What can I do to let him know I haven't gotten over him since high school and that I'd love to try again?

Our relationship ended because my parents thought I was too young to have a boyfriend. I was 15 and he was 17. He said he would love to try again "one day" — just not now. What are some things I could do to let him know, "Hey, I'm still here, and I want a second chance" without scaring him away? — HIGH SCHOOL SWEETHEART IN FLORIDA

DEAR SWEETHEART: He KNOWS you are "still here" and want a second chance. Because he still isn't ready to give a romance with you another try, face it — the status quo could last indefinitely. You have devoted seven precious years to trying to sway him. It's time for you to move on. How he reacts as you begin to disengage will let you know if you have made the

right decision.

DEAR ABBY: Since the last presidential election our oldest son has stopped communicating with us. He would text us, but his texts were so disrespectful and hurtful we had to block him from our phones. He's a grown man and we love him. What should we do? — DISAPPOINTED PARENTS

DEAR PARENTS: The last presidential election has proved to be so divisive that it has ended friendships and caused rifts in some families. Blocking your son from your phones was a mistake. It would have been better to have just told him you would prefer not to discuss politics via text messages.

Until both sides can start listening respectfully to each other, healing and understanding will not happen. Unblock your phone and let your son know that he hurt your feelings, which is why you did it.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.



Dear Abby



This photo provided by the Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art in Kansas City shows a small grasshopper found embedded in the thick paint in the lower foreground of Vincent van Gogh's painting "Olive Trees." Paintings Conservator Mary Schafer made the grasshopper discovery while examining the painting under magnification. The bug isn't visible through casual observation.

Grasshopper found in van Gogh painting at KC museum

KANSAS CITY (AP) — A small grasshopper has been found embedded in a Vincent van Gogh painting at a Kansas City museum.

The Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art said in a news release the insect was stuck in the thick paint in the lower foreground of the famed artist's "Olive Trees." Van Gogh was known for painting outdoors and mused in an 1885 letter to his brother that "I must have picked up a good

hundred flies and more off the 4 canvases that you'll be getting."

Paintings Conservator Mary Schafer made the grasshopper discovery while examining the painting under magnification. The bug isn't visible through casual observation.

The close study of the painting is part of an effort to create an online catalogue of the 104 French paintings and pastels at the museum.

Lawmaker:

Continued from p. 1

campaign reports and didn't violate any other campaign finance laws for two years.

However, her attorney told judges the Missouri Constitution bans the commission from giving out fines as punishment for violating commission-created rules, and

Edwards said the U.S. Constitution "prohibits fines that are unreasonable and fines that would chill free speech under the First Amendment."

Edwards argued the Missouri Ethics Commission should have charged the former lawmaker at most \$1,000 per violation.

Some judges appeared skeptical. Judge Laura Denvir Stith said state law allows for

a \$1,000 fee or fees as much as double the amount of the money involved in the violation.

Attorney General's Office lawyer Joshua Divine, who represented the commission, said a \$1,000-per-violation fee would have meant an even higher fee of closer to \$800,000.

Supreme Court judges did not indicate when they might rule.

Library:

Continued from p. 1

failed, and the library district was not created legally. Barnes said Missouri statutes say there has to be a majority of the votes in the county for a tax levy to pass. Since there was not a majority of votes in the county for the district, "it did not pass and did not exist."

The county library was dissolved and a receiver

was later appointed.

The California library location closed March 1. It reopened with limited hours as the Wood Place Library on May 22, funded by the Elia Wood Paegelow Foundation.

The new taxes will be collected beginning next year and will begin funding library operations in 2019. The library at California, known as the Wood Place Library, is currently operating on minimal funding by the foundation and private donors.

MRRL:

Continued from p. 1

but Clevlen sends a fair warning to all who want to follow a similar career path.

"Not everyone can do this," he said. "If you want to be a travel journalist in 2017, you have to be able to do a lot of different things to keep yourself afloat and to ensure that you can pay that mortgage at the end of the month."

In addition to radio, Clevlen produces the Rediscover America Podcasts, videos, freelance writing, social media posts and hosts events. After weeks of traveling, he returns to St. Louis to put everything together.

"Everybody has a story, so getting to share and hear those is pretty cool," Clevlen said. "People will enjoy laughing and having fun at this event."

His book can be purchased at www.billionthroad.com or signed copies will be available for \$20 at the MRRL event Thursday.

JCPS:

Continued from p. 1

of history, that aren't necessarily inclusive of everyone's history — "then you develop this marginalization of any and other ethnicities," Sylvia James Wilson said of the effects of that approach. She is the director of Lincoln University's Office of Alumni Affairs.

"Who's history are we teaching?" Simonsen 9th Grade Center physics teacher Alex Edge asked, reporting his table's thoughts on black history and others' contributions to society ought not simply be confined to singular recognition months or elective courses, but integrated into core curriculum. Other groups concurred with that point.

Similar sentiments have been expressed at other diversity discussions in the wake of the photo incident. JCPS's Chief of Learning Brian Shindorf said Tuesday while the district's primary responsibility in its curriculum is to meet state standards, "there's always opportunity" to incorporate diversity.

"Teachers have a lot of flexi-

bility" in how they can incorporate auxiliary texts beyond what the district provides, Shindorf said. He added this is especially true in English and social studies classes, "any content area has that flexibility."

Empowered parents was another desire of progress several groups expressed — parents helping other parents to be able to effectively communicate with teachers and being able to support or hold teachers accountable.

Issues of diversity, representation and inclusion go beyond the school district. "Look at everything as if it's connected, because it is," board member Pam Murray said of including city institutions in the dialogue.

Jefferson City's Mayor Carrie Tergin told the audience she looked forward to the district's findings.

At the beginning of the event, Linthacum gave some updates about the district's efforts, including professional development for staff on diversity scheduled for Jan. 2.

He also said he's met with Columbia Public Schools'

superintendent to learn about what's worked there and what hasn't about making progress on diversity issues. He said JCPS will be submitting a "disproportionality, compre-

hensive review of student discipline" to the state's Department of Elementary and Secondary Education.

"I can't do anything about what has happened in the past,

but I am in a role where I can have a part of it," Linthacum said, addressing feelings the district has been in such a moment before without using the opportunity to make meaningful

changes.

The district's third scheduled diversity discussion will be 6-8 p.m. today at Mid-America Bank in Holts Summit, 580 Karen Drive.

MILLER COUNTY REGIONAL STOCKYARDS

#4 Kent Rd., Eldon, MO, 65026 • 573-392-5572

November 6, 2017 - 1309 Head

Market Report is a computer average on cattle. Not a computer High/Low.

Very good quality with good demand. Several large groups of weaned vaccinated calves. The weather right now is extreme on the health of these calves with a lot of sickness in the feedlots. Some fancy heifers in the 5 weight range \$2.00 to \$4.00 higher. Biggest increase on thin green 700-800 lbs. steers. Slaughter cows steady. Bred cows and pairs selling with a good demand.

| | |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| STEERS: | HEIFERS: |
| 300 to 399 lbs.....\$168.00-\$202.00 | 300 to 399 lbs.....\$156.00-\$177.00 |
| 400 to 499 lbs.....\$166.00-\$190.00 | 400 to 499 lbs.....\$150.00-\$171.00 |
| 500 to 599 lbs.....\$156.00-\$182.00 | 500 to 599 lbs.....\$144.00-\$160.00 |
| 600 to 699 lbs.....\$151.00-\$171.00 | 600 to 699 lbs.....\$137.00-\$158.00 |
| 700 to 799 lbs.....\$141.00-\$170.00 | 700 to 799 lbs.....\$130.00-\$149.00 |
| 800 to 899 lbs.....\$150.00-\$162.00 | 800 to 899 lbs.....\$112.00-\$133.00 |
| | HEIFERS - FLESHY/SMALL FRAME |
| | 400 to 700 lbs.....\$100.00-\$148.00 |
| | BRED COWS |
| | 1st & 2nd pd.....\$950.00-\$1,250.00 |
| | PAIRS |
| | Babies up.....\$1,100.00-\$1,400.00 |
| BULLS - FLESHY/SMALL FRAME: | |
| 400 to 700 lbs.....\$115.00-\$156.00 | |
| SLAUGHTER COWS: | |
| Breaking.....\$57.00-\$60.00 | |
| Bone.....\$48.00-\$52.50 | |
| Slaughter.....\$45.00-Down | |
| SLAUGHTER BULLS: | |
|\$65.50-\$74.50 | |

UPCOMING SPECIAL SALES

Nov. 13 - Regular Sale
Nov. 15 - Sheep/Goat Sale
Nov. 20 - Feeder Special

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| | | |
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| Ralph Kliehermes Operations Manager 573-659-5838 (Cell) | CATTLE ACCEPTED DAILY | Wendy Cantrell Owner 573-286-1286 (Cell) |
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TONIGHT!!

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Houston Christmas

Free Vein Screening Event

Thursday, Nov. 16 | 5:00-8:00 p.m.

Tunnell/Wherritt Community Conference Center at Capital Region Medical Center | 1125 Madison St.



After receiving a free vein screening, participants will have the opportunity to discuss treatment options with **Mitchell Godbee, MD**, schedule any recommended consultations and learn about additional services at Capital Region Medical Center. If possible, please wear or bring a pair of shorts to the screening. **Light refreshments will be served.**

This event is free to the community.

To schedule your vein screening, call **632-5593**.

Walk-ins welcome if time allows.

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ROYAL PAIN

Royals manager Ned Yost suffers a broken pelvis while working on his property in Georgia.

■ SPORTS C1



MUSIC LEGENDS

Mid-Missouri country and bluegrass legends unite with Leona Williams on her new CD, "Travel Down this Road with Me."

■ ESCAPE B4

JEFFERSON CITY, MISSOURI

News Tribune



75¢

THURSDAY
NOVEMBER 9, 2017

VOL. 152, NO. 215

WWW.NEWSTRIBUNE.COM

Residents, city staff discuss historic designation

By Nicole Roberts
nicole@newstribune.com

Jefferson City residents, city staff and council members discussed the potential local historic district for the East McCarty and School streets area Wednesday night. The Central East Side Neighborhood Plan, adopted by the city in 2006, suggests city officials turn the area bordered by

East McCarty, Lafayette, East Miller and Marshall streets into a green space along Wears Creek and in the 100-year floodplain. Several residents, however, have since moved into homes in that area and are trying to fix them up.

Residents and activists are working toward creating a local historic district to protect this area from demolition, as well as encourage revitalization in the flood-

plain area.

The local historic district application encompasses 27 houses, including structures in the 600 block of East McCarty Street, all of School Street, 400 block of Lafayette Street, three houses on the east side of Lafayette Street and 500 Lafayette St.

Jefferson City does not currently have a local historic district.

If the homes within the area were deemed historic, FEMA would loosen some of its floodplain regulations involving residences in floodplains, local historian Jane Beetem said.

One of the main regulations it would lift is FEMA's substantial improvement rule, she said. Under this rule, property owners can't make improvements greater than 50 percent of the building's value.

Property owners could also receive subsidized flood insurance, Beetem added. After FEMA redrew the floodplain lines in 2012, it stopped subsidizing flood insurance. Beetem said if homes in floodplains are declared historic, property owners could receive subsidized flood insurance.

Please see District, p. 3

SSM Health trimming workforce

By Philip Joens
pjoens@newstribune.com

SSM Health is cutting 1 percent of its workforce.

Jessica Royston, a spokeswoman in Jefferson City for the hospital chain, confirmed the cuts Wednesday afternoon. Royston did not specify whether the cuts are happening only in Jefferson City, if the cuts are system-wide or how many Jefferson City jobs were cut.

Most of the positions being eliminated are administrative positions and are being done because the hospital chain is facing operational and financial challenges, she said.

"This action was not easily taken and we are committed to fully supporting our employees who are affected," Royston said in a statement to the News Tribune. "This includes working to find them other comparable positions in the organization, where possible."

Please see SSM Health, p. 3



Julie Smith/News Tribune

Host Lions Club member Dan Bernskoetter shakes hands Wednesday with USS Harry S Truman crew members. Crew, counterclockwise from right, are LS3 Levi Boxley, of Cassville; GM2 Mercedes Kinney, of Kansas City; and Petty Officer 3rd Class Latreyveon Mitchell, of St. Louis. Inset: Capt. Nicholas Dienna, the ship's commander, and other crew members were guests of the Host Lions Club's Wednesday meeting at Hy-Vee.

USS Truman captain, crew stop in JC

By Jeff Haldiman
jhaldiman@newstribune.com

While there are many unknowns in today's world, the Navy's job is to "bring certainty to the uncertainty," the commander of one of the U.S. Navy's top aircraft carriers told a Jefferson City civic group Wednesday.

Speaking to the Host Lions Club meeting at Hy-Vee, Capt. Nicholas Dienna of the USS Harry S Truman said his ship and its crew can make a big impact.

Commissioned in 1998, the Truman is the eighth Nimitz-class aircraft carrier of the U.S. Navy, named after the 33rd president. The ship's call sign is Lone Warrior, and she is currently homeported at Norfolk, Virginia.

The warship has led several strike forces, participating in Operation Joint Endeavor, Operation Enduring Freedom-Afghanistan and Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Dienna, his wife and seven crew members have been in Missouri this week visiting with various groups. The ship returned to port Saturday after spending a month at sea doing training maneuvers in preparation for its next deployment.

He told the Lions the 98,000-ton vessel has a crew of 5,400 men and women and can travel at speeds as high as 30 knots, or about 35 mph.



"Before I took command of the Truman, I read the biography of the man, and I found out how his Midwest work ethic is so much like how we approach our jobs in the Navy," Dienna said. "We're very grateful for the wonderful support we have here in Missouri because it makes the burden of being away from family much more palatable."

The process of becoming the captain of an aircraft carrier begins by becoming

a trained fighter pilot. Dienna flew F-14 and F-18 fighters and then got into the command pipeline, which required him to become a certified nuclear operator and then a certified ship operator.

"A ship is not just a hunk of metal," he said. "We have two nuclear reactors, a pull-up airport and even a Starbucks. I don't have to stop for gas. We are equipped to go

Please see Truman, p. 3



Collin Krabbe/News Tribune

Warren Solomon talks about ways to increase diversity during Wednesday's community discussion hosted by the Jefferson City Public Schools at Mid-America Bank in Holts Summit.

JCPS diversity meetings wrap up

JCPS enters next phase of developing progress on issues

By Phillip Sitter
phillip@newstribune.com

Jefferson City Public Schools hosted the last of its three scheduled community diversity meetings, leaving the district with the task of coming up with a specific plan to move forward, based upon the community's input and forthcoming discussions with staff and students.

Wednesday night's meeting at Mid-America Bank in Holts Summit had the smallest attendance and the

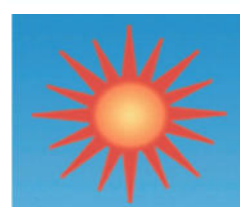
Please see Diversity, p. 3



News Tribune
online

Check for breaking news, submit your news ideas and join the discussions about today's stories at: www.newstribune.com

OUTSIDE



Sunny, getting cold tonight

Today's high: 52
Today's low: 23

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LOCAL



DAR patriot of the month

The local Daughters of the American Revolution chapter paid tribute to veterans Wednesday at Primrose Retirement.

■ PAGE B1

Veterans Day closings

With Veterans Day falling on Saturday this year, many government agencies are observing the holiday on Friday, while others will observe it Saturday.

Most government offices will be closed Friday, including the Missouri, Cole County, Jefferson City and Holts Summit governments.

Jefftran buses won't run and parking meters will not be enforced Friday. The State Archives, 600 W. Main St., will be closed Friday and Saturday. The U.S. Postal Service will have regular hours and operations Friday, but will follow a holiday schedule on Saturday — with no normal route deliveries. Mail collections will follow the holiday schedule.

The Missouri River Regional Library in Jefferson City and Linn, and the Heartland Library in Miller and Maries counties, will be open Friday and closed Saturday. But the Daniel Boone Regional Library System in Boone and Callaway counties will remain open both days.

Most financial institutions will be open Friday and closed Saturday.

Most retail businesses will remain open. Jefferson City's yard waste drop-off, 2417 Southridge Drive, and Republic Services/Allied Waste's trash and recycling services will operate as scheduled.

1 year since win, Trump still keeps vanquished foe in sights

WASHINGTON (AP) — Donald Trump handily won the election a year ago Wednesday. Ask him and he'll tell you about it.

Ten months into his presidency, Trump is still focused — some say fixated — on the election that catapulted him to power. Egged on by longtime friends and cable news, he repeatedly attacks his vanquished opponent, Democrat Hillary Clinton. In public and in private, he still boasts of the size of his triumph.

"It was great victory, and a victory that made a lot of people very happy," Trump said Tuesday in Seoul, South Korea, his second stop on a five-country visit to Asia.

The president spent Wednesday shuttling from Seoul to Beijing for meetings with Chinese President Xi Jinping. He mused to reporters earlier in the week he'd considered having "a big celebration party" but White House officials said there were no plans

for any formal event marking the occasion.

From Beijing, Trump tweeted early this morning: "Congratulations to all of the 'DEPLORABLES' and the millions of people who gave us a MASSIVE (304-227) Electoral College landslide victory!" He was referring to Clinton's campaign comment that half his supporters belonged in a "basket of deplorables."

There's no doubt the president remains preoccupied by his election, a fixation friends and advisers say is part ego and part defense mechanism. Despite occupying the most powerful position in the world, Trump has told confidants he still doesn't get the credit he deserves for defeating Clinton. And friends say he's well aware of the fact numerous members of his own Republican Party expected him to lose and still cringe at seeing him in the White House.

"His obsession with the election is the fact that he wasn't ever accepted by the establishment," said Christopher Ruddy, a friend of the president and the CEO of Newsmax. "They have not given him the deference typical of the president."

Trump won the Electoral College vote by a comfortable margin but lost the popular vote by nearly 2.9 million votes to Clinton.

Trump's insecurity about his status has been magnified by Democratic accusations he won the White House in part because of Russia's interference in the election. The investigations into Russian meddling are now at the West Wing doorstep, with current and former White House officials being summoned to speak with special counsel Robert Mueller and former campaign chairman Paul Manafort indicted last week. The president has responded by calling on Republican lawmakers

and the Justice Department to investigate Clinton's potential ties to Russia.

The White House said Trump isn't fixated on his past successes or the investigations shadowing his administration. Spokeswoman Sarah Huckabee Sanders said Trump's focus is on the fact "the stock market has hit record highs, unemployment has hit a 17-year low, and (the Islamic State) is on the run."

"Over the next seven years, this president plans to keep his promises to the American people and create a more prosperous, free and secure future for all Americans," Sanders said.

Still, the 2016 election arguably remains Trump's most significant political accomplishment. He's struggled in office to fulfill several of his lofty campaign promises, including overhauling President Barack Obama's health care law and ripping up the Iran nucle-



Children wave U.S. and Chinese flags as President Donald Trump arrives Wednesday at Beijing Airport in China.

ar deal. He faces the very real prospect of ending 2017 without any significant legislative accomplishments, unless Republicans can coalesce around a tax reform package in the next seven weeks.

Some Republicans close to the White House say Trump's obsession with the election isn't quite as overt as it was in the early days of his presidency, when he seemed to turn every news conference, rally or private policy

discussion into an opportunity to gloat about his electoral victory.

Two Republican congressional aides said Trump still brings the election up on occasion during meetings with lawmakers, but not with the frequency he did earlier. He also appears to have stopped handing out colored copies of the Electoral College map, something he did on occasion during his first few months in office.

Man who wounded 2 officers is found dead

FOREST PARK, Ga. (AP) — A man exchanged gunfire with two police officers, hitting and wounding both of them, and was later found dead behind a home south of Atlanta, police said.

Two officers responded at 10:45 a.m. Wednesday to a report of a man driving recklessly on a motorcycle and not wearing a helmet. When they tried to make contact, he fled on foot, Forest Park police said in a news release.

The man, later identified as 30-year-old James Jacob Bailey, ran behind a house, and the officers followed. As they rounded the corner of the house, they exchanged gunfire with Bailey and both officers were hit, police said.

Other officers arrived and once they had removed the wounded officers they set up a perimeter and began searching for Bailey. They found his body behind the house, dead from a gunshot wound,

but it wasn't clear whether Bailey or the officers fired the shot that killed him, police Sgt. Kelli Flanigan said.

One officer suffered a non-life-threatening wound and the other was listed in critical condition, police said. Police are withholding the officers' names until their families have been contacted. Both officers have been with the Forest Park Police Department for about two years.

US ends special refugee program for Latin youth

WASHINGTON (AP) — The United States said it will no longer take applications for a special refugee program for Central American children.

The program was established in 2014 by the Obama administration amid a flood of children attempting the dangerous journey from El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras, fleeing violence and other threats.

Parents legally in the U.S. could start the process for their children and some other relatives, who were then screened while still in their country of origin.

The State Department said today is the deadline to apply. People from those countries seeking refugee status may still be eligible, but must use the normal refugee screening process.

District:

Continued from p. 1

City officials told the News Tribune last month professional planners discourage redeveloping homes in a floodplain.

Part of the local historic district application includes design guidelines for the buildings located in the district. The proposed guidelines focus on maintaining the historic atmosphere of the buildings.

"One of the important things property owners need to realize is that it is placing a restriction on the property in the form of these design requirements," Jefferson City Senior Planner Eric Barron said.

He added if property owners applied for building permits within that district, the Jefferson City Historic Preservation Commission would have to review the permits before they could be issued.

"So, there is a fairly high-level of restriction in terms of regulations being placed on the property," he said.

Tony Smith, who lives on East McCarty Street, said while residents may think the design guidelines are restrictive, they will help preserve the historic character of the neighborhood.

"If you don't have a sense of history, if you don't maintain it ... it's just hard to have character," he said. "The history behind the city is what makes it different. ... If we take all the historic parts of Jefferson City out ... you're going to lose a lot of the history of this town and character and why people appreciate coming here."

Beetem said property owners would be required to minimize flooding risks like moving certain appliances above the flood base level.

To create a local historic district, Beetem needs 75 percent of signatures from property owners in the potential district. She said she thought it was "achievable but would take a lot of work."

One problem residents face is getting notarized signatures from the city and Jefferson City Parks, Recreation and Forestry Department. The city owns 408 Lafayette St., while the Parks department owns 410 Lafayette St., 602 and

606 E. McCarty St. and 623 School St., according to Jayme Abbott, city neighborhood services manager.

Jenny Smith, who lives on East McCarty Street, said she was told the city would not sign for the local historic district. When residents asked who from the Parks department would sign for the department's properties, city staff said they needed to talk to the city's legal department.

The house at 408 Lafayette St. was destined for demolition, but the City Council approved a demolition moratorium for the East McCarty, Lafayette and School streets area in March. The council extended the moratorium in June and again in September.

The extension deadline is Nov. 17.

The city invested almost \$80,000 to rehabilitate 408 Lafayette St. after it purchased the property in 2009 with federal funds from the Neighborhood Stabilization Program.

The property was not in a floodplain when the city purchased it and began rehabbing it. The city invested \$78,000-80,000 in the property, said Sonny Sanders, director of the Jefferson City Department of Planning and Protective Services.

After FEMA redrew the floodplain lines in 2012, the property was placed in the 100-year floodplain. The city can't use federal funds on properties in the floodplain, Sanders said last month.

Last year, the state and HUD announced they were shutting down the Neighborhood Stabilization Program and entities had to close out the projects or remove federal ties. The city planned to demolish 408 Lafayette St. to finish the project.

Abbott anticipates receiving final instructions on terminating Neighborhood Stabilization Program projects this month.

If the city doesn't close out the project, it could have to pay back the federal funds.

The city could sell the property, but currently the house would have to follow FEMA's 50-percent threshold substantial improvement rule because it is not deemed historic. City staff estimated the cost to rehabilitate 408 Lafayette St. would exceed that threshold.

Smith said she would still like



Collin Krabbe/NewsTribune

Tony Smith signs a sheet signaling his support Wednesday for designating the area between East McCarty, Lafayette and East Miller streets as a local historic district during a resident meeting at High Street Retreat.

the city and Parks department to sell the five properties, because residents may want to rehabilitate the homes.

Beetem will give the City Council an update on the local historic district Nov. 20 and may request another moratorium extension if she needs more time to collect notarized signatures.

If the council allows Beetem to continue with the designation, the application would go to the Historic Preservation Commission for approval. The council would have the final say.

Abbott said since this would be the first local historic district, the commission could take several meetings to review the application.

If the local historic district is denied and the city proceeds with demolition, the Smiths and

Beetem said they are worried the vacant lots will deter possible homeowners.

"We're worried there will be a toothless appearance — two houses, then a lot; two houses, then a lot," Beetem said. "It's going to discourage revitalization."

Sanders said last month the city would not force property owners out of their homes if demolition did proceed.

Beetem said while creating a local historic district is a long, difficult process, residents believe it is worth it.

"This is a little new to all of us," Beetem said. "We're kind of feeling our way through it. It's not an easy process and it's not one really anyone has done, but we believe it will accomplish all the goals for that neighborhood, which is why we're putting in the effort."

Diversity:

Continued from p. 1

smallest venue of the three community discussions in the past two weeks, but JCPS Superintendent Larry Linthacum estimated about 130 people in total have been to the three meetings.

The district's three community meetings on diversity and two church-hosted town halls were spurred by a racially-insensitive photo posted on social media in September.

The district's decision to discipline the students involved for behavior off-school property and hours came up for a time Wednesday; staff and board members present felt the district was obligated and legally capable to act in the interest of the safety of all students.

Beyond the incident itself, however, the photo created an opportunity to discuss broader issues of diversity equity, inclusion and representation in the school district's processes, staff, curriculum, and relationships with parents and the community, as well as in other local institutions like city government and businesses.

Participants at the district's meetings wrote down ideas for improving diversity on notepads and larger sheets of paper, and district staff also took electronic notes.

Linthacum said Wednesday after the meeting district leaders like central office staff and principals will look over those notes and develop goals and actions.

He hopes to have "a general plan to move forward" by the Board of Education's December meeting. In the interim, he said there will be district-wide staff discussions and similar discussions with students in grades six-12 to get their input.

In essence, the district is at this point figuring out how to measure progress on issues of diversity; "it's going to be ongoing," Linthacum said of the efforts to make meaningful changes.

He anticipated a "where we are so far" update at Monday night's board meeting, with more updates to continue in the future.

After three district-hosted meetings, a consensus seems to be progress on an array of issues will take focused, community-wide involvement, especially regarding communication, partnerships and economic development.

One idea brought forth again Wednesday was to have a way to empower families. More specifically, there were ideas for providing advocates or liaisons for families to help them navigate the educational system, especially given the district's high rate of poverty and the barriers for families in being involved in their children's educational experience and achievement.

"I think it'd be great," Linthacum said of the idea, adding he wants ways to get more community members involved in the district.

Truman:

Continued from p. 1

anywhere in the world."

Some of the Lions asked Dienna, a 31-year Navy veteran, how the youngest members of his crew deal with the pressures of working on a big ship.

"I know many have said that millennials are soft and don't have a good work ethic, but I can tell you the millennials we have on our ship are just as gritty and determined to get their jobs done right as the earlier generations were," he said. "I'll take a millennial any day."

SSM Health:

Continued from p. 1

SSM Health has 20 hospitals and 63 outpatient care sites in Missouri, Oklahoma, Michigan and Illinois. The system employs 9,500 employees on its medical staff, and more than 35,000 employees system-wide, according to its website. In 2014, St. Mary's Hospital

moved from its original location at 900 E. High St. to a new 167-bed location at 2505 Mission Drive.

SSM St. Mary's, with 1,154 employees, is the fifth largest employer in Jefferson City, according to a list of industrial and largest employers compiled by the Jefferson City Area Chamber of Commerce.

A March analysis conducted by S&P Global, a division of credit-rating agency Standard & Poor's, before SSM

Health issued \$500 million in bonds, said the hospital chain had an operating loss of \$49.2 million in 2016. S&P Global attributed the loss to higher-than-anticipated medical costs, rising specialty pharmaceutical costs and temporary dips in key service lines like transplants.

The system planned to use the funds to refinance about \$200 million of its outstanding debt and to place \$300 million on its balance sheet as unrestricted reserves, according to the St. Louis

Business Journal.

Royston said SSM Health, like other hospitals across the country, is facing significant operational and financial challenges due to complex and changing demands of the health care industry. The cuts came about as the result of the system's continuous efficiency evaluations.

Most of the positions are not directly involved in patient care, Royston said, adding the system is working to min-

imize impacts to employees. Most of the restructuring will be done through "attrition as well as optimized scheduling and work flow," she said.

Royston added the restructuring is being done to help the hospital serve patients as efficiently as possible.

"Our mission and values compel us to operate as efficiently and effectively as possible, while continuing to provide the exceptional health care services our communities need and deserve."

RINGING

The Salvation Army kicked off its Red Kettle Campaign during a Saturday celebration.

LOCAL B1



ADVANCING

The Blair Oaks football team is going to the Class 3 semifinals for the second time in three years after defeating McCluer South-Berkeley on Saturday.

SPORTS C1

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SUNDAY
NOVEMBER 12, 2017

VOL. 90, NO. 38

WWW.NEWSTRIBUNE.COM



Capitol Avenue improvement projects nearly complete

Housing Authority continues with urban renewal plan

By Nicole Roberts
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After months of work, the joint Jefferson City-Cole County project to improve Capitol Avenue is coming to a close.

Aplex Inc. of Linn was finishing up small items and planting trees along Capitol Avenue last week, Jefferson City Public Works Director Matt Morasch said. About two-thirds of the trees — a mixture of maples, oaks and ginkgos — were planted, and the remainder will be planted in the spring. There will be about 28 trees per block.

City Engineer David Bange said Aplex may continue to plant the fall trees after the ribbon-cutting, scheduled at 11 a.m. Wednesday at the corner of Capitol Avenue and Jackson Street.

Capitol Avenue will sport new and repaired sidewalks, improved curbs and gutters, and new bicycle lanes.

This was the first capital improvements project where street improvements were made with bicycle lanes already in mind, Bange said. Before, bicycle lanes were retrofitted to the streets.

The addition of bike lanes on Capitol Avenue mostly connects the Katy Trail to the Missouri

Please see Capitol, p. 4



Julie Smith/NewsTribune

Capitol Avenue's new lights shine bright last week as the area improvement project nears completion. TOP LEFT: Green Horizons Landscape employees John Durham, left, and Paul Richards planted several ginkgo trees last week along East Capitol Avenue. TOP RIGHT: Steve Beavers, at right, sprays an acrylic paint mixture on the stamped asphalt crosswalk at Capitol Avenue and Jackson Street with the help of Albert Miller and Debbie Beavers. The Beavers own 7 C's Contracting of Highland, Illinois, and have been contracted to paint the crosswalks in the newly paved and stamped blocks of East Capitol Avenue.

JCPS faces teacher shortage

Plan in place to improve employment processes, stay competitive

By Phillip Sitter
phillip@newstribune.com

Community meetings on diversity hosted by Jefferson City Public Schools in recent weeks have cast a renewed spotlight on the district's efforts to have the diversity of its staff match the diversity of its students.

JCPS Director of Human Resources Shelby Scarbrough explained Thursday all school districts in Missouri face challenges in attracting the candidates they need, but the district is re-evaluating its recruitment, hiring and retention processes to try to stay competitive amid a teacher shortage that's particularly acute among diverse candidates.

"We have to honor diversity and have a focus on equity," Scarbrough said of the next steps for the district's HR department given the recent diversity meetings prompted by a

Please see Teachers, p. 4

JCPS trying to diversify its staff

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A glimpse into the trenches

Museum honors anniversary of U.S. entry into WWI

By Bob Watson
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On Veterans Day — for one day only — the Missouri State Museum at the Capitol offered special demonstrations observing the century anniversary of the United States' entry into World War I.

Museum visitors were urged to "register" for the draft, then were treated to a very brief discussion of the six weeks of basic training new American soldiers received before being shipped off to Europe in 1917-18.

Museum Director Tiffany Patterson told the News Tribune: "Our World War I exhibit will be up through 2019," although parts of it will be changed about every six months.

The overall exhibit, "Here at Home in Missouri, in the Great War," shows visitors "what we, as Missourians, were doing during that time" a

Please see Museum, p. 3

Helias students to interview veterans for history project

By Phillip Sitter
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Helias High School opened an opportunity on Veterans Day for veterans to contribute their recorded stories to posterity.

Helias juniors are working with the

Library of Congress to look for U.S. veterans who have been honorably discharged to take part in an oral history program.

"It has not been done around central Missouri for I'd say five or six years," Tom Emmel said Monday of the Veterans History Project. Emmel teaches

American government and AP U.S. history at Helias, and he's also the contact person for veterans who'd like to participate in the school's work with the Congressionally-created program.

"The Veterans History Project hopes to gather historical information from veterans for future research. Veterans

will be asked a series of questions provided by the Veterans History Project. After hearing the answers, follow up questions will be asked. All total, this should take about an hour," a news release said.

In practice, Emmel said this means Helias students would like to talk to vet-

erans in a "non-descript" setting, which can incline veterans to open up and share their stories. He said veterans can expect the interviews themselves to last at least 30-40 minutes.

He said Helias would like to get as

Please see Interviews, p. 3



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OUTSIDE



Cloudy and cool tonight

Today's high: 50
Today's low: 32

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STYLE



Fashionable cause

Breast cancer survivors will take to the runway Nov. 29 showing off the latest fashion while raising money for the Community Breast Care Project.

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WATERCOOLER

Museum explores historical, Hollywood versions of Casablanca

A Boston-area war museum is contrasting the reality of America's entry into World War II with the iconic wartime film "Casablanca."

"The Real and Reel Casablanca" launched Nov. 8 at the International Museum of World War II in Natick and runs through February.

The special exhibit opened on the 75th anniversary of "Operation Torch," when Allied forces invaded French North Africa from the Moroccan port city of Casablanca in 1942.

Among the 75 artifacts on display are Gen. George Patton's invasion map and Gen. Dwight Eisenhower's decoded message to attack. It reads: "PLAY BALL."

Objects from the 1942 film starring Humphrey Bogart and Ingrid Bergman include original movie posters and a chair from Rick's Café, the club where some of the movie's key scenes take place.



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QUICKNATION

Police: Report of plot against police nets gun, drug arrests

ASBURY PARK, N.J. (AP) — Police in New Jersey said an investigation of a reported plot to kill a police officer resulted in the arrests of three people on firearm and drug charges.

Asbury Park police said the probe began after a report that a local gang member had told several people "he was plotting to kill an Asbury Park police officer."

Authorities searched an Asbury Park home early Friday and arrested two men and a woman on charges of possessing a defaced firearm, unlawfully possessing weapons and drug possession. The woman also was arrested on two child endangerment counts.

Police reported finding weapons, drugs and cash as well as an \$800 bicycle bought "from a drug addict on the streets for \$5."

San Francisco's first Chinese-American police officer dies

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Herb Lee, San Francisco's first Chinese-American police officer, has died. He was 84.

The San Francisco Chronicle reported Lee died Nov. 1 of colon cancer.

Lee joined the police force in 1957 and spent his first years working undercover in Chinatown.

He investigated gangs and later worked in the juvenile and narcotics divisions. He was promoted to sergeant and became executive director of the Police Activities League, overseeing athletic and enrichment programs for poor children.

His son, John, who's also a police officer, said his father tried to steer youths away from crime and often took them out fishing aboard his 25-foot boat, the Ah Choo.

Shelter: Disgruntled ex-employee stole 33 cats from facility

WARWICK, R.I. (AP) — A Rhode Island animal care clinic and shelter said a former employee broke into the clinic and stole more than 30 cats this week.

Care for Animals and PAAWS Rhode Island said Friday police have been made aware of the Tuesday theft.

The Warwick shelter said the recently terminated employee took the 33 cats because she wanted to retaliate against the facility for losing her job.

The shelter said it has no information on the location or condition of the cats.

Warwick police said a note was left behind saying the cats were taken to "relieve stress."

Maryland police investigate 'Confederate Lives Matter' posts

HARWOOD, Md. (AP) — Police in Maryland are investigating a complaint that high school students harassed another student by posting threatening language under the name "Confederate Lives Matter."

The Capital Gazette reports Anne Arundel police began their investigation Friday into messages posted on Snapchat with obscene and violent language aimed at a transgender student. The messages were allegedly posted by students at Southern High School.

In a copy of his complaint provided to the newspaper, a father wrote that students threatened to hurt his 15-year-old son in posts titled "Confederate Lives Matter." One post includes a picture of a student wearing what appears to be a KKK-like hood made from paper towels.

Police: Dine-and-dash 'sushi bandit' cited in eastern Idaho

POCATELLO, Idaho (AP) — A man authorities said is the dine-and-dash "sushi bandit" has been cited in eastern Idaho for suspicion of petit theft.

The Bannock County Sheriff's Office told KPVI-TV a deputy took Trevor Bello into custody Friday after Bello tried to leave Chang's Garden restaurant in Pocatello without paying.

Officials said last week someone dined and dashed from a \$126 bill at Sumisu Sushi & Asian Fusion restaurant in Pocatello.

Officials said a waitress at Chang's thought Bello fit the sushi bandit description and alerted authorities.

Teachers:

Continued from p. 1

racially insensitive photo involving students that stirred community concerns.

"Are we finding the best people to meet the needs of our students? Because that's the ultimate thing. We have to think of our students first and then work backwards from there. So finding people that best support the needs of our students is where we start," she said.

She added: "I think our staff population needs to mirror our student population. That is our ultimate goal."

She said it's difficult to put a timeline on accomplishing that goal.

"There's so many factors that we can't control. We have to have a strong pool of applicants to fill these positions, just like colleges and universities need a large pool of pre-service education students. And that's what's frightening — the decline in the number of people that are even entering education," she said.

She told JCPS's Board of Education in September that "in the last 10 years, there are 13,000 less teachers in the state of Missouri," citing a conversation she said she had with the Missouri State Teachers Association.

She provided a December 2016 report to the state's General Assembly from Missouri's Department of Elementary and Secondary Education on "Recruitment and Retention of Teachers in Missouri Public Schools."

That report shows since the 2009-10 school year through 2015-16, the state lost 1,473 teachers, down to a total of 69,683. Through that time, the percentage of teachers in the state who are "non-white or multiple ethnicities has remained the same at 6.5 percent," but the share of black teachers dropped from 5.9 percent to 4.9 percent.

The percentage of all districts' new hires in the state who were first-year teachers also decreased from 64.5 percent to 55.3 percent in the same window. The state's teacher retention rate declined from 90.2 percent to 88.9 percent.

Scarborough also provided a letter dated Aug. 1 from the U.S. Department of Education, addressed to Roy Albers, DESE's assistant director of data analysis. The Department of Education has designated Cole County as having teacher shortages in the 2017-18 school year in the academic areas of art, business, elementary, family and consumer science and human service education, foreign (world) languages, journalism, English, music, occupational family consumer sciences and human services education, physical education and health, science, social studies, special

education, and speech and drama.

A shortage can be determined by a number of factors, including a lack of candidates with appropriate certifications and competition with other districts, Scarborough explained.

Numerous Missouri counties are listed as having teacher shortages in many of the same areas and others, especially in English, science, social studies and special education.

On the recruitment front, Scarborough told the board in September "we're looking at making contact with pre-service teachers, making contact with colleges and universities, creating those partnerships to get them in our schools before they even graduate so they can say, 'I know I want to work there when I graduate.'" She reiterated this Thursday.

Community members at the district's diversity meetings have expressed wanting to use Lincoln University's resources and students more.

LU is among the top five institutions for undergraduates and graduates who come to work for the district, according to information from Scarborough.

The other four top undergraduate institutions for district employees are the University of Central Missouri, Columbia College, Missouri State University and the University of Missouri-Columbia. The list for graduate institutions is the same, except Columbia College is replaced with William Woods University.

Scarborough said the district's HR department is focusing on recruiting candidates from the colleges closest to Jefferson City. In the spring, almost all institutions have networking expos, but the HR department is "trying to build those relationships so we can carry it beyond just career fairs," she said.

JCPS would like to visit college students' classrooms, she added. Pre-service teachers already come to the district's classrooms to complete practicum hours, she said.

She also told the board in September the district is using job headhunter organizations to recruit minority candidates in particular through postings on job boards.

When it comes to the hiring process, she's working with Brenda Hatfield, the district's director of quality improvement, to have conversations with principals to improve the process, focusing on collaboration and finding people who fit the culture of a given building.

On collaboration, Scarborough said they're trying to include input from stakeholders in the hiring process.

"Rather than me just interviewing you for a position, I want a team of people that are going to work with you to get a good feel on your skill set and things you bring to the table," she said.

She explained a candidate who fits a building's culture understands "the uniqueness of every school building, what are the needs of our students, what are the needs of our staff ... where you have a high poverty population, you want to make sure you have staff that are cognizant of poverty and the steps that they have to take."

She also used the example of a "PBIS school district, Positive Behavior Intervention Support system. If you have people who already believe in that, have already been trained in that, they're a good asset."

Matching a candidate to a building's culture means "knowing what your culture is as a school, what are our driving forces, what are our goals, and then finding those people that can tie in with those goals," she added.

"Ultimately, all our principals want people who are fun, passionate, caring — that's across the board," she said.

On the retention front, she said the results of exit interviews with employees who have left don't indicate any problems.

"There were quite a few retirements, a lot of relocating because of a spouse's job or because they were moving," she said. "There wasn't any alarming trends with those exit surveys, but we will continue that practice just to keep out in front of anything people might share that we need to be aware of and make adjustments as needed."

She told the board in September: "Instead of focusing on exit interviews, why people leave, we want to know why people are staying so we can capitalize on that and continue to make those things better. We're looking at finding ways to continue to support people that we have here."

She and Superintendent Larry Linthacum have cited the importance of developing "grow your own" programs for the district to internally create future candidates with local people.

"Let's say you're a junior in high school; you really don't know what you want to do in college. Well, if we can tap into the programs to get you volunteering in an elementary school so you can say, 'Hey, I might like this,' help them figure it out, get a degree and maybe come back and work for us," she said.

Linthacum said at Tuesday's diversity meeting JCPS is looking at the "grow your own" campaigns in the Columbia, North Kansas City, Ft. Zumwalt, Parkway, Raytown and Kansas City Center districts for ideas, and the district has met with experts from MU.

"We've got to make education an attractive career for people to pursue," Scarborough said. "If we truly are a premier school district, it's all about the people that we employ."

Capitol:

Continued from p. 1

State Penitentiary. The only area between the Katy Trail and MSP without bicycle lanes is around the Capitol building.

Bange said the city might talk with the state about striping bicycle lanes around the building to complete the connection.

More than 50 historic-style lights extend between Adams and Cherry streets and include electrical receptacles for street festivals. There are also electric cabinets at the midpoints of each block for festivals.

Bange said there were not many surprises throughout the project — the biggest was workers stumbled upon a tunnel near Lafayette Street, but it did not push back construction, he added.

Now that the project is winding down, Bange said, the city is working on the process to request electricity in the area. The receptacles are turned off unless someone requests the city turns on electricity in a certain

block. Bange said they do not have a clear process now for how to submit such a request.

"There's going to have to be some way for folks to relay to us to turn on the electricity and us knowing when to send someone up there to flip the breaker," Bange said.

The project extended from Adams to Lafayette streets and cost about \$1.5 million. Work on Capitol Avenue began in May.

Bange said the city hopes the improvements will attract tourists to the area and encourage more festivals, but this also depends on other improvements in progress along Capitol Avenue.

"We certainly have high hopes," he said. "We want to help create more of a pedestrian, non-car-centric environment, and it really is close to downtown and close to some of the other attractions, and the houses along that corridor are historic themselves, but it's just hard to say. It's really going to depend on how the properties develop."

Several property owners are fixing up properties as part of the East Capitol Avenue Urban Renewal Plan. Last year, the Jef-

erson City Council approved the urban renewal zone, bordered by East State Street, Lafayette Street, East High Street — including some parcels on the south side of East High Street — and Adams Street.

The area was declared blighted due to deteriorating conditions on some of the properties. Several properties in the area also were considered abandoned under city ordinance.

After city inspectors and the Jefferson City Housing Authority conducted inspections, property owners could either agree to rehabilitation agreements that listed what they needed to fix on their properties or risk eminent domain.

The Housing Authority sent letters to five owner-occupied property owners in late March, and those who signed rehabilitation agreements had six months to fix issues, ranging from picking up trash to fixing the exterior of the homes.

Housing Authority Executive Director Cynthia Quetsch said four property owners signed the rehabilitation agreement, but the property owner who did not

sign made changes to the house.

A city inspector looked at the structures last week and found three of the four property owners who signed agreements had fixed the items listed, Quetsch said. The one property owner who signed, but appeared to not have met the requirements, was sent a letter and invited to the Nov. 28 Housing Authority meeting.

Most of the remaining properties in the 33-acre downtown neighborhood — 48 in all — are not owner-occupied. These include tenant-occupied and vacant properties, along with vacant lots.

Owners of these properties who signed rehabilitation agreements had eight months to fix the problems listed on the agreement. They had to start the work within two to three months of signing the rehabilitation agreement and agree to progress

checks.

Quetsch said property owners who both signed and did not sign the agreements are working on their homes.

Earlier this year, the Housing Authority received and reviewed appraisals for seven properties in the urban renewal area: 101 Jackson St., 103 Jackson St., 105 Jackson St., 108 Jackson St., 401 E. Capitol Ave., 500 E. Capitol Ave. and 501 E. Capitol Ave.

These were listed as priority properties for urban renewal through a public forum, city staff recommendations and the Housing Authority Board of Commissioners' review.

In August, the Housing Authority began the eminent domain process by filing a civil suit against Barbara Buescher, owner of 101 and 105 Jackson St., and Stephen and Cheryl Bratten, owners of 103 Jackson St.

According to the suit, the

Housing Authority "desires and intends to acquire the properties by condemnation."

The suit states Buescher refused the Housing Authority's offers, and the Brattens did not respond.

As of Friday, Quetsch said Buescher has not been served the summons yet, but the Brattens have. A hearing is set for Dec. 4.

The Housing Authority does not want to hold onto properties, Quetsch said. Instead, it wants to acquire houses that could be privately purchased and revitalized.

The City Council also approved the Capitol Avenue Overlay District in April, which requires new construction meet architectural design requirements similar to the current architecture in the district. It also rezoned the East Capitol Avenue area to a mixed-use zoning district.

2017 COLE COUNTY TAX BILLS HAVE BEEN MAILED

Real estate and personal property tax bills have been mailed to property owners and residents of Cole County. If you do not receive your tax bill by November 27th please contact the Collector's office as promptly as possible. The failure of the taxpayer to receive the notice provided for in section 52.230, RSMo in no case relieves the taxpayer of any tax liability imposed by law. Tax payments must be received or postmarked by December 31st, 2017. Payments received or postmarked after that date will have penalty and interest fees added to them. If you have any questions please contact the Collector's office at (573) 634-9124

Personal property tax bills also include 2018 assessment forms. Assessment forms should be completed after January 1st and must be returned to the Assessor's office by March 1st, 2018. Changes of address or vehicles should be reported on your 2018 assessment form. The form should include all personal property that you own on January 1st, 2018. If you did not receive your assessment form, please contact the Assessor's office at (573) 634-9131.

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From graffiti to Snapchat, schools react to racial incidents

CHICAGO (AP) — Maryland students using their shirts to spell a racial slur used against black people at a rally. Pennsylvania students posing with swastika-carved pumpkins. A Montana student photographed with a gun accompanied with a racial epithet.

Racial incidents are appearing to pop up at an alarming rate in the nation's public schools. There were roughly 80 incidents in October alone, by one expert's count, including a Chicago-area student who was charged with a hate crime for racially charged posts on social media.

Many educators note a spike anecdotally, and social media can give such incidents wider and faster exposure. But it's far trickier to assess whether there's an increase numerically, with no organization or agency consistently tracking the issue over time.

School officials acknowledge the incidents are more visible and brazen, fueled by a polarizing presidential administration, divided public and "meme culture." As a result, schools have responded more publicly and intensely than before.

"You have to be aware of it. You have to monitor it. You have to prevent it from escalating," said Dan Domenech, head of the School Superintendents Association, who believes there is a spike this year.

Studies surveying schools and teachers during the 2016 presidential campaign noted an increase in anxiety and fear. Many traced it to fiery comments then-Republican candidate Donald Trump made about immigrants, African-Americans and Muslims.

A study released last month by the University of California in Los Angeles showed a surge in teachers reporting student anxiety, from roughly 7 percent in past years to 51 percent this year. It also showed nearly 28 percent of teachers reporting a spike in students making derogatory remarks about other groups during class discussions.

And high-profile incidents such as the white supremacist rally in Charlottesville, Virginia, that turned violent and the spate of police shootings of blacks and other minorities can accelerate racially charged reactions.

Teaching Tolerance, an anti-hate program, used to get requests from schools once a month for help. But since the election it's been daily, according to Maureen Costello who runs the Southern Poverty Law Center program.

She started tracking incidents through news media accounts at the start of October after there seemed to be a rise. Part of the explanation for the recent spate, she said, could be the homecoming season. Students become more settled in school and start attending events such as pep rallies and dress-up days.

Administrators and teachers, once reluctant to discuss incidents over privacy concerns, are being more proactive, Costello said. They're beefing up curriculums and training staff for difficult conversations.

"Schools are looking for professional development. They're looking for interventions," she said. "There's a sense of just

Please see Nationwide, p. 12



Shelby Kardell/News Tribune

Claudine Ruboneka, left, and Eugene Vogel, right, participate in an Oct. 24 diversity discussion sponsored by the Jefferson City Public Schools at the Boys & Girls Club of Jefferson City.

Pursuing diversity

JCPS made some progress on diversifying staff, but has a long way to go to reflect student body

By Phillip Sitter
phillip@newtribune.com

Community members and Jefferson City Public Schools' leadership have cited the importance of the district's staff being as diverse as its student body. Data submitted by the district to the federal government suggest JCPS has made some progress over the past year in closing a gap between staff and student diversity, but that gap still exists.

The percentage of male staff in the district is half the percentage of male students, and the student body remains more than four times as racially and ethnically diverse as the staff.

The News Tribune reported in October 2016 that of JCPS' total staff, 7.13 percent were minorities, while 35.49 percent of the district's student population were minorities. The district's 2016-17 staff report presented at that month's Board of Education meeting noted 24.23 percent of its staff were male, while the student body then was 51.29 percent male.

Shelby Scarbrough, JCPS director of human resources, recently provided the News Tribune with JCPS' Equal Employment Opportunity report, up to date as of Sept. 6, 2017. EEO reports are federally mandated civil rights documents that track the race, ethnicity, gender and assignment classification of employees.

JCPS's EEO report shows the district employs 1,478 people: 1,232 full-time staff; 85 part-time and 161 new

full-time hires brought in over the summer and beginning of the school year.

Of all staff this year, about 9.2 percent are Hispanic or Latino, black or African-American, Asian, Native Hawaiian or other Pacific islander, American Indian or Alaska Native, or two or more races — more diverse than the 6.4 percent minority staff Superintendent Larry Linthacum cited at Tuesday's district-hosted community diversity meeting.

Data provided by Jason Hoffman, the district's chief financial and operating officer, show as of Thursday about 37 percent of the district's 8,627 students were categorized by one of those labels. Nine students' race or ethnicities were "undefined."

Full-time staff who are not new hires are the least racially and ethnically diverse group, with about 8.03 percent diversity, compared to 17.6 percent for part-time staff and 13.66 percent for new hires.

Full-time staff includes administrators, principals, assistant principals, elementary and secondary classroom teachers, other classroom teachers, guidance counselors, school psychologists, librarians, teachers' aides, service workers, skilled craft workers, administrative support workers and others.

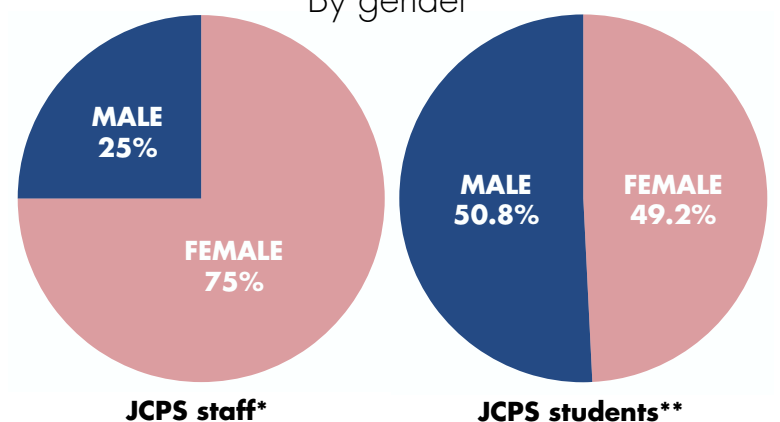
Most part-time staff are professional instructors.

The overwhelming majority of the district's 1,232 full-time staff are white:

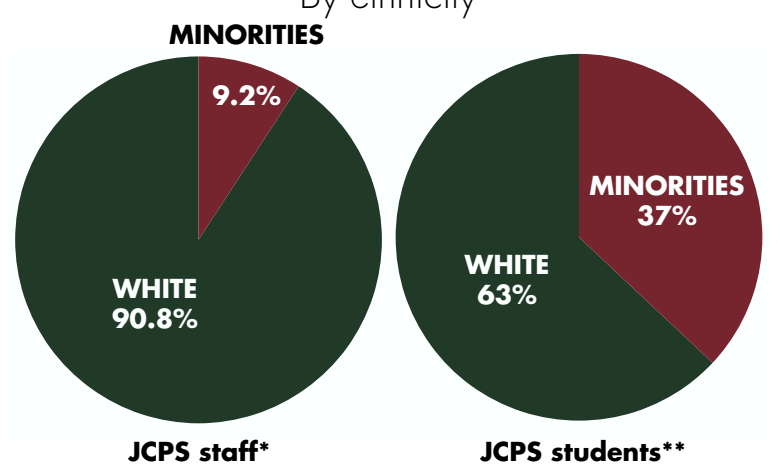
Please see Diversity, p. 12

JCPS demographics

By gender



By ethnicity



* 2017 Equal Employment Opportunity report for JCPS
** Data provided by JCPS

Childhood memories help new CVB employee promote JC



Julie Smith/News Tribune

Brittney Mormann poses in her Convention and Visitors Bureau office. Mormann, the new communications director, started the week before the eclipse.

By Nicole Roberts
nicole@newtribune.com

After growing up a short distance from Jefferson City, Brittney Mormann continues to promote the community as communications manager for the Jefferson City Convention and Visitors Bureau.

Mormann works on promotional events in Jefferson City, helps with advertising and handles media inquiries for the CVB. She also is transitioning into a film managing position, working with groups that want to film in Jefferson City.

Mormann joined the CVB on Aug. 14, the week before the solar eclipse. While being thrown into solar eclipse events was chaotic, she said, it was fun because it helped prepare her for future events like Salute to America.

Having grown up in Mary's Home, a small town about 30 minutes south of Jefferson City, Mormann said Jefferson City always "resonated" with her. Her goal is for visitors to experience the memories she remembers,

whether attending concerts, touring the state Capitol or visiting local businesses.

"Anybody who expresses interest in coming here, I always get so excited about all the different events I can tell them about because I have that experience from whenever I was a kid going and I can kind of talk about that," she said. "I want visitors to see stuff from a local's eyes — I want them to see why we love this so much. I don't just want them to come and see this as a fly-through city. I want them to be excited when they think of those memories they had here because those are the things I think about when I was growing up."

Before working at the CVB, she said, she always had an interest in tourism. Mormann had an internship at the Missouri Division of Tourism while attending University of Central Missouri and ended up getting a job there after graduation, working as the community development representative a little over three years.

While at MDT, she facilitated the grant program and was in close contact with CVBs

from around Missouri. She said that job helped her transition into her current position and "opened her eyes" to the advertising world.

"I was always reviewing what all of the other CVBs were doing, so Katherine (Reed, Jefferson City CVB's former communications manager) would submit her advertising schedule and I'd look over it and see the different ads she was placing and her advertising schedule and how much things cost," Mormann said. "I think if I had come straight into this role without having that experience, it would have been much more difficult to learn everything the communications manager does here at the CVB."

Mormann said since she worked with multiple CVBs while at MDT, she can draw on their different experiences.

While she knew a lot coming into this job, Mormann said, there is still plenty she is learning, like working with the media and budgeting.



Chicago high school senior Hira Zeeshan poses for a portrait in the West Ridge neighborhood of Chicago. Zeeshan, a Pakistani Muslim immigrant, said she's been affected personally by the anti-immigrant rhetoric that is on the rise in the nation's schools.

Nationwide:

Continued from p. 9

really not knowing quite what to do."

Social studies teacher Terry Jess in Bellevue, Washington, said he's had to be more vigilant this year in reminding students about classroom rules on appropriate language and listening even when there's disagreement. He also keeps closer tabs on Snapchat and Twitter to watch for incidents.

"It has gotten where there seems to be a lack of decorum and respect ... as far as what we're seeing from our political candidates, what students are seeing on social media," he said. "That has started to creep in our hallways."

A look at the past few weeks shows the quick steps schools have taken.

In Virginia, a middle school forfeited the remainder of the football season after players made a Snapchat video showing simulated sex acts on black peers and using racially charged language. A Utah school launched an investigation and disciplinary action after a group of white girls, including cheerleaders, circulated a video of themselves in a car chanting a racial slur used against black people, even though it was filmed off campus. A South Dakota school forfeited its homecoming football game against a school from a nearby American Indian reservation and canceled its dance and parade after social media photos showed students destroying a car with "Go back to the Rez" painted on the side.

Still, there's a lack of hard data on racial incidents in schools, making some experts cautious about reaching any conclusions.

The National Center for Education Statistics has little information on the topic. An analysis of data for this school year that looks at hate-related words won't be available until the summer of 2018.

Individual advocacy groups say they've documented a spike and want schools to do more. The Anti-Defamation League's count of anti-Semitic harassment and vandalism in K-12 schools nearly doubled, from 130 in January to September of last year to 256 in the same period this year.

The ADL and the NAACP are pushing for wider anti-bias training.

Yet, some administrators and counselors say the increased response from schools over student conflicts dates back years to when they were reacting to school shootings with fresh security plans and safety exercises.

Whitney Allgood, CEO of the National School Climate Center, said the focus on school climate is due to a policy shift in recent years, including anti-bullying campaigns, not high-profile incidents.

Other experts say another factor could be how students share information through social media, with more of an emphasis on getting attention. A taunt once isolated to a passed note is now disseminated widely because of "meme culture" requiring picture-ready and edgy posts.

Chicago high school senior Hira Zeeshan said she's been affected personally by the rhetoric as a Pakistani Muslim immigrant and is pushing her racially diverse school to draft statements supporting immigrants.

But one of the hardest days was after Charlottesville. The issue came up in a class, but she wanted schoolwide discussions.

"It was really disturbing the way people were just able to walk out on the street and show all this hatred and use Nazi symbols," she said. "We just resumed our day like it was normal."

Diversity:

Continued from p. 9

all 16 principals; all but one of 19 administrators, officials or managers; all but one of 11 assistant principals; all but 15 of 264 elementary teachers; all but 23 of 271 secondary teachers; 22 of 25 guidance staff; all but one of 11 psychological services staff; all of 11 librarians; 115 of 140 teachers' aides; and 156 of 165 service workers.

Furthermore, most staff are white women: almost 70 percent of full-time staff, 59 percent of part-time staff and about 63 percent of the new full-time hires.

Twenty-five percent of the district's total staff is male. Ten of 19 officials, administrators and managers and seven of 16 principals are male at the level of central office and building leaders.

Among teachers, 8.3 percent of elementary teachers and 36.5 percent of secondary teachers are male.

The data Hoffman provided show as of Thursday, about 50.79 percent of the district's students are male.

It's a lot of numbers that suggest the district has made incremental progress in diversifying its staff and achieving parity with the diversity of its students, despite a stark gap.

But what does that all really mean? Why is classroom diversity in particular important?

Linthacum told community members Tuesday that research shows it's better if the diversity of staff matches the diversity of students.

He did not cite any particular study or specifically why such an environment is better, but National Public Radio has reported in the past year on a couple of studies on diversity's positive effects for students.

In "The Effects of Teacher Match on Students' Academic Perceptions and Attitudes," Anna Egalite of North Carolina State University and Brian Kisida of the University of Missouri surveyed more than 80,000 public school students in fourth through eighth grades in six urban districts in as many states: North Carolina, Texas, Colorado, Florida, Tennessee and New York.

Egalite and Kisida's work found "students who share gender and/or racial characteristics with their teachers have more positive perceptions of their teachers in terms of feeling cared for, feeling that their schoolwork is interesting, and more positive reports of instructional characteristics related to student-teacher communication and guidance compared to other students in the same classroom. They also report putting forth more personal effort and have higher college aspirations," according to a working version of the paper from February.

"These effects appear to be most meaningful for female students, particularly for black female students linked with black female



Emil Lippe/News Tribune

W.T. Edmonson explains what he believes schools should teach children when it comes to diversity during a Nov. 7 Jefferson City Public Schools diversity discussion in the Hawthorn Bank Community Room.

teachers," the study added.

This year's provisional "The Long-Run Impacts of Same-Race Teachers" by Seth Gershenson, Constance Lindsay, Cassandra Hart and Nicholas Papageorge used the long-term academic records of every public school student in North Carolina who entered the third grade between the 2001 and 2005 school years to focus on what NPR reported was more than 100,000 black elementary students.

Gershenson and Lindsay are from American University, Hart from the University of California-Davis and Papageorge from Johns Hopkins University. Gershenson and Papageorge also are affiliated with the Bonn, Germany-based IZA Institute of Labor Economics, an "independent economic research institute that conducts research in labor economics and offers evidence-based policy advice on labor market issues," according to its website.

IZA is supported by the Deutsche Post Foundation, established by Deutsche Post DHL, "the world's leading logistics company" headquartered in Bonn, of which the more familiar DHL Express is a division.

The study followed students through their senior year of high school and found "exposure to a black teacher during elementary school raises long-run educational attainment for black male students, especially among those from low-income households. For the most disadvantaged black males, conservative estimates suggest that exposure to a black teacher in primary school cuts high school dropout rates 39 percent. It also raises college aspirations along with the probability of taking a

college entrance exam."

Much of JCPS's staff diversity is represented by people who identified on the EEO report as black or African-American; 4.9 percent of the district's total staff and 2.99 percent of its classroom teachers are black or African-American. There are seven black or African-American female elementary teachers — no men — and nine black or African-American secondary teachers — six women and three men.

The data from Hoffman show about 20 percent of the district's students are African-American.

About 8.75 percent of the district's student body is multi-racial, while about 2.2 percent of its non-new hire classroom teachers are. That's 12 teachers, four of whom work on the elementary level, plus another three who are new hires.

About 6.65 percent of the district's students are Hispanic, while about 1.1 percent of its classroom teachers are Hispanic or Latino. That's six classroom teachers, evenly divided between the elementary and secondary levels, and no new hires this year.

The classroom teacher statistics the News Tribune calculated do not take into account the "other classroom teaching" staff classification on the district's EEO report, but 90 of those 94 staff members are white, 80 of them white women. Two more of those staff members are Hispanic or Latina women, and the other two are black or African-American women.

"I think our staff population needs to mirror our student population. That is our ultimate goal," Scarbrough said.

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For the rest of Sue's story, visit ssmhealthmidmo.com to watch a short video. **To make an appointment, call 573-681-3759.**

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ROUNDBABOUTS

After opening its most recent roundabout, Jefferson City is considering other intersections to improve with roundabouts.

■ VIEWS A9



THE SEASON

As Christmas lights and decorations pop up around Jefferson City, residents prepare to kick off the community's holiday traditions.

■ LOCAL B1

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VOL. 90, NO. 40

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Mark Wilson / News Tribune

Mikala Prenger, 6, and her grandmother Mary Esther Prenger do their holiday shopping downtown during Small Business Saturday. Mikala's favorite part of the experience was the free trolley rides. The event was sponsored by the Jefferson City Area Chamber of Commerce, the Missouri Retailer's Association, the Downtown Association, the Eastside and Old Munichburg/Southside business associations.

Big day for small businesses

Small Business Saturday keeps local economy running

By Bob Watson
bwatson@newstribune.com

When sisters Faye Doerhoff and Mary Winter get together for Thanksgiving, the Saturday schedule includes some shopping — and one of the scheduled stops is The Schaefer House, 618 Broadway St.

"This is just the most wonderful place to shop for things that make you feel good," said Doerhoff, who grew up in St. Elizabeth but now lives in Kirkwood.

She said the Jefferson City store is better, in many ways, than similar stores she could visit in her part of St. Louis County.

"You don't have the personal touch that you have here," Doerhoff said, "and that makes all the difference."

Winter, Jefferson City, agreed.



Mark Wilson / News Tribune

Alexis Wilbers and her mother Brenda Wilbers do holiday shopping at Ami B. and The Orchid Emporium.

"Susie and the people who work here — as in other small stores in Jefferson City — do give it a very personal touch," Winter said. "You trust them when they say, 'I'd like to show you something I think you'd

like.'" And that's a benefit that small business owners want to emphasize year round but especially on the day

Please see Businesses, p. 4

JCPS discipline issues up

But reasons may be complicated

By Phillip Sitter
phillip@newstribune.com

The number of discipline incidents at Jefferson City Public Schools in the first quarter of 2017 increased significantly over the same time last year, but district officials have said the situation may be more complicated than a possible increase in students' bad behaviors.

"Some of these numbers are because we decided that we are going to hold more kids accountable, and some numbers are because we are logging them differently," JCPS Chief of Learning Brian Shindorf told the Board of Education at its meeting two weeks ago.

Through Oct. 31, 2016, JCPS had a total of 2,099 discipline incidents among its 11 elementary schools, two middle schools, Jefferson City High School, Simonsen 9th Grade Center and Jefferson City Academic Center.

The count as of Nov. 3 was up to 3,044 discipline incidents, meaning students were sent to schools' offices 3,044 times since the beginning of the year. Those are

"office referrals," not suspensions, Shindorf said.

Last year, JCPS developed a code of conduct through its behavior team, "hoping we could get ourselves to be more uniform across the district in terms of the consequences that we were having for discipline," Shindorf said.

At the start of the year, he added, JCPS also started looking at consistency across the district, in terms of what was entered into the computer system that tracks discipline incidents.

"We had some principals that were logging a lot of discipline, and other principals were choosing not to log," he said. "I can tell you that today

I believe that we're a lot closer to being consistent with what is getting logged and what is not getting logged."

Shindorf said Monday the hundreds of classroom teachers in the district are still free to determine what behaviors merit being sent to the office. However, he's confident once a student does get to the school

Breakdowns, comparisons by school and race
Page 3

Please see Discipline, p. 3

State looking at JCPS racial discipline disparity

By Phillip Sitter
phillip@newstribune.com

Jefferson City Public Schools' discipline incident numbers increased in the first quarter of 2017 compared to last year, but regardless of the reasons for the increase among all students, significant racial disparities persist in who tends to face disciplinary action and specific kinds of consequences.

In JCPS Chief of Learning Brian Shindorf's presentation on discipline to the district's Board of Education two weeks ago, he said students who are black represent 20 percent of the district's student population but represented 39.5 percent of the district's discipline incidents.

Students who are white represent 62.8 percent of the district's student body, but

only 41.8 percent of its discipline incidents.

Put another way, 26.7 percent of the district's black students received office referrals for discipline in the first quarter of the 2017-18 school year, compared to 11 percent of the district's white students.

Overall, non-white students represent 37.2 percent of the student body but 58.2 percent of discipline incidents.

Such disparities in school discipline have been pointed out by community members at recent town hall and discussion events hosted by local churches and the school district.

Shindorf said the district is working with the state's Department of Elementary and Secondary Education to find answers as to why such disparities exist.

Please see Disparity, p. 3



Julie Smith/News Tribune
Bishop-Elect Shawn McKnight

Bishop-elect praises interfaith relations, youth stewardship

By Jeff Haldiman
jhaldiman@newstribune.com

There's still a few months until the Rev. Shawn McKnight becomes the fourth bishop of the Catholic Diocese of Jefferson City, but he already is looking at what he can do to help the diocese grow.

During a news conference last week to announce him as bishop-elect, McKnight noted

the idea of fostering "friendships" with other Christian and non-Christian communities.

"We have an obligation to be closer to one another," he said. "We have some common ground, and I want to further those relationships. I've grown in my appreciation over my 23 years as a priest for different faiths. Many of our marriages — maybe half to a third — are between couples where one partner is non-Cath-

olic, so we are forced to address humanization."

He said working with interfaith agencies like the Samaritan Center is important in improving relationships with people of different faiths, and he would like to develop a dialogue where the faith community can agree on legislation and/or advocacy.

McKnight also wants to make sure the needs of Catholic children in the Jefferson City diocese

are addressed.

"We need life in the church," he said. "Youth are not the future of the church. Their energy and enthusiasm helps the whole church."

The Rev. Gabriel Greer, parochial vicar at the Church of the Magdalene in Wichita, where McKnight has been serving as pastor since July 2015, said McKnight is a good administra-

tor and youth involvement has increased since he's been there. This includes hosting summer camps for college-age students to broaden their spiritual life.

"It's very much at the heart of his ministry," Greer said. "He thought it was very important to have a priest involved in our school, so he put me there. He's very much involved and

Please see McKnight, p. 4



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OUTSIDE



Another mild, sunny day

Today's high: 63
Today's low: 41

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SPORTS



Peaks and plunges

The Chiefs and the Bills enter today's game at Arrowhead Stadium having been riding the same roller coaster this season.

■ PAGE C1

WATERCOOLER

Couple forced to leave wedding reception early get a do-over

A New Jersey couple who had to leave their wedding reception early when the bride suffered an allergic reaction is about to get a free do-over.

Victoria Tumolo was dancing at the September reception when she became ill and started to have trouble breathing. As a nurse, she realized what was happening and soon her father was administering an EpiPen through her wedding dress.

"I had to take my dress off outside so they wouldn't cut it off me when we got to the hospital," Tumolo said, noting that her new husband, Dominic, and her mother took off her dress together.

Sympathizing with the newlyweds' plight, their caterer and the owner of the entertainment company that performed at the wedding teamed up to offer them a complimentary second reception to be held today. The Tumolos said at least 150 of the 250 guests who attended the first reception will be able to attend the second.

Volunteers will do the bride's hair and makeup, and the wedding photographer will also return at no cost.



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Comparison between white, black students

| School year | Black discipline | Black enrollment | White discipline | White enrollment |
|-------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| 2014 | 2,685 | 1,634 | 3,549 | 6,091 |
| 2015 | 3,381 | 1,669 | 4,136 | 5,963 |
| 2016 | 3,509 | 1,656 | 3,916 | 5,768 |
| 2017 | 3,831 | 1,702 | 4,012 | 5,653 |

Source: Jefferson City Public Schools. Number of discipline incidents and students enrolled, by race and school year.

Breakdown by race and ethnicity

| Race or ethnicity | Incidents | Offenders | District population |
|-------------------|-----------|-----------|---------------------|
| Asian | 16 | 7 | 134 |
| Black | 1,204 | 464 | 1,739 |
| Hispanic | 153 | 66 | 574 |
| Multi-Racial | 393 | 160 | 755 |
| White | 1,272 | 596 | 5,394 |
| American Indian | 2 | 1 | 15 |
| Pacific Islander | 2 | 1 | 7 |

Source: Jefferson City Public Schools. Number of students in the district by race or ethnicity, how many students of each group were involved in discipline incidents, and how many times total. Discipline data is up to date as of Nov. 3, and "district population" as of Nov. 9.

Comparison of 2016, 2017 incidents

| Incident type | As of Oct. 31, 2016 | As of Nov. 3, 2017 |
|---|---------------------|--------------------|
| Alcohol | 9 | 2 |
| Assault | 26 | 28 |
| Bullying | 10 | 38 |
| Bus/Transportation misconduct | 255 | 379 |
| Dishonesty | 29 | 45 |
| Disrespect to staff | 228 | 359 |
| Disruptive conduct or speech | 810 | 1,173 |
| Drugs | 10 | 37 |
| Failure to meet condition of suspension | 28 | 41 |
| Fighting | 106 | 98 |
| Physical contact/aggression | 292 | 366 |
| Sexual misconduct | 11 | 10 |
| Tardy | 60 | 75 |
| Technology misconduct | 54 | 111 |
| Theft | 19 | 30 |
| Threats or verbal assault | 38 | 39 |
| Tobacco | 13 | 12 |
| Truancy | 67 | 124 |
| Unauthorized entry | 2 | 9 |
| Vandalism | 9 | 6 |
| Weapon | 3 | 6 |
| Total | 2,099 | 3,044 |

Source: Jefferson City Public Schools. Number of discipline incidents by type across the school district. Only types of events that were labeled consistently across years were included; therefore, the total may be more than the sum of events listed.

Comparison of incidents by school

| School | Incidents | Offenders | Total enrollment | Free, reduced lunch % |
|------------------|-----------|-----------|------------------|-----------------------|
| Belair | 82 | 24 | 409 | 48.4 |
| Callaway Hills | 117 | 40 | 296 | 100 |
| Cedar Hill | 53 | 30 | 377 | 43.2 |
| Clarence Lawson | 51 | 27 | 457 | 55.8 |
| East | 120 | 49 | 302 | 100 |
| JCAC | 35 | 29 | 156 | 64.1 |
| JCHS | 421 | 253 | 1729 | 44.8 |
| Lewis and Clark | 491 | 195 | 937 | 55 |
| Moreau Heights | 291 | 65 | 397 | 64 |
| North | 32 | 24 | 454 | 41.6 |
| Pioneer Trail | 131 | 63 | 492 | 56.3 |
| Simonsen | 253 | 124 | 608 | 52.8 |
| South | 87 | 50 | 316 | 100 |
| Thomas Jefferson | 616 | 242 | 1056 | 53.4 |
| Thorpe Gordon | 32 | 25 | 328 | 100 |
| West | 226 | 58 | 356 | 66.6 |

Source: Jefferson City Public Schools. Number of discipline incidents and offending students per school, along with each building's enrollment and the percent of students who receive free or reduced-price lunch, through Nov. 3, 2017.

Comparison of 2016, 2017 incidents by school

| School | 2016 incidents | 2017 incidents | % change |
|------------------|----------------|----------------|-------------|
| Belair | 88 | 82 | -6.8 |
| Callaway Hills | 44 | 117 | 165.9 |
| Cedar Hill | 51 | 53 | 3.9 |
| Clarence Lawson | 89 | 51 | -42.7 |
| East | 154 | 120 | -22 |
| JCAC | 18 | 35 | 94.4 |
| JCHS | 270 | 421 | 55.9 |
| Lewis and Clark | 302 | 491 | 62.6 |
| Moreau Heights | 131 | 291 | 122.1 |
| North | 31 | 32 | 3.2 |
| Pioneer Trail | 161 | 131 | -18.6 |
| Thorpe Gordon | 36 | 32 | -11.1 |
| Thomas Jefferson | 346 | 616 | 78 |
| Simonsen | 145 | 253 | 74.5 |
| South | 50 | 87 | 74 |
| West | 183 | 226 | 23.5 |
| Total | 2099 | 3038 | 44.7 |

Source: Jefferson City Public Schools. Change in the number of discipline incidents at each JCPS schools. 2016 events are through Oct. 31, and 2017 events are through Nov. 3.

Discipline:

Continued from p. 1

office, there's 100 percent consistency there of what's being logged.

The 3,044 discipline incidents in the first quarter this year stem from 1,302 students, who represent about 15 percent of the district's student population, Shindorf said.

The numbers organized by building show Belair, East, Clarence Lawson, Pioneer Trail and Thorpe Gordon elementary schools saw decreases in discipline incidents. Lawson's count decreased the most, by more than 42 percent compared to last year.

The other schools saw varying increases. Callaway Hills Elementary School's discipline incident count increased the most, by almost 166 percent. Moreau Heights Elementary School's incidents increased by 122 percent.

Moreau Heights also had the highest level of discipline incidents per capita, and the district's two middle schools had the highest levels of offending students per capita.

Combining Lewis and Clark and Thomas Jefferson middle schools, 437 students were involved in discipline incidents during the first quarter.

"Four hundred thirty-seven middle schoolers represents about 5 percent of our total population. So 5 percent of our total population caused 40 percent of our office referrals," Shindorf told the board.

"That's a challenge in any district," JCPS Director of Secondary Education Gary Verslues said Monday of middle schoolers' behavior.

The looser structure of middle school compared to elementary school lends itself to

Breakdown by school and race

| School | Hispanic | Asian | African-American | White | Multi-racial | Incidents | Offenders |
|------------------|----------|-------|------------------|-------|--------------|-----------|-----------|
| Belair | 44 | 6 | 73 | 242 | 41 | 82 | 24 |
| Callaway Hills | 6 | 0 | 24 | 230 | 34 | 117 | 40 |
| Cedar Hill | 24 | 14 | 41 | 256 | 38 | 53 | 30 |
| East | 18 | 1 | 149 | 92 | 40 | 120 | 49 |
| JCAC | 6 | 1 | 32 | 95 | 15 | 35 | 29 |
| JCHS | 146 | 27 | 404 | 1575 | 136 | 674 | 377 |
| Lawson | 32 | 20 | 74 | 292 | 38 | 51 | 27 |
| Lewis and Clark | 56 | 10 | 164 | 620 | 80 | 491 | 195 |
| Moreau Heights | 25 | 2 | 115 | 212 | 42 | 291 | 65 |
| North | 18 | 1 | 16 | 377 | 37 | 32 | 24 |
| Pioneer Trail | 57 | 5 | 37 | 347 | 45 | 131 | 63 |
| South | 14 | 26 | 134 | 102 | 40 | 87 | 50 |
| Thorpe Gordon | 19 | 0 | 159 | 101 | 48 | 32 | 25 |
| Thomas Jefferson | 85 | 16 | 234 | 631 | 88 | 616 | 242 |
| West | 22 | 3 | 82 | 216 | 33 | 226 | 58 |

Source: Jefferson City Public Schools. Number of students at each school by race or ethnicity, up to date as of Nov. 9, and total number of discipline incidents and student offenders at each building, through Nov. 3.

Most common disciplinary consequences with racial breakdowns

| Consequence | Black | Hispanic | Multi-Racial | White | Asian/Indian/Pac. Islander | Total of consequences |
|--------------------------|-------|----------|--------------|-------|----------------------------|-----------------------|
| In-school suspension | 261 | 35 | 68 | 241 | 0 | 605 |
| Conference with student | 203 | 21 | 76 | 199 | 5 | 504 |
| Out of school suspension | 149 | 12 | 52 | 126 | 2 | 341 |
| Contact parents | 137 | 12 | 50 | 92 | 3 | 294 |
| Loss of privileges | 131 | 10 | 37 | 114 | 0 | 292 |

Source: Jefferson City Public Schools. Top five most common consequences for students for office referrals for discipline incidents, including number of times students per race or ethnicity received the consequence up to Nov. 3.

students having more freedom, including to misbehave, Shindorf added.

Verslues said the middle schools are looking at when and where discipline incidents happen to see if that might help identify solutions — if unstructured times or certain locations are more prone to problems, for example.

Shindorf attributed Moreau Heights' issues with a large turnover in students this year — not from recent boundary line changes, but from natural mobility, he said.

JCPS Superintendent Larry Linthacum said at the last board meeting that the school affected most by last year's boundary

changes was Thorpe Gordon, in terms of gaining more students.

Shindorf told the board about a fourth of the students at Moreau Heights this year are new to the school. He said Monday the building and its staff have had to re-group their culture as new students get used to their new environment.

"Very serious offenses are limited," Shindorf told the board of what the numbers for the whole district say.

He considers serious offenses — like assault, bullying, fighting and alcohol and drug use — represent about 7 percent of the total offenses in the first quarter this year.

Those offenses — 6.63 per-

cent of the district's in the first quarter — plus "tobacco," "threats or verbal assault" and "weapon" offenses add up to about 8.5 percent of the district's first-quarter discipline incidents.

He added 90 percent of students' office referrals are due to five types of discipline incidents: disruptive conduct or speech, misbehavior on school buses, physical contact or aggression, disrespect to staff, and being truant or tardy.

The only differences from last year are that truancy has taken the spot of fighting in the top five, and misbehavior on buses overtook physical contact or aggression offenses.

The five most common types

of offenses add up to about 78.86 percent of the district's total so far this year. Disruptive conduct or speech is by far the most common, at more than 38 percent of the running total reported so far.

After "technology misconduct" — 3.64 percent — and "tardy" offenses at 2.46 percent, the remaining types of offenses like dishonesty, theft and vandalism, and unauthorized entry make up about 1 percent or significantly less than 1 percent.

Shindorf said the good news of most incidents not being serious is that potential solutions can have broader impacts.

One concern he noted for the board, though, is that on the elementary level, the more students at a school who live with poverty, the more discipline issues that school tends to have — though he added Thorpe Gordon is an exception to this. He also said there's no correlation on the elementary level between larger enrollments and higher discipline incident counts.

The correlation between poverty and discipline is concerning because the district's percentage of students who are eligible for free or reduced-price meals — a

standard educational indicator of poverty — has grown by about 2 percent every year since 1996; the state's percentage has risen only about 10 percent in total at the same time.

Shindorf said there's no reason to assume the trend won't do anything but continue upward in the foreseeable future.

"In the next six or seven years, we could easily be at the 75 percentile of free and reduced," he added.

As the district's free and reduced-eligibility percentage has increased, so too has its level of discipline issues since fiscal year 2013.

Shindorf cautioned it's not as simple as assuming every student who lives with poverty will have discipline issues, but children who deal with poverty, hunger and poverty's effects on family dynamics can struggle more with "self-regulation" and social skills.

Regardless of whether such a correlation continues in the future, Shindorf said, next year the district's discipline trends will not be explainable by the efforts to fix reporting inconsistencies.

Disparity:

Continued from p. 1

In terms of who faces disciplinary consequences, he said, "The state department has sent notice that we're disproportionate in the number of black students with IEP — special education students that are black — compared to the non-black special education students."

DESE said: "A data analysis indicates Jefferson City Public Schools has a discrepancy in the rates of suspensions and expulsions for greater than 10 days in a school year for children with disabilities as compared to non-disabled peers based on race/ethnicity. This identification is based on an analysis of 2015-16 and 2016-17 district data for students who are black."

State education departments are required by federal education disability law to report such discrepancies, and the state has to annually examine all schools' discipline discrepancy rates.

District-level comprehensive reviews are mandated when discrepancies are identified for two years in a row, and DESE said the goal of a review is "to determine if the disproportionate representation might be the result of policies, practices or procedures."

Shindorf said DESE will look at the reasons students are sent to school offices, the consequences for all students who were referred for the same reasons, and whether consequences were applied fairly and con-

sistently.

"The comprehensive review includes a self-assessment, file review and interviews. For each subsequent, consecutive year that a district's data indicates a significant discrepancy in discipline rates, the district will receive a modified review," including a self-assessment and interviews, according to DESE documents.

DESE said Jefferson City's review should be completed by Dec. 31. Once the district receives DESE's report, JCPS will have to "develop strategies and timelines for correcting each indicator not in compliance identified through the monitoring review," though the DESE documents do not detail more specific consequences for districts with ongoing discrepancies.

Information regarding the number or characteristics of students with IEPs in the JCPS district was not immediately available to the News Tribune

However, other JCPS data show students who are black generally represent a disproportionate percentage of the district's discipline incidents and face an even more disproportionate share of the most common disciplinary consequences.

Among all students, the most common outcome of an office referral was an in-school suspension — 19.9 percent of the time. Behind this were conferences with students at 16.6 percent of the time; out-of-school suspensions, 11.2 percent; con-

tacting parents, 9.7 percent; and loss of privileges, 9.6 percent.

For black, Hispanic and white students, the most likely outcome of an office referral in the first quarter of the school year through Nov. 3 was in-school suspension, with such a suspension slightly more likely for black and Hispanic students.

However, the 20 percent of the district's students who are black or African-American received more than 43 percent of the in-school suspensions assigned in the first quarter, whereas the 62.8 percent of students who are white received a little less than 40 percent.

The level of disparity exists among all of the top five most common outcomes for an office referral. The 20 percent of JCPS students who are black or African-American received more than 40 percent of conferences with students, more than 43 percent of out-of-school suspensions, more than 46 percent of contacts with parents and almost 45 percent of loss of privileges.

Multi-racial students face a smaller disciplinary disparity. The 8.7 percent of the district's students who are multi-racial receive more than 11 percent of in-school suspensions, 15 percent of conferences with students, more than 15 percent of out-of-school suspensions, 17 percent of contacts with parents and more than 12 percent of loss of privileges.

Hispanic students tend to receive a smaller share of disciplinary consequences than their

5 percent proportion of the student body, though Hispanic students receive about 5.7 percent of in-school suspensions.

The reasons for the disparities do not seem as simple as black or African-American students in the district tending to misbehave more compared to other students.

The News Tribune does not know any characteristics of the 1,302 students who were offenders in the first quarter, but JCPS' information provides the total number of offenders at each school building. By pairing that information with building-level demographic information, the number of offenders per black student at a building can be calculated.

Pioneer Trail Elementary School had 37 black or African-American students enrolled as of Nov. 9 — the fourth-smallest number of any of the district's schools — yet had the highest rate of total offenders per black student, 1.7.

Thorpe Gordon Elementary School had 159 black or African-American students enrolled at the time — the most of any JCPS elementary school — but its rate of offenders per black students was only 0.16.

The district's high school and two middle schools — the buildings with the most students overall, the most students of color and the most discipline incidents — had lower rates of offenders per black student than North, Callaway Hills and Pioneer Trail elementary schools.

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Kinship ^{over} diversity

JCPS, Columbia face similar challenges; educators collaborate on approaches

By Phillip Sitter
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Jefferson City Public Schools is not the first Mid-Missouri school district to work on addressing issues of diversity and inclusion.

The Jefferson City school district has been working with the community over the past several months to chart a course forward after an incident in September involving some Jefferson City High School students and a racially-insensitive photo renewed concerns and discussion about racial disparities — particularly in staffing and student discipline — and engagement with the community on topics of diversity and inclusion.

At one of the community meetings sponsored by the school district, JCPS Superintendent Larry Linthacum shared that he had spoken with Columbia Public Schools Superintendent Peter Stiepleman about what's worked and what hasn't in that district when it comes to making progress on diversity issues.

The News Tribune also recently spoke with Stiepleman and CPS' Chief Equity Officer Carla London to learn about that district's experiences and the efforts they've undertaken.

That's one immediate distinction to note: Stiepleman said London's position — she's in her first year on the job — is extremely rare among Missouri school districts. As chief equity officer, she is part of CPS' core cabinet of administrators, on the same level with the district's chief financial officer and assistant superintendents for human resources and elementary and secondary education.

Columbia's 18,000-plus student population also makes the district more than twice as large in enrollment as Jefferson City, but the two districts are more similar than the obvious observations might suggest.

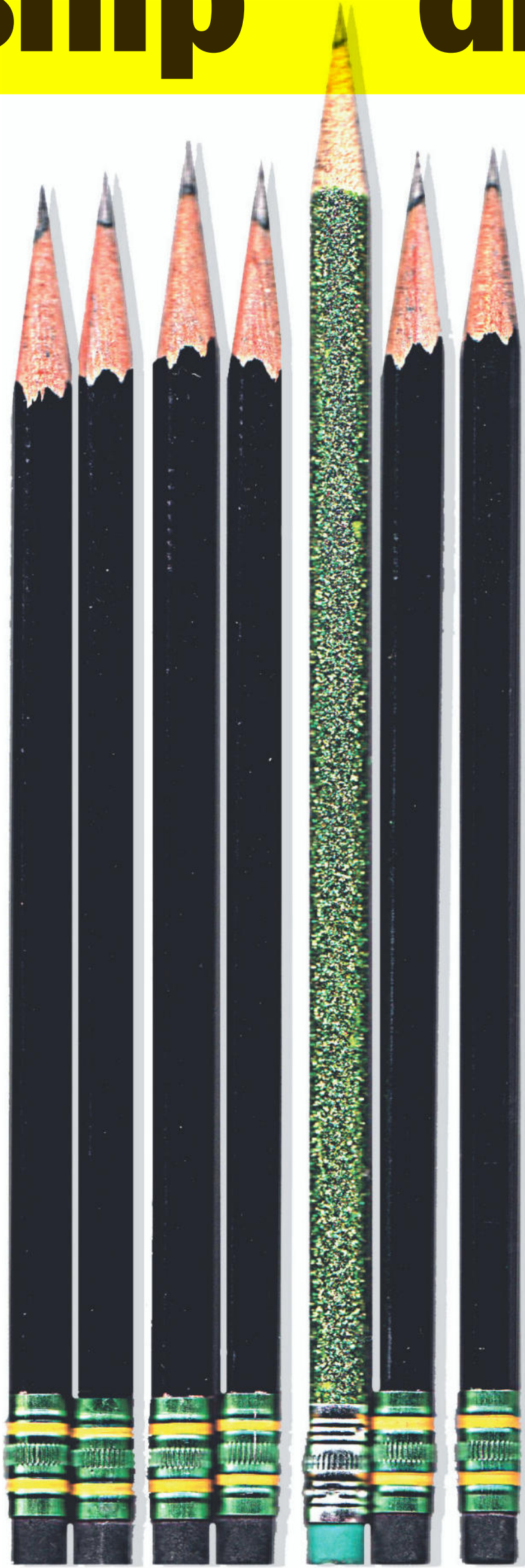
African-American students represent 20 percent of the student bodies in both districts. Non-white children all together make up 37.2 percent of the student body in Jefferson City, while in Columbia, the total percent of students who are racial or ethnic minorities is 39.7 percent.

Both districts have high percentages of students who are eligible for free or reduced-price meals at school — a standard indicator of poverty. In Columbia, that number is 43.5 percent; Jefferson City is higher, closer to 60 percent.

Both districts also share similar disparities along racial and ethnic lines. Stiepleman said CPS has 1,500 teachers, 14 percent of whom identify as educators of color. About 8.03 percent of JCPS' 1,232 full-time, non-new-hire staff members have diverse backgrounds, though full-time staff also includes employees like administrators, principals, guidance counselors and librarians.

The superintendents of both districts would like the diversity of their staffs to match the percentage of their respective student bodies.

Stiepleman cautioned one cannot just assume a teacher who looks like a child has had the same experiences, but it is important



Much like the pencils to the left, not every member of a school district looks exactly the same. The Jefferson City and Columbia school districts are exploring how to better serve the entire school populations and create cultures of diversity. Above, JCPS Superintendent Larry Linthacum talks about diversity in the district during a "Coffee with Larry" in the lobby of Miller Performing Arts Center.

to have a diverse staff that can motivate and connect with all students.

"It challenges (students') assumptions of who can and cannot teach," which can show students they really can be anything they want to be and not feel limited in their aspirations, he said.

"You could try to go to job fairs, which is what our school district has done in the past. We go down to Columbia, South Carolina, and we say to (teacher candidates from) a historically black college, 'come on to Columbia, Missouri.' They go 'mmm, pass. It's cold. I don't know anyone there, and I might come for a year, but then I leave.' So, instead, what we've been pushing is a grow our own," he explained of his district's recruiting strategy for teachers.

He said the district has contracts with Columbia College and Stephens College for three Columbia high school graduates to get their full tuition and room and board covered and then be hired by the school district as teachers upon graduation from college. "So, they graduate debt free, they're students from our community and they're exactly what we're looking for in terms of future teachers," he added.

This year is the first year of the program. "By the end of the (first) four years, we'll have 12 (students) in the pipeline each year, which is not insignificant in terms of what we're trying to accomplish. You're talking about kids who are from Columbia," he said, which speaks to a community priority of trying to lower local unemployment, particularly among African-Americans.

The jobs students will have upon graduation will pay almost \$40,000 a year with full benefits and no debt. "That's a game changer," Stiepleman added.

Districts all over the state are facing a shortage of teacher candidates, and grow-your-own initiatives are one way districts are thinking about attracting or creating local candidates.

Please see Diversity, p. 12

Similarities between two districts

While the Columbia Public School District is more than twice as large in enrollment as the Jefferson City Public School District, the two districts are more similar than one might think.

Non-white student population

JCPS: 37.2%
CPS: 39.7%

Students eligible for reduced-price or free lunches

JCPS: 60%
CPS: 43.5%

Educators of color

JCPS: 8.03%
CPS: 14%



Allen Fennel/News Tribune

New Manager Kevin Lohraff poses with a stuffed bear at the Runge Nature Center.

New Runge manager connecting people with nature

By Allen Fennel
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Kevin Lohraff has dedicated his life to connecting humanity with nature, and he finds himself in a great position to fulfill his mission after he was hired in June as manager of the Runge Nature Center in Jefferson City.

"Our mission is to provide opportunities for all citizens to use, enjoy and learn about the fish, forest and wildlife resources of the state," Lohraff said. "And that's really where Runge comes in, and our other nature centers — to help people connect with nature."

Lohraff said it was intimidating to take the helm from longtime manager Kathy Cavender, but he is excited to continue the Missouri Department of Conservation's endeavor to teach the public about how they fit into the natural world and attracting more visitors to Runge, a wildlife-centric outpost with permanent and temporary indoor exhibits, an aquarium, multiple nature trails, bird-watching stations and more.

Though there are many wonderful things at Runge, Lohraff said, his favorite aspect is

the trail system that allows people to get in the midst of different natural habitats, such as prairies, forests and glades.

The Michigan native's parents raised Lohraff to appreciate the outdoors, often traveling around the nation to parks and other natural attractions. It was during this time he realized the importance of how people affect plants and animals.

He went on to graduate with a bachelor's degree in biology from Missouri State University and a master's in education before becoming a park ranger in New Jersey. Since then, he has worked in several positions with the Conservation Department, from fisheries education specialist to curriculum supervisor for the education program, all of which inform his work as Runge manager.

"In a way, I feel like (taking this job) is like coming home because it was one of my first jobs with the department to work here at Runge back in the '90s," Lohraff said. "So I feel like all those different jobs helping people connect with nature really helped me make decisions and lead our programs

here at Runge."

Lohraff credited public support, the Runge staff, Volunteer Coordinator Becky Matney and the center's 44 volunteers for helping him through the transition.

For members of the public who would like to join them, Runge is holding a volunteer open house for people ages 14 and older Jan. 11 at 330 Commerce Drive. Runge also will hold Holiday Happening events Dec. 27-29, including fireside stories, a construction challenge, a wild animals homes walk and feeding of exhibit animals.

As time passes and more people join, Lohraff looks forward to incorporating more outdoor skills into Runge's introductory educational programs, like map and compass, birding, archery, shooting, fishing and hunting classes. Lohraff will lead some of the archery classes himself.

"We want to have more outdoor skills so that people have different options and different ways to reach out and connect with nature, whatever their interests are," Lohraff said.

After Alabama, abortion may be backseat issue in 2018 races

ATLANTA (AP) — Alabama, one of the most conservative states in the country, with one of the most evangelical electorates, is sending an abortion-rights supporter to the U.S. Senate, despite GOP efforts to paint Democrat Doug Jones as an unacceptable extremist on the issue.

Certainly, any analysis of what Jones' upset over Roy Moore means for other races involves a caveat: The Republican nominee was twice ousted from the state Supreme Court and stood accused of sexual misconduct with minors, baggage that gave Jones an opening in a state that hadn't elected a Democratic senator since 1992.

Yet Jones could not have won without crossover votes from conservative Republicans who oppose abortion, and that's just what he did.

Exit polls show Jones won a third of voters who said abortion should be illegal in most cases, and 27 percent of those who want it outlawed completely.

These numbers suggest abortion may not necessarily be a defining issue in the 2018 midterm elections.

Abortion is "still a dividing line in American politics," said Republican pollster Greg Strimple, who surveys voters for the Congressional Leadership Fund, the political action committee backed by Speaker Paul Ryan that is helping defend the GOP's House majority.

But a candidate's stand on abortion mobilizes only slices of the two parties' bases, and for most every voter in between, "it's a secondary issue," Strimple said.

There's an argument that this contest was unusually unavailing for conservatives, making them choose between a man accused of preying on girls, and a Democrat. But it's clear Jones' support of legalized abortion wasn't a deal-breaker for just enough



Doug Jones is greeted by a supporter before speaking Tuesday during an election-night watch party in Birmingham, Alabama. Jones defeated Roy Moore for the U.S. Senate seat.

Republicans to give Democrats a 20,000-vote margin, out of more than 1.35 million votes cast.

That's heartening for Democrats looking to dent Republican domination in Congress and statehouses by targeting voters dissatisfied with President Donald Trump and unhappy over Republican moves to roll back Democrats' 2010 health insurance expansion and push tax cuts tilted to corporations and wealthy individuals.

"We are competing on a massive offensive battlefield, in districts that went for both Donald Trump and Hillary Clinton, and that are suburban, rural and urban," said Meredith Kelly of the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee. "Regardless of where they are running, (our) candidates have no reason to compromise on their support for a woman's health care, her right to choose, and her economic security."

Nationwide, polling suggests a majority of Americans avoid taking an absolutist stance on abortion. According to a Pew assessment in July, the largest plurality is the

33 percent of voters who say abortion should be legal in most cases. The next largest segment, at 25 percent, says it should be legal in all cases. Twenty-four percent say abortion should be illegal in most cases, while just 16 percent say it should be illegal in all cases.

Of course, those voters aren't distributed proportionally across state and congressional boundaries, and partisan leanings are much more intense: 65 percent of self-identified Republicans say abortion should be illegal in all or most cases, while 75 percent of Democrats say it should be legal in most or all cases. Independents lean in favor of access, with 60 percent saying it should be legal.

Religious influence sharpens voters' leanings further. White evangelical protestants are the most likely religious group to oppose abortion rights: 70 percent say it should be illegal in most or all cases. Majorities of Catholics, black protestants and mainline protestants all support more access, while unaffiliated voters lean overwhelmingly toward legality.

Diversity:

Continued from p. 9

Stiepleman said Columbia has not yet reached out to Lincoln University to create a similar arrangement as with Columbia College or Stephens College, out of respect that JCPS might want to look into a similar initiative. He added Columbia is also speaking with Central Methodist University.

Whether new or just new to the school district, Columbia teachers are also required to do equity training.

London explained the training — provided initially by the National Conference for Community and Justice of Metropolitan St. Louis to CPS staff who've gone on to become trainers for other staff themselves — is an intense self-reflection on implicit biases based on learned socializations.

Socializations are the assumptions picked up and reinforced through experience: "The songs we sang as kids, the jokes we heard, the people our parents introduced us to that we spend time with," what we saw on TV, Stiepleman cited as examples.

"We really stress in our training that it's not to attack anyone. We were socialized the way that we're socialized. It's not a self-assessment to put yourself down or to feel guilty, but it's really just a reflective piece that says, 'What am I doing and what do my background and beliefs bring into the classroom?' How does that impact the students I work with every day?" London added.

The Columbia district has been doing equity training for about six years, but this is the second year the training has been a requirement for all staff, she said. Training teams go to every building in the district either bi-monthly or twice a year. "Some buildings want more, but that's generally the average, because we're using some of their faculty meeting time," she

said.

The district is also using restorative practices training as one tool in the re-examination of discipline practices. London said such training is about repairing harm at buildings but also about building community in classrooms and buildings.

Like JCPS, the Columbia school district has a significant discipline disparity between white and African-American students. The 20 percent of CPS students who are African-American received almost half of the district's out-of-school suspensions last year. Eighty percent of all Columbia students who received an out-of-school suspension last year were eligible for free or reduced-price lunch.

Over the past four years, the overall number of out of school suspensions in Columbia per year has decreased from more than 1,500 to 575.

On the academic curriculum front, London said the district's media specialist coordinator has expressed a desire to do an audit of what's in school libraries in order to ensure students are absorbing more complicated portrayals and narratives of themselves and others than traditional stereotypes.

Stiepleman used the example of "when you're studying American Indians, (making sure) that every story is not a folktale, as if you romanticize a people that no longer exists," when those people are neighbors.

Furthermore, he said, "In the absence of employees who look like the 61 different languages that are spoken in the Columbia Public Schools, how do we find those individuals in our community and have them tell their story?" He added local companies have offered their own media teams to record those stories "of someone who looks different from us and reading a favorite story, or telling a favorite story, and allowing teachers to use those stories as part of their social studies units, so that we're constantly introducing children to the world, but that

the world actually lives in our community."

The diversity, equity and inclusion initiatives that have been described are only some of those CPS has undertaken and that are included on a list shared with the News Tribune and Linthacum.

Linthacum said he's talked with Stiepleman three times in the past three months. He said Stiepleman didn't give him a sense of how much initiatives like the ones described cost financially. "We're just trying to get an assessment of where we are and things we need to consider," Linthacum said.

The News Tribune reached out to Stiepleman again to get an idea of what some of the initiatives cost and how the Columbia district has paid for them — whether through the district's own budget or through outside funding or grants.

Stiepleman responded in an email that the grow-your-own contracts cost the district \$3,500 per student in the program. London's position of chief equity officer was "budget neutral," as she filled in a space on the district's cabinet that had been left vacant by a retirement.

The equity training costs about \$6,000 for a staff member to become a trainer — likewise, \$2,000 for the restorative practices training.

A cultural audit with the Diversity Awareness Partnership last year cost \$2,500. That audit looked at cultural celebrations in the district — whether they went deeper than planting a flag by a food dish and calling that "international day," or in other words, "how do we celebrate children?" Stiepleman said.

"We've made these initiatives work within our budget," he wrote.

Linthacum said in regards to

the grow-your-own campaign Columbia is using, pros and cons have to be weighed, and he doesn't know for sure yet how well it's working for CPS.

He said his main takeaway from conversations with CPS about diversity initiatives and practices has been, "It's a slow process," but an important one that is producing positive results over time.

He anticipates an update at the January Board of Education meeting about JCPS' proposed work, but does not expect finalized plans until probably the February board meeting, in part because meetings with staff are not yet finished.

The district will be bringing back its multi-cultural advisory committee, though, he added.

London said of CPS' experiences: "There will be a group that says, 'This is long overdue, and let's just jump in and it has to be happen.' And then there will be a group that says, 'I'm really uncomfortable with the conversations. I don't want to have them at all.' Just balancing that in the middle, I think we've been very thoughtful with that process."

Stiepleman said he encourages people to look at cultural competency as a way of looking at the world instead of another set of assumptions in itself; "prism" and "lens" are the words he used.

"It was really important that this wasn't seen as just one more thing to do, but how do we do what we already do, just better?" London said.

"As teachers, we all like a handout. Give me this paper and tell me what to do. And this work is about when you leave (training), think about how this is going to impact you or how you think about your interaction with students," she added.

On Trump turf, GOP still seeks North Dakota Senate candidate

BISMARCK, North Dakota (AP) — In North Dakota, where Donald Trump won in a landslide last year, Republicans' lone Senate candidate is a little-known state lawmaker and potato farmer from a remote town closer to the Canadian border than the state capital.

While established Republicans and business leaders in other states Trump carried are running to topple Democratic senators, the GOP is struggling to land a big name in North Dakota to run against Democratic Sen. Heidi Heitkamp in 2018.

The slow start has raised some worries the GOP is ceding the early advantage to the well-funded Heitkamp in a place seemingly ripe for Republicans' quest to expand their majority yet surprisingly central to Democrats' effort to hold them off. She is one of 10 Democrats seeking re-election next year in a state the president carried.

"I'm not sure that our party fully grasps or understands the magnitude of a campaign against Heidi Heitkamp," said former Gov. Ed Schafer, a Republican. "We're acting like we're overly confident of a win."

In West Virginia, where Trump won by more than 40 percentage points over Democrat Hillary Clinton, Rep. Evan Jenkins and state Attorney General Patrick Morrissey, both Republicans, are vying to challenge Democratic Sen. Joe Manchin. In Missouri, Republican Attorney General Josh Hawley has gathered steam, and Trump's public support, in a crowded GOP field for the chance to face Democratic Sen. Claire McCaskill.

Similar primaries are taking shape in Indiana and Montana, where Trump rolled, as well as in states he won more narrowly, such as Pennsylvania and Wisconsin.

And yet, in North Dakota, where Trump won by 36 percentage points, the only declared GOP candidate for U.S. Senate is state Sen. Tom Campbell, unknown to many despite spending nearly \$500,000, most of it his own money, on television ads to introduce himself.

The best-known prospect, at-large U.S. Rep. Kevin Cramer, has been reticent about the Senate, and would-be female challengers to Heitkamp have displayed no interest.

Rich Wardner, the Republican majority leader in the North Dakota Senate, described Campbell as overmatched in a primary with Cramer.

"Inexperience will work against him," Wardner said.

Cramer recently formed a new House campaign fundraising committee. Although there's plenty of time for him to pivot to a Senate race, some home-state Republicans prefer he remain in the House.

"He's building leadership there," said Dave Blair, a 61-year-old Republican-leaning business consultant from Bismarck. "I will definitely support him if he stays there."

Yet Cramer's propensity for off-script remarks embarrasses Bismarck independent Jim Leary.

In April, Cramer defended White House press secretary Sean Spicer's comment Adolf Hitler "didn't even sink to using chemical weapons," despite Hitler's ordering millions of Jews killed by poisonous gas. Cramer has scoffed at critics of those and other comments.

"He's very confident about what he thinks, but I'm not so sure he has the facts to back them up," said Leary, a 77-year-old former state employee. "I just don't like him."

Jean Fortune, of Bismarck, has no problem with Cramer's sometimes off-script comments, such as his critique of women in Congress as "poorly dressed" and wearing "bad-looking white pant suits" during Trump's speech to Congress in February.

Cramer's candor, like Trump's, is refreshing, Fortune said. "I feel like I know him," the 88-year-old retiree said of Cramer.

An early Trump supporter and energy policy adviser to his campaign, Cramer said the president "strongly encouraged" him in an October telephone conversation to run for Senate.

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MLK event on tap Monday at St. Mary's

St. Mary's Hospital will host its 14th annual commemorative service honoring Martin Luther King Jr. at 2 p.m. Monday.

This year's theme is "Unity in Diversity."

The event will feature keynote speaker Col. Sandra Karsten, superintendent of the Missouri Highway Patrol, and music by Sylvia M. Ferguson, singer, songwriter and founder of Sylmomatic.

"Diversity is a beautiful thing when it is celebrated rather than tolerated," Carolyn Jackson, patient access services supervisor for St. Mary's Hospital and chairman of this year's event, said in a news release. "It is our duty to celebrate diversity through understanding, supporting and respecting everyone as they are."

The event is free and open to the public. No reservations are required.

Attendees should enter the hospital, located at 2505 Mission Drive in Jefferson City, through the Outpatient Entrance and proceed to the Conference Center on the Garden Level.

Volunteer opportunities

Lewis and Clark Task Force seeks to greet visitors and tourists at the monument on the Capitol grounds. This runs from mid-May through mid-September on Saturdays and Sundays and on holiday Mondays. Volunteers are asked to give one three-hour shift per month. On-site training is available. Contact Charles Palmer, 634-6482.

Little Explorers Discover Center seeks volunteers to work one hour per week between the hours of 7:30-11 a.m. and 2:30-4:30 p.m. Duties include rocking infants, feeding infants, reading to children ages birth to 10, allowing children to sit on your lap and assist teachings staff with learning activities. Volunteers are also needed for approximately two hours per week to repair toys and fix things around the building. Volunteers must be 16 or older. A background check is required. Volunteers will need to be registered with the Missouri Department of Health at a cost of \$5, which can be completed at the day care. No previous training is required. Contact Donna Scheidt, 636-6461.

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@newstrribune.com.

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

COMINGEVENTS

TODAY

- **Martin Luther King Jr. Remembrance Celebration Service**, 4 p.m., Second Baptist Church, 501 Monroe St.

MONDAY

- **NAACP Prayer Breakfast and Founders Day**, 9-10:30 a.m., Quinn Chapel A.M.E. Church, 415 Lafayette St.

- **Grief Support Group**, 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Compassus Jefferson City, 600 Monroe St.

- **14th annual Martin Luther King Jr. Commemorative Service**, 2 p.m., St. Mary's Hospital, 2505 Mission Drive.

- **Novice Duplicate Bridge**, 6:30-9:30 p.m., Hy-Vee, 3721 W. Truman Blvd.

TUESDAY

- **Coffee with the News Tribune Editor**, 8-10 a.m., Dunn Brothers Coffee, 3218 W. Edgewood Drive.

- **Preschool Story Time** (ages 3-5), 10:30-11 a.m., Missouri River Regional Library, 214 Adams St.

Please see Events, p. 4



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

761-0240 for assistance.

JCPS diversity: data reviews and staff training coming

By Phillip Sitter
phillip@newstrribune.com

Developments continue in the formation of Jefferson City Public Schools' plan to address diversity, equity and inclusion issues discussed by the community last fall.

"We will be giving a more in-depth update at our February meeting next month with regards to our diversity meetings that we had," Superintendent Larry Linthacum said at a Board of Education meeting Monday. Linthacum said the wait is to allow for students' input on the question: "What do you see as the school's role with regards to diversity?"

Chief of Learning Brian Shindorf presented new data Monday to the board show the district's disciplinary outcomes for students' office referrals seem to be equitable for race and ethnicity, at least among the 11 most significant types of offenses Shindorf looked at and the four largest groups of students — black, white, multi-racial and Hispanic. Equity in that data meant

about the same percentage of students in each group received the same outcomes of out-of-school or in-school suspensions or other consequences.

The state's Department of Elementary and Secondary Education also found after a comprehensive review of the district's discipline data "the significant discrepancy" in the rate of black students with disabilities who were suspended or expelled for more than 10 days over the past two years "is not the result of inappropriate district policies, procedures or practices."

Shindorf said while DESE's conclusion is good, there was still a discrepancy to begin with that prompted the review, adding the district should ask where it can improve so as not to be questioned again.

Black students make up about 20 percent of the district, but even though there was overall equity in Shindorf's findings with regards to disciplinary outcomes compared to white students, black students represented 43.2

percent of the office referrals he reviewed.

The low totals for some offenses present the problems of small sample sizes that can be skewed easily, but offenses with larger sets of numbers point to other continued disparities. For example, of the 1,791 listed times in the past semester students were sent to school offices for "disruptive speech or conduct," black students represented 43.4 percent of the student body.

In other words, a smaller group of students was referred to offices for a larger number of events, compared to their white peers who make up a 62.8 percent majority of the student body.

Some degree of disparity exists in all other offenses Shindorf looked at, including black students sent to a school office for 58.3 percent of the district's 127 fighting events, 40.1 percent of the 556 physical contact events, 54.5 percent of 44 events categorized as assault and 42.3 percent

Please see Diversity, p. 6



Collin Krabbe/News Tribune

Joe Kirby, left, Bryan Link, center, and Tony Mayfield, talk to their old Jefferson City High School cross country coach, David Harris, during a team reunion Saturday at Judge Cotton Walker's residence in Jefferson City. The reunion gathered those who were on the team from 1980-85.

Lifelong teammates reunite

1980s cross country team runs through old memories

By Allen Fennewald
allen@newstrribune.com

Cross country takes athleticism, perseverance and commitment to teammates. One team's commitment and camaraderie is still evident 30 years after they ran together.

The Jefferson City High School cross country team members, coaches and cheerleaders from

1980-85 gathered at Municipal Judge Cotton Walker's house for a reunion three decades in the making. The team that once worked together to claim two second place state titles got the chance to share pizza, pictures and old stories that still kept everyone laughing after all this time.

"We got together a few times over the years," Walker said. "Bob (Hull) said there was such a response that we weren't going to fit at Arris (Pizza) this year ... so I volunteered to host."

Please see Teammates, p. 6

Holts Summit city administrator announces retirement

By Helen Wilbers
For the News Tribune

HOLTS SUMMIT — Rick Hess, city administrator for Holts Summit, announced his retirement Friday.

"My wife is almost 10 years older than I am, and she'd like to travel while she still can travel and enjoy herself," Hess said. "I reach Social Security age here in seven weeks ... so I figured now's a good time."

Hess plans to step down April 30.

"There's a lot of work to do between now and then," he said.

He notified Holts Summit administration and said the search for a new city administrator will begin immediately. Hess said he'll be happy to help with the hunt.

"Of course, we're going to miss him," Holts Summit Mayor Landon Oxley said. "He's done a lot for Holts Summit. The board and myself wish

him well."

Hess took the position July 5, 2016. Since then, Oxley said, he has helped Holts Summit become a "Purple Heart Town" with designated combat veteran parking. He also has worked to reform city codes and attract new businesses to town.

Hess said he's proud of improving communications between the city and its residents.

"One of the biggest things is being able to get information out to everybody on a much more regular basis," he said.

Whoever fills the position will be busy, Oxley said.

"We'd like to find somebody before Rick leaves so the transition will be smooth," he added.

Before coming to Holts Summit, Hess was city

administrator for Battlefield for eight years. He also served as emergency management director for Battlefield and is a voting board member on the Regional Homeland Security Oversight Committee. He was a member of the Springfield Missouri Area Metropolitan Transportation Planning Organization and served on the Technical Planning Committee and the Bicycle/Pedestrian Advisory Committee.

Before becoming city administrator for Battlefield, he was in Transportation Security Administration at Dubuque, Iowa, Regional Airport. Before that, he served in the U.S. Air Force, U.S. Navy and Iowa National Guard.

Now, he and his wife plan to move to a lake house in Bonne Terre, where Hess will enjoy golfing, boating, fishing, gardening, reading and completing "lots of honey-do lists."



Rick Hess



Mark Wilson/News Tribune

Absolute Zero Polar Plunge team members Jesse Finnell and Joshua Couch stand by the dunking booth in the Hy-Vee parking lot Saturday, hoping to raise money for Special Olympics Missouri. But Mother Nature had other plans.

Weather freezes out fundraiser

Polar Plunge Dunk Booth has been rescheduled for Saturday

By Allen Fennewald
allen@newstrribune.com

It was 14 degrees at 10:15 a.m. Saturday when Phil Farris climbed onto the Polar Dunk Booth platform, water frozen to the ladder beneath his hands and feet.

Jefferson City firefighters warned it was too cold before they'd finished filling the tank. An officer rushed across the parking lot as he realized Farris was crazy enough to do it. The long-time polar plunger did not haul a dunking booth to the Capital Mall Hy-Vee for nothing.

Farris is one of two members of Absolute Zero Polar Plunge Team attempting to raise at least \$2,500 to participate in the 2018 Super Plunge Lake of the Ozarks. The team participates in several polar plunge events throughout the year to benefit the Missouri Special Olympics. Teammate Jessica Wells was hoping to raise about \$3,000 from the dunking booth and said they will try again when it is expected to be a lot warmer, starting 11 a.m. Jan. 20 at Hy-Vee, 3721 W. Truman Boulevard.

When the first ball connected with the target and Farris fell into the water, he said it felt like landing on pins and needles. And yet, Farris was bold enough to get dunked three more times before he climbed out for the last time with water freezing in his hair. "I was shivering for a good hour after that," he said.

By midday, the retired prison guard was standing tall, smoking a cigar and accepting donations in the Hy-Vee parking lot by people who said they were paying him not to get in the water again.

Although they make their goal for the day, Wells said the event had been worthwhile, raising \$650. She looked forward to doing far better in a week when she will get a chance to get in the dunking booth.

Wells said her uncle had Down syndrome and passed away shortly before she was born. She grew up next to his best friend, who also had Down syndrome, and decided to participate in polar plunges to support people like them.

Farris said he started doing polar plunges more than 20 years ago as a guard at the Missouri State Penitentiary, which supported the Special Olympics. He since retired from the Jefferson City Correctional Center but still

Please see Fundraiser, p. 7



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JCPD report abduction attempt near West Elementary

Police responded to an attempted abduction near West Elementary School on Friday afternoon, according to a Jefferson City Police Department news release. The intended victim, a 10-year-old girl, was walking home from the Dix Road school when she was accosted by a man who tried to grab her and pull her into his vehicle, according to preliminary statements.

The girl told police she kicked the suspect several times and ran away to her residence. The suspect is described as a middle-aged white man, roughly 5-foot-7 or 5-foot-8 in height, clean shaven with close-cut sandy blond or light brown hair. He was wearing jeans and a dark-colored shirt, and drove a dark blue car.

The girl was not hurt, and JCPD detectives are investigating the incident. Anyone with potentially related information is asked to call detectives at 634-6400. Further information will be released as it develops. The JCPD investigated an attempted kidnapping in the same area in December.

Two arrested after multi-county chase

By the News Tribune
news@newstribune.com

Two suspects were taken into custody after in a string of incidents that extended from Friday into Saturday morning, which ended in a multi-county vehicle chase on highways, through residential yards and into a field. A Moniteau County deputy's patrol vehicle was struck in the second of two pursuits of a suspect fleeing in a stolen vehicle. The suspect had reportedly evaded police the previous night by hiding in the woods.

Preston James Cash, 20, of Eldon, and a female suspect were taken into custody in the investigation. The situation began as a Cooper County Sheriff's Office investigation of a stolen truck at a residence on Baines Lane in Cooper County. The truck was reportedly stolen from Saline County. Moniteau County deputies assisting in the investigation spotted a vehicle matching the description and attempted to stop the truck. The vehicle fled on Route O, toward West Brush Creek at the end of Baines Lane and into the woods. A female suspect was taken into custody near the vehicle while a male subject, identified as Cash, continued to flee into the woods on foot.

Cash was reported to be armed with a handgun and had outstanding Miller County warrants for possession of a controlled substance. Cash was also wanted for questioning for thefts that occurred in Morgan, Cooper and Moniteau counties; stolen vehicles in Cooper and Saline counties; and a stolen credit card in Tipton.

The vehicle involved in the initial pursuit was recovered and confirmed to be the one reported stolen from Saline County. A perimeter was established and a search in the woods conducted after officers from Cooper and Moniteau sheriffs departments, Tipton Police Department and the Missouri Highway Patrol arrived. The Highway Patrol Air Unit was called in to assist, but the search was eventually called off due to low visibility.

Early Saturday morning, the Cooper County Sheriff's Office received a report of a man matching the suspect's description attempting to gain entry to a home on Oakland Church Road. Moniteau County deputies were also notified of a subject attempting to enter a Cooper County residence and went to assist.

Before deputies could reach the residence, the suspect reportedly stole a vehicle and fled the area. Deputies began patrolling area roads to locate the vehicle. Shortly after, a Moniteau deputy located the stolen vehicle heading toward Jamestown and attempted to stop it. The vehicle fled into Jamestown, through several yards and fences, before coming to a stop.

The deputy in pursuit exited his patrol vehicle and approached the suspect to bring him into custody. The suspect drove the stolen vehicle into the patrol vehicle's driver's side door before heading north on the Missouri 87 out of Jamestown. No one was injured. The deputy managed to reenter his vehicle and give continue the chase.

The suspect turned into a farm north of Jamestown and drove back to a field where the vehicle came to a stop. The deputy exited his patrol vehicle and broke the driver's side window as the suspect reached into the backseat. The deputy deployed his Taser and pepper spray before pulling the suspect from the vehicle. Cash was taken into custody and transported to the Moniteau County Sheriff's Office.

He faces several additional charges in Moniteau County for property damage, failure to yield, assault on law enforcement and possession of a stolen vehicle.

Diversity:

Continued from p. 1

of disrespect to staff events. "This is a good first layer of data," Shindorf said but added it's going to take more time to dig deeper and answer questions such as whether there's been equity in the severity of disciplinary consequences students have received — beyond the number of consequences.

He's also determining whether to do such a deep analysis with a semester's worth of data or to wait until he has a full school year's worth. Shindorf isn't the only person who will be looking at the district's discipline data.

Director of Human Resources Shelby Scarbrough told the board Monday Juanita Simmons will lead diversity training for JCPD staff and other local officials this year. Simmons also will look at the state and Jefferson City's discipline referral data prior to the training and use that equity audit to tailor later sessions.

Simmons is the vice president of diversity, equity and inclusion at Northwest Missouri State University in Maryville.

Linthacum said last month that instead of JCPD doing districtwide professional development training on diversity, board member Michael Couty applied for a grant to pay for Simmons to come.

Scarbrough said Simmons will spend three training sessions focused on implicit bias with building administrators, central office administrators, school resource officers, and Jefferson City Parks and Recreation Department staff.

"Her recommendation is that we do a training this semester, one over the summer and one again at the beginning of the school year," Scarbrough said.

Couty said the grant he applied for through the state's Department of Public Safety is for a little more than \$8,000 for the year, and he can re-apply for it.

Scarbrough said Simmons' training would focus on "how our perceptions are shaped, how our perceptions influence organizational climate, how our perceptions form daily practices and how our perceptions result in discretionary decisions that impact others."

Couty hopes such training will continue on an ongoing basis.

He added if the school district can reduce the number of students it refers to juvenile court, then it will help change the current fact that Cole County has the third-highest number of juvenile court referrals in the state. Couty is the juvenile court administrator for the 19th Judicial Circuit Court.

While he didn't immediately have any more specific information on the number of referrals, Couty said "we have a disproportionate number of minority kids being referred to juvenile court," and "we get a lot of kids that come to us through the schools."

He added Todd Spalding, the city's director of the Parks, Recreation and Forestry Department, requested his department be part of the training because that department wants to increase its diversity.

Couty said implicit bias can affect information an organization puts on applications and how it goes about interviews with candidates.

"This goes beyond just building administrators carrying (training lessons) out to the buildings. It's going to be from all aspects of administration, working with Mr. Couty and his staff, as well as our SROs, which I think will be very impactful," Scarbrough said.

Blair Oaks releases Winterfest royalty

Blair Oaks High School celebrated Winterfest from Jan. 8-13, with students participating in a variety of dress-up days and a scavenger hunt throughout the week.

The Winterfest royalty were announced during an assembly Friday. Senior Sydney Wilde was named queen, senior Justin Cobb king, junior Kaylin Berendzen princess and junior Nolan Hair prince.

The senior court also included Emily Yaeger, Emma Boessen, Hunter Herigon and Justin Cobb.

The junior court also included Makenna Kliethermes, Kayla Jones, Marcus Edler and Brayden Langendoerfer.



Submitted Blair Oaks High School's senior Winterfest court for 2018 included, back from left, Hunter Herigon, King Justin Cobb and Ethan Luebbering, and, front from left, Emily Yaeger, Emma Boessen and Queen Sydney Wilde.

Teammates:

Continued from p. 1

While many high school friends drift apart, some of this team were in each other's weddings and many others stay in touch through social media. Joe Kirby, who went on to be an All-American runner at the University of Nebraska and now works at the Missouri Department of Conservation, said cross country breeds discipline and camaraderie unlike any other sport.

"Cross country is a sport where everybody competes," Kirby said. "You're spending a lot of time running on the roads together. It's a kind of different sport. You run until you drop, basically, and having to do all that in high school attracts a different type of people to that sport and keeps everybody together. A lot of these guys who were older than me taught me how to run."

The teammates took the lessons of hard work and perseverance into their lives and have come a long way since high school. Many of them went on to run in college. Hull now coaches at the First Baptist Academy in O'Fallon, Illinois, and Mark Bollinger coaches at Westminster College. Those who aren't involved with cross country anymore said their time on the team affected the way they approached their personal careers.

One of the team's strongest runners, Guy Clark, said learning how people fit in and work together through cross country has helped him lead his team where he works as a regional specialist at Fresh Thyme Farmers Market. While everyone on the team wants to be the best, they all push each other to further the team as a whole.

"I think running cross country affects your life forever," Clark said. "I was first man, but we were all equals. ... It definitely changed my life in the way I tried to lead. Because it is a competitive team sport, I try to manage in that way, trying to make my team better. I am more successful if the people that I help are more successful. It's about training people to do the best that they can possibly do."

Former assistant coach turned rancher, Marvin Proctor, said he is very proud of how the team has stayed in touch and developed as individuals.

"I wouldn't have missed this for the world," Proctor said. "To see these guys and the different directions that they've gone and what they've accomplished, it's fantastic."

Proctor reminisced with Tory Roberts, a member of the first girls team in 1981, about how she used to steal away to Central Dairy during practice runs. Proctor smiled and nodded, saying she was a good runner despite the ice cream breaks, so he let it slide.

"We had thought we were getting one over on (Proctor)," Roberts joked. "Turns out he knew the whole time."

Former team head coach David Harris video chatted in from Nebraska, where he now leads the Huskers collegian cross country team. People passed a laptop around, catching up with their old coach and talking about how their families have grown.

Harris shared one of the group's favorite stories with Clark. During his junior year, Clark was hit in the head by a stray golf ball and ran the upcoming race with a likely concussion. He still finished, but came in second for the team for the first time that year. The team awarded his pain and effort with a hard hat trophy at the subsequent award ceremony.

"Haven't got hit with any golf balls have you?" Harris asked Clark as he approached the web cam.

"No, but I've been staying away from golf courses," Clark replied before telling his old coach that his years on the team were some of the best of his life — "Other than being a dad, of course," he said as his son, Miles, walked over.

JCPD investigating Saturday shooting

The investigation continued Saturday night after a Jefferson City man was shot earlier in the day.

Police reports showed the shooting occurred around 4:25 p.m. in the 600 block of Michigan Street.

The 34-year-old victim was taken to University Hospital in Columbia for treatment of a non-life threatening wound.

Investigators did not say what led to the shooting, only that they did believe there was no further threat to the public in connection with this incident.

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FALCON VICTORY

The Blair Oaks Lady Falcons pick up their 20th win of the season in beating the Versailles Lady Tigers on Monday night in Wardsville.

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TUESDAY
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VOL. 152, NO. 294

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JCPS board hears of diversity, second high school updates

By Phillip Sitter
phillip@newstribune.com

The Jefferson City Public Schools Board of Education meeting Monday night was packed with information, and as in recent months, some of the most anticipated pieces of information centered around the district's large, ongoing undertakings — diversity discussions, initiatives and the two high school projects.

The district's diversity discussions last fall led to the city to revive its dormant Human Relations Commission, and Jefferson City Mayor Carrie Tergin spoke at Monday's school board meeting to share that and other city government news. Tergin thanked the district for launching its discussions and asked the district to share its findings with the city on improving diversity, "because one of the questions (the district) asked is what can the community do?"

JCPS Superintendent Larry Linthacum shared the input he's gotten from various stakeholders on what they'd like to see from the district's diversity work — while at the same time saying the responsibility for improvements

is not solely on the district's shoulders.

"We have an important role and we accept that, but it's not just on the schools," Linthacum said, citing needed partnerships with the city and parents, and urging residents to be personally involved.

He went on to announce the district's three main diversity goals:

- Continued, ongoing work on the district's hiring practices to ensure the diversity of staff can be increased, so as to match the diversity of the student body.

- "Real, relevant and current" diversity training for staff in the form of professional development, which will begin for administrators and board members March 7 with Juanita Simmons — the vice president of diversity, equity and inclusion at Northwest Missouri State University in Maryville.

JCPS Director of Human Resources Shelby Scarbrough said last month that Simmons will also look at state and district discipline referral data, and Simmons would like to host two other implicit bias training sessions later in the year that will include

Please see JCPS, p. 3



Julie Smith/News Tribune



Two types of casting

ABOVE: After breaking through the ice, Michael Collins walks in the waist-deep water to move pieces of ice Monday while clearing an opening to fish at McKay Lake. Since Feb. 1, it's been catch and keep season on trout, so Collins spent a rare day off work to go fishing, even if the only option was through the ice. LEFT: Noah Dever, 6, of Fulton, ventured to the water's edge so he could touch it and cast a chunk of ice into the lake

2 teens' deaths help prompt proposed state law changes

By Bob Watson
bwatson@newstribune.com

Missouri lawmakers are asked this year to require people convicted of driving while intoxicated to attend a victims' impact panel.

And another proposed law would modify existing law, so someone who knowingly incites another to commit suicide could be charged with manslaughter.

To help encourage their support for the proposed bills, members of the state Senate's Judiciary

and Civil Jurisprudence Committee heard testimony Monday about the deaths of two Missouri teens, nine years apart.

Victim impact panels

Toby Olsen, 17, and his mother, Jean Olsen, 45, died Nov. 4, 2007, when their van was hit on a Sunday morning by a drunk driver on Route C in Russellville, as the family was heading home from church.

Johanna Olsen Henry and her father, Eric Olsen,

survived that crash.

For several years, Henry has backed "Toby's Law," named for her brother, and its requirement that those convicted of DWI attend victim impact panels.

"I do speak at victim impact panels, and I provide pictures of the car wreck that were never released to the media, because they are incredibly gory," Henry told senators Monday afternoon. "Over the 10 years of being a part of these victim impact panels, I've seen a lot offenders who come

Please see Committee, p. 3

Missouri state school board standoff creates delays

ST. LOUIS (AP) — The Missouri Board of Education has now missed two of 11 meetings scheduled for this year because it still doesn't have enough members for a quorum.

Gov. Eric Greitens appointed 10 people in the second half of 2017 to the state board that oversees Missouri's public schools. Two declined, one resigned and two others were removed by Greitens in efforts to fire former commissioner Margie Vandeven in December.

The board has lacked a quorum since early January, when Gov. Eric Greitens withdrew and re-submitted five appointees in an effort to buy more time for their Senate confirmations. Lawmakers upset with Greitens' move have threatened to hold up the appointments, the St. Louis Post-Dispatch reported.

"My biggest concern is that, when we start meeting again, we'd have five new members who have no background on what the board needs to do and what we've been doing in certain areas," said Victor Lenz, the board's vice president.

The canceled meetings have delayed a remake of the state's public school evaluation system, the Missouri School Improvement Program. The project was led largely by Vandeven and would shift the system for grading schools from fixating mainly

Please see Board, p. 3

Submitted photo

Following a fire at her home, Balanca Acosta could no longer care for her 3-year-old chocolate lab, Chance. Recently, Jefferson City Fire Department Assistant Chief Tim Grace adopted Chance and the pair visited Acosta at St. Joseph's Bluffs assisted living facility.



Chance meeting

Dog rescued from Jefferson City fire reunites with former owner

By Jeff Haldiman
jhaldiman@newstribune.com

Balanca Acosta might have lost all of her material belongings, but she didn't lose her most prized possession.

Acosta was rescued from a house fire Jan. 3 on Walsh Street in Jefferson City. She suffered serious injuries and was no longer able to care for her 3-year-old chocolate lab, who was also rescued from the fire.

The dog was taken to the Jefferson City Animal Shelter, where he recovered and

was adopted by Jefferson City Fire Department Assistant Chief Tim Grace.

Grace and his family named the dog Chance.

Grace, along with other members of the fire department, recently took Chance to visit Acosta, who is recovering at St. Joseph's Bluffs assisted living facility.

Acosta wanted to make sure the firefighters knew how grateful she was for their actions. With the help of her physical therapist, Sarah Brown, Acosta wrote them a thank-you note.

"I still do not have a pair of shoes, or a computer, or the photos of my children when they were babies," Acosta said. "I learned about my predicament about a week later. I had been under induced coma for six days. I do not remember anything

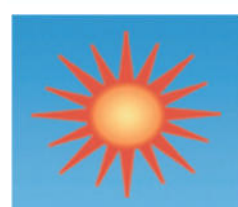
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OUTSIDE



Mostly sunny, warmer temps

Today's high: 48
Today's low: 35

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LOCAL



Street closed

A project to replace all stormwater inlets and pipes means the 3400 block of Horseshoe Road in Cole County has been temporarily closed. **PAGE B1**

WATERCOOLER

Professor replaced after insisting Australia isn't a country

MANCHESTER, N.H. (AP) — An online adjunct professor incorrectly told a student that Australia isn't a country and gave her a failing grade, prompting Southern New Hampshire University to replace the instructor.

Buzzfeed News reported the 27-year-old student in Idaho was assigned to compare American social norms to that of another country. She chose to study social media use in Australia, but the professor gave her a zero on that portion of the assignment, saying Australia is a continent, not a country.

Australia is actually a country and a continent. University officials tell WMUR-TV the instructor has been replaced following an investigation. In a statement, the university said it deeply regrets the interaction between the professor and student.

Opioid makers gave \$10M to advocacy groups amid epidemic

WASHINGTON (AP) — Companies selling some of the most lucrative prescription painkillers funneled millions of dollars to advocacy groups that in turn promoted the medications' use, according to a report released Monday by a U.S. senator.

The investigation by Missouri's Sen. Claire McCaskill sheds light on the opioid industry's ability to shape public opinion and raises questions about its role in an overdose epidemic that has claimed hundreds of thousands of American lives. Representatives of some of the drugmakers named in the report said they did not set conditions on how the money was to be spent or force the groups to advocate for their painkillers.

The report from McCaskill, ranking Democrat on the Senate's homeland security committee, examines advocacy funding by the makers of the top five opioid painkillers by worldwide sales in 2015. Financial information the companies provided to Senate staff shows they spent more than \$10 million between 2012-17 to support 14 advocacy groups and affiliated doctors.

The report did not include some of the largest and most politically active manufacturers of the drugs.

The findings follow a similar investigation launched in 2012 by a bipartisan pair of senators. That effort eventually was shelved and no findings were ever released.

While the new report provides only a snapshot of company activities, experts said it gives insight into how industry-funded groups fueled demand for drugs such as OxyContin and Vicodin, addictive medications that generated billions in sales despite research showing they are largely ineffective for chronic pain.

"It looks pretty damning when these groups were pushing the message about how wonderful opioids are and they were being heavily funded, in the millions of dollars, by the manufacturers of those drugs," said Lewis Nelson, a Rutgers University doctor and opioid expert.

The findings could bolster hundreds of lawsuits that are aimed at holding opioid drugmakers responsible for helping fuel an epidemic blamed for the deaths of more than 340,000 Americans since 2000.

McCaskill's staff asked drugmakers to turn over records of payments they made to groups and affiliated physicians, part of a broader investigation by the senator into the opioid crisis. The request was sent last year to five companies: Purdue Pharma; Insys Therapeutics; Janssen Pharmaceuticals, owned by Johnson & Johnson; Mylan; and Depomed.

Fourteen nonprofit groups, mostly representing pain patients and specialists, received nearly \$9 million from the drugmakers, investigators said. Doctors affiliated with those groups received another \$1.6 million.

Most of the groups included in the probe took industry-friendly positions. That included issuing medical guidelines promoting opioids for chronic pain, lobbying to defeat or include exceptions to state limits on opioid prescribing, and criticizing land-



Senate Finance Committee member Sen. Claire McCaskill, D-Mo., asks a question Jan. 9 during a Senate Finance Committee hearing on Capitol Hill in Washington. A report released Monday by McCaskill found companies selling some of the most lucrative prescription painkillers funneled millions of dollars to advocacy groups that in turn promoted the medications' use.

mark prescribing guidelines from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

"Doctors and the public have no way of knowing the true source of this information and that's why we have to take steps to provide transparency," McCaskill said in an interview with the Associated Press. The senator plans to introduce legislation requiring increased disclosure about the financial relationships between drugmakers and certain advocacy groups.

A 2016 investigation by the AP and the Center for Public Integrity revealed how painkiller manufacturers used hundreds of lobbyists and millions in campaign contributions to fight state and federal measures aimed at stemming the tide of prescription opioids, often enlisting help from advocacy organizations.

Bob Twillman, executive director of the Academy of Integrative Pain Management, said most of the \$1.3 million his group received from the five companies went to a state policy advocacy operation. However, Twillman said the organization has called for non-opioid pain treatments while also asking state lawmakers for exceptions to restrictions on the length of opioid prescriptions for certain patients.

"We really don't take direction from them about what we advocate for," Twillman said of the industry.

The tactics highlighted in Monday's report are at the heart of lawsuits filed by hundreds of state and local governments against the opioid industry.

The suits allege drugmakers misled doctors and patients about the risks of opioids by enlisting "front groups" and "key opinion leaders" who oversold the drugs' benefits and encouraged overprescribing. In the legal claims, the governments seek money

and changes to how the industry operates, including an end to the use of outside groups to push their drugs.

U.S. deaths linked to opioids have quadrupled since 2000 to roughly 42,000 in 2016. Although initially driven by prescription drugs, most opioid deaths now involve illicit drugs, including heroin and fentanyl.

Purdue Pharma, the maker of OxyContin, contributed the most to the groups, funneling \$4.7 million to organizations and physicians from 2012 through last year.

In a statement, the company did not address whether it was trying to influence the positions of the groups it supported, but said it does help organizations "that are interested in helping patients receive appropriate care." On Friday, Purdue announced it would no longer market OxyContin to doctors.

Insys Therapeutics, a company recently targeted by federal prosecutors, provided more than \$3.5 million to interest groups and physicians, according to McCaskill's report. Last year, the company's founder was indicted for allegedly offering bribes to doctors to write prescriptions for the company's spray-based fentanyl medication.

A company spokesman declined to comment.

Insys contributed \$2.5 million last year to a U.S. Pain Foundation program to pay for pain drugs for cancer patients.

"The question was: Do we make these people suffer, or do we work with this company that has a terrible name?" U.S. Pain founder Paul Gileno said, explaining why his organization sought the money.

Depomed, Janssen and Mylan contributed \$1.4 million, \$650,000 and \$26,000 in payments, respectively. Janssen and Mylan told the AP they acted responsibly, while calls and emails to Depomed were not returned.

JCPS:

Continued from p. 1

school resource officers and Jefferson City Parks and Recreation Department staff (upon that department's request).

• The resurrection of the district's multi-cultural advisory committee.

Of having three goals, Linthacum cited the saying, "If there's more than three priorities, there's no priorities."

There still weren't many details available about the multi-cultural advisory committee. Linthacum said after the meeting that he will give an update next month to officially finalize the committee's re-creation, and added he's currently speaking with potential committee members.

He also said Simmons will help the district craft measurable outcomes for its stated diversity goals. "She thinks she can bring a lens to help us, to do it with fidelity, to help us do it right, help us have something with ways to monitor progress," he added.

"Ultimately, I'm responsible as superintendent," he said after board member Michael Couty asked via phone about who will be the champion for these initiatives — at least for now.

When asked after the meeting if that's a sustainable approach in the long-term — whether future superintendents be trusted to keep the work going in coming decades — Linthacum acknowledged he doesn't have a real answer, but it is something he's thinking about and he hopes changes become embedded into JCPS' culture.

Long-term thinking also applies to planning for the opening of the district's second high school.

Co-interim JCPS athletic and activities directors Dennis Licklider and Tim Thompson shared earlier at the meeting that the plan for the beginning of the second high school is to have its teams compete on a varsity schedule — despite only having freshmen and sophomores enrolled for the first year.

Licklider added, though, that football would probably remain junior varsity for the first year, so as to avoid potential mismatches in size leading to possible injuries.

Thompson also clarified a varsity game on the second high school's schedule could be with a JV team from another school.

"To give those students who start at the second high school the same chances everyone else from activities to athletics (has), I think is very important, to keep the momentum going that we have," JCPS Director of Secondary Education Gary Versluis said.

Of construction at the second high school, JCPS chief financial and operating officer Jason Hoffman said Twehous Excavating won the bid for major earthwork at the site. Twehous' base bid — the lowest of six — is worth \$2.8 million, and includes blasting and leveling work.

Chance:

Continued from p. 1

about that horrible night, but when, at 68, I learned that I had nothing left in this world, a particularly tragic situation since I have nobody in this area, I asked, 'Why had I survived?'"

Acosta said she survived because of the actions of the firefighters that night, as well as the staff at University of Missouri Hospital in Columbia and the staff at the St. Joseph's rehab center.

"But I hadn't lost everything — not quite," she said. "My beloved chocolate lab had been rescued by the firefighters, brought back to life, and one firefighter and his family have adopted him with the same love I felt for him."

"Chance was brought out by two firefighters and was only breathing five times per minute when they got him out," Grace said. "He truly is getting a second chance because he should not have survived the fire."

Chance has been with his new family for about a month and Grace said the dog is doing well.

"He's slowly losing his extra weight," Grace said. "He's down about 10 pounds since we got him when he was around 114. We need some warm weather to get him out more to run."

Board:

Continued from p. 1

on student test performance to a more holistic view that looks at factors such as school climate, parent engagement and school leadership.

The standoff could also hold up a decision on what kind of board should govern St. Louis Public Schools. The district's governing board voted last month to recommend a return to the currently halted elected school board. However, the state board has to make the final decision and outline how the transition should occur.

"It just makes a lot of people nervous because we really want to move forward and focus on educating the kids," said Marshall Cohen, executive director of Lift for Life Academy, one of several charter schools waiting for charter renewals now delayed due to the standoff.

Toddler badly hurt after ambulance hit by car dies

WINSTON-SALEM, N.C. (AP) — Police in North Carolina said the toddler who was badly hurt after an ambulance crash has died.

A news release from the Winston-Salem Police Department Monday night says it was informed at 6:05 p.m. Monday that the boy had died at Wake Forest Baptist Medical Center. Authorities offered no additional details.

The boy was being taken to the hospital around 1 a.m. Sunday when a drunken driver hit the medical transport, causing it to roll

over on its side, police said.

Gary Oakes, of Wise, Virginia, said in a brief phone interview Monday that his 3-year-old grandson had been under medical care before the crash but didn't want to elaborate. Asked how the family was coping, Oakes said, "It's devastating."

The boy's mother, Lyndsay Ann Oakes, of Wise, was in the ambulance with him and suffered minor injuries. Reached by phone, she declined to be interviewed.

It's not clear why the boy was being treated before the crash, but Police Lt. Rick New-

num has said the boy was in stable condition before the ambulance was hit. The boy's name hasn't been released.

The driver of the car that hit the ambulance, 27-year-old Jose Martin Duran Romero, originally faced charges including driving while intoxicated and driving without a license. There was no immediate words on additional charges against Romero.

It wasn't clear from jail records if he had an attorney, and no home listing for him could be found. Romero's passenger was charged with failure to render aid.

Committee:

Continued from p. 1

back, who have quit drinking." Drunk driving incidents have "increased by 8.4 percent" in Missouri, Henry said. "There are so many things that, while driving, we can prevent, and this is one that we can, definitely, prevent."

She said the panels are informational, "non-confrontational, so it's not judging (people) or anything like that."

The goal is to change people's hearts, Henry said.

And she testified some have stopped her while she's out with her family, and told her, "You changed my life."

The proposal passed the Legislature last year but was vetoed by Gov. Eric Greitens because it was part of a bill covering too many subjects, which violates the Missouri Constitution.

Sen. Ed Emery, R-Lamar, sponsors the bill this year, and told colleagues: "Any fees related to the participation in the (required) program would be

paid by the participant — that's usually about \$25.

"There are numerous locations around the state that provide these programs, and the longest distance that would have to be traveled would be slightly over an hour, driving time."

Involuntary manslaughter after a suicide

Kenneth Suttner, also 17, killed himself in December 2016 at his home in Glasgow.

He was overweight and spoke with a speech impediment, which made him a target for bullies at Glasgow High School.

However, Howard County Coroner Frank Flaspohler said Monday, "Kenny Suttner ... was the poster child for turning the other cheek."

"He was bullied constantly through school, but he turned the other cheek and kept going — until he reached his workplace, where it finally got to him and was more than he could take."

After Suttner's suicide, Flaspohler held a coroner's inquest and the jurors determined the Glasgow School District and one of Suttner's managers at the Dairy Queen had committed manslaughter through the bullying they caused or allowed to happen.

However, April Walker, assigned as the special prosecutor in the case, told lawmakers after a year of trying to apply the law to the case facts, "I have come to the conclusion that our involuntary manslaughter (statute) is, most definitely, in no shape to handle this type of situation."

Had Suttner died in 2017 —

after Missouri's revised criminal code had gone into effect Jan. 1 — instead of in 2016, Walker said she might have been able to file a charge and convince a jury the bullying at school and work had led to Suttner's death.

"We are at an age where, the CDC (federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention) says we are at a 40-time year high of suicides by teenagers — particularly female teenagers, from the age of 15-19."

She said the CDC's data shows "a substantial increase" in the number of teen suicides, from 2010-15.

"That's also during a time

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MEDIA AUDIT SPRING 2015

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Helias High School and The Foundation for the Benefit of Helias Catholic High School will induct six people into the Helias Hall of Fame. ■ LOCAL B4

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MIDMISSOURI

Grounds of Gateway Arch get a new name

ST. LOUIS (AP) — The grounds of the Gateway Arch in St. Louis will now be officially known as The Gateway Arch National Park.

President Donald Trump on Thursday signed a bill that renamed the former Jefferson National Expansion Memorial.

The measure passed the Senate on Dec. 21, and passed the House earlier this month.

The name change was proposed by Sens. Roy Blunt and Claire McCaskill, of Missouri, and U.S. Reps. William Lacy Clay and Ann Wagner, who represent St. Louis-area districts. They said the name change would make the park more recognizable to St. Louis visitors.

The park is scheduled to reopen this summer after an extensive renovation.

The Jefferson National Expansion Memorial was designated as a national memorial in 1935. The Arch itself was completed in 1965.

Volunteer opportunities

American Red Cross of Missouri Chapter seeks volunteers for its Disaster Action Team. Team members are trained to respond to local and national disasters. The Red Cross offers multiple opportunities for individuals, companies and organizations to volunteer and add value to the community. Call 635-1132 or 866-815-2738.

Birthright seeks volunteers and telephone volunteers. Volunteers should be compassionate, good listeners and have sympathy for a young mother who finds herself facing a crisis pregnancy. Volunteers would give a few hours a month. Contact Karen Dunkle at 635-8651.

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

- **American Legion Ham Breakfast and Bake Sale**, 7:30-11:30 a.m., Knights of Columbus Hall, Westphalia.
- **Pancake Breakfast Auxiliary Benefit**, 8 a.m.-noon, Marine Corps League, 4925 Business 50 West.

MONDAY

- **Economic Impact of Lincoln University**, 11 a.m., Stamper Hall Room 206, Lincoln University, 824 Chestnut St.
- **"Signs, Race, Power and Privilege: A Sign of the Times at LU During the Trump Presidency,"** 6 p.m., Page Library Room 100, Lincoln University, 712 Lee Drive.
- **Monitoring Your Child's Digital Footprint**, 6-7 p.m., Missouri River Regional Library, 214 Adams St.
- **Virtual Reality: Fruit Ninja** (Ages 19 and over), 6-8 p.m., Missouri River Regional Library, 214 Adams St.
- **Novice Duplicate Bridge**, 6:30-9:30 p.m., Hy-Vee, 3721 W. Truman Blvd.
- **Bingo**, 6:30 p.m., St. Martins Knights of Columbus, 537 Route T.
- **Propagation and Care of Succulents Including Cacti**, 7-8:30 p.m., Missouri River Regional Library, 214 Adams St.

TUESDAY

- **Preschool Storytime**, 10:30-11 a.m., Missouri River Regional Library, 214 Adams St.
- **4th annual Pancake Dinner**, 2:30-6:30
Please see Events, p. 5



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.

Wheel of Wellness: Vendors educate residents on healthy living

By Nicole Roberts
nicole@newstribune.com

Several residents gathered Saturday at a local YMCA to look at dozens of booths centered around health and wellness for the inaugural Wellness Expo.

The YMCA, Capital Region Medical Center, Jefferson City Medical Group, SSM Health-St. Mary's Hospital and the United Way partnered up for the free comprehensive expo at the Jefferson City Area YMCA Firley Y on Ellis Boulevard.

More than 40 vendors registered for the expo, all offering information about exercises, diets, safety, local parks, mental health and family resources. Lindsay Huhman, director of marketing and public relations for CRMC, said offering the wide-range of information in one place helps residents become more aware of what the community offers.

Ashley Varner, healthy communities coordinator and wellness navigator at CRMC, added by providing a large scope of information, the expo targeted everyone, not just one group of individuals.

"The whole point here (is) to make people feel better and get that education out there," she said, watching expo visitors observe a cooking demonstration. "There's a lot of people who are on this continuum of health — they're on their journey of health. Some people can be drinking (soda) and not know it's bad for them and then you have people on the other end of the spectrum who are exercising and eating organic and locally, so you have all of these education levels out there."

A steady stream of people filtered in and out of another popular area, the free medical screening stations, which included vision, height and weight, fall prevention and balance, and skin and dental screenings.

"Sometimes, people don't have the resources to afford those things or it's just hard to make all of those different appointments with your doctor to get in and get all of those things done, so this is kind of one place that you can come and get some screenings on those things," YMCA health and fitness Director Kelsey Riggs told the News Tribune last month.

Huhman added the screenings do not replace doctor

Please see Wellness, p. 6



Emil Lippe/News Tribune

Derek Hees, 13, energetically rides a workout bike Saturday to simultaneously grind up a fruit smoothie during the Wellness Expo at the Jefferson City Area YMCA.



Emil Lippe/News Tribune

Lexie Tracy, left, peers at a body mass index calculator Saturday as part of the Wellness Expo. Attendees measured their weight and body mass index to make sure their body mass was at a healthy level.

Past, present and future of diversity at JCPS

By Phillip Sitter
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Editor's note: The Jefferson City community has been facing the issues of diversity and racism over the past several months. For a look at all of the voices who have contributed to this discussion, visit newstribune.com/diversity.

Jefferson City Public Schools' secondary students have said they want validation and empowerment to feel a part of their schools and community, Superintendent Larry Linthacum said.

Linthacum shared at this month's Board of Education meeting feedback from students and staff the district has collected in recent months as part of discussions about efforts to make progress on issues of diversity and inclusion.

From students in sixth through 12th grades:

- "Treat everyone the same by creating a safe culture where it's OK to be who you are."

- "Behaviors are learned. Teach us how to communicate and collaborate better with each other."

- "Empower us to provide to the school and community in a positive way."

"They were insightful. I was encouraged by that," Linthacum said two weeks ago of students' responses in particular.

He wasn't personally at all of the meetings in which these responses were received. He said building administrators determined the best way to engage their students and staff, although he has met with the district's

faculty council, which has representatives from each building in the district.

JCPS Director of Secondary Education Gary Verslues said school buildings solicited student input in a variety of ways, such as through club meetings and Focused Academic Study Time class periods.

It's not the first time students and community members have shared sentiments similar to those heard on an at least quarter-century historical continuum of the school district being asked to address diversity and inclusion issues.

"We feel this is not even our school," Iva Presberry recalled two weeks ago of how some — particularly minority — students felt when she

Please see JCPS, p. 7

United Way offers \$120,000 in grants

By Joe Gamm
joe@newstribune.com

The United Way of Central Missouri is offering up to \$120,000 for 2018 Community Support Grants.

The one-time grants will be available for area health and human service agencies, effective immediately.

They are open to any nonprofit agency in the service area furthering the mission of the United Way to help people in need and provide community solutions, addressing needs in area of food, shelter, education, employment, health or transportation.

Grants must have measurable program outcomes and serve communities in all or parts of Cole, Moniteau, Osage, Miller, Morgan, Camden and southern Callaway counties.

Applying agencies must have been in operation for at least two years.

The United Way campaign surpassing its goal for 2017 played a role in the organization, offering the grants in addition to their annual funding support for 28 partner agencies in the coming year, according to a United Way of Central Missouri news release.

Money raised in 2016 allowed the organization to provide \$80,000 in grants in 2017. The organization has offered the grants in addition to supporting United Way partners annually for 12 years, said Ann Bax, president of United Way of Central Missouri.

The agency had been able to offer the grants sporadically previous to the 12-year run, Bax said.

Please see Grants, p. 6



Mark Wilson/News Tribune

Lindsey Jaegers watches her son Hayden, 6, putt Saturday night during a Mini Golf tournament at the Missouri River Regional Library. Joining Hayden and his mom were siblings Preston, 8, and 1-year-old Tritan. The MRRF Foundation closed the library from 5-8:30 p.m. to offer families an indoor activity during winter weather.

Indoor family fun

Eugene Royal Ball puts fathers, daughters in step

By Allen Fennewald
allen@newstribune.com

The young ladies of Eugene Elementary adorned their best princess dresses Saturday for the Valentines-themed Royal Ball Father-Daughter Dance.

The festivities filled the Eugene High School cafeteria with the musical selections of DJ Jim Logan, of Jim Logan Audio Services. The music included a mix of hit pop music, classic dance hits like the "Electric Slide," and a selection of songs about fathers and daughters.

Female students from preschool through sixth grade and their male guardians were invited. Parent-Teacher Organization President Jen Colvin expected about 125 people to attend. The event was organized by the PTO, which hopes the dance will become an annual tradition.

"We got the idea from other schools who have done it, but we just love the idea of being able to honor our fathers and daughters who are in the school," Colvin said. "It's a really cool, unique experience for them and a really fun night."

The Royal Ball originally was scheduled for the weekend before Valentine's Day but was rescheduled due to inclement weather.

Although the event excluded male students, Colvin said a similar event for mothers and sons might be planned.

A Muffins with Moms event will take place 7:30-8:30 a.m. March 9 at the elementary school.



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Oklahoma family donates treasured flag

Flag makes its way into family following carnival fire

OKLAHOMA CITY (AP) — Patty Kelly Stevens watched as Japanese troops shouted in anger and tore apart her prison camp barracks in the Philippines near the end of World War II, looking for something she knew her mother was hiding.

"Don't worry, they've been in there three times and they haven't returned with it yet," Selma Croft said softly to her daughter.

It doesn't take much of an imagination to figure out what might have happened if the Japanese had found what they were looking for.

"I think they would have killed us," Stevens told the Oklahoman, without hesitation.

Selma Croft never told her daughter where she hid the 10-foot American flag, but Stevens figures it was probably inside a mattress.

Later this month, Stevens will present the flag, part of her family for almost a century, to the U.S. Army Airborne and Special Operations Museum at Fort Bragg.

The 48-star flag came into the family after Stevens' grandfather saved it from a fire at a Philippines carnival. Throughout the decades, the banner adorned the caskets of family members who were military veterans, including that of her first husband. She considered passing the flag along to her son, but wondered what would happen after he died. Would her grandchildren have the same attachment to the flag? Would their

grandchildren? In the end, the decision didn't come easily.

"We got to talking about it and they said wait until after you die, but I can't have it on my casket because I wasn't in the military," Stevens said earlier this month while sitting in the living room of her Nichols Hills home. "We decided to give it to Fort Bragg. I know it will be safe there and appreciated."

The word appreciation resonates with Stevens and her son, Paul Kelly Jr. As anthem protests broke out this year at NFL games, Kelly noticed. And knowing what his mother and grandmother went through to preserve a symbol of freedom during the war, it didn't sit well.

"With so much disrespect shown to the flag these days, it's sort of rewarding to see a situation where people were literally willing to risk their lives to keep that flag," he said.

Born in Honolulu, Stevens was raised in the Philippines, where her English father, Alfred Croft, worked for the Curtiss-Wright Corporation. The family lived in a large home with staff. Her mother, a Red Cross nurse who met her father not long after World War I, took care of the home as well.

"It didn't seem like we had any worries," she recalled. "I went to school a half a day. The other half, we worked on our homework. We'd go swimming. It was outdoor living."

And then all hell broke loose. The Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor, and soon had the Philippines in their sights.

"My mother got a call at 5:30 in the morning from a reporter at the Manila Star who said war had been declared," Stevens remembered. "My younger brother and I had to go on to school, but by noon, were sent back home because they had started attacking."

Five days later, she found herself face to face with the Empire of Japan when a truck packed with troops showed up at their home.

"The soldiers came to the door with bayonets and said pack enough food and clothing for three days and then you'll get back home," Stevens said. "Those three days turned out to be three years and two months."

Among the items her mother grabbed was the precious heirloom flag.

Working in Hawaii, Alfred was cut off from his wife and children. They wouldn't reunite until 1945.

Stevens, her mother, and younger brother, William, first were taken to the University of Santo Tomas, in Manila. Established in 1611, it was known as one of the largest, oldest and most prestigious universities in Asia. However, it didn't make much of a POW camp for the 6,000 people housed there.

It had no showers, few toilets and no beds. They slept on concrete floors and had no mosquito nets to combat one of the region's biggest pests. Eventually, the Red Cross made things a little easier, providing bedding and nets.

Some men fashioned showers and toilets. For a teenager, the situation was chaotic and strange.

"It was rough to begin with," Stevens said.

For two years the family stayed at the university. They filled the time with talk. Stevens learned to play the accordion. Sometimes the prisoners would put on shows for each other. It was far from ideal, but could have been worse, she said. She'd heard stories of mass executions and torture, after all.

In time, the Japanese moved Stevens' brother to Los Banos, a prison camp under construction outside of Manila. Family members wouldn't see him again until a year later when Stevens and her mother were moved to the same camp. Things got worse from there.

The Japanese told them they would continue to be fed well as long as the Japanese were winning the war. They no longer were. The camp's construction, away from Manila, showed there were fears the Americans would retake the city.

During the move from Santo Tomas to Los Banos, the Japanese pulled aside three of the prisoner's established leaders, told them to dig their own graves and then beheaded them. Stevens didn't witness the killings, but said she saw plenty of torture.

By the end of their captivity, prisoners at Los Banos were living on 700 calories a day.

"The camp was in a beautiful place, but we were so hungry," she said.

Her mom, presented with wild pumpkins and a couple eggs, managed to cobble together a pie

one Thanksgiving. With no lard available, her mother used cold cream from their Red Cross kits.

"I didn't think it would be edible but it was pretty good," Stevens said.

To this day, Stevens can't stand to see people waste or not appreciate food.

"I hear so many people complaining about their food all the time and I think, 'Gee, you're darn lucky to have this,'" she said.

One January 1945 morning, Stevens and the rest of the POWs woke to find their guards gone. Might this be the end of the war? Men went to a nearby village to scrounge for food. Others raided the guards' abandoned supply. Before long, they grew even bolder.

"They asked if anyone had an American or British flag," Stevens said. "My mother came forward. We raised that flag and sang the 'Star-Spangled Banner.'"

Seeing the flag unfolded and then flying over the camp while the anthem played was thrilling, emotional and extremely dangerous. After a few moments, the prisoners took the flag down and hid it again. Good idea.

Within days, the guards returned, having been called away to help repel American forces in Manila. They weren't happy with what they found.

"We had already gotten into their food and we started eating it like we were in a palace," Stevens said. "They were very upset with us. That's when they cut down on our food rations. The commandant said we would be eating dirt before he was through with us."

Their suffering soon would end. February 23, 1945, began like any other day at Los Banos.

"We had to get out in front of our barracks and stand there for roll call and bow to the Japanese," Stevens said. "My mother and I were on our way down to stand in line when all of a sudden, I heard all these shots being fired."

Stevens looked up and saw parachutes. What she first thought were supplies, turned out to be paratroopers. In the chaos, Stevens' mother grabbed her two children, ran to their barracks and hid under the beds.

The Los Banos Raid is one of the most successful and most studied airborne rescue operations in U.S. military history. Caught while they

were doing their morning exercises, the Japanese garrison of about 250 men was quickly overrun. That suited Stevens just fine.

"My God, I despised them," Stevens said. "The commandant fled, but they got him later."

As the three hid, they heard footsteps getting closer.

"I crawled out from under the bed and here was this gorgeous paratrooper," Stevens said.

Then, she unintentionally insulted one of her rescuers.

"I said, 'You're a Marine,' and then he said, 'Hell no, I'm not a Marine. I'm 11th Airborne.'"

With thousands of Japanese troops still in the vicinity, there was little time for tears or relief. Ushered into halftracks, they headed toward American lines. The raid rescued more than 2,100 prisoners and left nearly 100 Japanese soldiers dead.

As Stevens thinks now about that time, she knows she's lucky. Her mother weighed just 80 pounds when rescued. Being malnourished for so long, Patty's own health was threatened. There was evidence their outcome could have been far worse. Not long before their rescue, a construction project began at the camp. Its purpose was a mystery.

"We saw the ditches," Stevens said. "They told us they were going to put a building up. But we knew they weren't doing that with Manila on fire. They were going to put our bodies in there and burn them."

Following their rescue, the POWs were taken to another prison, where doors were left open. The family stayed there for two months before making their way back to the U.S. But not before Stevens met her future husband, Paul Kelly Sr., who had participated in the operation to capture the University of Santo Tomas as a member of the Army's 1st Cavalry.

"The outfit he was part of had been sent down to a rest camp near ours and they heard there were teenage girls so they brought food over and we had a little party," she said.

It wasn't quite love at first sight, but there was something there.

"When he asked me to marry him, I told him I had to wait because I had already been locked up for a while," Stevens joked.

They were married for 25 years before his death in 1971.

JCPS:

Continued from p. 1

started working at Jefferson City High School in 1991.

Presberry has been retired for 16 years, but while she was a counselor at JCHS she sponsored the Kito Culture Club. The club was open to all but made a conscious effort to celebrate African-American contributions to society.

She started the club "to give students who were minorities opportunities for leadership," which she said students told her didn't really happen in other clubs, where they felt like outsiders.

Whether it was the annual all-school assembly during Black History Month or organizing fun outings for members, she said, the club gave students in it a sense of pride in saying "this is my school and I'm important here."

"I think the kids did feel like they had a voice and were important and they were recognized," she said.

The book "Jefferson City Public Schools, the First 175 Years of the Journey" notes other community concerns and efforts to address them in the mid-1990s.

"After tension rose in the fall of 1995, Jefferson City citizens created a Human Relations Task Force to search for solutions to race relations problems in the schools and community. School staff took cultural diversity training in 1996, and students helped also," the book states.

C. Suzanne Richter is one of the two co-authors of the book. Richter taught with JCPS for 17 years — with most of her service at Simonson 9th Grade Center.

"Part of the cultural diversity training was related to poverty," she said, having participated in the 1996 diversity training herself.

"We did a role-playing poverty simulation, which I found very valuable," she added. That helped her be more aware of students in her classroom who might have been coming to school hungry and what else they might be going through.

Twenty-two years later, the district is again organizing diversity training for its staff.

Diversity training is one of the three goals Linthacum announced at this month's board meeting as a district priority following the most recent community discussions about diversity and inclusion, including the input from students and staff.

The diversity training — in the form of professional development — will begin for administrators and board members March 7 with a session led by Juanita Simmons, vice president of diversity, equity and inclusion at Northwest Missouri State University in Maryville.

The other two priorities are ongoing work on the district's hiring practices to ensure the diversity of staff can be increased to match the diversity of the student body and the resurrection of the district's multi-cultural advisory committee, which Linthacum said has been inactive since 2009.

"Everybody needs to be at the table and feel valued and that they're important," Richter said of lessons from the 1990s that might apply to the present.

"To date, we believe the board and the superintendent have not been committed, nor have they effectively responded to those (and other) concerns," a group spokeswoman for the local group "Concerned Citizens" said in March 2001, after months of the group's regular meetings with administrators on concerns that included racial-disproportionate discipline outcomes within the district.

A U.S. Department of Education Office of Civil Rights report released in May 2002 ultimately cleared the district of the general

allegation that the district "had discipline practices and policies that had a disparate impact on African-American students by suspending them at a percentage rate which was double and sometimes triple to their percentage of the student population."

Discipline data from the first semester of the current 2017-18 school year presented by the district's Chief of Learning Brian Shindorf last month also show about the same percentage of students in each of the district's four largest racial and ethnic groups — black, white, multi-racial and Hispanic — received the same outcomes of out-of-school or in-school suspensions or other consequences for the 11 most significant types of offenses for which students are sent to school offices.

The state's Department of Elementary and Secondary Education also recently cleared the district of policy, procedural and practical culpability in what DESE investigated as a "significant discrepancy" in the rate of black students with disabilities who were suspended or expelled for more than 10 days over the past two years.

In other words, the federal conclusion from 16 years ago seems to have held true recently.

However, Shindorf said, there are still plenty of questions to be answered, particularly about why a larger percentage of black students are sent to school offices in the first place compared to their peers.

Those kinds of racial disparities in discipline have persisted since at least the 2013-14 school year, according to JCPS data.

Linthacum believes there is reason to have hopeful expectations about the present and future.

"There is energy and working together," he said. "We're willing to have difficult conversations."

"It's a starting spot," he said of the three priorities he announced. If done right, he said, they can lead to additional progress.

He anticipated discussions about changing curriculum — as the district's elementary and secondary teachers have requested — will come from the multi-cultural advisory committee, for example.

He reported elementary staff specifically asked for "educational opportunities and curriculum by which students are exposed to different cultures."

Secondary staff want to "embed strategies within our curriculum to effectively (and) consistently address diversity, that all students receive the same information."

Both sets of staff also want students to experience a culture of acceptance and community.

Board of Education President Steve Bruce said he hadn't been familiar with the district's history of trying to address diversity and inclusion issues. However, like Linthacum, he has hope for the course of things to come.

"I think there's a greater recognition today of the impact of how kids are treated in schools and the results that has, the results that that treatment has on their academics and social growth," Bruce said.

"We know better now," he added, saying "kids do better whenever you create an engaging environment."



MIDMISSOURI

Speed limit reduced on part of US 63 in Osage County

The Missouri Department of Transportation has lowered the speed limit from 60 mph to 55 mph on a 1-mile section of U.S. 63 in Osage County from just north of Westphalia city limits to the Osage County Road 609 intersection.

New speed limit signs have been installed, and enforcement of the new speed limit is in effect.

The speed limit was reduced to increase safety and reduce crashes based on a traffic study of speed and crash data reviewed by MoDOT traffic engineers.

Webcast to address feral hogs problem

The Missouri Department of Conservation will present an interactive webcast on feral hogs from noon-1 p.m. March 21.

Two of the department's experts on feral hogs will address why they are a destructive problem, what the department and its partners are doing to combat them, and what landowners and others can do to help.

Register for the Feral Hog Wild Webcast at short.mdc.mo.gov/ZTn.

Volunteer opportunities

Missouri Missing, a support network for the loved ones of all missing persons in Missouri, seeks volunteers to help with fundraising and awareness. Contact Marianne Asher-Chapman at 619-8100.

Missouri State Archives is seeking volunteers to assist in the reference room to reshel and straighten books, make photocopies for researchers, research microfilm records and printed material in response to inquiries, and other tasks. They also need volunteers to assist in the arrangement and description of state records of permanent and historical value to provide better access to the records of the State of Missouri. Projects may include both paper records and visual materials such as photographs, negatives or slides. Volunteers may flat-fold materials, remove foreign objects, create lists of folders and other tasks. Call 751-4217.

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

- **1 Million Cups Jeff City**, 9-10 a.m., The Linc, 1299 Lafayette St.
- **Family Story Time**, 10:30-11:30 a.m., Missouri River Regional Library, 214 Adams St.
- **Ancestry.com**, 1-4 p.m. and 5-7 p.m., Missouri River Regional Library, 214 Adams St.
- **Bingo**, 1-4 p.m., Clarke Senior Center, 1310 Linden Drive.
- **Learning in Retirement**, 1:30-3:30 p.m., Missouri River Regional Library, 214 Adams St.
- **Crafternoons**, 2-4 p.m., Young Hall B11 at Lincoln University, 820 Chestnut St.
- **Lincoln University's Ethnic Studies Center**, 7-8:30 p.m., Missouri River Regional Library, 214 Adams St.
- **Sketches of War: Political Cartoons of Daniel Fitzpatrick**, 7 p.m., Missouri State Museum, 201 W. Capitol Ave.

THURSDAY

- **Coffee with the News Tribune Editor**, 7:30-9:30 a.m., Chez Monet in the Capitol, 201 W. Capitol Ave.
- **Yoga**, 9-10 a.m., Missouri River Regional Library, 214 Adams St.
- **AARP Chapter 4401 meeting**, 12:30 p.m., Clarke Senior Center, 1310 Linden Drive.
- **Family Game Night**, 3:30-7:30 p.m., Heartland Regional Library, Vienna.



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.

JCPS, other local institutions have first diversity training session

By Phillip Sitter
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Leaders of Jefferson City Public Schools and other community institutions on Wednesday participated in the first of three scheduled diversity training sessions led by Juanita Simmons, vice president of diversity, equity and inclusion at Northwest Missouri State University in Maryville.

The large meeting room at JCPS' Dix Road Education Center was full of district staff; building administrators; school board members Michael Couty, Lori Massman, Pam Murray and Lorelei Schwartz; Jefferson City Police Department school resource officers; and Jefferson City Parks, Recreation and Forestry Department staff.

The district and other local institutions got to be seated at discussion tables after months of community discussion and publicly expressed concerns about school-centered diversity, equity and inclusion issues.

The district announced last month that its three immediate goals were to continue to work on ensuring the district's hiring procedures lead to a more diverse staff, bring back the district's multi-cultural advisory committee and host the diversity training led by Simmons.

Simmons will return two more times this year, both during the summer, JCPS Director of Human



Mark Wilson/News Tribune

Larry Linthacum, superintendent of Jefferson City Public Schools, and Juanita Simmons talk Wednesday during a diversity training seminar for administrators and board members at the JCPS Education Center. Simmons was on hand to lead the session.

Resources Shelby Scarbrough said.

"The goal is to start the conversation," Simmons said of her priorities for the first session that focused on microaggressions and implicit biases.

Microaggressions are targeted verbal, nonverbal and environmental actions people take — maybe subtly and maybe without intention — that slight, snub or insult other people because of their identity.

Implicit biases are the subconscious and often instantaneous assessments people make of others based on attitudes or stereotypes.

One central office staff member asked if it's possible for a middle-aged person to acknowledge

a lifetime's worth of accumulated biases and move beyond them.

Simmons' answer somewhat redirected the question into why it's important to try.

"We can't curse them with the burden of all this mess," she said of students' well-being and healthy development being the ultimate goal — the "mess" being the effects of prior generations' actions and attitudes toward groups of people who have been dehumanized.

Simmons highlighted that there are more identities in a diverse world than race; there's more than just a black or white binary: ability, gender,

Please see Diversity, p. 2

Capital Region dedicates plaque in honor of volunteer

By Joe Gamm
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As a heart and stroke volunteer at Capital Region Medical Center, former Jefferson City resident Roy Dale Watson was a member of a very exclusive organization.

The volunteers in the organization are all stroke and heart attack survivors, said Jack Jarrett, who joined as the first member of the organization in 2001.

"It's a rough way to get in," Jarrett joked to more than 50 people attending as the hospital unveiled a plaque Wednesday in memory of Watson. "And there's only one way to get out."

"Roy made a difference at Capital Region by his compassionate way of helping other stroke and heart patients in their rehabilitation journey," the plaque states.

To say Watson was unique would be an understatement, hospital President Gaspare Calvaruso told listeners.

"These people go into rooms and they can talk frankly to the patients," Calvaruso said. "The patients use them as a resource."

The volunteers have been there for the recoveries and relapses, for the pain and the struggles.

"It's not brick and mortar that make this (hospital)," Jarrett said. "It's these people."

Jarrett said he and Watson came to treat each other as brothers over the years.

They once walked into a partic-



Mark Wilson/News Tribune

Paula Burnett, director of rehabilitation services at Capital Region Medical Center, holds a plaque Wednesday honoring Roy Watson, a long-time volunteer at the hospital. Roy Watson was a heart and stroke volunteer and the ceremony was held at the in-patient rehab ward.

ularly surly patient's room, Jarrett remembered.

"What do you want?" she demanded.

Jarrett said Watson explained he was there to help prepare her for her recovery. He'd be able to tell her what to expect from doctors, family and friends.

She then looked at Jarrett and asked, "What's your function?"

"I'm Roy's chauffeur," he responded.

Jerry Moore, another volunteer,

said Watson loved to laugh.

"Roy always had a grin," Moore said, then continued. "Nobody ever knew why he had that grin."

The hospital is fortunate to have the volunteers' involvement in recovery, Calvaruso said.

They can sympathize and empathize with the patients and help them recover, Jarrett said.

Paula Burnett, Capital Region Medical Center's director of rehabilitation, who called Watson

Please see Watson, p. 2

Safety featured at South Callaway State of School meeting

By Seth Wolfmeyer
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South Callaway Superintendent Kevin Hillman discussed school safety, funding, enrollment, academics and state legislation with members of the community Wednesday during the district's annual State of the School meeting.

During the meeting, Hillman said South Callaway is working on what he called a "three-headed monster," trying to raise school safety, academic success and being more sensitive to students' mental health. He said the effort to boost safety is from growing concern over shootings happening at schools across the country.

"You're just so tired of reading those stories, and you worry about them," he said. "And I'm telling you, in our profession, we worry about them all the time."

The school added a part-time counselor this semester to give students struggling with mental health a resource to help work through problems. Hillman said a priority of the staff is to be more sensitive and be able to identify when a student might need help.

South Callaway is also trying to partner with the county sheriff's department to bring on a resource officer next year responsible for safety, investigation and protection. The resource officer would be considered a part of the staff and expected to integrate with the students and staff, Hillman added.

He said the school's academic goals include giving students access to more advanced courses, bringing college professors to physically teach at South Callaway for more dual credit opportunities. The school is also exploring the potential of bringing online-aided college classes to students, opening options to any subject in which they're interested.

"I just think that, between Skype and the things we can do with our iPads, it can be a lot more interactive," Hillman said.

This year marks the second generation of the school's 1:1 devices, equipping students

Please see School, p. 2

Gaylin Carver files for Cole County Associate Circuit Judge

By the News Tribune
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Attorney Gaylin Carver filed Wednesday as a Democratic candidate for Cole County Associate Circuit Judge.

Current Associate Circuit Judge Tom Sodergren is not running for re-election. Current Jefferson City Municipal Judge Cotton Walker has filed to run for the office as a Republican.

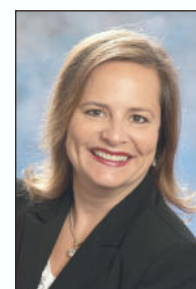
Carver graduated from law school in 2001 from Saint Louis University and served as a clerk for Supreme Court Judge Mike Wolfe before working as an assistant prosecutor for then-Cole County Prosecutor Richard Callahan. She has been a partner at Carver & Michael law firm in Jefferson City since 2009.

"It is important that the judicial system runs efficiently," she said in her campaign announcement. "If the judicial

wheels move too slow, not only does it overload the jails, cost the taxpayers money, but also can be a detriment to the individuals who need to have their cases heard, a determination made and justice dispensed.

"As the owner of my own law practice for the last nine years, I understand the legal needs of individuals," Carver continued. "Efficient, fair and effective decisions after hearing all of the facts from both sides and applying the law is what makes a good judge."

Filing for Cole County offices continues until March 27. The primary election is in August, and the general election is in November.



Carver



OUR TOWN

OBITUARIES

SANGSTER

Edward Joseph Sangster, 69, of Iberia, Mo., formerly of Knox County, passed away peacefully on March 3, 2018, at the Siteman Cancer Center of Barnes-Jewish Hospital in St. Louis, Mo.

Ed, was born on April 18, 1948, in St. Louis, Mo., the third and youngest son of Robert T. and Alma (Richter) Sangster.



At a young age, he and his family moved to a farm near Edina, Mo. where he grew up, attending St. Joseph Elementary, Edina High School and graduated from Knox County R-1 in 1966. He graduated from the University of Missouri College of Agriculture. He retired after 30 plus years in sales of agricultural products, continuing his passion with mules and horses near Atlanta, Mo. Ed was a staunch supporter of his sons' sports, rarely missing an opportunity to cheer from the sidelines. Ed enjoyed life, including hunting and fishing, riding horses and mules in the West, working outdoors, leather working, his dogs, and storytelling.

He is survived by three sons: Robert (Bobby), wife, Letitia and children, Clay and Susie of California, Mo.; William (Billy), wife, Ashley and children, Emerson, Alma, Louis and Joanna of Virginia Beach, Va., and James (Jimmy) of San Antonio, Texas. He is further survived by two brothers: R. Thomas (Tom), wife, Jennifer of Chesterfield, Mo. and William (Hank), wife, Jana of Manchester, Iowa, as well as, many nieces and nephews. Ed was preceded in death by his parents.

Visitation will on Thursday, March 15, 2018, from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. with a Rosary at 7 p.m. at Hudson-Rimer Funeral Home in Edina, Mo.

Mass of Christian Burial will be on 11 a.m. Friday, March 16, 2018, at St. Joseph's Catholic Church, Edina, Mo. with Father Colin Franklin officiating. Inurnment to follow at new St. Joseph's Catholic Cemetery.

The family requests no flowers. Memorials in memory of Edward Joseph Sangster are suggested to the Hope Lodge, Rochester, Minn. (American Cancer Society affiliate) or St. Joseph Catholic Church, Edina, Mo. Memorials may be left at or mailed to Hudson-Rimer Funeral Home, 408 East Morgan St., Edina, MO 63537.

HENLEY

Roselyn Ann Henley, 95, of Eldon, Missouri, passed away Monday, March 5, 2018, at St. Joseph Bluffs in Jefferson City, Missouri.

She was born September 25, 1922, in Eterville, Missouri, the daughter of the late Balser and Gertrude (Hunopohl) Thomas.

On March 9, 1941, at St. Peter's Catholic Church in Jefferson City, Missouri, she was united in marriage to Norman L. Henley who preceded her in death on December 17, 1988.

Survivors include: five sons, Thomas L. Henley (Carolyn) of Jefferson City, Mo., Jerry R. Henley (Jan Runyan special friend) of Eldon, Mo., Norris W. Henley (Dianne) of Eldon, Mo., Donn J. Henley (Suzanne) of Eldon, Mo., Daniel G. Henley (Marcissie) of Jefferson City, Mo., 12 grandchildren, Susan Hamilton (Tom) of Frisco, Texas, Eric Henley (Raechell) of Jefferson City, Mo., Robert Henley (Tammy) of Mora, Mo., Nicole Richardson (Jerry) of Durand, Ill., Cary Henley (Jen) of Eldon, Mo., Lynne Millard (Robert) of Jefferson City, Mo., Matthew Henley (Lindsay) of Prairie Village, Kan., Michael (Kyle) of Eldon, Mo., Kirk Henley (Sarah) of Columbia, Mo., Connor Henley (Kristina) of Berkeley, Calif., Melanie Ortmeier (Curtis) of Lake St. Louis, Mo., Amanda Woody (Zack) of Jefferson City, Mo.; 20 great-grandchildren and four great-great-grandchildren; one sister, Mary M. Lepper of Jefferson City, Mo.; sister-in-law, Betty Dummermuth (Clyde) of California, Mo.; nieces; nephews and many close friends

Three brothers, George, Victor and Harold Thomas preceded her in death.

Roselyn attended grade school in Eterville, Mo. and high school in Eugene, Mo. She was employed for Missouri Utilities for several years before she and her husband founded Henley Jewelers where she worked until her retirement. Roselyn loved working in her flower gardens, playing cards, golfing, traveling and being with her family at the family farm.

Visitation will be Monday, March 12, 2018, from 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. at Sacred Heart Catholic Church of Eldon, Mo. with the Funeral Mass beginning at 11 a.m. with Father Alex Gabriel officiating. Interment will follow at the Eldon City Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, memorials in her name are suggested to the Eldon Community Center, Sacred Heart Catholic Church or the American Cancer Society.

Arrangements are under the direction and care of Phillips Funeral Home of Eldon, Mo.



KELLEY

Richard L. Kelley, age 69, of Sunrise Beach, passed away Sunday, March 4, 2018, at Lake Regional Health System in Osage Beach.

He is survived by his family: Wife, children, grandsons, step-sons, step-grandsons, sister, brother and nephews.

A celebration of life will be held at 1:00 p.m., Monday, March 12, at the Kidwell-Garber Laurie/Sunrise Beach Chapel. Full military honors will follow the service under the auspices of the American Legion Zack Wheat Post 624 and the Lake of the Ozarks Marine Corps League Detachment #1137.

Memorial contributions are suggested to the Marine Corps League. www.kidwellgarber.com



KOLB

Robert William (Bob) Kolb, 80, of Jefferson City, passed away on March 6, 2018, at home surrounded by his family.

He was born December 19, 1937, in Jefferson City, Missouri, the youngest of eight children born to Jacob Bernard and Magdalen (Markway) Kolb.

Bob attended Immaculate Conception grade school and was a 1955 graduate of St. Peter High School. He graduated from Capital Business College.

On September 9, 1967, he was united in marriage in Taos to Ann Alma Borgmeyer by Msgr. Charles Patterson.

Bob served in the active United States Army Reserve.

He was a salesman with KWOS Radio for 50 years, retiring in 2008.

Bob was always active in church, fraternal, civic, and school activities. He was a past member of the Board of the Jefferson City Area Chamber of Commerce, holding the position of Vice-Chairman. He was also a board member of the Jefferson City Jaycees, the Westside Business Association, and a member of the Downtown Business Association. Bob was a life-long member of the Immaculate Conception parish, a member of the Holy Name Society, and a past president of both the Immaculate Conception Parish Council and the Helias Athletic Booster Club. He was a lifetime member and past Grand Knight of the Helias Council 1054 Knights of Columbus and a lifetime member and past Faithful Navigator of Dan C. Coppin 4th Degree Knights of Columbus. He also served as District Deputy for the State Knights of Columbus.

In addition to Ann, his wife of 50 years, Bob is survived by a son, Gregory Robert (Holly) Kolb, Holts Summit; a daughter, Susan Ann (Brian) Green, St. Charles; four grandchildren, Sommer Kolb, Jefferson City; Carson Green, Parker Green, and Bennett Green, all of St. Charles; two step-grandchildren, Tristen Howard and Emma Loesch, both of Holts Summit; two sisters-in-law, Mary Anne Kolb, Jefferson City; Mary Anna Kolb, Cincinnati, Ohio; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Bob was preceded in death by his parents; brothers and sisters-in-law, James (Betty Ann) Kolb, Cletus (Margaret) Kolb, Charles Kolb, Paul (Carmen) Kolb, and Herbert Kolb; sisters and brothers-in-law, Grace Mary (Carmine) Vignola and Irma Mae (Paul "Juggy") Schleer.

Friends will be received 4-7 p.m., Thursday, March 8, 2018, at the Dulle Trimble Funeral Home, with a prayer service at 3:00 p.m.

Mass of the Christian Burial will be at 10:00 a.m., Friday, March 9, 2018, at Immaculate Conception Church with the Rev. Father Donald J. Antweiler officiating.

Entombment will be in the Pieta Mausoleum at Resurrection Cemetery.

Expressions of sympathy may be made to the Immaculate Conception Endowment Fund, 1206 E. McCarty St., Jefferson City, MO 65101 or to the Helias Foundation, P.O. Box 694, Jefferson City, MO 65102.

Dulle-Trimble Funeral Home is in charge of the arrangements.

Those wishing to email condolences to the family may do so at the www.dulletrimble.com website.



WILLIS

Mr. Danny Leo Willis, age 42, of Valparaiso, Florida, passed away Saturday, March 3, 2018.

Survivors include: his mother, Tina Willis of Rocky Mount; his wife, Hope Elaine Willis of Valparaiso; sons, Colton Willis and Gunnar Grey Willis, both of Valparaiso; daughter, Drew Elaine Haggerman-Willis of Valparaiso; brother, Darrell Willis of Rocky Mount; sister, Tammy Seymour of Jefferson, City.

Visitation will be 10-11 a.m., Tuesday, March 13, 2018, at Phillips Funeral Home, Eldon. Funeral Services will be held at 11 a.m., Tuesday, March 13, 2018, at the funeral home. Burial will follow in the Hawthorne Memorial Gardens Cemetery, 4205 Horner Road, Jefferson City, Missouri 65109.

Diversity:

Continued from p. 1

language, sexual orientation, ethnicity, culture or nationality.

She encouraged those present to be more aware of bullying of students — especially transgender students, given their increasing public presence, and international students, based on xenophobia from an increased public presence of white nationalism.

She said today's young people are more diverse than previous generations, and they're looking for leadership from their elders.

"We have to make them hungry for justice," she said. She also highlighted the needs for today's youth to be more globally competitive, restorers and protectors of democracy, and human beings who value equity and civility.

Superintendent Larry Linthacum said of his preliminary take-aways from the first training session: "We have to set the course district-wide."

Linthacum added that principals will lead conversations on the building level with teachers, and the training sessions will provide direction for building officials to lead their staff.

Simmons said the second training session will use JCPS-specific data along with state and national statistics to look at issues including the school-to-prison pipeline — how school disciplinary policies and actions can disparately push students of color into the criminal justice system.

one bill, SB612, would take \$25 million away from public schools in Missouri and allow the commissioner of education to place students in different schools without consulting the schools first.

Hillman also gave an update on the district's finances and enrollment numbers at the meeting. South Callaway had concerns over decreases in enrollment, but he said it is not as much of a worry now with the number of students remaining close to 800 since 2015.

The district suffered a big drop in funds in 2016 due to a decrease in the Callaway nuclear power's value, which is the source for almost 90 percent of the district's revenue. It has rebounded since then and is in good shape now, but Hillman said the district is more careful with its finances due to the inconsistency of the value of the power plant.

Police remove Fulton student after alleged threat

By Jenny Gray
For the News Tribune

Fulton police removed a student from Fulton High School on Wednesday and charged her with a felony after she was reported to have made terroristic threats.

Fulton school district spokesperson Karen Sneathen said all students and staff are safe and continued the school day after the incident.

The arrested student was Tyra Pope, 17, of Fulton, who is considered to be an adult and charged as an adult, said Maj. Roger Rice of the Fulton Police Department.

"I took the call about 12:30 (p.m.) from Chris Mincher, the principal," Rice said. "He said a female student stood up in a classroom and made an inappropriate statement in front of the kids. ... She said something about not coming to school tomorrow."

An investigator went to the high school and brought Pope to the police department for questioning — then to jail.

Pope was charged with a Class D felony charge of making a terroristic threat, a charge which is levied because it was made to 10 or more people, Rice said.

"There were 18 people in the class," he said. "That makes it a felony."

Pope was being held Wednesday on a \$4,500 bond.

On March 1, a 15-year-old Fulton boy was detained then transported to juvenile detention services after a report of a threat was made against a Jefferson City High School student. His name was not released, as he is a minor. The youth was taken into custody at Fulton High School; no weapon was found there.

Police also determined the Fulton youth was assisted in carrying out the threat by another 15-year-old boy, and both were charged with non-felony "making terroristic threats" and disturbing the peace. Rice said the lesser charge was levied because the threat was made to only one person.

Fulton Superintendent Jacque Cowherd praised the prompt work of his staff and local police Wednesday.

"I think in both cases, whether it was last week or today, school administrators took quick action to isolate the student, and Fulton police responded very promptly to removing the offending student," he said.

Contract awarded to replace Miller County bridge

The Missouri Highways and Transportation Commission has awarded a contract to replace the deck of the Miller County Route A bridge over Tavern Creek near St. Anthony.

The contract was awarded to Lehman Construction, which had a low bid of \$393,721.

The new bridge deck will be widened to 22 feet and expanded from the current one lane to two lanes.

The work will require closing the bridge for approximately two months. The closure will not occur before May 29 and must be completed by Aug. 10.

When a start date is established, the Missouri Department of Transportation will alert the public about the project through signs, news releases and social media.

POLICE REPORTS

Tuesday calls for service
Accidents with property damage were reported in the 400 block of Locust Street, 600 block of Jefferson Street, and at Jefferson Street and Southwest Boulevard.

Thefts were reported in the 1200 block of East McCarty Street, 1200 block of Southgate Lane and 700 block of Stoneridge Parkway.

Domestic violence was reported in the 1700 block of Southwest Boulevard and 300 block of East Ashley Street.

Narcotics violations were reported in the 1700 block of Industrial Drive and 1900 block of Jefferson Street.

An accident with injuries was reported in the 500 block of Stadium Boulevard.

Lost or stolen property was reported in the 200 block of East Franklin Street.

Child neglect was reported in the 1500 block of Tanner Bridge Road.

A burglary was reported in the 100 block of West Dunklin Street.

Trespassing was reported in the 1000 block of Jefferson Street.

An assault was reported in the 1100 block of Madeline Place.

Fraud was reported in the 1100 block of Madeline Place.

SHERIFF REPORTS

Tuesday calls for service
An accident with property damage was reported in the 5800 block of West Business 50.

A burglary was reported in the 3400 block of Horse-shoe Road.

Domestic violence was reported in the 100 block of Traci Drive.

Found property was reported in the 5200 block of Bagnall Drive.

Fraud was reported in the 6700 block of Hickam Road.

Property destruction was reported in the 4800 block of Rainbow Hills Road.

JC man charged in rape case

A Jefferson City man has been charged with one count of first-degree rape in Boone County court for an incident that occurred in April 2017 in Columbia.

Jemell Butler, 22, is believed to have attacked a woman in a wooded alley after walking her from a bar in the downtown area.

While in the alley, the victim said, Butler took her purse and cellphone and threw them in the brush, according to a Columbia Police Department probable cause statement. He then threw the victim to the ground, forcibly removed her clothing and sexually assaulted her. The victim was able to get one of her arms free and strike Butler, who then ran away.

The victim had given some of the clothing she wore the night of the attack to authorities, who sent it to the Missouri Highway Patrol Crime Lab in Jefferson City for testing. They obtained a DNA sample, and in January, they matched the sample to Butler.

Watson:

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"Casanova," said when people with smiling faces who aren't wearing white coats walk into rooms to talk with patients, it makes a "huge difference" in patients' recovery.

No matter how bad he felt, Watson would go to volunteer at the hospital, his widow Molly Watson said. She added not only did the patients love him, but so did the nurses.

"We'll hang this proudly," Burnett said about the plaque, "and remember what Roy taught us. Things may seem pretty bad, but you can always have a smile on your face."

School:

Continued from p. 1

devices, equipping students with tablets to facilitate learning. Hillman said the increased capability of the technology students have in their hands has shown positively in test scores.

"Our kids, some of the work and some of the creative things they're doing now versus what they were doing five years ago is amazing," Hillman said. "Last year, we saw substantial raises in our test scores, our state assessment; we have one of two schools in northeast Missouri that have a 100 percent APR."

The meeting was also used to draw attention to several pieces of state legislation Hillman said could harm public schools if passed. He asked the public to be aware of these bills and the impact they could have. He mentioned

