

Coupons conserve much-needed funds

Students and businesses benefit from discount packs offered in residence halls

ABBEY SNYDER
Features Reporter

Nothing says, "Welcome to Kirksville" like a packet full of business discounts.

Alisa Kigar, executive director of the Kirksville Chamber of Commerce, said each student will receive a goody bag in his or her residence hall room full of items and coupons from local businesses. She said the bags will contain a variety of items, including fliers, bookmarks and even a piece or two of candy.

"It's a nice, neat welcome from the Kirksville business community," Kigar said.

For students who are not familiar with the Kirksville area, the goody bag is a convenient way for them to check out what the community has to offer, especially if a discount is involved.

"If you've got a coupon to a restaurant, it's a great opportunity to check out that restaurant," Kigar said.

Heidi Templeton, Truman's director of public relations, helped coordinate the goody bags with the Kirksville Chamber of Commerce.

"The area businesses want to make sure that new students know about their business," Templeton said. "We try to be the in-between person so they have access to the students if they want to put a flier or coupon in the packet."

Templeton said many businesses have contributed coupons to the goody bag, including Vintage Books, U.S. Bank, Coun-

try Kitchen and Vintage Grooves. "Most of them offer 10 percent off of something," Templeton said.

Sophomore Jonathan Bruntrager said he remembers getting his goody bag from the Kirksville Chamber of Commerce last year but failed to use it at first.

"I held on to it, but I think I forgot it was there," he said.

Bruntrager said it wasn't until he noticed his bank account dwindling that he thought to make use of discounts.

"I got several discount coupons for pizza, and I would try to utilize those," he said.

For students who are nervous about penny-pinching, Bruntrager said he recommends paying attention to places that offer specials.

"I would tell them to just keep their eyes open," he said.

New students likely will find that even without a goody bag, it's not difficult to discover the many options in Kirksville for students on a budget.

Lindsey Ballard, a cook at Pagliai's Pizza, said the restaurant offers specials on its food throughout the year.

"We have a lot of specials that we always have that are really good," she said.

Ballard said Pagliai's has students' financial concerns at heart when it comes to pricing its food.

"Pretty much all of our employees are Truman students, so they've been through all of that," she said.

Ballard said Pagliai's always has a

good response from students when it comes to the price of its food, especially the restaurant's Friday night special on baby ronzas for \$1.

"A lot of Truman students use it," Ballard said. "It's a lot of food for cheap, and it's good food."

Restaurants aren't the only place where students will find special treatment.

Jim Fitzpatrick, manager of Kirksville's movie theater, Downtown Cinema 8, said the theater has a discount for Truman students five days a week.

"We have a student discount Sunday through Thursday nights where we give a \$5 [ticket price]," Fitzpatrick said.

He said the movie theater offers the discount because students are inquiring about one.

"They ask for it all the time," Fitzpatrick said. "You kind of appease them a little bit. Make them happy."

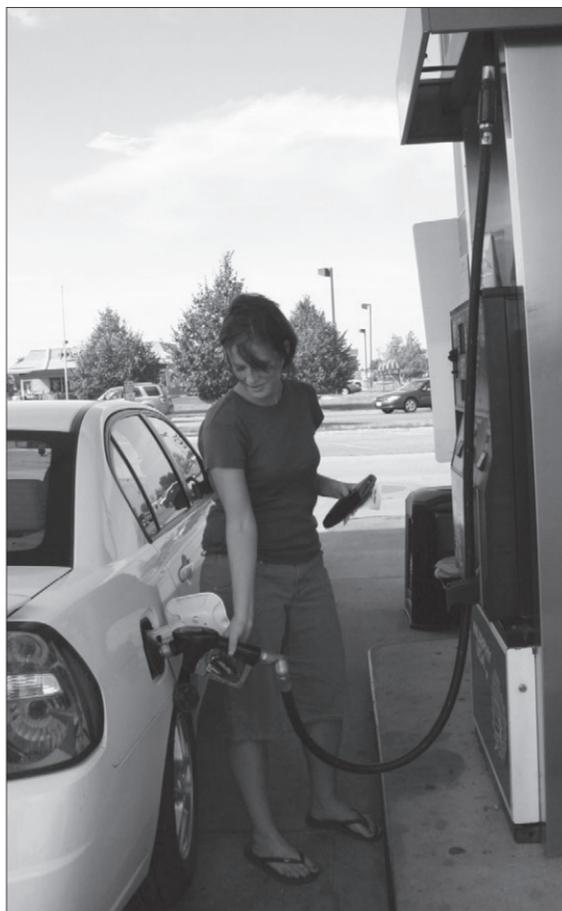
Such interactions between Kirksville business owners and Truman students create situations suitable for everyone's pocketbooks. Students are able to save money where specials are offered, and businesses profit from their contributions.

Kigar said things like the goody bag in first year students' rooms are another attempt to build a positive relationship between students and businesses.

"These are students that could be a customer for the next four years," she said. "This is the perfect opportunity for [businesses] to gain a customer."

"This is the perfect opportunity for [businesses] to gain a customer."

Alisa Kigar
Executive Director of the Kirksville Chamber of Commerce



Jason Williams/Index
Nichole Tornow pumps gas at the Murphy's Gas Station by Wal-Mart. Truman students receive three cents off per gallon of gas there.

New campus organizations add to diversity

Additional groups provide students with fresh ways to get involved at Truman

JENIFER CALANDRA
Features Reporter

Whether a student is interested in taking aim, creating written art or promoting the acceptance of non-religious beliefs, the University offers campus organizations for everyone to get involved in.

Truman Paintball, a new athletic team on campus, began last fall after a group of men met because of their common interest.

The group gained official University recognition in the spring of 2007.

Sophomore Matt Hente said he began playing paintball six years ago and was on three competitive teams before he came to Truman.

Hente decided before even arriving on campus that he would make it his mission to start a team at the University.

"I wanted to get a really good jump on it my freshman year, but I didn't think we'd get as far as we did," Hente said.

Hente reached his goal, and the team competed against other college-sponsored paintball teams in their first tournament in March.

The men missed making it to the finals by only 20 points but placed over Kansas State, a team that was runner-up at the College Paintball Championships, he said.

"That kind of got us going," Hente said.

Since then, the team has competed in other tournaments, dividing costs among

the players.

Hente and other team members also have lined up sponsors.

Bawls Guarana energy drinks, Maverick Paintball field in Kirksville, I-5 Paintball and Kick'n Paintballs all support the team.

Sophomore and team member Josh Dunlop said his only previous experience was playing woodsball, a form of paintball played in the woods.

"It doesn't take a lot of experience to get good at this quickly," Dunlop said. "Before coming to Truman, I only played woodsball six or seven times."

Dunlop said support from the team helped him improve.

"It's almost like a brotherhood," he said. "Each one of us cares about [each other]. We watch out for each other and help each other out, be it with paintball or anything else."

Dunlop said the team helped repair parts of the Maverick Paintball grounds as part of community service and in exchange for practicing there.

"We all share the same passion to give back to those who make what we do possible," Dunlop said.

The ability to use the Maverick field helps keep the team in practice for speedball tournaments, the type of paintball game the team plays competitively.

Although the team hasn't decided how to recruit new players, both Hente and Dunlop said anyone is welcome to join the team.

Showing interest is all that is required, Dunlop said.

For those students who prefer a more laid-back activity and have an interest in

Newest organizations on campus

Check out these clubs and more at the campus activities fair Thursday, Sept. 6, on the quad.

- Association for Childhood Education International
- Badminton Club
- Centennial Hall Senate
- College Libertarians
- Fencing Club
- Japanese Club
- Multicultural Congress
- Next Step Foundation
- Positive Action Toward Changing Health
- Peers Against Second Hand Smoke
- Presbyterian College Fellowship
- Russian Club
- Ski Club
- Students for Life
- Student Peace Alliance
- West Campus Suites Senate

Source: Amy Currier, program adviser for the Center for Student Involvement

creative writing, there is Notes from the Underground.

Senior Chris Moore said junior John McDonough determined there was a large community of creative writers at the University whose needs weren't be-

ing met by attending workshop classes.

Late last December, McDonough and Moore met to decide how to get a charter for the group, which officially began meeting during the spring semester, Moore said.

During the meetings, members comment on and discuss prose and poetry posted by members on the group's TruView page, he said.

The group is open to any students, faculty or community members interested in taking part, Moore said.

"For me, it's been a really fun experience," he said. "All the meetings have been very cordial and open-minded."

Truman also has a place for those who do not feel like they would fit in with a conventional religious campus organization.

Sophomore Shane Bretz said he expected an atheist or agnostic campus group when he arrived at the University last fall, but the list of student organizations didn't live up to his expectations.

Bretz said that during the spring semester, he decided to address the gap to benefit students with religious beliefs similar to his own.

Bretz began to organize the Secular Student Group, an organization to promote the acceptance of secular views and the separation of church and state, he said.

Although the group has yet to be chartered, Bretz said he plans on taking action within the first two weeks of school this fall.

The group is already affiliated with the Secular Student Alliance on a national level, he said.

The organization is open to anyone, Bretz said.

"But it is geared to [people] with atheist, agnostic or humanist views," he said.

Bretz said the plans for the group are not set in stone. He said he'd like to wait until more people have shown interest before deciding the group's permanent name and mission.

"[I'm going] to do this democratically," he said.

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