

Students buy children Christmas presents



Lindsey Borgna/Index

Junior Katelyn Anderson, sophomore Samantha James and junior Ashley Adams sit at a table Wednesday for The Giving Tree. The charity, started a few years ago by Phi Sigma Pi, allows Kirksville children to decorate ornaments and describe a gift approximately in the \$10-\$15 price range. Truman students can then take an ornaments and buy the present for the child. Last year, The Giving Tree had 80 ornaments with requests, and this year the number has increased so far to 90.

PLASTIC | Members of ECO want to reduce or eliminate bottled water sales on campus and is gauging student opinion

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Lora Cunningham, assistant director of Sodexo food services, calculated that between January and April this year Truman sold about 8,000 bottles of water. That only represented four months of consumption and did not include vending machines, because they are run by a separate company, she said.

Maevae Pickus, Truman alumna and former ECO member, said the idea last year was to reach out to students and educate them about the consequences of using disposable water bottles. Pickus chose this project for her senior seminar project last year.

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"Having a water bottle ban is hard to do," she said. "Washington University was able to do it, but it's hard across the board."

Washington University in St. Louis banned selling water bottles in vending machines and eating establishments on campus out of concern for the environment, according to a Washington University press release.

"With surveys conducted last year, ECO knows people understand the consequences of disposable water bottles, but they want to learn why they still are being bought," ECO President Katie Stark said. "We don't know if

it's a convenience issue or if the water fountain pressure makes it difficult to refill reusable water bottles."

While the ECO members are passionate against these sales, some students don't want to see the shelves without water bottles.

"I really do drink a lot of water and I don't have a car so I get water from the store. And I don't like water fountains," freshman Raezheim Miller said. "I have two [reusable water bottles] but I don't use them."

Miller said that she thinks water fountains are unsanitary, which is why she doesn't use them.

Senior Kate Seaton said

she is making posters showing the harm of plastic bottles toward the environment and will place them in the SUB and C-stores, where water bottles are sold.

The poster will have visual and factual elements to make students think about buying the bottled water, Seaton said. It will be an immediate and direct way to make a last minute plea before the bottle is bought, she said.

Sodexo General Manager Dennis Markeson said the reason Truman stopped selling Fiji and Aquafina water last year was to keep the private label of Bulldogua. He said that while he's ordered samples of cheaper reusable

water bottles, people are still going to buy plastic bottles.

The downside for some people is it's a convenience issue, even if students are buying the bottles and recycling them, he said. It's actually being down cycled and eventually will end up in a landfill, he said. It's better to reduce than to reuse.

ECO plans to survey students on TruView to gauge their thoughts, Stark said. If it's a water fountain issue, they think it will be easy to address and will be able to have spigots installed around campus for easy refilling.

Bulldogua is included in

a meal. The water is bottled in Michigan and sold by Coca-Cola, according to the meal block direction sheets in the C-stores around campus.

Truman limiting water bottle sales would not have a significant negative effect on water bottle companies, Stark said. Coca-Cola will make money regardless if Truman stops selling Bulldogua, she said. Missouri has the top-ranked water, so students are better off drinking the tap water than bottled water from other states, she said. Soda bottles also are a problem, but soda is harder to limit, she said.

BIKE | A Truman professor injured in a bike accident said he's talked with the City before about improving roads for bicycle traffic but hasn't seen results

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head. Although his helmet is destroyed, he said he suffered no head injuries. However, doctors said a fractured left hand and a fractured C4 vertebrae will not allow him to ride for six weeks.

Zoumaras said he is taking legal action to make the bicycle company replace his competition bike, which is retail at \$10,000, and pay his medical bills.

Although equipment failure is the primary reason for the accident, he said the poor condition of Kirksville roads didn't help.

In addition to the pothole that led to his accident, Zoumaras said the condition of the bike lane on Franklin Street is unacceptable.

He said that when he complained about the uneven, bumpy lane to Kirksville's engineering services a year and a half ago, they told him they were not going to fix the bike lane because Franklin would be repaved in six to eight months. That didn't happen.

"I'm an experienced cyclist and there are times where I don't want to be on that because you get bounced all over the place," he said. "Imagine if someone is on that road and they lose control of their bike because they hit these uneven stretches and there's still cars going by and they get hit."

Zoumaras said a lack of shoulders on highways also is a problem.

Zoumaras said a fellow cyclist was hurt years ago when his front wheel was caught in a patched pothole on a city road.

"It literally wrenched him off his bike," he said. "The city had to pay his medical bills and buy him a new bike. They immediately fixed the road."

Zoumaras also was injured two days before Thanksgiving in 2002 when he was hit by a car from behind on a section of Highway 63 without shoulders a few miles north of town. He suffered broken ribs, a broken shoulder and a concussion. He had to go into rehab.

"In this particular case, the woman involved admitted that she didn't like oncoming traffic and she tended to move over to as far to the right as possible," he said. "She simply moved over too far in my case."

Kirksville resident John Richardson was hospitalized two months ago after being hit by a van on Highway 11, which also lacks shoulders, less than one mile outside city limits.

Rachel Ruhlen, founder of Kirksville Area Motion, has been trying to reduce the 55 mph speed limit on Boundary Street since her daughter was hit by a car while riding a bike in February.

She said her daughter, now a Kirksville High School junior, rides her bike to school every day using

Cottage Grove — a road she said needs bike lanes.

Ruhlen said she has been working with John Buckwalter, Kirksville Public Works Director, to instate a livable streets policy.

Buckwalter said he is working on identifying routes that are more suitable for biking and walking and creating lanes on those roads by marking them with paint and street signs.

"We would check to make sure we have adequate lane width," he said. "We would change grates to make sure grates and inlets are bicycle safe and so on."

He said the policy would create a multipurpose trail system that would include a recreational paved trail between YMCA and the high school.

Royce Kallerud, English and linguistics professor, is an experienced marathon runner and said the policy could benefit runners.

However, Kallerud said there are no city roads he avoids running on because of their bad conditions. He said he takes precaution by running on the left side of the road and wearing a bracelet with his name and emergency contact information on it. When running at night, he has a reflector on his head and a light on his front and back, he said.

"I think that everyone who uses the road should learn how to be safe and respectful of other users," Kallerud said.

SLATE | Selection process for student representative to the Board of Governors delayed in Senate

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and that was the only time that the committee was made public," he said.

Nely said because of Thanksgiving Break, the next meeting tentatively is scheduled for Nov. 27, with one more meeting for next semester.

He said if a slate is not approved within those two meetings, he will call a special session to pass a slate to send to the governor's office this semester.

"In terms of how the governor of Missouri is concerned, this appointment is fairly minor to him, and so it's probably going to come closer to March or April," Nely said.

This is not the first time the selection process for the student representative has been behind schedule. During the last selection process, the committee submitted three slates to Senate — Freeland made the cut for the final slate.

"I was kind of the third-string," he said.

Freeland said that during his application process, a slate was submitted to the governor's office in November, but he was not notified of his appointment until Midterm Break — more than two months after the previous representative's term was scheduled to expire.

"They understand that as a system of student governance, we need to go through all of the correct procedures to get it done," Freeland said. "We definitely don't want to shut out any opinion on this matter."

The three candidates on the failed slate were sophomores Ben Salmon and Michael Bushur and freshman Alex Eichstadt.



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