

St. Mary's: A look into the past

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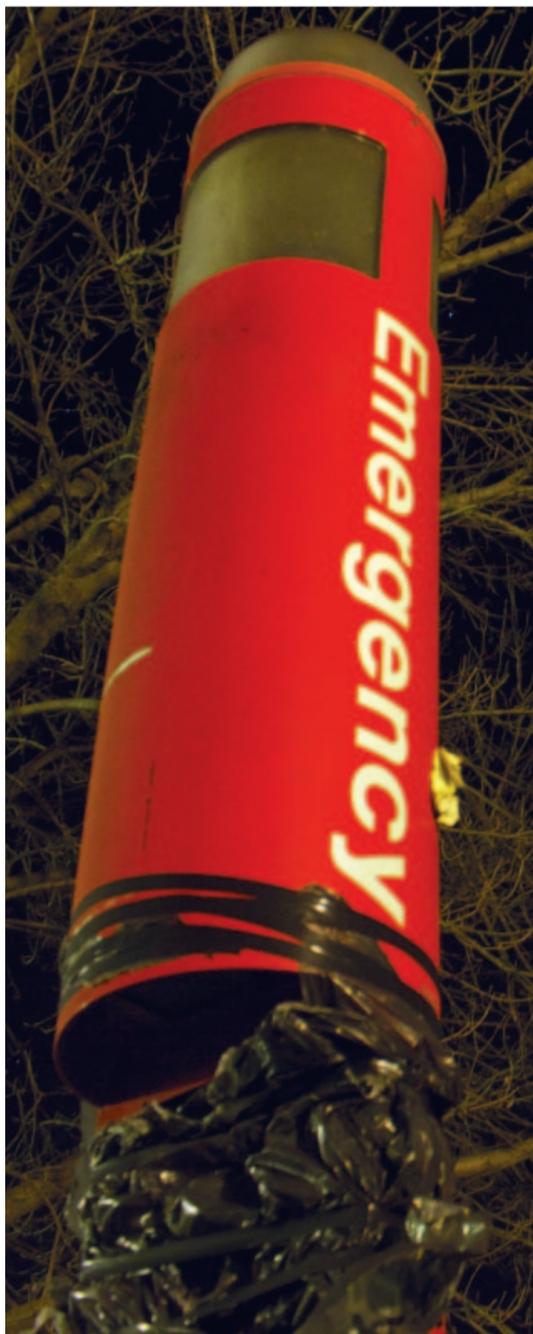
Truman State University INDEX

102 years of excellence

Thursday, November 18, 2010

The University's student-produced newspaper

www.trumanindex.com



An expensive emergency

Emergency phones around campus are being fixed, but at cost of \$10,000 per phone because of outdated system

DPS Director Tom Johnson says costs are warranted

BY REBECCA SMITH
Staff Reporter

Red emergency phones located throughout campus serve as a reminder that help is only the push of a button away, but several of these phones have been malfunctioning until recently.

The phone outside Barnett Hall was one that was broken but has since been fixed.

"The phones are supposed to be working now," said Thomas Johnson, director of the Department of Public Safety. "I talked to the guy working on it this week, and I know the only phone not working for sure is the one at Red Barn [Park]."

Information Technology Services and the Physical Plant are responsible for maintaining the emergency phones on campus, and DPS is responsible for checking the emergency phones located around campus, Johnson said.

"We test the emergency phones twice a month, and we report any

problems to either ITS or the Physical Plant," Johnson said.

He said that problems now take considerably longer because the phone system is older and is not being manufactured anymore, so the parts must be replaced.

"Truman is not looking into a new system at this time but is planning on maintaining what we have," Johnson said.

The cost of replacing parts has doubled, Johnson said, and it now costs approximately \$10,000 to replace a single phone unit.

Johnson said these costs are completely justified because the emergency phone system has been used during his time here. He said the emergency phones were used during one actual emergency situation that occurred in spring 2009.

Students activating the phone out of curiosity rather than a real emergency situation has become a problem. Johnson said that the phones are pushed, on average, once per day, and that there are consequences for the action.

"It is called 'the misuse of emergency communications,' but we have never actually charged someone with

this," Johnson said. "If we get there and do catch the person, we do a referral to the judicial system and give them a good lecture."

DPS still responds to these frequent calls as if they are actual emergency situations.

Technology in the emergency phones is not up to par with that of modern cell phones, but Johnson said he still thinks there is value in it.

"With a cell phone, you would still have to have 911 programmed in, and say you are walking around and there is a situation and you need help quick — all you have to do is push a button on the tower and not have to find the number," Johnson said.

"It's as simple as pushing a button, and you don't even need to talk because we then know the location."

Sophomore Rachel Luttbeg has classes in Barnett Hall at night and said that it was uncomfortable having the phone broken, even though she would probably use her cell phone in the case of an emergency.

"It is worrisome that it took them so long to fix the phone at Barnett, because it makes me wonder how much time they dedicate to fixing

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FIGURE THIS

20 Emergency phones around campus

1 Phone is broken and covered (pictured left in Red Barn Park)

1 Phone DPS confirmed has been fixed (outside of Barnett Hall)

Top priority for Wyatt is farming jobs

The Missouri legislature is full of Republicans after the mid-term elections

BY STEPHANIE HALL
Staff Reporter

Before the November elections, Missouri's legislative majority was Republican. After the November election, Kirksville joined the Republican wave.

In the Missouri House of Representatives, Republicans hold 105 seats out of 163, leaving the Democrats with only 58. In District 2, constituents voted in Zachary Wyatt (R), ousting incumbent Rebecca McClanahan (D).

Since being elected, Wyatt has begun meeting with businesses and chambers in the district to evaluate constituents' concerns. He said he will conduct town hall meetings, just as he did before the election. He met with Truman President Troy Paino and A.T. Still President Jack Magruder to discuss the needs of higher education.

"It's the people who instilled their trust in me and voted for me, and I want to know what they are wanting," he said.

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Zachary Wyatt



Brian Munzlinger



Kristie Swaim

Local stores prepare for Black Friday sales

BY ELIZABETH KOCH
Staff Reporter

Kirksville stores are preparing for one of the biggest shopping days of the year — the day after Thanksgiving.

Walmart will begin some sales at midnight. More items will go on sale at 4 a.m., which is also when JCPenney's doorbusters will be available for Black Friday.

Kirksville Walmart Manager Doug Nichting said the store will release more items at midnight than last year, but the hottest buys won't be available until 4 a.m. Wal-Mart will confirm what the high-demand items are in its Nov. 24 advertisement.

Nichting said stores that advertise their day-after-Thanksgiving deals earlier than Walmart do not necessarily have an advantage.

"When they release [their sales] earlier, it gives the people that haven't released theirs yet the advantage to beat their prices," Nichting said. "When you let that information out, if you're competitive, you're going to make sure you beat their prices."

Nichting said he thinks consumers probably will be more price-conscious and stick to basics this year because of the

economy, but that he thinks the Black Friday sales will increase from last year, regardless of what consumers are purchasing.

"Last year, our company was up and our Kirksville store was up also in sales," Nichting said. "One, because there's more items, and two, because [some items] will be available earlier, at midnight."

He said some of the high-demand items will include laptops and televisions. There are approximately 12 high-demand items this year. Walmart will have a larger quantity of each item than in the past, he said.

Walmart employees will control the lines at each high-demand item, and each customer in line will receive a ticket. There will be only as many tickets as there are items, so customers won't wait in line and end up empty-handed. He said this process was very efficient last year. Every available employee will be working.

JCPenney Manager Janet Gremaud said she is optimistic about the Kirksville JCPenney's Black Friday sales. She said the sales were successful last year and that she thinks the doorbusters will keep customers coming back. There are also items that are better priced than



Amy Vicars/Index

JCPenney will open its doors for Black Friday at 4 a.m. The store will advertise early through mobile and online advertising.

Competitor Walmart will open at midnight but start selling its high-demand items at 4 a.m. The 12 high-demand items will be released Nov. 24.

last year.

Although JCPenney has not released its ad yet, JCPenney is advertising early through mobile and online advertising to alert customers as soon as the ad is released. Gremaud said the JCPenney stores have access to the ad, and that it will be released to customers this week. Some of the high-demand items will be a fleece throw, blankets, suitcases, jewelry and women's boots.

This year, the Kirksville

JCPenney will receive high-demand items that aren't normally sold in the local store, such as cookware. Other advertised merchandise not available in the Kirksville store will be available online, with free shipping to JCPenney stores.

"Even in our market, customers can have any of those prices or any of those items that they're after available quickly and affordably," Gremaud said.

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