



Mayank Dhungana/Index

Boards and rebar line where the Brashear House Bed and Breakfast's new driveway will lay. The bed and breakfast could get back its special use permit as soon as Oct. 20 at the next City Council meeting.

## Brashear House builds new lot

### City revokes bed and breakfast permit until new pavement is installed

BY MARGARET HOOPER  
Staff Reporter

Tiffany Platte, owner of the Brashear House Bed and Breakfast, began paving the driveway and parking area of her establishment after the Kirksville City Council rescinded her special use permit last Monday for failure to comply with city ordinances.

Platte said that in the eight years since she opened her business, she has been unable to comply with an ordinance that requires her to pave her parking lot because bids for the construction have been as high as \$25,000.

Platte said that in the last month, however, the city has reduced the size she would need to pave and she has been offered a more affordable rate for the construction.

"We actually began last Friday, and we've been working ... to comply with the city," Platte said.

Platte, who accepted a low-interest loan from the city said she hopes the project's price tag will be less than \$6,000. Platte said construction should be complete by the end of the week, weather permitting.

City Manager Mari Macomber said that if Platte paves her driveway, she could have her special use permit reinstated as soon as the next City Council meeting Oct. 20. Currently, Platte's business license is invalid. Macomber emphasized that the City Council had done everything it could to assist Platte

by granting her extensions and offering her a low-interest loan. Platte refused to comply with the ordinance until after the City Council rescinded her special use permit.

Macomber said that if the city determines that Platte is continuing to operate her business without a valid license, the city has the option of issuing a notice of violation and taking the matter to court.

"The City Council made a formal action, and for the city staff to ignore that would be inappropriate," Macomber said.

Platte's attorney Cliff Mayberry said he thought they might be able to reach a compromise.

"We're negotiating right now with the city, and that's the best I can tell you right now," Mayberry said. "Hopefully we can keep her open."

## Friday drug bust results in arrest

### DPS and drug dog search three rooms in Missouri Hall, two students charged

BY JOHN MOENSTER  
Assistant News Editor

Missouri Hall residents were surprised last Friday when they were told to go back into their rooms while a drug dog walked through their wing.

At about 10 p.m. the Department of Public Safety searched three rooms, resulting in one arrest and two sets of charges. Freshmen Vander Weerd and Eric Andrew, both 18, were charged with possession of up to 35 grams of marijuana and possession of drug paraphernalia. DPS Director Thom Johnson said DPS received a report from a Missouri Hall resident.

"We've had the dog out one other time earlier this year," Johnson said. "The Adair County Sheriff's Department helps us with the drug dog."

Johnson said drug dogs are used as occasional tools in searches and that the dog makes the search go more quickly because of its special training. Johnson also said he thinks the search is less intrusive when the dog is used and that the dog helps to develop probable cause faster.

Freshman Andrew Hughes was in Missouri Hall when the search was taking place. Hughes said he saw a DPS

officer walking with a woman and the dog. Hughes said the search was very "hush-hush" and that even though he had grown up around dogs, the drug dog was still intimidating.

"It was three and a half feet tall," Hughes said. "It was a very big dog."

Missouri Hall Director Zac Burden said that in regard to drugs in the residence halls, standard protocol occurs in two ways: Residence Life receives a report and contacts DPS or vice versa. Burden said typically Residence Life learns about drugs through residents, student advisers or the smell that is associated with drugs.

"Despite what students often believe, it's usually pretty easy to tell when someone's been using illegal drugs in the residence halls," Burden said.

Johnson said there has been no influx of drug busts this year and that searches like this occur on a case-by-case basis. Johnson said DPS was able to enter two rooms with consent and one room by search warrant because no one was there.

Burden said residents naturally have had questions and that he has been walking around the building and talking to all 10 of the houses.

"If anything, I think it's reassuring for students to know that everyone at the University is making sure that the residence hall environment is a safe place to be," he said.

### Dixon meets with students

University President Barbara Dixon visited Student Senate on Sunday and answered questions on a variety of topics. Dixon served as a sounding board for ideas the senators plan to present to the interim president in the near future.

#### On the alcohol policy:

Although she has had reservations, Dixon said she had been considering the possibility of waiving the restrictions for a special event such as graduation or an alumni event. She explained that the legal process would require a full year and then the University would need to be able to ensure that no one who is underage could obtain alcohol at any University event.

"I'm not a non-drinker," Dixon said. "This has nothing to do with my personal beliefs about alcohol. It's a liability issue."

#### On the curriculum:

Dixon said that although curriculum is often the slowest aspect of a university to change, Truman needs to find a way to set itself apart.

"Truman needs to create something that's different and distinctive from anywhere else," Dixon said.

Dixon said that if she were queen rather than president, she would implement a "freedom semester," which would take students out of the classroom and give them a project that would allow them to put their liberal arts education to work.

#### On relations with Kirksville:

Dixon reminded students that many community members are supportive of Truman. She said patience will be the key to building a better relationship between students and the community.

"I think it's going to take a lot of time," Dixon said.

She also talked about working to bring more companies into the community who would hire graduating students, giving them an incentive to stay in Kirksville and bridging the gap between students and Kirksville residents. Dixon also said encouraging Bulldog spirit in the community would help bring Kirksville and Truman closer.

## NEWS | In Brief

### Fiction writer to visit Truman

Steven Wingate, author and a professor at the University of Colorado, will be on campus Sept. 25 to 26 thanks to the Department of English and Linguistics and the Green Hills Literacy Lantern. Wingate will run an open fiction-writing workshop from 4:30 p.m. to 6 p.m. Sept. 25 in Baldwin Hall 251 for interested students. Wingate also will read from his recent publication "Wifeshopping," a collection of short stories, at 8:30 p.m. in Violette Hall 1010. Wingate will present on writing and publishing fiction from 4:30 p.m. to 6 p.m. Friday Sept. 26 in the Student Union Building Alumni Room.

### Man arrested for growing marijuana

Kirksville resident Deo D. Dover was arrested at his home Thursday Sept. 18 after being found watering 15 marijuana plants on private property. Dover said he was taking care of the plants for a friend and was unaware they were marijuana, according to the Kirksville Daily Express. Dover said he did not want to turn anyone in and did not reveal the identity of the friend. Dover received two felony charges for maintaining a public nuisance and the production of a controlled substance. Dover also received a misdemeanor for possession of marijuana and equipment used in the production of a controlled substance.

### TEACH Program informational meeting

The School of Health Sciences and the Financial Aid Office are sponsoring an informational meeting about the new federal TEACH Program. The meeting will be at 3:30 p.m. Sept. 30 in Violette Hall 1000. Students could receive as much as \$24,000 to pursue a teaching career through the TEACH Program. Pre-MAE, MAE and students considering the MAE program are encouraged to attend.

### Sonic booms heard in Kirksville

Many students and residents were surprised to hear two large explosions Tuesday afternoon at about 4 p.m. According to the Kirksville Daily Express, emergency officials confirmed with the Federal Aviation Authority that the source of the explosions was an F-15 fighter jet breaking the sound barrier. People throughout Adair County heard the noise and some reported rattled windows.

### Motorcycle accident

A traffic accident occurred at about 4 p.m. last Friday at the intersection of Haliburton and La Harpe. Victor Gonzalez, 19, ran a 2008 YZVR6 Yamaha motorcycle into the back of a 2002 Chevy Blazer as it turned south on La Harpe. The driver of the Blazer, Michele Lewis, 36, was unharmed, but Gonzalez was transported to Northeast Regional Hospital. According to Sgt. Steve Farnsworth, Gonzalez received citations for failure to maintain financial responsibility (proof of insurance), careless and imprudent operation of a motor vehicle, failure to register a motor vehicle and operating a motorcycle without a license.

### Family event to take place

The Heartland Task Force is hosting its fourth annual Mother-Son Stampede from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. today at the University Farm. The task force sponsors this family-strengthening event for mothers and their sons ages five and older. For more information contact Carol Cox at ccox@truman.edu.

## Student Senate | In Brief

• Senate appointed sophomore Alyse Jenkins to the position of Diversity Chair.

• Senate passed a money motion for \$110 for an upcoming media roundtable.

• Senate passed a motion on the professor ratings resolution with a vote of 6-0-2.

• Senate discussed issues pertaining to campus health.

• Senate discussed Tuesday and Wednesday's election and the possibility of having special elections later in the semester to fill vacant Senate seats.

## DPS | Reports

9/19 Subject was issued a Missouri Uniform Complaint and Summons for Minor in Possession of Intoxicants.

9/17 Subjects were issued Missouri Uniform Complaint and Summons for possession of up to 35 grams of marijuana and possession of drug paraphernalia.



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