



Jessie Poole/Index

Sophomore Susan Zhu studies in solitude in Centennial's 5th floor around 11 p.m. Sunday. "I have a big French paper due and I am too lazy to go outside," Zhu said. "I needed some place quiet."

## CENTENNIAL | The fifth floor of Centennial Hall is vacant this year because the space is not needed

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"When or if we get to a renovation or upgrade in Centennial, then we would have 300 extra sets of furniture that we wouldn't be able to use during the renovation period. Where do you store 300 extra sets of furniture?" Gardner said.

During the hall renovations throughout the last six or seven years, buy outs rarely were an option, Gardner said. However, students who currently are in rooms by themselves will soon have the opportunity to buy out if they choose.

"We're about to go into a phase called a consolidation where we send letters to any student that has an open bed space in their room. They will then have the opportunity to buy out [the entire room], if they choose, for the rest of the year," Gardner said.

Gardner said buyouts cost 27 percent of the housing cost for each student's room, which means it differs by residence hall.

With these changes came the opportunity for Centennial staff to focus on finding ways to better suit their resident's needs, Centennial Hall Director Nicol Corcoran said.

Some office changes were made within the building, including the Student Adviser

office being moved into the former study lounge on the first floor. Corcoran said with a staff of 16, it makes more sense for them to have a larger space to work on programming.

Corcoran said instead of completely taking away from study space, they have turned the second floor private dining room into a study lounge.

"We wanted to make sure that the study room could be used in all capacities, so if people wanted to do a large group project, they can all work there," Corcoran said. "This wasn't an option in the old room."

Centennial Community Coordinator, Senior Talor Lutz said there also has been discussion about using the fifth floor lounge as extra study space. As far as programming goes, Lutz said the SAs don't have definitive plans for the space, but it is in the works.

Corcoran said the Tunnel of Oppression, a program to show students what it means to be part of an oppressed population, might be moved the fifth floor of Centennial. Corcoran said the benefit of using Centennial for this event, the Blanton-Nason-Brewer Hall basement, would be that it's more handicap-accessible.

## HOUSE | Legislature will vote on a much-debated economic development bill related to job creation

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little bit more of a process, because we're talking about taxpayer money ... and we want to be able to spend it on things that are going to help the state, not [where] we spend it and come to find that we don't get anything from it."

Wyatt said there is a lot of support in the House and Senate for reforms to the tax credit system that would follow suit with the Compete Missouri stipulations — namely that the credit only would be awarded post-development. He said the current system contains loopholes that allow a business to collect the credit without fully completing the development. This includes accepting a historic preservation credit and then only renovating a historic site partway before giving up.

Wyatt said that before the special session began, he was frustrated with the Senate because it had not passed some of the bills the House had sent to them during the regular session this spring. The Senate's main amendments the development bill have prompted statements from some Republicans saying the House will not approve the bill as is when they receive it today.

Wyatt said he thinks the Senate has

drawn a line in the sand regarding the bill, and if the House tries to amend it further, the Senate likely will end the special session rather than continue debating.

He said many of the first-time representatives support big changes in the state, and an economic development package is necessary to point Missouri in the right direction. He said because of this the current economic development bill still has a chance to pass when it returns to the House today, despite what some GOP leaders are saying.

"I wouldn't say it's dead on arrival because you have some 80 freshmen that don't have the qualms with the Senate that the older people in the House do," he said. "I have a really good working relationship with them, and a lot of us do, and I know our leadership does, too."

Wyatt said the bill's effects on Northeast Missouri would depend on how successfully local leaders can promote Compete Missouri to potential businesses.

## ASSAULT | Two students were robbed this semester

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As of Tuesday, police had no suspects. When the first robbery occurred involving a man stealing a student's wallet at the corner of Mulanix and Pierce streets, the University's Department of Public Safety notified the Truman community with an email. In this case there was no email notification.

Director of Public Safety Tom Johnson said he thought it was important to send an email about the first robbery because the robbery happened closer to campus, and it was Truman Week so there were a lot of new people in town.

He said in the event of a future emergency, DPS would alert students by text message.



Philip Zahnd/Index

Kirkville Mayor Richard Detweiler reads a proclamation declaring Sept. 24 to Oct. 1 Local Foods Week during the City Council meeting Monday.

## FOODS | Mayor signs proclamation endorsing Local Foods Week to support economy and environment

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from the Kirkville school district twice a week to teach gardening methods, according to Green Thumb Garden's pamphlet. Students take home some of the produce and help grow and transport produce sold at the Kiwanis Farmers' Market, hosted on The Square every Saturday from May through October.

Erker said incorporating local foods at Truman on a farm-to-school system became an interest at the University when the local foods dinner was created four years ago. Truman's Environmental Campus Organization has sponsored the event every semester since.

He said Truman received a grant from the U.S. Department of Agriculture in 2010 that created his job and provided funds to help operate the University Farm, which serves much of its produce in the dining halls.

"That gave the way to make it possible to incorporate local foods in the regular offerings in the cafeterias," Erker said.

He said the Market on the Mall, which began this fall, is helping the local foods effort. The farmers' market brings produce from local farmers and the University

Farm to campus Wednesdays from early fall to late October.

Junior Liz Carton said she is helping with the local foods dinner Sept. 26 for the fifth consecutive semester. Carton said the dinner is becoming more popular, and this year 150 seats were claimed in less than a week through a Facebook event.

"I think the community support has really grown for every local foods dinner and it's great being able to listen to the speakers who come out in support of the local foods initiative," she said. "The food is always great. It always gets better every semester."

Carton said ECO might have to turn people away for the event.

State Rep. Zachary Wyatt, R-2, attended the meeting and said he is a big supporter of buying local foods.

"Having a local foods week is phenomenal to have in this area because any time you buy locally, you're going to stimulate the economy," Wyatt said.

Costa Rican Café, Kiwanis International, Green Valley Farm and Near and Far Downtown Grocery Store are sponsoring local foods week.



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