

Local Democrats support Peppard

BY ANDREA HEWITT
News Editor

Local Democrats named David Peppard as their recommendation for Adair County Prosecutor.

At a meeting Monday, the central committee of Adair County Democrats interviewed Peppard and Matt Wilson and then voted on who would be the best recommendation.

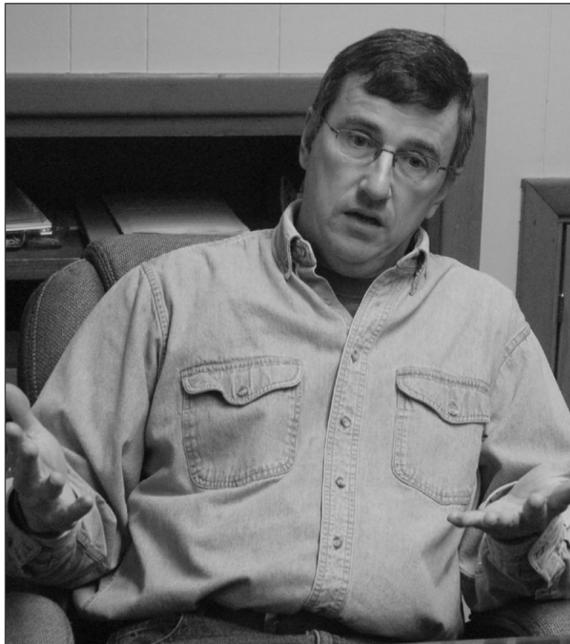
"From that interview, we felt [Peppard] was a strong democrat ... and was qualified to represent our county," Central Committee chair Jerry Caldwell said. "When we look at this we need a person who is very fair, is a people person and has the past experience to fill the role. It's a big role to fill, and it's something we want a very good representative in to represent the county."

The central committee consists of nine Adair County residents. Caldwell said this is just a recommendation and could have no impact on Nixon's decision.

"This is not a done deal just because we chose him," Caldwell said. "We're just telling the governor our feelings by saying 'This is the person we chose.' I think getting information from the community would weigh pretty heavily on [the decision]."

Caldwell said the committee's recommendation shows how people can be involved in state government decisions that affect their everyday lives.

Adair County Prosecutor Mark



Krista Goodman/ Index
Adair County Democrats announced their support of David Peppard.

Williams announced his resignation Feb. 9 with his last day set for Friday. He is stepping down to take a position with the Benson Law Firm.

Gov. Jay Nixon has not announced who Williams' replacement will be.

"It will happen in a timely

manner," Nixon's spokesman Scott Holste said. "There's no timetable set on that. There's not a certain date."

Holste said it is possible that a prosecutor won't be announced before Friday, leading to a period without an Adair County prosecutor.



Brian O'Shaughnessy/ Index

A fire Tuesday morning left Centennial Hall 436 unlivable and forced two students to permanently relocate.

Fire | Tuesday morning fire in Centennial forces two students to permanently relocate

Continued from Page 1

to this, like Christmas lights or jamming too many kinds of extension cords into an improper or in poor-condition type of extension cord or splitter," he said.

Gardener said he was aware of some property damage but that the property is the owner's liability, and in most cases Truman doesn't cover the cost of replacements. He said there are exceptions to that policy, but a decision hasn't been made regarding their property at this time.

The Residence Life Handbook reads, "The University shall not be responsible for the loss of, or damage to, any personal property of a student from any cause whatsoever. In the event the room assigned to a student is destroyed or

rendered wholly uninhabitable by the University and the University does not elect to furnish other accommodations, the contract shall be terminated as of the date of destruction. In the event of such termination, any prepaid room and board fees shall be reduced proportionately. The University recommends that students take out homeowners or apartment insurance to protect their belongings."

Gardener said that the students living in the room will be relocated to another room on campus.

"Our house is pretty close," Hoffman said. "Everyone knows everyone pretty much. It's nice to know everyone can stay close and support each other through these things."

PROVOST | Committee, comprised of student, staff and faculty representatives, hopes to have provost in place by beginning of fall semester

Continued from Page 1

and screenings and nominate the best applicants for Paino, who would then make the ultimate decision about the new provost.

"We are currently working on a rubric that we use to evaluate the applications systematically," Gooch said. "Once we do bring the applicants on campus, we would be actively involved in that process, making sure that there is opportunity for students to meet with the candidates, for faculty and staff and everybody concerned."

She said the committee is acting in conjunction with Paino follow correct procedures for the search and to find the best candidate.

The committee is comprised of a student representative, two staff representatives, representatives from each of the schools on campus and a representative of the deans.

"We try to have someone from each segment on campus so everybody feels like they have a voice," Gooch said. She said she thinks Coughlin will be effective as interim provost.

"Dr. Coughlin has been here for a long time, and he knows the University really well," Gooch said. "He does understand the University, and I think he will do a great job."

She said the committee is looking for a candidate with experience in the field of academic administration, a pas-

sion for the liberal arts and science education, creativity, excellent communication and interpersonal skills, team orientation and a deep knowledge of the curriculum and the co-curriculum.

"The system as it is set up allows for the entire campus to put in their input," Gooch said. "When the time comes, I encourage everyone on cam-

pus to be involved because this is an important decision for the University."

Sophomore Isaac Robinson, vice president of Student Senate, is the student representative on the search committee.

"I am definitely looking at it from the students' perspective and exploring issues that are important to students," Robinson said.

"Issues that I am looking for and I am wanting to find out about are the stance on the VP Policy, student initiated courses [and] academic forgiveness policy."

He said he is also concerned about the candidates' past experiences and interactions with students because in academic affairs it is important to have direct interactions with students.

Robinson said the committee hopes to have a new provost in place by the beginning of the Fall semester.

"We realize that it is ambitious and we may not be able to reach that, but that is what we are striving for," he said.

The applications and the advertisement for appointing

a new Provost went out last week, and the committee has started receiving applications from candidates. However, he said the committee has not started the bidding process yet.

"We have had a lot of interest [from candidates] in a very short time," Robinson said.

He said the finalists for the Provost position will be brought into campus and both the student body and faculty would have a chance to participate in question and answer sessions with them.

REP | Republican candidate says military experiences, youth will help him in office

Continued from Page 1

she provides a voice for the smaller school districts in Northeast Missouri, meeting recently to discuss education issues with superintendents in her district.

McClanahan said her 30 years as a nursing professor at Truman State University provided her with the necessary experience to work with issues in education and health care, and her four years in Missouri's House of Representatives have been essential to understanding the issues.

McClanahan said there is a large learning curve when it comes to understanding the complexities of legislature and that Missouri needs experienced people to make tough decisions and

work with a \$24 billion budget. "This is not the time to push the reset button," McClanahan said.

McClanahan said she has worked hard to get to know what people in her district want and has treated the job very seriously.

"It is thought of as a part-time job. I don't treat it as a part-time job at all," McClanahan said. "I have spent all of my time and energy [toward accurately representing the people]."

The filing period for candidates closes at the end of March, according to the Secretary of State's office, and so far no other candidates have come forward. The primary election will take place Aug. 3, and the general election will occur Nov. 2. Voter registration for the primary ends July 7.

TRIAL | Councilman Rodgerson hopes postponed trial will not negatively affect April's city council election

Continued from Page 1

glect as a mandated reporter. Nathaniel and Elisabeth Burns, parents of the child involved, faced trial in April for child endangerment, but the charges were dismissed.

"I strongly believe in the state's case," he said. "What happened with the [charge] one was the evidence that panned out — as far as all the medical evidence — the state had a hard case to prove. That doesn't necessarily mean I feel that way about the other charge."

"They cooperated extensively with the juvenile office and the division of children's services and everything that was asked of them," Williams said. "The child is really healthy now, and



Aaron Rodgerson

they're filing a medical regimen with the child."

Rodgerson's lawyer Andrew Farwell refrained from commenting on what would happen with the case after Williams' resignation.

Although Rodgerson's new court date has not been decided, Rodgerson said he had hoped the trial would be finished by city elections in April.

"I want it scheduled before the election," he said.

Rodgerson maintains his innocence and said he continues to hope that his name will be cleared.

"I've had some people tell me that they don't feel that the trial even necessarily has to take place," he said. "They say that my standing in the community is strong enough that it may affect me some, but it wouldn't affect me enough to matter. But when you're running, every vote counts."

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MONA DAVIS



SCHOOL BOARD

I understand the importance of a proper education in preparing students for a satisfying place in society. I stand ready to spend my time and energy to support those who seek and those who supply that education.

I am a 30-year Truman employee and I am respectfully asking the students, staff, and faculty for their vote on April 6. Thank you.

Paid for by Mona Davis, Candidate for School Board