

Sprinklers to be required in all homes

New law requires all one and two person homes install sprinkler systems

BY ELIZABETH KOCH
Staff Reporter

Beginning Jan. 1, 2012, all new one to two family homes built in Kirksville must have residential fire sprinkler systems installed.

The law was scheduled to go into effect Jan. 1, 2011, but Gov. Jay Nixon has delayed it until 2012. As a result, any contractor building a single family home or duplex in 2011 is required to offer sprinkler installation at the contractor's cost. However, the homeowner can accept or deny that offer. The codes for the city of Kirksville state some home insurance companies offer discounts to homeowners with sprinklers installed in their home.

Brad Selby, codes and planning director of Kirksville, said existing homes, apartments and any residence larger than a duplex are exempt from the new law. Anyone doing substantial remodeling also must meet the safety standards, he said.

The cost of plastic pipes has been lowered to approximately \$1.00 to \$1.50 per square foot, along with the initial cost of installation in new construction, according to the U.S. Fire Administration Web site. The new residential sprinklers by Under-

writers Laboratories are more sensitive, respond to fires earlier and use less water than commercial or industrial sprinklers. They also are smaller and can blend in with most decor. San Clemente, Calif., was one of the first cities to require residential fire sprinklers with the adoption of an ordinance May 28, 1969, according to the site.

Any plumber can make the installation, and some installations can be arranged through the home contractor, Selby said. The sprinklers will increase residents' safety because the sprinkler will keep the fire contained longer, allowing residents more time to evacuate, he said.

Randy Behrens, Kirksville fire chief, is supportive of the new law and its benefits.

Residential fire sprinklers are a good safety measure for houses because they go off automatically, putting fires out fast, he said. Because the fires are put out faster, or at least contained longer, property and smoke damage are reduced, Behrens said.

"Sprinklers have been around for over 100 years, and there's study after study

showing they do save lives," he said. "Same with a smoke detector — it's just [an] extra little thing that can help."

Selby and Behrens are putting together pamphlets and other resources to inform Kirksville residents and contractors of the upcoming change.

Doug Porter of Four Horizons Realty, Inc., said the new sprinkler law is not necessary. The rental charges of recently built homes and apartments will unfortunately increase, he said.

"We haven't had a test in Kirksville to see what marketing it's going to take, but it's certainly not going to help it any," he said.

He said there are other building codes and ways to build a home that make it safe without a sprinkler system, and the reason Kirksville decided to pass the law wasn't evident, Porter said.

"To have a homeowner out here building a new home, single family, for his family — I don't think they should dictate to them that they have to have a sprinkler system in," Porter said. "I think that's an overkill."

"To have a home owner out here building a new home, single family, or for his family — I don't think they should dictate to them that they have to have a sprinkler."

Doug Porter
Realtor at Four Horizons Realty, Inc.

Co-op seeks Senate funds



Amy Vicars/Index

The Bike Co-op hopes for continued funding from Student Senate. In addition to fixing bikes, they also rent and sell bikes.

BY SARAH MOLDAFSKY
Staff Reporter

Tucked near the Multicultural Affairs Center the Bike Co-op, where students to take their bikes for free repairs and cheap parts.

Last year, Student Senate voted to pay the insurance allowing the Bike Co-op to let all Truman students use it without paying a membership fee. Senate met Sept. 27 to discuss whether to continue funding the insurance, and a decision will be made by Sunday.

"I believe two dollars from every semester students' activity fee goes to the Senate, and last year they chose to fund the insurance for the co-op," Karli-Rae Kerr, president of the Bike Co-op, said. "[That] allows every single Truman student to come to the co-op and use the tools and knowledge free of charge, and then if they need a part, it is at a significantly reduced rate."

Sophomore Annie Neunuebel has been renting a bike since the spring semester of last year after getting tired of driving and walking to class and wanting to save gas and time. Neunuebel wants Senate to continue to fund the co-op.

"I think they need all the help they can get," Neunuebel said. "A lot of money goes into repairs and buying equipment and maintaining the bikes, so they definitely need the funding."

If the co-op to secures funding for this year, then it also will have enough money to fix up the surrounding

area that is causing problems for them.

"[The area] is broken up," Kerr said. "It is very unstable, not just for us, but anyone going through there."

The Bike Co-op hopes to have a concrete slab poured in order to increase their working space and improve the area's condition.

"We don't have the space, and if we could take the space that's right beside the co-op and use it to spread people out to have a stand that's flat, so we don't have to worry about falling over," Kerr said.

The stands used to fix bikes need to be on stable ground and the Bike Co-op does not have enough access to flat ground, Kerr said. There is no flat ground leading up to the Bike Co-op, and if the concrete slab is poured, a sidewalk could be made to allow paved access to the bike co-op.

"I think that [the concrete slab] would help with publicity, being able to work outside," co-op mechanic Tony Bell said. "I think it would offer more space with us outside. The shed is kind of cramped."

Physical plant workers came out Sept. 21 to look at the site and will be getting back to Kerr with an estimate. The cost and date of completion have yet to be determined.

"I'm not going [to] sit back and let it go," Kerr said. "It's important enough and vital enough for our functioning that I want to see it done."

NEWS | In Brief

Kirksville High School parade

The Kirksville High School Parade will be 4 p.m. Friday. The parade route will start at the intersection of Franklin and Missouri Streets and go south on Franklin to Normal Street. There will be no throwing of candy or other objects.

Self-esteem counseling offered

The University Counseling Services is offering a weekly body image and self-esteem support group for women called WISE — women, image and self-esteem. The group will meet Tuesdays 4 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. The group will offer support for those who worry about appearance, are self-conscious or struggle with low self-esteem. For more information call UCS at 660-785-4014.

MAC offering grants

The Multicultural Affairs Center is offering grants to faculty and staff members who support cultural awareness. The MAC and Diversity Enhancement Committee will review any applications in support of any cultural month or programs that support Truman's diversity statement. For more information about diversity enhancement grants, contact Kati Smith, program coordinator at the MAC, at 660-785-4142 or katismith@truman.edu.

Annual book sale in SUB

Pickler Memorial Library is having its annual book sale from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. today in the SUB Activities Room. Most items are priced between 50 cents and a dollar. For more information, visit library.truman.edu/about-us/book-sale.asp.

Dean Thomas nominated for award

State Democratic Representative Rebecca McClanahan nominated Bertha Thomas, assistant dean of multicultural affairs, for the DeVerne Lee Calloway award. The award is given annually by the Women Legislators of Missouri in honor of Missouri's first African American woman state representative. The award recognizes community service and commitment to social justice.

Intent to graduate forms due

Intent to graduate forms for May 2010 are due today. Forms can be found online at registrar.truman.edu or in the registrar's office. Forms must be returned to the registrar's office in McClain 104. For more information, call 660-785-4143 or e-mail registrar@truman.edu.

Yoga and meditation workshop

The Art of Living club is hosting an intense yoga and meditation workshop Oct. 2 to 5 in McClain 208. It is open to everyone in the Kirksville community. It will teach how to stretch, breath and relax. For more information contact Lloyd Pflueger at lloyd@truman.edu.

3-on-3 Ultimate tournament

The JujiTSU Ultimate club is hosting a 3-on-3 tournament at 10 a.m. Oct 4 at Stokes Stadium. The tournament is open to teams of five and registration cost is \$20. For more information or to register a team, e-mail Dennis Tarasi at dennis@truman.edu.

Student Senate | In Brief

- Student Senate passed a money motion for \$250 for name tags and a money motion for \$2000 for president's round table.

DPS | Reports

- 9/27 Freshman Brooke Luhsen was issued a Missouri Uniform Complaint and Summons for minor in possession of intoxicants.
- 9/26 Freshman Justin Corcoran was issued a Missouri Uniform Complaint and Summons for minor in possession of intoxicants.
- 9/26 Sophomore Christopher Zempel was issued a Missouri Uniform Complaint and Summons for minor in possession of intoxicants.

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