

COFFEE | Java Co closes and the owners face charges and compliance issues

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people, such as freshman Spoorthi Tata, think that their financial woes and closing are unfortunate.

"I am going to miss that place," Tata said. "The atmosphere was my favorite part."

The Collins filed for personal bankruptcy before the end of the year, but listed business assets as a factor, Guy said.

Macomber said that she thinks the Collins' bankruptcy will not affect the city's charges against the couple.

Because Java Co is no longer in business, this might have some effect on the case, but it is yet unknown, Slavin said.

"Even though they have filed bankruptcy, we still need them to have a city business license," Guy said.

The Collins also own the restaurant Il Spazio, which closed in July of last year. At the time, Steve Collins said he decided to close Il Spazio to focus on running Java Co and because the restaurant was not doing well financially.

COUNCIL | Two City Council members announced that they will not seek additional terms

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have lived in Kirksville for one year before the election, and all taxes and city bills must be paid in full as of Jan. 18.

If Alm is the only citizen to file, City Clerk Vickie Brumbaugh said the election will continue as planned, using write-ins or, if necessary, an appointment from the council to fill the vacancy. All write-ins and nominations still must meet all qualifications. An appointed member would serve only one year until the next election. Voters will cast two ballots April 5 for the two positions on the nonpartisan council.

Kuhns said he was pleased with the council's improved communication with citizens, increased website navigation and calendar and the many ways of providing information and emergency notifications to citizens through texts under his tenure.

The city's 2011 goals, which can be found at the City of Kirksville website, involve focusing on repairing and maintaining current roads, upgrading the waste water treatment facility and making city government processes more efficient, Kuhns said. These goals will be discussed further at the 2011 State of the City address at 7:30 a.m. Jan. 21 at the Adair County Annex on North Franklin.

Kuhns said he thinks the council needs people who can empathize, be reasonable and consider alternative viewpoints to their own. Kuhns said he is not endorsing anyone at this time.



Bryce Jones' Business Law classes are required to create a textbook tailored to their curriculum each semester.

Krista Goodman/Index

TEXTBOOK | Truman students write their own business law textbook to use for future students

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How good could that be?" Jones said. "I'm not sure that they'd even give it a shot."

Jones provides an outline of what he teaches in class and assigns chapters to students to work on. He also provides other textbooks for them to utilize and allows input from online research. He said the students know the audience better than any law professor could because they are the audience. They are writing for someone at their level, which gives them an advantage.

After three semesters of work, the first edition came out in fall 2009, using the best chapters that were turned in and revised. Since then, a new edition comes out every semester, with students adding information to chapters and constantly editing and revising the material.

All the students involved have their names in the front of the book along with the semester they took the course. Jones said it is free to download online or available in print at the Truman Bookstore for \$25.

Jones said another benefit besides saving

money is that the constant updating allows for new information to be added easily, whereas the commercial textbooks are only updated every three years. He said a new bill on consumer credit and credit cards was implemented in 2009 and it was put into the textbook right away.

For future plans, Jones said they are looking into creating e-Book and Kindle versions of the textbook, but it will have to be reformatted to fit the small screens. He said a chapter was recently tested on an I-Pad and it came out nicely. Jones said the book might even be put on Amazon.

For now, Jones said his is the only class using the student-written textbook, but an interested individual has contacted him from University of Missouri Saint Louis.

Truman business professor Steve Smith teaches the same business law course as Jones, said he considered using Jones' textbook, but is happy with using the standard textbook. Switching from one text to another requires a lot of reworking, he said. He prefers using his standard text because he uses an internet-based home-

work application that is adjusted to the text.

Smith said that in law, a student-written text can be done, but in other areas of knowledge, such as physical sciences, it might not be so successful, he said.

"I can see some merit in it," Smith said. "I think sometimes the students find it kind of fun, and I think law is an area where under supervision they can do it here, and it can result in a user-friendly book."

Although he uses the standard textbooks, Smith said the amount of detail in them makes them more difficult to read. Smith said that with a student-written book, he would be concerned about watered-down material.

Smith said the standard textbook he uses is customized for Truman students because it is a cut down version that covers what is taught in the class. He said it saves money for students by eliminating unnecessary material and by being available in paperback. The standard textbook costs \$190 new at the University bookstore, according to the bookstore's website.

BILL | Rep. Zachary Wyatt is a co-sponsor of a house bill that would require drug testing of certain recipients of government aid through the federally-funded program Temporary Assistance for Needy Families

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of the population. "I haven't been shown where drug usage by TANF recipients is such an issue," Atkins said. "To single out a particular group I didn't think was right."

Terry Jones, professor of political science at the University of Missouri-St. Louis, said the bill violates citizens' rights and would be expensive for the state to enact.

"It's very constitutionally suspect," Jones said. "Testing somebody for drugs is in effect, search and seizure under the Fourth Amendment. You have probable cause to have somebody to submit to a drug test simply as a condition for them receiving money from the federal government."

Jones said another drawback would be the millions of dollars it would cost the state to drug test TANF recipients.

Wyatt said the money the state would save by cutting off assistance to those who test positive for illegal substances would outweigh the cost of the drug tests.

"A urine drug test, if it's in bulk, it's usually pennies on the dollar," he said.

Wyatt also defended the constitutionality of the bill.

"I truly don't believe that it's unconstitutional because when it comes down to it, they're getting government money and there needs to be more oversight, and if they're getting money from the government they need to be accountable to it as well," Wyatt said.

Still, Wyatt said the bill would probably be challenged in court if it passes in the House and the Senate.

"If the judicial system does find it unconstitutional, we will have to relook at the problem when it comes," he said.

Jones said it would be challenged in court, and that when Michigan passed something similar, it was ruled unconstitutional in court.

"If you have an understanding that it's going to be thrown out by the

courts or its going to be passed by the other House with in the legislature, it's a way for you to say to you

"If the judicial system does find it unconstitutional, we will have to relook at the problem when it comes"

Zachary Wyatt
R-District 2 State Representative

constituents, I'm willing to crack down on those welfare recipients and not have any real consequences in terms of increased appropriations," Jones said.

Wyatt said he does not think the Department of Social Services is currently doing enough to make sure its clients do not spend cash assistance on illegal drugs.

Scott Rowson, media correspondent for the Missouri Department of Social Services, said there currently are eligibility restrictions on people with prior drug convictions receiving TANF, but that drug testing is not a part of the application process.

Rowson said he was not familiar with the specifics of the bill in question, but if it becomes law the Department of Social Services would comply with the new regulations.

"We work for the governor and for the public, so whatever the public's representatives pass in the form of laws, we'll find a way to make that happen, that's our goal," Rowan said. "We just put into practice what the legislature passes."

Wyatt defeated incumbent democrat Rebecca McClanahan in the November 2010

elections and represents Adair, Putnam, part of Sullivan counties. During his campaign, Wyatt ran on a platform of decreased government spending on Missouri's social service programs.

As an elected representative, Wyatt said he has been talking with other legislators about introducing bills in the future to reduce long-term dependence on social services and abuse of government assistance.

"There needs to be a map-out," Wyatt said. "Once you begin getting government assistance it shouldn't be a forever thing. It should be a planned-out type thing where you would be able to say, 'Alright, in a year I'm going to I have to be off assistance.'"

The vote on the bill is not yet scheduled.

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