

# Agency faces 10 percent cut

BY MICHAEL BUSHUR  
Staff Reporter

The Northeast Missouri Area Agency on Aging has to cut its budget which could mean fewer services for senior citizens.

This year NEMOAAA faces reductions in funding from the state and federal government.

This has forced the agency to reduce its administrative costs by 13 percent and program costs by 10 percent, Director of NEMOAAA Pam Windtberg said.

NEMOAAA is a private, non-profit agency established in accordance with the Older Americans Act. The agency provides services designed to enable senior citizens to remain at home and covers 16 counties throughout Northeast Missouri.

Funding for NEMOAAA comes from three sources: government, program income and in-kind donations. This fiscal year the agency had \$219,000 cut in income from the state and federal government.

"Our mission is to help seniors remain at home as independently as they can be," Windtberg said.

NEMOAAA coordinates various private contractors to meet the needs of senior citizens throughout the area. These contractors provide nutritional, transportation, in-home and legal services that are essential to allowing thousands to live independently, Windtberg said.

For most services there is a suggested contribution, but increasing contributions is not a completely viable way of replacing funding.

"We can't deny service to people who can't afford the con-

tribution — we want them to have the service, they need the service, so it's a real struggle for the program," Windtberg said.

The NEMOAAA board of directors chose to distribute the cuts evenly among services, she said. One of the most utilized of those services is meal delivery. The contractor that provides meals in Kirksville is NEMO Senior Citizen Services.

"We provide over 54,000 meals a year and around 30,000 in home service hours a year," said Teresa Pagliai, executive director of NEMO Senior Citizen Services.

NEMO Senior Citizen Services is working to keep the changes in funding from negatively impacting the clients they already serve, she said.

"It's to be seen yet, but it definitely prohibits any additional routes or expansion, so what we're trying to do is just maintain the level of care that we are able to provide currently," Pagliai said.

Another service that has lost funding from the NEMOAAA is Older Adults Trans Service, a non profit that provides transportation for the elderly and people with disabilities. OATS Executive Director Linda Yaeger said OATS has lost approximately 10 percent of its funding in Northeast Missouri.

These agencies have found ways to adapt to the budget cuts, but all three directors fear further reductions in funding would force them to cut services for senior citizens.

"As this continues there will be no choice but to cut some vehicles and drivers," Yaeger said.

"We've never had waiting lists for our nutritional services, but with addition cuts it could come to that," Windtberg said.



Above: Area senior citizens eat in the dining room of NEMO Senior Citizen Inc. Below: One of the services NEMOAAA provides is to serve meals at senior centers like NEMO Senior Citizens Inc.



Some contractors are considering cutting the number of meals they provide and reducing the number of days per week they deliver meals, she said.

Both Windtberg and Pagliai emphasize the importance of these services to senior citizens in Northeast Missouri.

"The services we offer are a very important component of our community, allowing people to

stay in their homes and minimizing the premature need for institutional care," Pagliai said.

Pagliai said the services provided through NEMOAAA reduce costs for taxpayers, and enable senior citizens to live independently is much cheaper for the state than outside-the-home care.

"Our services are an excellent value for our community and for the taxpayer," Pagliai said.

# Grant promotes energy efficiency

BY REBECCA SMITH  
Staff Reporter

It is now possible for small to medium sized Missouri livestock farmers to become more energy efficient thanks to the Missouri Agricultural and Energy Saving Team — A Revolutionary Opportunity.

MAESTRO is a program funded by a \$5 million grant from the U.S. Department of Energy benefiting farmers and helping them become more energy efficient, said Scott Holste, spokesman for Gov. Jay Nixon.

"This initiative helps small to medium sized farms become more profitable by becoming more energy efficient," Holste said.

MAESTRO Program Manager, Jennifer Norz, said the grant was won in a competitive process against other states, with the MAESTRO program proposed by the University of Missouri Extension, the Missouri Department of Agriculture and EnSave, a company that performs energy audits for agricultural producers.

There are two main components to the program: performing energy audits on farms and farmhouses and guaranteeing a 3 percent loan if money needs to be borrowed to cover the costs of the new, more efficient equipment, Norz said.

"There are 323 farm audits and 100 home audits available through this program," Norz said.

The process of becoming more energy efficient through the audit and new equipment involves many steps, Norz said.

First, the farmer contacts either MAESTRO or MAESTRO contacts them, and this initial conversation is an introduction and a chance to learn about the farm, Norz said.

"Depending on what kind of animal they have, we will ask a series of qualifying questions to see if the program would be beneficial to them and save them money in the long run," Norz said.

Questions would include inquiries about lighting, heating systems, cooling systems, ventilation systems and insulation used, Norz said.

MAESTRO's next step is to explain how the audit would work and have a MAESTRO representative actually visit the farm to perform the audit, Norz said.

MAESTRO pays two-thirds of the audit costs, leaving only \$500 for the farmers to pay themselves, he said.

"EnSave then puts together a report using the data collector's information," Norz said. "The report would offer suggestions, though rather technical, that is phrased so the farmer can understand it, and includes what would be best for them and save them the most money."

EnSave is the United States' leading designer and implementer of agricultural energy efficiency programs, according to the EnSave website.

The farmer does not have to decide to go forward with the suggestions offered by EnSave, but if they do, the second part of the MAESTRO program begins, Norz said.

"If farmers decide to move forward and need to borrow money they would go through the Missouri Agricultural and Small Business Development," Norz said.

"They will receive a guaranteed 3 percent loan up to \$50,000 to help pay for equipment installment."

Norz said if a financial institution would not offer a farmer a 3 percent rate due to bad credit, or another reason then MASBDA would cover the difference so the farmer still only pays for a 3 percent loan.

Holste said if a farmer's energy savings exceeded the cost of the audit and the equipment, then they potentially could have a portion of the costs reimbursed.

Farmers also have an option to have a farmhouse audit performed so they can find ways to make their homes more energy efficient, Norz said.

"They would look at insulation in the attic, the walls, the windows, the doors and even electrical panels to see how you could be more efficient," Norz said.

MAESTRO will cover up to \$250 of the cost of the home audit, which is typically half of the amount it would cost, Norz said.

Local livestock farmer, David Zeiset said he thinks this program could be beneficial to livestock farmers because if they can save on energy, they can save on fuel.

"Every penny counts," Holste said. "These livestock operations can use a lot of energy to ensure that animals are healthy, and if they can save money in energy usage then that is going to add to their bottom line."

"This initiative helps small to medium sized farms become more profitable by becoming more energy efficient"

Scott Holste  
Spokesman for Governor Nixon

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Company presents Shakespeare

The theatre department will host a performance by the American Shakespeare Company of the play "As You Like It" at 7 p.m. Feb. 1 in Baldwin Auditorium. One of William Shakespeare's comedies, the play tells the story of the heroin Rosalind as she flees her uncle's court along with her cousin Celia and Touchstone, the court jester. A pre-show featuring the actors will begin at 7 p.m. and the play will begin at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are free and are available in advance at the Public Relations Office, Ophelia Parrish 1101, the Information Desk in the SUB or at Edna Campbell's downtown.

### 'The Human iPod' plays at Truman

Musician John Rush will perform from 7 to 9 p.m. Friday in the SUB Georgian Room. Rush has been called "the Human iPod" because he allows the audience to make requests during the show. He also knows more than 60 hours of music from memory. Rush plays the guitar, bass, harmonica, piano, saxophone, keyboard and percussion instruments. The event is sponsored by SUB After Dark.

### Babysitter Arrested

Kirksville resident Karrie Shoop, 37, has been arrested for felony child endangerment in the 1st degree. According to the Adair County Sheriff's Office, Shoop failed to care for a 4-month-old infant she was babysitting Jan. 19, according to the Adair County Sheriff's Office. The child received a closed skull fracture and displayed red marks and bruising while in Shoop's care. The parents of the child reported the incident to the sheriff's office. Following an investigation, the sheriff's office obtained a warrant for Shoop's arrest. Shoop is being held on a \$25,000 cash bond in the Adair County Detention Center.

## STUDENT SENATE IN BRIEF

- Student Senate passed a money motion in the amount of \$100 to fund posters for the research mentor of the year award.
- Student Senate passed the budget for Spring 2011 by a vote of 10-1-6.

## CRIME REPORTS DPS & KPD

- 1/18 A theft of less than \$500 was reported from the parking lot south of Ryle Hall.
- 1/21 Freshman Zachary Scott received a Missouri Uniform Complaint and Summons for Minor in Possession of Alcohol.
- 1/23 Sophomore Cameron Jadali was charged with resisting arrest.
- 1/23 Sophomore Matthew Langley received a Missouri Uniform Complaint and Summons for Minor in Possession of Alcohol and was taken into protective custody.
- 1/23 Senior Andrew Updike was taken into protective custody.
- 1/23 Sophomore Samuel Friedman received a Missouri Uniform Complaint and Summons for Minor in Possession of Alcohol and was charged with supplying alcohol to minors.
- 1/23 Sophomore Cary Nave received a Missouri Uniform Complaint and Summons for Minor in Possession of Alcohol and was charged with supplying minors with alcohol.
- 1/23 Junior Perry Gross was taken into protective custody.
- 1/23 Senior Andrew Slavens was taken into protective custody.

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